

# Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)



Committee Background Guide

Chair: Logan Kapit  
Co-Chairs: Justin Folks and Alexa Ruiz



AHPMUN VII



# Letter From Your Chair

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Hey everyone!

Welcome to **AHPMUN VII**. My name is Logan Kapit, and I am extremely excited to be secretary general of AHPMUN VII as well as the chair of DISEC!

I am currently a senior at American Heritage and one of the Co-Presidents of Model UN. I have been participating in Model UN for three years, and I absolutely love it. I have made some of my best friends, met people from around the world, and have traveled across the country as a part of our team. Outside of Model UN, I am also a member of the math team, statistician of our varsity football team, and Co-President of UNICEF. Outside of school, I love hanging with the boys, playing sports, or setting lineups for any of my seven fantasy football teams.

DISEC is one of the most important committees because it helps solve pressing global challenges and preserve international peace and security. In this committee, the two topics we will be focusing on are international regulation for artificial intelligence and transnational organized crime. My awesome co-chairs and I are extremely excited to see where you guys take the debate and to hear all of your ideas!

If you guys have any questions regarding me, the committee, or anything else, please feel free to email me anytime. Looking forward to meeting you all and good luck!

Logan Kapit

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# Topic A:

## International Regulation of Artificial Intelligence

### Introduction

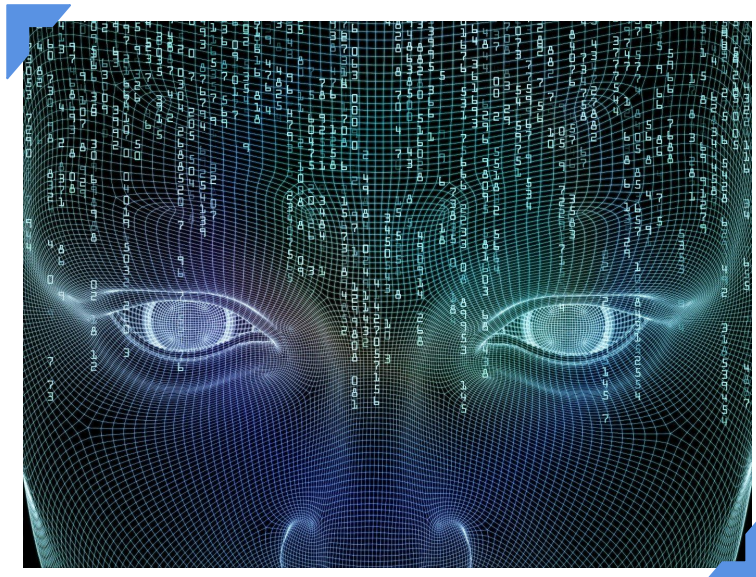
With the rise of emerging technology made to simplify human tasks has also risen a fear of technology being used to militarize irresponsibly, especially in a lack of regulation of artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence has been defined as when machines simulate human intelligence processes or behaviors, and can range anywhere from speech recognition to driverless cars and beyond. A large issue with AI discussed by many policymakers and scholars such as Henry Kissinger, is the fact that there has been no established guiding philosophy as to the development or utilization of AIs. There is no universal, international limit made as to how far both the private and public sectors can go with AI technology. AI technology brings forth major ethical questions into the international community, such as can the creator of an AI be held responsible for the actions of its AI, and how can we make both states and individuals liable and accountable for its mistakes? As members of DISEC, delegates will primarily focus on AI usage in the security sector, especially in the sphere of militarization. Russia, China and the United States have already expressed their interest in taking the lead in militarizing the usage of AI. For example, the US military has already begun to use artificial intelligence for initiative “Project Maven,” to assist in the identification of insurgents in Iraq and Syria.

## What is AI?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems. These processes include learning (the acquisition of information and rules for using the information), reasoning (using rules to reach approximate or definite conclusions) and self-correction. Particular applications of AI include expert systems, speech recognition and machine vision.

AI can be categorized as either weak or strong. Weak AI, also known as narrow AI, is an AI system that is designed and trained for a particular task. Virtual personal assistants, such as Apple's Siri, are a form of weak AI.

