

**Forum:** Legal Committee (GA6)

**Issue:** Developing legal measures to prevent state-sponsored terrorism

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**Position:** Co-Chair

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## INTRODUCTION

Table explaining which Foreign Terrorist Organisations (FTOs) are state-funded and by which states.<sup>1</sup>

	Syria	Iran	Libya	Pakistan	Venezuela	Cuba
Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine	✓					
Abu Nidal Organization	✓	✓	✓			
Hamas	✓	✓				
Hezbollah	✓	✓				
Palestinian Islamic Jihad	✓	✓				
Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command	✓	✓				
Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade		✓				
Kata'ib Hezbollah		✓				
Al-Qaida		✓				
Haqqani Network				✓		
Indian Mujahideen				✓		
Jaish-e-Mohammed				✓		
Lashkar-e-Tayiba				✓		
National Liberation Army					✓	
Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia					✓	✓

NOTE: Shading indicates the only FTOs that have multiple sponsors. Pakistan is the only sponsor of terrorism that has bomb quantities of fissile material. No FTO has multiple nuclear-capable sponsors, which would remain true even if Iran acquires nuclear weapons.

Terrorism is a violent, criminal act committed by individuals or organizations aiming to achieve certain political aims or intimidate the public and is considered state sponsored when the terrorists in question are associated with (a) nation(s). The United Nations has created a comprehensive international legal framework in order to combat terrorism, comprising 19

1 FBI. "Terrorism." *Federal Bureau of Investigation*, 2024, [www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism](http://www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism).

international legal instruments, mostly conventions and Security Council resolutions, aiming to hold groups, states and individuals accountable for terrorist acts. Furthermore, the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy has been created to coordinate global efforts against terrorism, harmonising legislation and implementing the measures dictated by the aforementioned 19 legal instruments. Regarding state-sponsored terrorism specifically, it has been criminalized under the UN Charter and the approval of funding of terrorist organisations has been condemned by all member states, under Article 2, Paragraph 4<sup>2</sup> as well as several Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

As of recently, mostly individual terrorists and terrorist groups have been held accountable for acts of terrorism. However, a legal movement has been on the rise, suggesting that holding states accountable not only for funding terrorism but also for neglecting to prosecute those funding it privately might be a crucial next step. The International Court of Justice can hold entire states accountable on counts of terrorism and has ruled that if states fail to prevent serious crimes, such as genocide, state involvement can be proven, essentially making a case about neglect correlating with state-sponsorship. Nonetheless, the most difficult part of this process has been proven to be taking the states responsible to court due to neglect of the appropriate legal instruments and/or state reluctance to engage the complex judicial mechanisms.

The United States and Canada have developed comprehensive legal frameworks in order to label other states as sponsors of terror, trigger various sanctions and restrictions. The European Union has created a new system to sanction individuals and/or entities that fund terrorism materially and/or monetarily. As for that, many states have started preparedness campaigns within their jurisdiction in order to protect the public from attacks, with the frontrunner being the UK with its Protection of Premises Bill<sup>3</sup>. However, states still lack sufficient frameworks that target state-sponsored terrorism and some may be so reluctant to develop one that they may never do it. Regardless, the proposed UN sponsor of terror labelling system could assist the international community in its struggle against state sponsorship.

The evidence presented in the above sections, suggest that the true divide in state-sponsored terrorism prosecution exists because of differences in mechanisms, legislations and penalties, resulting in an unclear goal when prosecuting sponsors of terror. Access to appropriate courts remains difficult and legal procedures cannot be completed. Furthermore, sanctions sometimes fail to target the true sponsors of terror, which may lead to the escalation of the problem. All of the above assist state accountability in remaining an elusive target. In the international battlefield that is state-sponsored terrorism, all nations must unite against the threat of terror and create a universal framework that eliminates the faults of previous ones and effectively addresses state-sponsored terrorism.

2 United Nations. "United Nations Charter." *United Nations*, 1945, [www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text](http://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text).

3 Assay, Benjamin Enahoro. "What Is Legal Framework | IGI Global Scientific Publishing." *Igi-Global.com*, 2025, [www.igi-global.com/dictionary/whistleblowing-policy-against-corruption/73647](http://www.igi-global.com/dictionary/whistleblowing-policy-against-corruption/73647). Accessed 9 July 2025.

