



## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

*Topic: International cooperation against drug trafficking networks and cartel operations in Mexico*



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Dear delegates, welcome to NICMUN 2025 the committee of INTERPOL is glad to encounter young leaders, such as all of you. We are excited to be part of the development of new leaders that will guide society to a brighter future with big expectatives. Recognizing social and political problems is the first step to take action, be creative and reflective, as a society we may search for solutions for good.

NICMUN helps as an opportunity for skills development, we encourage delegates to speak out with liberty and participate in a safe space. The document is created as a guide for you to understand your delegations position and actions regarding the topic.

If there are any doubts during the process feel free to speak and reach out to your Moderator or Chair. We thank you for being part of this year's NICMUN and wish you all the best during these days, hoping you learn and have a good experience.



## Committee history

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The INTERPOL started as an International Criminal Police Commission, created in 1923 but became officially the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). The General Secretariat of the organization provides a range of services to countries, managing 19 police databases with different

information of crimes and criminals. The main purpose of the INTERPOL is to offer investigative support such as forensics, analysis and assistance on the location of fugitives around the world. Expertise supports every national effort for combating crimes across four main areas the organization considers most pressing: terrorism, cybercrime, organized crime and financial crime and anti-corruption.

The INTERPOL and UN cooperations have been enshrined by General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, especially on the concerns directly connected to terrorism and human trafficking. Both organizations combine abilities in the form of Special Notices that are issued to alert law enforcement to all individuals and entities that are subject to UNSC sanctions.

The INTERPOL has 196 member countries, making it the world's largest police organization. Members of the committee go to the General Assembly to decide policy, working methods, finances and activities, in addition countries host an NCB (National Central Bureau) which links national police with the global network.



## Committee Faculties

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- INTERPOL cannot create laws, it mainly gives recommendations and facilitate cooperations
- Involvement in any political, military, racial and religious activities are strictly prohibited for any delegation. (Article 3)
- INTERPOL resolutions are required to operate in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Humans Rights
- INTERPOL delegates are required to respect national laws, solutions and resolutions can't force countries to share data or change laws.
- Resolutions can't accuse individual nations of actions
- INTERPOL can't form armed forces, juridical courts or political councils
- Delegates can't propose resolutions that dictate how other delegates manage its prisons or courts
- Delegations can't conduct investigations without the nation approval



## Introduction of the topic

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Mexico and its authorities in the year 2006 declared “war” on **drug cartels**, since this the country has seen more than 460,000 homicides. Criminal organizations have taken advantage of benefits made by globalization, they have become a bigger group that operates regionally and transnationally. These groups dominate the distribution of drugs like cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, marijuana. Violence created in Mexico has affected mostly politicians, students, public officials, journalists and ordinary civilians.

The constant fights against drug trafficking **networks** in Mexico demand the incorporation of new institutional structures that involve the participation of state and also non-governmental actors that act on a regional and global level.

The context of globalizations clarifies the need to reform the structure of all institutions and the way they have to operate at a domestic and regional level. International cooperation has been declared as not enough to face the international challenges such as regional but also global crime.

Recently the U.S and Mexico have worked together to combat the **drug trafficking** and violence around each country, U.S provides funding for security and reforms. Under the supervision of presidents Biden and Sheinbaum a new framework set insecurity and the opioid crisis. Later, President Trump applied high pressure on Mexico with the intention of labeling cartels such as terrorist groups and to expand the border security and drone surveillance for every fentanyl lab.



## Background Information of the Topic

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Early origins of drug cartels in Mexico begin in the late 1970s and 1980s, when Mexico drug trade was on a small scale, started with local smugglers and the transportation of marijuana and opium across the border with the United States. The operations were largely informal and evaded law enforcement. In the 1980s, Colombian cartels transformed the landscape and caused Mexican groups to become key transit for the movement of cocaine into the United States. The results of these actions allowed the groups to act professionally and expand all over territories. By late 1980s and 1990s dominant cartels emerged in Mexican territory which included Sinaloa, Juarez, Gulf and Tijuana cartels, they fomented corruption to control all local authorities. The government took actions in the 1990s and achieved the arrest of cartel leaders, disrupted centralized control but led to the existence of smaller cartels which were more violent and competed for territory. In the early 2000s, cartels acquired heavy weapons and military tactics, they converted themselves into expert mercenaries and led Mexican government to declare a “war on drugs”

