



Background Guide

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

1 | Combatting international abusement of drug

JEJUMUN IX

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Committee Introduction

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was founded in Cairo in 1997 as a global leader in the battle against crime, drugs, and terrorism. UNODC has been striving to build resilient solutions for global drug problems, organized crime, corruption, economic crime, terrorism, and criminal justice to contribute to global peace, security, and human rights. Since the scope of these issues is too large for individual countries to address themselves, international networks and the committee have been providing practical help in the form of adjustments and activities.

UNODC has 115 field offices in over 80 countries with 2400 employments all around the global society. The agency is dedicated to assisting the Member States through a collaboration of governments and civil society to ensure security and justice. The office has also established a target for its member nations to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs. Countries may participate in sustainable development since the implementation understands the need for fair norms and laws, humane judicial systems, and health-oriented drug use.

Drugs, corruption, and terrorism have all become more of a menace to the world with the appearance of COVID-19. UNODC has introduced a five-year strategy to safeguard people from risks while also allowing them to recover faster. By developing new collaborations, reinforcing existing links, empowering women and youth, harnessing a learning culture, and building inclusive communities, the goal is to build a resilient society against today's threats.

Agenda Introduction

Nowadays, global society is in a highly tumultuous situation due to the Covid 19. One of the most affected areas was *drug abuse*. More than 100 million people have been forced into extreme poverty as a result of the COVID-19 problem, which has also increased unemployment and inequalities by causing the world to lose 255 million jobs by 2020, according to a UN report in June 2021. Mental illnesses are also on the rise all over the world. These factors have the potential to increase the number of people who suffer from drug addiction.

Furthermore, throughout the epidemic, changes in drug usage patterns have already been noticed, including an increase in the use of cannabis and the non-medical use of pharmaceutical sedatives. A lot of citizens are predicting the turmoil which might transpire in society. If drug consumption does not restrain, the crime rate will drastically proliferate, and public opinions will start instigating.

From now on, the United Nations should promptly entail the responsibility for the countermeasures in order to prevent the catastrophe from happening. This council aims to work towards a resolution that can ensure the protection from illegal drugs in each state. Lastly, the chairs want delegates to actively participate in the conference in order to figure out different solutions regarding the agenda.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear delegates,

Welcome to JejuMUN 9 and to the Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Hello, my name is Dongyoon Daniel Lee, the head chair. I'm currently a sophomore at Saint Johnsbury Academy Jeju and have been working on MUN since a sixth grader. I am very honored to serve as a chair of this conference. At this conference, you will be going to represent a whole state as a delegate and discuss one of the most significant problems: drug abuse. I don't hope this conference will only serve as a learning opportunity for your educational career, but I hope the conference will become a fun, refreshing, and happy memory. If you have any questions, never hesitate to contact us via email.

Hello, my name is Soohye Clara Hwang, the deputy chair. I'm currently a Junior at Branksome and have been involved in MUN since a year ago, attending a total of about three MUN conferences so far. It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you to the 9th edition of JEJUMUN. If you are stressed or overwhelmed, please do contact us - We will be more than happy to answer your questions before, during, and after the conference. Most importantly, remember to try your best, and have fun!

Hello, this is Diane Seyeon Lee who will be your associate chair for UNODC. I'm currently a freshman in Branksome Hall Asia and have been participating in MUN since 7th grade. Over the past two years, I've had plenty of experience as a delegate and will be happy to help and answer any questions raised by the delegates. During this conference, the delegates will have the chance to actively debate the topic of responding to drug trafficking globally. I am looking forward to fruitful discussions, active debates, and your best effort in this conference!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via.

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We are looking forward to meeting you all,

Key Terms

Depressants

slow down the function of the central nervous system.

Hallucinogens

affect the senses and change the way you see, hear, taste, smell or feelings

Stimulants

speed up the function of the central nervous system.

CIA and drug trafficking:

The CIA has been involved in various drug trafficking operations.