## DEFINITION OF KEY-TERMS

### ***United Nations Charter Article 2(4)***

The United Nations Charter Article 2, Paragraph 4, states the following: “All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations”<sup>4</sup>. Article 2, Paragraph 4, therefore, prohibits the funding of terrorist activities and/or organisations aiming to negatively affect another state’s, or even their own, territorial integrity. Specifications made in Article 51 about the use of force in case of self-defense or when acting with Security Council authorisation do not apply in this situation.

### ***State-Sponsored Terrorism***

“State-sponsored terrorism refers to violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups who are inspired by, or associated with, nations, aiming to achieve political aims”, as per a modified definition of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s definition of international terrorism.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Legal Framework***

In general, a legal framework refers “to the set of laws, regulations and rules that apply in a particular country”<sup>6</sup>. More specifically, a legal framework can include the country’s constitution, its legislation, its contracts as well as its policy.

### ***Sponsor of Terrorism***

Essentially, sponsor of terrorism is a term which refers to a state that funds either domestic or international terrorist acts, most commonly committed by FTOs. Individuals are less likely to be funded as they may fail to complete their objective(s).

### ***Sanctions***

A sanction, in the context commonly used in politics and not simply its literal definition, refers to, as per a modified Cambridge Business English Dictionary definition, “an official order, such as the stopping of trade and/or travel, that is taken against a country and/or and individual in order to make them obey international law”<sup>7</sup>.

### ***Militant Groups***

4 Cambridge Business English Dictionary. “SANCTION | Meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary.” *Dictionary.cambridge.org*, [dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sanction](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sanction).

5 Raj, Kartik. “Terrorism / Counterterrorism.” *Human Rights Watch*, 28 May 2019, [www.hrw.org/topic/terrorism-counterterrorism](https://www.hrw.org/topic/terrorism-counterterrorism).

6 FTO. “FTO.” *Vocabulary.com*, 2025, [www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/FTO](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/FTO). Accessed 9 July 2025.]

7 European Parliament. “European Parliament Declares Russia to Be a State Sponsor of Terrorism | News | European Parliament.” *Europa.eu*, 2022, [www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221118IPR55707/european-parliament-declares-russia-to-be-a-state-sponsor-of-terrorism](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221118IPR55707/european-parliament-declares-russia-to-be-a-state-sponsor-of-terrorism).

Militant groups is a term which refers to organisations that use violence, or, sometimes, the threat of violence, to influence a sociopolitical situation or achieve ideological goals. These groups may engage in acts of terrorism against governments, civilians and/or institutions in order to provoke their desired reaction.

### **Counter-Terrorism**

Counter terrorism refers to the action that governments must take in order “to protect those within their jurisdiction from extremist attacks”<sup>8</sup>. Counter terrorism is usually enforced by state agencies and/or state forces.

### **Foreign Terrorist Organisations (FTOs)**

A Foreign Terrorist Organisation is a term which refers to “a foreign political movement that uses terror as a weapon to achieve its goals”<sup>9</sup>.

### **Sponsor of Terror Labeling System**

A sponsor of terror labelling systems refers to the framework that certain countries, like the US and Canada, use in order to automatically label a state as a sponsor of terror once they meet certain criteria. These criteria may include “having the facilitation of terrorism as a purpose or activity”<sup>10</sup> (Canada) or “repeatedly supporting acts of international terrorism”<sup>11</sup> (US) and may result in sanctions and travel bans.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **Sociocultural Background**

#### Historical Context

What first gave rise to state-sponsored terrorism during the early 20th century was either the colonial past of certain states, which had formed a hostile stance against their colonisers, border disputes between neighbours or historical rivalries. The Cold War era saw superpowers supporting FTOs mostly for the third aforementioned reason, while regional actors mostly cited the first two. Considering that the Cold War split the world into two sides, the West and the Communist East, both sides strived to recruit more members, resulting in the further amplification of state-sponsored terrorism instances.