**Important cartels and their operations:** Sinaloa Cartel is the most powerful transnational criminal organization in Mexico, mainly involved in drug trafficking that includes cocaine, heroin, fentanyl and marijuana, money laundering, people smugglers and weapon trafficking. Maintains control through violence and corruption, influences officials and protects their operations. Its international reach makes them one of the most formidable cartels in the global drug trade.

The Jalisco New Generation Cartel is a powerful but violent organization in Mexico that is involved in drug trafficking, including major kidnapping and extortion. Maintains control through strong violence and makes use of military weapons to intimidate authorities. The cartel also infiltrates local governments and law enforcement with the goal of protecting their own operations.

Los Zetas is a criminal organization founded by former elite soldiers, the cartel is majorly involved in drug and human trafficking, extortion and extreme violence. Majorly the use of money laundering is made to disguise profits from their illicit operations, they are well



known for their military tactics and participate as one of the reasons security in Mexico is unbalanced.

**Corruption and weak governance:** Mexico's weak governance over decades has deep rooted corruption to have undermined its justice and all security institutions, allowing organized crime to spread. Corruption is present across the majority of political and law enforcement levels, it leads to a society low trust, with most of the crimes being unpunished. The limited judicial capacity and undertrained policies have made the institutional integrity to be weaker over the years, by other hand militarizations have often made use of human right abuses and leaves all Mexican governance systems vulnerable to cartel influences.

**Multiple frameworks for dismantling of cartel infrastructure:** International Cooperation majorly emphasizes the importance of global action and cooperation to combat drug trafficking networks. This was achieved by intelligence sharing and joint operations. INTERPOL 24/7 systems of communications and initiatives like Merida Initiative make the collaboration stronger between agencies that promote law enforcement, which ensure faster data collection and exchange. Framework in place gives a priority to joint forces and regional partnerships with the purpose of the dismantling of leadership structures and ensuring investigations. The law enforcement framework focuses on the dismantling of all cartel structures by targeted operations and intelligence which is shared and coordinated. Emphasizes mainly in identifying cartel leaders and coordinators of logistics. The enforcement of investigation and border security is important for the reduction of new networks. Organizations such as INTERPOL or DEA play vital roles in this framework efforts, since they share intelligence databases for the improvement of the cross border operations in an efficient form.



## International Actions

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**Merida Initiative:** Merida Initiative, originally launched in 2008, serves as a security partnership between the United States and Mexico where they work together to fight drug trafficking, organized crime and violence. Through billions of dollars the U.S. apported to help Mexico with training, equipment and different institutional reforms to make stronger law enforcement and justice systems. It helped improve cooperation and border security, but faced criticism for a full focus on military strategies instead of social reforms. In the year 2021 it was replaced by Bicentennial Framework, that emphasizes the reduction of violence, that tackles fentanyl and the trafficking of arms, all of this is done for the search and promotion of a safer community.

**UNODC:** Works directly with Mexican institutions to make justice, law enforcement and right protection stronger, tackles corruption, drug trafficking, organized crime and has as a priority the accessibility to justice. Main topics UNODC put attention to is to prevent crime and violence, especially in communities with vulnerable groups, young people and places with a high risk.

**NADD:** North American Drug Dialogue (NADD) eight meetings took place in Mexico City in November 2024, it brought together Mexico, United States and Canada, with the intention of improving the cooperations against drug trafficking and crimes that are related. Each of the three countries discussed different challenges such as illicit financial flows, links between drugs and arms trafficking and synthetic drugs. All agreed to improve public health responses, and to enhance border and postal security, to develop early warning systems for the traction of emerging drug trends. Different representatives from the Netherlands and Belgium joined to share and explore future collaborations that help.

