The Palestinian Authority

Positions for the General Assembly First Committee

1. **The Weaponization of Artificial Intelligence**

Artificial Intelligence is a major competition that took place between modern countries around the globe. Whoever will achieve the highest level of artificial intelligence than others will become a leading country in the world. Artificial intelligence is not only a “smart” technology that is implemented in everyday routine, but it is also a huge threat to world peace and the human race. Artificial intelligence is a threat to the working class that would be vanished by robots taking human positions. It is a threat to privacy that we all have a right to, but our rights would be deprived due to constant robotic control. We cannot blindly rely on machines because it needs to be always controlled by humans. Artificial Intelligence needs a lot of improvement and still cannot control itself, in fact, weaponizing artificial intelligence could become a worldwide catastrophe.

In most of the twenty-first century, Israel used Artificial Intelligence as a weapon against Palestine Nation. Our citizens lost their right to privacy because of the artificial intelligence-powered facial recognition cameras installed by Israeli authorities constantly watching every single person. Israeli soldiers break in into our homes without any notice or permitting for “maintaining” those cameras and we are helpless to do anything. Our citizens feel control even in their own bedrooms. They do not feel safe in their homes anymore. Digging deeper, Israel proudly said that they used Artificial Intelligence as a weapon against Palestine in Gaza in 2021 which became the World First Artificial Intelligence War. In that conflict, 243 Palestinians were killed, including 66 children and teens, with 1,910 people wounded, while Israel lost not even 1 soldier. Israel has been a threat to the Palestine Nation for decades, trying to wipe out our race, but the Palestine people fought back for our freedom and rights. However, using artificial intelligence as a weapon gives Israel a tremendous advantage in committing genocide against Palestine successfully. “A Threshold Crossed” a 213-page report by Human Rights Watch states that Israel committed crimes again humanity, unfortunately, it was not enough to stop these crimes.

United Nations have great power to stop crimes against humanity and make sure our world peace will not be crashed. The conflict between Palestine and Israel is not just a conflict between only us and them, it is a worldwide threat to every nation. The weaponization of Artificial Intelligence must be legally regulated with strict rules followed by every country’s commitment. The Lethal Autonomous weapons systems must be banned because it is immoral to use a soulless machine to take away someone’s life while the decision is made by that machine. In fact, it goes against international law that protects humanity against crimes. In order to use a lethal autonomous weapon system, every country should develop a super-high-technology security system to protect LAW from hacking by opposition or even terrorists. If some countries create something so powerful that can be used as a solution and as well as a problem, the best decision is to ban it from use at all until the problem of using artificial intelligence as a weapon isn’t a big threat to humanity and world peace.

1. **Combating the Global Illicit Arms Trade**

The global illicit arms trade is a major issue that stimulates organized crimes, violent protests, and, mainly, terrorists. However, the illicit arms trade is the biggest threat to developing countries. Statistically, the majority of the conflicts have happened in poor countries since World War II such as Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Angola, Somalia, and many more. It is debatable whether legal arms trade is advisable or not, the illicit arms trade is a huge violation of national and international laws. The illicit arms trade is not only against the law, but it slows or even freezes the developmental process of third-world countries because the governments are unable to focus on economic growth or improving the domestic market but are rather forced to manage armed conflicts within and even outside of those countries.

The Palestine Nation has been fighting against the illicit arms trade for years. In September 2020 Firearms and Ammunition Law No.2 of 1998 was amended to increase prison terms and fines related to the illicit arms trade which led to increased security operations such as raids, ambushes, and incursions. The Palestine Authorities created new training for officers with clear instructions to pursue firearm dealers and smugglers. Every year armed crimes increase significantly due to easy access to illicit light firearms. Many of those crimes include family disputes, that involve hatred and emotions and could be solved by other solutions. However, illicit arm trade makes it extremely hard.

The Palestine Nation is actively against illicit arms trade and is ready to take any action for stopping global illicit arms trade. This issue needed to be addressed and solve collectively. All countries need to push harsh sanctions on countries supporting the global illicit arms trade. If sanctions were embodied, those countries will not be able to maintain their economy and will be forced to stop the global illicit arms trade.