#### Political Motivations

8 Black, Ian, and Peter Beaumont. “Gaddafi Ordered Lockerbie Bombing – Ex-Minister.” *The Guardian*, The Guardian, 23 Feb. 2011, [www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/feb/23/gaddafi-lockerbie-bombing-minister-libya](http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/feb/23/gaddafi-lockerbie-bombing-minister-libya).

9 United Nations. “United Nations Charter.” *United Nations*, 1945, [www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text](http://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text).

10 UK Government. “Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Factsheets.” *GOV.UK*, 2 Apr. 2025, [www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-factsheets](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-factsheets).

11 Government of Canada. “About the Anti-Terrorism Act.” *Justice.gc.ca*, 2017, [www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/ns-sn/act-loi.html](http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/ns-sn/act-loi.html).

Political motivations are the primary reason that many states support terrorist groups. When civilians revolt against a regime, the leaders have few options, yet only suppressing dissent will allow them to remain in power. Local militant groups are one easy way to achieve such a goal but their objectives are not usually limited to keeping the regime in power. After becoming affiliated with the government, these groups are tasked with coordinating strategic assaults in enemy states, those which the local regime may be reluctant to actually engage militarily. However, how does a state actually choose which group to support? The answer is simple, the group that advances its ideological, or sometimes religious, agenda, something observed in alliances such as Iran and Hezbollah's.

### Societal Impact

Unfortunately, during the Cold War there was little space for discussing the implications of funding terrorism. Trust in institutions diminished after the end of the war and social divisions deepened, forcing vulnerable states to reach out to militant groups to advance their agenda, resulting in a vicious cycle of violence between rival nations. People's lack of trust in the state resulted in them tolerating or even supporting state-funded terrorist groups and activities due to state propaganda and/or a lack of effective alternatives, a phenomenon seen in Gaza, with the Hamas terrorist group.

## ***Impact on the International Community***

### Destabilisation and Insecurity

Terrorism has the power to destabilise entire regions and prolong conflict for a significant amount of times, especially when it is state-sponsored. The Middle East is a common example where state sovereignty is undermined, economic development is suppressed, and the refugee crisis is a constant reminder of how state-sponsored terrorism affects a region. Much of the local population seeks to migrate in order to find better opportunities abroad, a journey that has become more difficult in recent years as tensions have risen in Israel and Palestine.

### Erosion of International Norms

States sponsoring terror challenge the fundamentals of the UN Charter, apart from posing a threat to international security. Syria's former president Hafez al Assad is known for making Syria, a founding member of the United Nations, a sponsor of terror after assuming power in 1970, greatly challenging the limits of the UN Charter's authority, especially after the 1983 Hezbollah attack on a US Marine Corps Barrack in Beirut. Likewise, Libya's Gaddafi, with Libya also being a member of the United Nations since 1955, allegedly ordered the Lockerbie bombing over Scotland in 1988<sup>12</sup>, showcasing how state-sponsored terrorism challenges international norms indiscriminately.

### Humanitarian Consequences

Human rights violations and war crimes have been observed to rise in areas with high state-sponsored terrorist group activities, causing much distress to the local population. Loss of

12 Press, Daryl G. "Why States Won't Give Nuclear Weapons to Terrorists." *ResearchGate*, July 2013, [www.researchgate.net/figure/State-Sponsored-Foreign-Terrorist-Organizations-FTOs\\_tbl1\\_265611759](http://www.researchgate.net/figure/State-Sponsored-Foreign-Terrorist-Organizations-FTOs_tbl1_265611759). Accessed 9 July 2025.

many lives, displacement and destruction of local infrastructure have all been documented, worsening the situation for common civilians, many of which often join the ranks of the same groups that terrorise them, out of necessity and the need for protection.

### Global Counterterrorism Efforts

State-sponsored terrorist groups may sometimes be shielded from charges and prosecution, undermining global counter-terrorism efforts. Apart from permitting the spread of extremist ideology, such advances allow terrorist groups to acquire advanced foreign and military technology and become much more dangerous, potentially reaching a point where state sponsorship is no longer required for them to continue their activities.

