

## **Background Paper**

**Committee:** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**Topic 1:** Prevention and Combating Transnational Organized Crime,  
Including Arms Trafficking, Human Trafficking, and Money  
Laundering



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Transnational organized crime (TOC) remains one of the most pressing global threats, undermining security, governance, and social stability. Criminal groups today operate with increasing sophistication, extending their activities across borders and exploiting weaknesses in international coordination. Key forms of TOC include arms trafficking, human trafficking, drug trafficking, and money laundering—crimes that fuel violence, corruption, and economic loss. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), TOC generates billions in illicit profits annually, with trafficking networks expanding their influence through corruption and technological innovation.

As a country significantly affected by transnational criminal activities, Mexico strongly supports international cooperation to combat organized crime. Mexico is a State Party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its three Protocols, reaffirming its commitment to global frameworks for crime prevention and law enforcement collaboration. Mexico faces major challenges related to arms trafficking, particularly due to illegal firearms entering the country from abroad. A 2020 Mexican government report estimates that approximately 70% of illegal firearms seized in Mexico originate from outside the country.

Mexico has therefore advocated for stronger cross-border regulation and expanded information-sharing agreements with neighboring states. Human trafficking remains another priority area. The Mexican government created the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Human Trafficking in 2013 and has implemented national strategies focused on victim protection, prosecution of traffickers, and prevention campaigns. Mexico also works closely with regional partners through mechanisms such as the Organization of American States (OAS) to address trafficking routes.

**Mexico's Actions and Cooperation** Mexico emphasizes international collaboration as essential to dismantling criminal networks. Through UNODC programs, Mexico participates in regional initiatives for intelligence sharing, joint operations, and training. The government has invested in strengthening its law enforcement and judicial institutions by expanding specialized units and increasing technological resources. Additionally, Mexico has formed bilateral agreements with several countries to curb arms trafficking, improve border security, and analyze illicit financial flows. These partnerships are complemented by domestic policies that aim to reduce corruption and enhance transparency within governmental institutions.

Mexico proposes the following solutions for discussion in committee:

- Strengthening International Firearms Control: Enhance cooperation between states to track and regulate arms transfers, including improved tracing mechanisms and coordinated customs operations.
- Expanding Regional Task Forces: Create or reinforce multilateral task groups to target human trafficking networks, focusing on victim protection and prosecution.

-Improving Anti-Money Laundering Systems: Encourage member states to adopt stronger financial oversight measures and collaborate with international financial monitoring organizations.

-Capacity Building: Provide technical assistance and specialized training for developing countries to improve investigative and judicial capacities.

-Public Awareness Campaigns: Increase educational initiatives to inform communities about the dangers of human trafficking and the impacts of illegal arms trade.

## Works Cited

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