Cannabis

Cannabis, also known as marijuana among other names, is a psychoactive drug from the Cannabis plant. Many people experience a pleasant euphoria and sense of relaxation. Cannabis is most used drugs in the world, reporting 200 million (about four percent of global population) drug users on 2020

Cocaine

Cocaine is one type of drug which UNODC pays deep attention to, as 20 million people were reported to abuse cocaine in 2019. The cocaine industry develops rapidly, with a growing industry of trading and decreasing prices.

Opioids

Opioids are narcotic painkillers which are extracted from the poppy plant. Even though they are used in medical areas, around 62 million people used opioids for non-medical purposes in 2019. Roughly 50,000 people died from Opioid overdose, and the number is still rising.

Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS)

ATS is one of the drugs that is abused globally while North America is the region showing the highest rate of abuse. It is estimated that 27 million people will have abused ATS in 2019.

-All of the drugs listed above are illegal in most countries and might lead to drug addiction-

Drugs:

a medicine or other substance which has a physiological effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.

Illegal Drug:

a controlled substance but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional

Drug Control Headquarters(DCHQ):

DCHQ is a headquarter which is established in Iran with the purpose of preventing and combating drug trafficking.

Drug trade:

Drug trade(Drug trafficking) is a global illicit trade involving the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of substances which are subject to drug prohibition laws.

Illicit drug transportation:

An illicit drug is one that is illegal to have: cannabis, heroin, cocaine. Illicit drug transportation is the act of illegally importing or exporting these substances.

Online Drug Trafficking:

Engaging in illegal drug conveying on the internet, online platform.

Addiction:

The fact or condition of being addicted to a particular substance, thing, or activity. - in the case of this topic, addicted to drugs

Drug Abuse:

The habitual taking of addictive or illegal drugs.

Historical Background

Establishment and purpose of UNODC (1997)

UNODC was established in 1997 as a result of the merger of the United Nations Center for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Program. Founded by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, it enables organizations to focus on and strengthen their capabilities in all forms of drug control, crime and international terrorism.

Beginning Of UNODC Cooperation With The Islamic Republic Of Iran (1999~2004)

UNODC in the Islamic Republic of Iran established a country office in Tehran in July 1999. During a period of six years (1999-2004) UNODC technical assistance on drugs and crime to the Islamic Republic of Iran was delivered in the framework of the NOROUZ (Narcotics Reduction Unitized Programme) programme.

The Paris pact Initiative(PPI) (2003)

Including UNODC, 58 partner countries, Paris pact Initiative has been included into one of the most important frameworks for combating illicit trafficking. This multifaceted initiative defines and empowers drug control officers on a global scale. Ultimately, it aims to set policies and provide more substantive evidence of collaborative action by all signatories. PPI has developed according to geographic trends to comprehensively institute appropriate responses worldwide.

Main global cocaine flows (2008)

After a significant increase in the period 2002 - 2005, cocaine attacks worldwide have recently followed a stable trend, reaching 712 tons in 2007 and 711 tons in 2008. Seizures continued to be concentrated in the Americas and Europe. However, the transition from 2007 to 2008 brought about a geographical shift in seizures towards the source countries for cocaine. Seizures in South America accounted for 59 percent of the global total for 2008, compared with 45 percent in 2007.

Silk road (2011)

Silk road is an online black market which is formed with the purpose of trafficking. These works were done anonymously. Utilizing, and abusing privacy techniques such as the network and cryptocurrency transactions, people were able to transact in drugs.

Drug World Report (2017)

Unodc had launched the Drug World Report in 2017, in order to fight drug abuse and drug trafficking. It is created in five-booklet format .

Global Container control Programme (2019):

The Container Management Program (CCP) builds the capacity of countries to improve risk management, supply chain security, and port, airport, and cross-border trade facilitation to prevent cross-border movement of illegal goods. To progress the program, Unodc and the World Customs Organization(WCO) have come together. The program offers a wealth of training programs and enhances collaboration with government agencies. It built capacity in member countries to improve supply chain security, and improved the trade facilitation to prevent the illegal transportations of drugs across national borders.