### ***United Nations Involvement***

The United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee and the Office of Counter Terrorism are both responsible for coordinating global counter-terrorism efforts. The committee ensures that all countries remain compliant to their obligations to counter terror, often dictated by the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, while the office is mostly responsible for ensuring cooperation and providing states with technical assistance. Together, they form the United Nations' line of defense against terror. However, the entity responsible for the imposition of sanctions on states is the Security Council, able to freeze assets, ban travel and even impose arm embargos.

### Promotion of Dialogue and Prevention

The United Nations is the organisation most open to addressing the root causes of terrorism, a quality that its policies and plans many times reflect. The UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy aims not to combat but prevent terrorism by addressing human rights concerns in areas where recruiting is prominent. Right now, diplomats are pursuing a similar approach to state-sponsored terrorism, requesting for the political motivations behind it to be addressed in order to mitigate the phenomenon.

## **MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED**

### ***Islamic Republic of Iran***

Iran has been globally labeled “the world’s primary state sponsor of terror”, after repeatedly engaging in activities such as providing funding, training and weapons to Hezbollah, Hamas and other prominent FTOs, while refusing to prosecute them for their actions on Iranian soil. While not many states follow Iran’s stance on FTOs, the Islamic Republic's policy should be taken into account when drafting the resolutions of the Legal Committee, as an example of defiance against international counter-terrorist law.

### ***Russian Federation***

As of 2022, the Russian Federation has been formally accused of being a sponsor of terror by members of the European Parliament, which has then moved to isolate Russia even further. Apart from the federation’s charges of war crimes during the war in Ukraine, Members of

the European Parliament (MEPs) have also added that Russia has been using “means of terror”<sup>13</sup> during its war with Ukraine, including funding paramilitary groups, such as the “Wagner Group”. The allegations against Russia showcase a lack of a proper framework on state-sponsored terrorism but also a failure to enforce counterterrorism in the European continent, an issue that must be addressed immediately in order to assist efforts towards the resolution of the Russoukrainian War.

### ***United States of America***

The United States may have one of the most comprehensive legal frameworks against terrorism in the world, especially after the events of September 11 2001, an attack not state-funded, yet one that acted as an awareness call for the states. Since 9/11, the US has greatly increased their intelligence-gathering efforts and have prosecuted numerous individuals on charges related to terrorism. However, the US approach has often overlooked human rights and repeatedly failed to address the root causes of terrorism. When drafting a modernised framework on counterterrorism, it is important to note US advancements on the field, like increasing intelligence reports and centralising counter-terrorism efforts with the creation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, some of which could be applied to cases of state-sponsored terrorism, but also its inconsistencies, like overcomplicating the intelligence-gathering process, mistakes to be avoided when paving the way to a world free of terror.

### ***Hezbollah***

Hezbollah has evolved in recent years to be one of the most notorious and dangerous state-sponsored terrorist organisations worldwide, having acquired significant funds from Iran, to be used to train and arm members of the organization. Being the officially recognised Lebanese “Party of God”, Hezbollah has gained political influence in the region, rendering the organisation one of the most capable of state-sponsored terrorism internationally. However, after the 2024 pager attack, Hezbollah has been left in a vulnerable position and with Iran occupied with rebuilding after the 12-Day War, the FTO is left without funding. Swift and decisive action from the Legal Committee could now dismantle Hezbollah and showcase how terrorist organisations can no longer escape international law.

### ***United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT)***

The UNOCT is known to be the most globally active organisation when combating terrorism. The office coordinates global efforts and promotes international cooperation, all towards mitigating the threat that FTOs pose to the international community. After 8 years of service, the UNOCT has gathered invaluable information on combating the root causes of terrorism, an important aspect to consider when discussing the matter in the Legal Committee.

### ***Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)***

Apart from advocating for gender equality, border security and minorities, the OSCE holds the rule of law and counterterrorism to a very high standard. The OSCE is essentially the European UNOCT, combating illicit weapon trafficking and addressing terrorism before it happens. By examining the findings of the organisation, the delegates of the Legal Committee

13 US Department of State. “State Sponsors of Terrorism.” *United States Department of State*, [www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism](http://www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism).

could understand more about legislative differences in each continent, in order to produce a truly universal framework against terrorism.

