

<b>Forum</b>	First General Assembly
<b>Issue</b>	Combatting transnational organised crime
<b>Student Officer</b>	Chenhao (Jason) Zhang
<b>Position</b>	President

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## Introduction

Transnational organised crime refers to a range of criminal activities carried out by networks, organisations or groups that operate across national borders. These crimes include many offences such as cybercrime, human trafficking, illegal arms sales, and drug smuggling. Indirectly or directly, these acts pose a serious threat to countries and individuals and are punishable by severe penalties.

Drug trafficking is one of the most typical forms of transnational organised crime. The huge benefits of this behaviour allow it to flourish in spite of the repression of various countries. Criminal groups obtain drugs from the source or from their suppliers and then sell them to markets all over the world. The drug cartels in South America creates the world's largest drug cartels and a complex network of cocaine that is smuggled into North America and Europe. This poses a serious risk to the health and safety of the population and the stability of society. Arms smuggling is the illegal transnational trade in firearms and other weapons and fuelling armaments in conflict zones. They are also used in terrorism and other situations that lead to violence. The smuggling of weapons greatly affects peace between nations and makes it difficult to end wars, leading to a rising death toll.



*Figure 1 The 17 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Any transnational organised crime has a negative impact on society. These behaviours undermine the human rights and security of individuals. Often, acts of

transnational organised crime increase violent crime or exacerbate and prolong conflicts. For example, in areas with high drug use percentage, theft and violence can occur because of the violent tendencies shown by drug users. Some drug users steal and rob to get money to buy drug. For any figures (i.e., table, infographics, images) included in this report, please make sure the size makes any text on the figures legible and follow the convention below:

## Definition of Key Terms

### **Transnational organized crime (TOC)**

Transnational organised crime (TOC) refers to the planning and commission of transnational criminal activities by groups or networks with hierarchical cooperation mechanisms. These TOCs refer to transnational crime and are organised teams rather than individuals. These teams have their own internal structures, similar to corporations. These criminal activities usually cover multiple countries and their operations are carefully planned and prepared to help maximise success and minimise risk. Typical human trafficking operations are planned every step of the way, such as where to gather the victims, how to transport them safely out of the country, and how to sell or exploit them to maximise the profits. Common TOCs are drug smuggling, human trafficking, arms smuggling, money laundering and cybercrime. The ultimate goal of all these acts is to gain a large amount of money, and because of the huge profits that come with the act, these acts continue to be perpetuated. Even with the government's crackdown, these criminal activities is not eradicated.

### **The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is the global agency for combating illicit drugs and international crime. It is originally established to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs. As it evolved, it began to expand its mission. UNODC's mission is to assist member states in addressing issues such as crime and terrorism by encouraging member states to strengthen their laws through policy development in order to reduce the likelihood of terrorists profiting from legal discrepancies. UNODC's main focus is to analyse modus operandi through the study of transnational crime patterns and to assist policy makers through these elements. UNODC analyses modus operandi by examining patterns of transnational crime, and through this, helps policymakers and law enforcement agencies better understand the risks and issues they face.

## History

**Beginnings:**

At the beginning of the twentieth century, as the age of sail drew to a close and international trade and tourism grew, criminal organisations took advantage of the increased ease of transport to operate across borders. The international community became aware of the problem and attempted to suppress global crime, with the International Opium Convention Signed at The Hague January 23, 1912 which is the beginning of an international attempt to control opium and other narcotic drugs. It is similar to today's attempts to suppress cross-border drug trafficking. The Convention, through a series of international treaties and legal provisions, served to limit the production and distribution of drugs to the outside world. The effects and scope of these actions are limited. The main reason for this is that the after-effects of the First World War cause countries to focus on internal economic recovery and political issues. This makes international crime suppression a lower priority.

***After World War II:***

At the end of World War II, the creation of the United Nations refocuses the international community on countering threats, including terrorism and crime, through cooperation. In 1961, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs unifies global drug control and provides a comprehensive framework for countries to regulate the restriction of narcotic drugs. It provides a comprehensive framework from production and delivery to use. However, with the growth of the global economy and the rise of the United States, economic globalisation further increases the efficiency and frequency of international transport. This leads to an increase in the number of transnational crimes that are becoming more and more apparent. Cargo smuggling, illegal immigration, and other issues are increasingly recognised by law enforcement agencies around the world as requiring further coordination and suppression. Even so, the relevant laws and how to address the problem are still in the process of being developed and planned.

**The expansion of the problem in the late twentieth century:**

With the growing membership of the United Nations and the spread of economic globalisation, the liberalisation of new countries and regions and the porousness of borders have allowed transnational criminal organisations to spread rapidly. The advent of the Internet makes cybercrime easier, cheaper and more rewarding. This new form of cybercrime thrives and is difficult for governments to regulate due to the existence of social media. International treaty agreements are increasing. The adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime in 2000 is a major advancement and

mainstay in the fight against cross-border crime. This convention helps countries come together to combat organised crime and provides a more comprehensive legal framework. The positioning of organised criminal groups as criminal offences, decision-making on money laundering and the protection of victims and witnesses are all covered.