Covid - 19 and drug trafficking in internet (2020~)

Drug trafficking using the internet has accelerated during the pandemic. According to the World Drug Report 2021, in many countries, there has been an increase in seizures by mail and an increased use of technology to facilitate drug trafficking at retail level. Covid-19 has changed shopping trends by accelerating the shift towards e- commerce and online shopping. Therefore, there are indications that this behavior has affected not only licit goods but also illicit purchases of controlled drugs.

Current State of Affairs

Drug users are drastically increasing around the world. Even some countries are anticipated to be in turmoil which might transpire in one's society. For instance, the number of drug addicted people are predicted to increase in Africa by 40 percent by 2030. If the rate of increase maintains, the atmosphere in the community will be agitated, the public opinions will start instigating, and the citizens in Africa will have to entail their own losses. UNODC urges delegates to contemplate this problem immediately, but meticulously with the global community and further discuss the future countermeasures of drug trafficking.

Drugs are very dangerous as many people know. But researches conducted during recent years have shown that perception among adolescents about cannabis is taking a turn towards the negative side. From 1995 to 2019, the number of young adults who believe that cannabis is risky has lessened from 8 out of 10 people to 5 out of 10. On the other hand, the potency of the cannabis herb increased 4 times over 25 years. If this rate of awareness continues to decrease, there will be a serious increase in problems regarding patients who are heavily addicted to drugs.

While Covid-19 seemed like it was going to contract the overall drug market, it quickly recovered. It accelerated some drug trafficking patterns such that there has been an increase in usage of private aircraft, waterway sources, and enlargement of shipment size. However, Covid-19 has also positively impacted innovation that can be used for treatment services and drug prevention. For example, innovation enabled providing service hotlines, installing vending machines for drug treatment, and advancing mobile outreach programs. UNODC would like to reflect on the current situation due to covid and consider how possible solutions might differ.

Stances of Parties

Afghanistan

Afghanistan is struggling with drugs and is actually even called a major home of the heroin trade. A UNODC report has suggested that eight percent of the population, which is double the average global population, suffers from drug addiction. Its size is so enormous that 85 percent of the illicit opium is derived from Afghanistan. According to a UNODC report, 7 percent of Afghanistan's GDP is dependent on the drug market. As drugs are already a big part of Afghanistan's economy, finding slow phase solutions that would not harm Afghanistan might be necessary.

Australia

Australia is currently in the worst situation of drug trafficking. Australia's illegal drug trade is estimated to be worth \$11.3 billion per year. Many laws are used in Australia to sanction suspected drug dealers, but most jurisdictions also have laws that sanction only the weight of drugs found.

Austria

Drug use is not mentioned as a crime in Austria. Penalties for possession of drugs for personal use are imprisonment or fines of up to six months unless the amount of drugs exceeds the defined threshold. Therefore, Austria is struggling with severe addictions: Alcohol, tobacco, controlled psychotropic medications, illicit drugs, new psychoactive substances, doping and neuro-enhancement.

Brazil

Crime connected to drugs is major in Brazil such that 27 percent of all incarcerations are due to drug problems. According to a UNODC report, about 16 million people in Brazil have registered to use drugs. It also states that about nine hundred thousand children under the age of 15 are also registered as drug users. Brazilian law 11.343/06 states that a person can be imprisoned for five to fifteen years for drug offenses. Despite its law, Brazil is struggling with citizens' abuse of cocaine and crack.

Canada

Canada has reported that almost 18 percent of the population has used illegal drugs. In Canada, the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act has controlled drug abuse in Canada. This was getting lenient as Canada has recently legalized the usage of marijuana and allowed health care providers to freely sell or prescribe methadone without proving exceptions by the government. By this, companies in Canada began to actively search for medical benefits drugs can have.

