

# **United Nations Human Rights Council**



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### **Letter From Secretary General**

Dear Delegates,

My name is Onur Alp Çimen and I am very proud to say that I will be serving as the Secretary General of the very first session of our conference. In our conference, our aim is to make sure that each esteemed participant of our conference will experience something unforgettable. When we were delegates in conferences we had great memories, made everlasting friendships and experienced so much that I believe that if we wrote them down, they would make a series of books worth reading. And with them there were some bad experiences and memories left behind as well but I personally think that MUN has changed my life since my first conference, in the best way ever possible. And with all that, we wanted others to experience those good things too, but in the best way ever. We want our participants to experience the best, so we have worked day and night as the Academic Team and the Organization Team to make sure that would happen in those three days.

Onur Alp Çimen

Secretary General of MUNKARA

## **Letter from Under-Secretary General**

Honourable Participants,

It is an honor for me to welcome you all to our conference. The topic I have chosen is something I believe is important to discuss for the reasons of awareness, problem solving and it would make a good debate generally. Terrorism is an issue we witness every day of our lives, even if on TV, and it has plagued our great nation for decades now. That's one of the other reasons I hope this will provide a good debate, because we all have an idea about it.

If you have any questions regarding the committee, the agenda item or anything in between you can reach me via;

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*Can Aras Uyar*  
*Under-Secretary General*

## Part I: Introduction

### What is UNHRC?:

The Human Rights Council is a Council dealing with the problems of the human rights being abused in the world. The UN-member States are trying to work together in order to find solutions for the problems and in order to prevent them from even coming into existence in the first place. Although there are many different cultures which shall be valued, there are universal rights such as, but not limited to, right to life, right to freedom, right to subsistence level and right to religious freedom which are supposed to be granted. Also the Human Rights Council regards itself as the helper in need by situations or people threatening people and their rights.

### What is Terrorism?:

Terrorism is a problem that the world is facing an extent it never has before. It is broadly understood as the threat or use of violence against civilians to achieve political aims.

### Why is Terrorism relevant?:

Terrorism poses a threat to human rights in a number of ways, and is not limited to life and well-being during or after the event. Organized groups such as ISIS, al-Qaeda and Kurdistan Workers Party threaten the integrity of governments and prevents humanitarian organizations such as Red Cross and Red Crescent to do their jobs.

## Part 2: Situation

The number of worldwide terrorism has grown since 2010, and although before 9/11 mostly South American countries were affected, the focus has shifted to Middle Eastern countries, such as Syria, Libya, Turkey, Afghanistan etc.

In 2006, the UN adopted the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This strategy demonstrates that Member States agree that terrorism is unacceptable, and they will implement actions that will combat the spread of terrorism as well as reduce the impact of existing terrorist groups. This strategy has four key objectives: addressing the conditions that foster the spread of terrorism, preventing and combating terrorism, strengthening the United Nations and states' mechanisms to prevent terrorism, and protecting human rights and the rule of law in acts of counter-terrorism. In addition, the UN established the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism in 2017. Its tasks are to coordinate counter-terrorism efforts across Member States and UN working groups and entities,

take charge of the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates, ensure the implementation of the Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and improve visibility, advocacy and resources for UN counter-terrorism efforts. In addition, other UN bodies must address issues related to terrorism and their respective mandate. The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has admitted that “efforts to address the human rights implications of terrorism and counter-terrorism have tended to focus on the protection of civil and political rights.” Nonetheless, the Office recognizes two areas in which terrorism and social and economic rights overlap. The first one is socio-economic structures in countries affected by terror, and the second is the impact of counter-terrorism measures on social and economic rights.

The first topic concerns countries in which organized terrorist groups are active. Social and economic under-development fuels support for terrorist groups, and is also an environment in which terrorist groups thrive. Therefore, countries need to address socio-economic marginalization, especially poverty and economic discrimination. Good governance, international assistance and cooperation are measures that aid in achieving this goal. Countries need to work towards long-term social and economic stability.

The second topic concerns current and future counter-terrorist measures all over the world. These measures sometimes restrict the enjoyment of economic and social rights of certain individuals. Countries are encouraged to utilize a variety of non-violent methods to disrupt the

function of terrorist groups. Specifically, countries must be careful that sanctions or restrictions do not cut off the access to adequate water, food and sanitation to groups or regions. In addition, security measures should not impede access to education or employment. All the while, non-discrimination is one of the foundations of human rights.

### Part 3: What should a Resolution contain?

- How can the economic and social situation of a country be improved in a way that benefits marginalized or discriminated groups?
- What is your country's definition of Terrorism?
- What methods should be employed to protect humanitarian organizations against terrorism?
- What are the effective counter-terrorism measures that do not violate human rights in general?
- How can radicalism be reduced?
- What are the responsibilities of a government to protect its citizens?

## Part 4: Closing Remarks

When preparing, it will help you to find out where your country stands on economic, social and cultural rights in general. Remember that some countries find these rights essential, whereas others prefer they have minimal importance. This will give you an idea whether it would be fitting to block suggestions or push for specific changes. In addition, it will be essential to know your countries' relationship to terror, and what efforts your country contributes to the worldwide fight against terror. In general, this topic can be discussed along a very traditional line of east vs. west, or it could be oriented on the countries most affected by terrorism. It is up to the delegates!