### **Wagner Group**

The Wagner Group is a Russian mercenary group that has conducted operations all around the globe on behalf of the Russian government. While private military groups are illegal in Russia, President Vladimir V. Putin has confirmed that the Wagner Group is “fully provided for by the state”<sup>14</sup>, rendering the Wagner Group a publicly recognised state-funded terrorist organisation and a dangerous regional actor in the Russoukrainian War.

## **TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF EVENT</b>
13th November 1970	Hafez al Assad and the supporters of the Corrective Movement assume power in Syria through a bloodless coup. Assad would later fund various militant groups, including Hezbollah, engaging in state-sponsored terrorism.
29th December 1979	Syria is officially labelled a sponsor of terrorism by the United States, a characterisation that continues to this day.
23rd October 1983	State-sponsored terrorist organization Hezbollah detonates a truck at the US Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, killing 241 American service members
31st December 1987	The US Department of State reports 189 state-sponsored terrorist attacks worldwide
31st December 1988	Pan Am Flight 103 is downed in the infamous Lockerbie bombing, killing 189 persons. It would later be discovered that the bombing was an act of Libya-sponsored terrorism.
11th September 2001	The 9/11 attacks prompt a strengthening of

14 Edwards, Christian, et al. “September 17, 2024 - Hezbollah Vows Retaliation against Israel for Deadly Pager Explosions.” *CNN*, 17 Sept. 2024, [edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/lebanon-pagers-attack-hezbollah](https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/lebanon-pagers-attack-hezbollah). Accessed 26 July 2025.

	counter-terrorism efforts
17th-18th September 2024	Israel attempts to weaken Hezbollah in Operation “Grim Beeper”, where numerous pagers detonated, targeting Hezbollah members. The attack resulted in thousands of deceased or injured civilians <sup>15</sup> .
Present Day	As of now, the remaining states in the US list of sponsors of terrorism are the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic and the People’s Democratic Republic of Korea

**RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS**

**Resolution 1269 of the UN Security Council (1999)**

Resolution 1269 condemns all terrorist acts and calls for international cooperation in order to combat terrorism. While that may seem insignificant in the context of state-sponsored terrorism specifically, the resolution is also the first to recognise that acts of terrorism cannot be justified, by any means, therefore eliminating the legal loophole that Article 51 had posed for the past 54 years.

**Resolution 1368 of the UN Security Council (2001)**

Resolution 1368 was unfortunately a step back from the remarkable Resolution 1269, recognising all states’ right to individual or collective self-defense in a vaguely-defined preambulatory clause, resurfacing concerns about Article 51.

**Resolution 1373 of the UN Security Council (2001)**

Resolution 1373 can be considered a landmark in the war against terror, not only for the United Nations but also the international community as a whole. The operative clauses of the resolution aim to stop the funding of terrorist organisations worldwide, through prohibiting countries from funding terrorism and urging them to criminalise it within their jurisdiction, as well as freeze the assets of individuals and/or groups funding terrorism. Reaffirming the call of Resolution 1269 for international cooperation, Resolution 1373 called for cooperation in investigations and also laid the foundations for a Counter-Terrorism Committee, under the umbrella of the Security Council, which would be created after the resolution was passed. The

15 UK Government. *Aliens Act*. 1905, [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1905/13/pdfs/ukpga\\_19050013\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1905/13/pdfs/ukpga_19050013_en.pdf). Accessed 26 July 2025.



resolution passed unanimously, showcasing the member states' resolve to end terrorism once and for all.

### **Resolution 60/288 of the UN General Assembly (2006)**

Resolution 60/288, also known as the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, is the text governing counter-terrorism activities of all member states. The resolution takes a strategic approach on countering terrorism, arming member states with both collective and individual measures to combat it. The resolutions mostly aims to enable member states to suppress terrorism as well as improve the United Nations' own counterterrorism strategy, in order to develop a more effective and cooperative approach to addressing terrorism.

## **PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE**

### ***Legal Mechanisms of the Early 20th Century***

#### Description

During the early 1900s, states all over the world aimed to tackle terrorist efforts mostly by preventing terrorists from entering their territory. Many states had agreements preventing “undesirable immigrants”<sup>16</sup> and members of anarchist movements from entering the states involved.