China

China has strict laws regarding drug offenses. Capital punishment or the death penalty can be given for drug offenses executed by injection or shooting. According to the National Narcotics Control Commission of China, there were a total of 2.51 million drug users, which is

about 0.182 percent of the total population in China measured in 2016. Despite its comparatively small percentage of drug offenses, the way China has reacted is questionable. United Nations, including UNODC, strongly opposes the death penalty or capitalism under any circumstances even if it was backed up by law.

France

France has strict laws regarding drug offenses as it is officially criminalized by the law. Using illicit drugs can result in staying in jail for one year or paying a fine. Despite this, France has reported the highest rate of people using cannabis in the European continent. France also recorded third place regarding the rate of cocaine usage. In terms of drugs, France has reported that 6.6 percent out of the total population has used drugs measured by one month period. The usage of drugs has steadily increased since the 2010s.

India

Drug problem in India is severe. About nine million people use cannabis and two million people use opiates in India. Although Indian law (NDPS Act) clearly states every drug is banned except for medical purposes, 2.1 percent of people out of the total population of India have reported drug offenses. One point of attention is that the drug problem in India is getting worse as time goes on. India showed an 11 percent increase in the conviction rate due to drugs in the period 2016 to 2020.

Iran

The World Health Organization has stated that Iran is the country with the most rate of opium users, that triple the amount of people in Iran use opium compared to the average data of the world. About three percent of the people in Iran, 2 million people, use illicit drugs daily. Iran's Anti-Narcotics Law, drug offenses, including possessing it can be treated by the death penalty or life imprisonment, while it is normally punished by high priced- fine and a long jail sentence.

Italy

Italy has the 10th highest rate of trafficking drugs in the world. The only legal way to take this substance in Italy is the use of cannabinoid-based drugs necessarily prescribed by a doctor. In addition, recreational use is permitted for marijuana. Moreover, the punishment is evaluated by the risk of the drug . For example, in the case of more dangerous drugs (cocaine, heroin, etc.), dealing is punishable by 6-20 years' imprisonment, while offenses related to the supply of less dangerous drugs (cannabis, etc.) attract a penalty of 2-6 years' imprisonment.

Japan

Drug use is viewed chiefly as a criminal matter, with emphasis placed on its eradication through intolerance and punishment in Japan. The Japanese government's drug policy is outlined in the Five-Year Drug Abuse Prevention Strategy. The strategy focuses on public education and awareness, treatment and rehabilitation of drug users, crackdown on drug dealers and users, prevention of smuggling, and international cooperation.

Malaysia

Malaysia has an extremely strict stance in drug trafficking. Possessing, using, and trafficking drugs is illegal in Malaysia. People who transgress the law related to drugs will have much heavier fines than in the United States. Even Malaysian legislation provides for a mandatory death penalty for convicted drug traffickers.

Myanmar

Drug offenses are clearly banned by Myanmar's legal frame and state; even small drug offenses can result in heavy imprisonment. UNODC has estimated that there are about three hundred thousand drug users in Myanmar. Opium is a major drug consumed such that 90 percent of drugs in Myanmar is opium. UNODC has also shown the distribution of age of drug users, 30 to 39 years old (32.97%) and between 25-29 (25.53%) measured from 1999~2003.

New Zealand

New Zealand has strict drug laws which indicate trafficking drugs is illegal.. However, as a country with many ports, illegal drugs from overseas do get through our borders. However, they allow recreational use of drugs such as Italy. According to the research, almost half of our adult population (49.0 percent) has used recreational drugs at some point in their lives.

Pakistan

Pakistan has shown an alarming rate of increase in drug abuse throughout the nation. Pakistan is a Muslim country under both government-directed law and Islamic law. They do have excessively strict laws on drug abuse. According to government law, it states that having 100g or more of heroin might result in the death penalty or a life-long sentence. Pakistan is challenged by multiple factors including proximity to Afghanistan and a lack of a platform which multiple drug departments can cooperate with.