**INTERPOL:** INTERPOL helps and supports Mexico in the fight with international crime, this through its National Central Bureau which directly connects Mexican authorities with different police agencies worldwide. It shares intelligence, all access to global criminal databases and the traction of wanted persons, stolen goods and traffickers, INTERPOL also helps Mexico in border and airport security and provides training and coordination between



federal and local police, it also helps Mexico to involve in international operations against the human trafficking, arms trafficking and drug smuggling.





## Recommendations for further investigation

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- What is the structure and scale of cartel operations and drug trafficking networks around Mexico?
- Which regions are mostly affected and what are the strategies they use for trafficking operations?
- How cartels operations make an impact in public safety, governance in Mexico and Internationally and the law enforcement?
- What are some successful examples of cross-border cooperations between Mexico and countries around the world?
- How Interpol supported Mexico in countering all drug trafficking networks?
- What could be a potential role of advanced technology and data analysis on the support of investigations?
- How can your delegation support national sovereignty and the legal frameworks?
- What actions should be taken to prevent cartel recruitment and expansion?
- How international agencies or NGOs help to improve Mexican institutions in different areas like border security and judicial systems?
- What long term solutions could reduce the demand of illicit drugs and disrupt all financial infrastructure of cartels?
- What solutions can take place to reduce cartels?
- What are some short-term solutions to take into consideration?



## Recommendations to do Resolution Paper

Delegates can use websites to receive support to elaborate a resolution paper. Some of the recommendations found are:

1. Find solutions that fit all the previous laws.
2. Use proper language and express your delegation's ideas in an extended way.
3. Use preambulatory and operative phrases.
4. Seek for sponsors to support your delegation's solutions.
5. Consider Non-governmental Organizations (NGO's) to support your solutions.
6. Always maintain your country's position and abstain from contradicting yourself.
7. Specify the worldwide planning committee reached and make it realistic.

### Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming	Expecting	Having studied
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Keeping in mind
Approving	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with regret
Aware of	Fulfilling	Noting with deep concern
Bearing in mind	Fully alarmed	Noting with satisfaction
Believing	Fully aware	Noting further
Confident	Fully believing	Noting with approval
Contemplating	Further deploring	Observing
Convinced	Further recalling	Reaffirming
Declaring	Guided by	Realizing
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Recalling
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Recognizing
Deeply convinced	Having considered further	Referring
Deeply disturbed	Having devoted attention	Seeking
Deeply regretting	Having examined	Taking into account
Desiring	Having heard	Taking into consideration
Emphasizing	Having received	Taking note
		Viewing with appreciation
		Welcoming

### Sample Operative Phrases

Accepts	Encourages	Further recommends
Affirms	Endorses	Further requests
Approves	Expresses its appreciation	Further resolves
Authorizes	Expresses its hope	Has resolved
Calls	Further invites	Notes
Calls upon	Deplores	Proclaims
Condemns	Designates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Draws the attention	Recommends
Congratulates	Emphasizes	Regrets
Considers	Encourages	Reminds
Declares accordingly	Endorses	Requests
Deplores	Expresses its appreciation	Solemnly affirms
Designates	Expresses its hope	Strongly condemns
Draws the attention	Further invites	Supports
Emphasizes	Further proclaims	Takes note of
	Further reminds	Transmits
		Trusts



## **Questions to consider while creating your resolution**

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1. How can your delegation express a solution that is fair for all the countries?
2. Where does your country stand while disputing the best quality of security systems?
3. How can you get a solution where all border countries win something?
4. Consider short and long term solutions. What can you do to improve your short and long term solutions so they can be successful?
5. Who should be involved in your solution?
6. Are there any monetary funds or NGO's considered for your solution?
7. How could you convince the delegations that they are against the solution?
8. Do you have any type of back up plan that will reinforce your plan?

## **Research and preparation questions**

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- What's your country's position on the topic?
- How is your country affected by this problem?
- How is your country trying to solve this problem?
- Does your country have received help from other countries?
- Does your country have helped others?
- What partnerships can emerge to secure the legal commerce of health products?
- Which activities can be promoted by the citizens of your country to reach a solution?



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