#### Reasons for Failure

Legal loopholes and differences in legal frameworks made cooperation impossible for many states, limiting such practices to only a select few. What those states truly lacked, however, was a common factor, an incentive to cooperate and harmonise their legal systems.

#### Improvement Potential

In the 21st century, the United Nations can promote cooperation among nations in order to effectively realise the mechanisms of the 20th century. Harmonising definitions of terrorism and addressing the loopholes in existing frameworks could produce an international mechanism against terrorism.

### ***League of Nations' Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism (1937)***

#### Description

16 Camut, Nicolas. “Putin Admits Kremlin Gave Wagner Nearly \$1 Billion in the Past Year.” *Politico*, 27 June 2023, [www.politico.eu/article/vladimir-putin-yevgeny-prigozhin-russia-kremlin-gave-wagner-group-nearly-1-billion-in-the-past-year/](https://www.politico.eu/article/vladimir-putin-yevgeny-prigozhin-russia-kremlin-gave-wagner-group-nearly-1-billion-in-the-past-year/).

High-profile assassinations during the 1930s prompted the League of Nations, the predecessor of the UN, yet lacking its numbers, to create a Committee of Experts with the purpose of drafting a Convention on Terrorism and even proposed the creation of an International Criminal Court on terrorism.

### Reasons for Failure

Unlike the United Nations, the League of Nations had limited participation and no ability to enforce its decisions, resulting in an incomplete, non-binding suggestion to a group of nations unwilling to enforce it.

### Improvement Potential

The United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy has existed for 19 years now, passed unanimously and marked a victory in the war against terror, realising the LON's ambition for a world unified against terrorism.

## ***NATO's Defense Against Terrorism Programme Of Work (DAT POW) (2004)***

### Description

The DAT POW was an innovative strategy against terrorism, aiming to limit unconventional attacks, putting emphasis on preparedness and using technology to combat terror. Through these actions, NATO aimed to protect critical infrastructure that could be damaged during unexpected attacks.

### Reasons of Failure

The POW showed an overreliance on the use of modern technologies and military power to combat terrorism, failing to provide any diplomatic solutions, which would actually address the root causes of terrorism and render constant spending on preparedness needless.

### Improvement Potential

Preparedness and technological advancement are always important. However, diplomatic work and social engagement is also key when combating state-sponsored terrorism specifically, a phenomenon with more complex motivations than unconventional attacks.

## **POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

### ***Harmonizing and Strengthening International Legal and Diplomatic Measures***

One thing that needs to be done if the international community is to make progress on the matter of state-sponsored terrorism is giving the UNCTC and the UNOTC advanced

monitoring and enforcement capabilities, similar to those of the Security Council. Criteria for states that are sponsors of terror need to be created and the UNCTC should have the authority to impose sanctions on them, acting as an aid to the Security Council. Furthermore, definitions of terrorism will need to be harmonised for all those measures to be possible and all legal frameworks must face scrutiny in order for potential loopholes to be eliminated.

### ***Disrupting Terrorism Recruitment and Financing***

Targeting recruitment cycles of state-funded terrorist organisations could render them useless and unable to carry out their objectives, while disrupting their funding systems commonly used by states would render them completely inoperable. Ethical hacking experts could assist in taking down online networks intended for the funding of terrorist groups but also tracking contributions by states. In areas where terrorist groups are already active, special programmes could be created for the vulnerable population in order to arrange for care packages to be delivered and job offerings to be made in order to eliminate potential candidates for the ranks of the terrorists. Mitigating insecurity and uncertainty for the future could truly incentivise the local population to resist the will of any state-funded terrorist groups.

### ***Promoting Multilateral and Transregional Cooperation***

Harmonising legal frameworks could be greatly assisted by promoting multilateral agreements on the legal grounds of state-sponsored terrorism between the United Nations and other international organisations as well as smaller, regional actors, such as the EU and the BRICS. Shared sanctions, sponsor of terror lists and intelligence could greatly enhance global efforts against state-funded terrorism which, of course, is unique to every region.

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