Strong AI, also known as artificial general intelligence, is an AI system with generalized human cognitive abilities. When presented with an unfamiliar task, a strong AI system is able to find a solution without human intervention.



## The Beginning of AI

The intellectual roots of AI, and the concept of intelligent machines, may be found in Greek mythology. Intelligent artifacts appear in literature since then, with real (and fraudulent) mechanical devices actually demonstrated to behave with some degree of intelligence. After modern computers became available, following World War II, it had become possible to create programs that perform difficult intellectual tasks. From these programs, general tools are constructed which have applications in a wide variety of everyday problems. There were two main criteria that AI needed to accomplish:

- 1) To efficiently solve problems by limiting the search
- 2) To learn by themselves



## Ways AI Can Be Dangerous

There are a lot of potential dangers that come with artificial intelligence including social manipulation, invasion of privacy, discrimination, a difference in the goals of humans and the machines, etc. All of these should be discussed in our committee. However, one of the most dangerous ways AI can be used are as autonomous weapons.

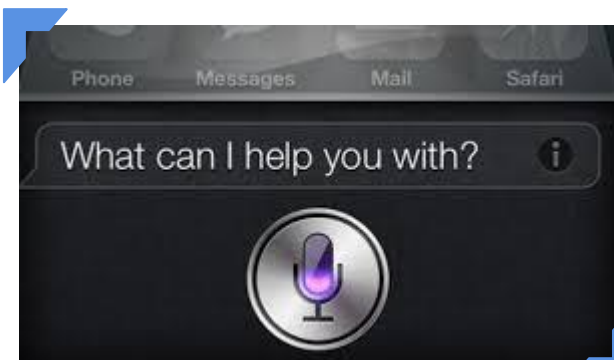
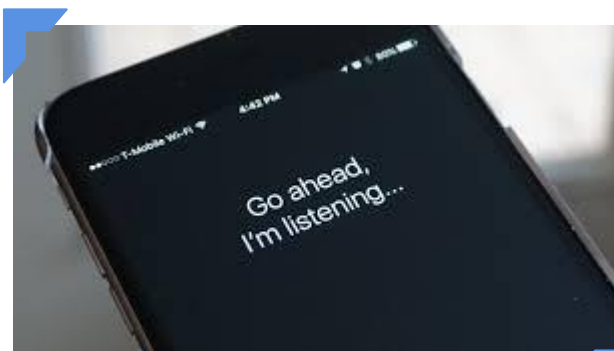
AI programmed to do something dangerous, as is the case with autonomous weapons programmed to kill, is one way AI can pose serious risks. It might even be plausible to expect that the nuclear arms race will be replaced with a global autonomous weapons race. Aside from being concerned that autonomous weapons might gain a “mind of their own,” a more imminent concern is the dangers autonomous weapons might have with an individual or government that doesn’t value human life. Once deployed, they will likely be difficult to dismantle or combat.





## Our Goal as a Committee

DISEC's responsibility is to determine how AI can be used for good in the international community, and most importantly, how to police the use of AI. Delegates will best navigate the topic by researching different uses of AI in the security space and AI initiatives that countries have already piloted, and by applying their country's policy in determining future international AI regulation within the security space.







# Questions to Consider

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1. What kinds of threats are we creating for ourselves and how can we prevent them?
2. How can we use Artificial Intelligence for good without its uses becoming dangerous?
3. Are the risks associated with artificial intelligence worth its benefits?