## Major Parties Involved

### Law enforcement agencies:

Law enforcement agencies are at the forefront of the fight against transnational organised crime. Their main duty is to investigate criminal activities, trace clues, and collect mobile - phone evidence to arrest criminals. They have to deal with a wide variety of complex crimes such as drug smuggling, human trafficking, etc. In drug smuggling cases they need to trace the supply chain and find the source. In drug smuggling cases they need to trace the supply chain and find the source. The supply chain often crosses different countries and oceans and is intertwined with various transport routes making the source very difficult to find. These criminals are often transnational in nature. Different countries have different legal systems, different law enforcement systems and different levels of co-operation. Definitions of crime and the protection and rights of victims and witnesses vary from country to country. Moreover, criminal groups have sophisticated means of evading detection. The combination of these factors makes apprehension by law enforcement structures increasingly difficult.

### International organisations (UNODC):

International organisations have a key role to play in coordinating and promoting the combat against transnational criminal organisations. They help reduce legal loopholes by developing international treaties and promoting laws that encourage the improvement of national laws. These legal incentives help countries to create cooperative procedures for extradition and mutual legal assistance. This effectively helps to track down and arrest transnational criminal organisations. However, international organisations are faced with the need to balance the diverse interests of member states and the ability to contribute. War-torn or developing countries may not be able to contribute to such events with the same level of attention and priority as developed countries with stable domestic societies, but too much differentiation may cause resentment in developed countries. The many factors to be considered pose a challenge to make effective progress against transnational criminal organisations.

## Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

## International co-operation

Through treaty-making, many treaties have emerged in response to the problem and are gradually restricting the behaviour of illegals. The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC), adopted in 2000, is an important international legal instrument. Within it, countries are required to classify a range of organised criminal activities as criminal offences. Money laundering, corruption, and obstruction of justice are all included. The Convention also promotes similar areas of mutual legal assistance and extradition between states. INTERPOL operates a sophisticated global police system and provides assistance in the collection of evidence, analysis and assistance in locating fugitives from justice around the world. The agency currently focuses on four main areas: combating terrorism, cybercrime, organised crime and financial crime and anti-corruption. A similar organisation is Europol, which focuses on Interpol in the European region. This helps to establish co-operation between EU member states in the fight against transnational crime. In almost every region there are similar organisations that help to promote cooperation between countries in combating transnational organised crime actions, which to a large extent help to apprehend and limit the occurrence of transnational crime and are very significant in solving and limiting transnational organised crime. Firstly, categorise and identify Transnational Organised Crime actions. Firstly, categorising and identifying what constitutes Transnational Organised Crime can help the judiciary and its personnel to improve their professionalism and enhance the fairness and efficiency of their judgement when dealing with similar incidents. Moreover, the unified management reduces the possibility of criminals taking advantage of different laws in different countries to avoid responsibility. At the same time, advancing areas such as mutual legal assistance and extradition make it difficult for criminals to avoid arrest by switching countries. Global or territorial police, as neutral organisations, have easier access to different countries to deal with cases in international situations. These police enhance the linkages between countries and provide an excellent transition between justice and extradition before they become imperfect.

## Possible Solutions

Training in the capacity to combat transnational organised crime increases the professionalism of criminal officers in dealing with such issues and in dealing with such incidents more quickly and professionally. This type of training is promoted and provided through international organisations such as UNODC. This allows personnel within the country to share the pressure of the organisation and at the same time achieve better results as the country has fewer restrictions on its own police. This allows investigations to be

carried out more effectively. At the same time, the increased capacity of the judiciary to clearly understand today's transnational crime issues and the related legal terminology improves the speed and accuracy with which countries deal with transnational organised crime. This ensures that trials are fair and efficient.

Capacity-building also includes the population's understanding of transnational organised crime. Cybercrime is most targeted at populations that are unaware of this type of transnational crime. Therefore, many countries and international organisations promote public understanding of such events through information (online and offline). Providing awareness to the population, especially vulnerable groups, helps them to better protect themselves and to report suspicious activities.

## Appendix

Intro; <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/administration/eop/nsc/transnational-crime/introduction>

<https://www.unodc.org/southasia/en/topics/frontpage/2009/combating-transnational-organised-crime.html>

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<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/UNTOC.html>

More detail: [http://unis.unvienna.org/pdf/05-82099\\_E\\_2\\_pr\\_SFS.pdf](http://unis.unvienna.org/pdf/05-82099_E_2_pr_SFS.pdf)

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