# Topic B:

## Transnational Organized Crime

### Introduction

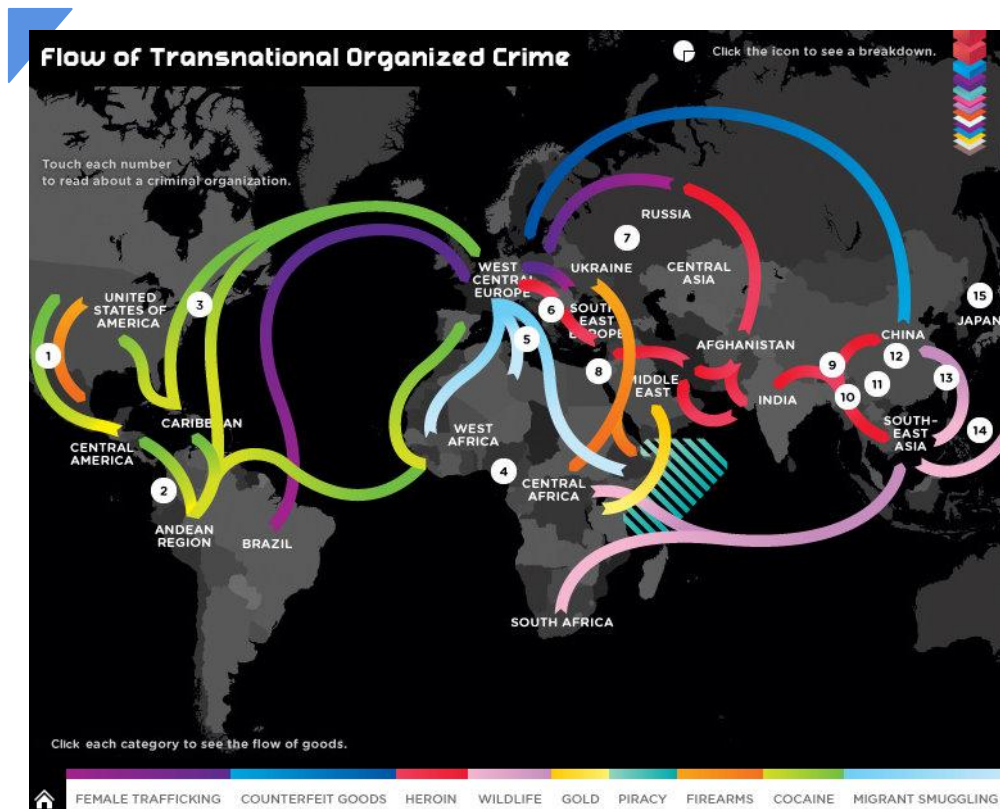
Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) is an international issue that covers a wide range of illicit actions such as money laundering, human trafficking, drug trade, organ trading, pirated goods, and insurgency. The most difficult aspect in adjudicating TOC is taking action to eliminate illegal transborder action through international cooperation with full transparency from each government and entity that is affected by the issue. Several different types of transnational crimes can also be committed simultaneously by one or more organized criminal groups, such as opiate trafficking and insurgency--a situation that is all too familiar in the nation of Afghanistan, where the Taliban has been a backbone for opium production for over a decade. The key to litigating transnational crime is attacking it at the source, which can be complicated due to overlapping criminal networks. There are also many layers of secret bank accounts and anonymous companies, utilized in both developing and developed countries, that can make it practically impossible for investigators to decipher.

Criminal groups undermine state authority and the rule of law by fuelling corruption, compromising elections, and hurting the legitimate economy. In all cases, criminal influence and money are having a significant impact on the livelihoods and quality of life of citizens, most particularly the poor, women and children. In the Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Rule of Law, Member States stressed the importance of strengthened international cooperation in order to dismantle illicit networks, counter the world drug problem and transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law.



## Past Solutions

Countries have found varying degrees of success using both military and social strategies to combat transnational organized crime. Many have pushed for increased regulation on social media platforms and the internet to limit the recruitment of organization members. Other states and groups have attempted to limit the funding streams of these criminal enterprises to starve them out. In the case of ISIS, NATO has initiated strikes on ISIS oil fields and have stopped smuggling operations to eliminate their financial backbone.





# Questions to Consider

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1. How can member states work together to advance cross-border global peace and security by taking down these TOC networks?
2. What information-sharing mechanisms can we use to mitigate the growth of such networks?
3. How do we prevent such networks from forming through government initiatives such as ramping up the state security apparatus, creating stronger border security controls and tracking illicit systems through an innovative, technological approach?



# Sources

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## Topic A: International Regulation of Artificial Intelligence

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R45178.pdf>

[https://cisse.info/pdf/2019/rr\\_01\\_artificial\\_intelligence.pdf](https://cisse.info/pdf/2019/rr_01_artificial_intelligence.pdf)

## Topic B: Transnational Organized Crime

[https://www.gfintegrity.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Transnational\\_Crime-final](https://www.gfintegrity.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Transnational_Crime-final)

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/toc.html>