Poland

Poland has some of the strictest anti-drug legislation in Europe right now. Poland is a post-socialist country with a strong Catholic culture and a significant interest in successfully integrating with the European Union. The decades of changing drug prohibitions and, surprisingly, the more recent process of political and economic liberalization have both contributed to an increase in structural violence against drug users.

Portugal

In July 2001, Portugal decriminalized the personal use and possession of all illicit drugs. In 2000, Portugal decriminalized the use, purchase, and possession of all narcotics in both public and private settings, adopting a policy that prioritized public health over public order concerns. This essay critically examines the changes and contemporary issues the Portuguese drug policy encounters, especially the rising diversity of drug use patterns found in Portugal as well as in Europe, and makes the argument that the Portuguese Drug Policy Model has not proven effective enough to free drug use from the stigma that equates it with either crime or pathology.

Russia

Russia has very strict laws regarding drug abuse. Historically, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, when the border was opened, there was a huge import of drugs from outside. In response, Russia has initiated a strong policy of viewing drug users as criminals rather than a patient; choosing punishment or rehabilitation. Despite this, Russia is still one of the countries which are mostly affected by drug problems.

Slovakia

Slovakia is one of the countries that showed a distinct change in the types of drugs consumed. In 1989, 98 percent of the drugs abused were fluid drugs including heroin, marijuana, and cocaine. From the 1990s to modern-day, most consuming drugs have changed to cannabinoids and amphetamines. Slovakia has a clear law system where drug offending can result in three years of sentence to life imprisonment depending on the seriousness of the offense. Slovakia has reported 969 criminals offending drug law which is 0.02527 percent of the total population.

South Korea

South Korea strictly prohibits drug usage, therefore, South Korea has shown significantly fewer cases of drug abuse according to past UNODC reports. Despite its success rate, one issue is that importing medication containing narcotics is totally banned; even with a doctor's prescription. South Korea might want to consider whether strictly banning medical drugs is worthy enough to bear a possible medical crisis.

Thailand

Thailand's laws are straightforward for almost every kind of drug, such that a person can be imprisoned for life or cost in the range of 3,000 dollars to 140,000 for drug possessing. However, one exception recently emerged; marijuana. Thailand originally had a tolerant view of marijuana as it allowed marijuana for medical usage in 2018, which was the first attempt in whole Asian countries. Nowadays, using or possessing marijuana is not a crime anymore from January 25, 2022. Although Thailand has superficially discouraged personal usage of marijuana, Thailand has shown some controversies as they gave away millions of marijuana seedlings to citizens.

U.K

The United Kingdom has shown an excessive rate of death caused by drugs- 76 deaths per million population. The United Kingdom has reported 225,000 cases of drug abuse in the period of 2019~2020. In response, the United Kingdom promoted strict laws to prevent using and supplying illegal drugs. Still, the United Kingdom admitted tough sanctions had a novice impact on citizens' drug usage. The most consuming drug in the United Kingdom is cocaine.

USA

Although law regarding the usage of drugs varies between different states in the United States, federal law exists to generally control drug abuse. Still, laws between states are distinctly different such that some states allow marijuana for pleasure while some states strictly

ban it even for medical usage. Drug problems in the United States are severe according to past UNODC reports. One specific problem in the USA is due to abusing medical drugs from prescription.

Possible Solutions

Setting Clear Guidelines of Drugs

Every aspect of drug trafficking differs from the continent level to specific regions, which includes government guidelines for a drug, the forensic part of drug trafficking, people's different perceptions about drugs, and access to drug trafficking. In the contemporary situation, countries have different measures for drug trafficking, such as some countries implementing the death penalty while others only collect a fine or put sentences. Furthermore, different countries have different attitudes toward drug trafficking as some countries encourage growing drugs while some countries strictly prohibit drugs, although their purpose is in medical usage. These differences between countries might hinder action taken on a global level. Therefore, setting guidelines that are clear but inclusive might be necessary to make further implementation much more practical.

Strengthening government institution related to drug in each countries

Each country's governments should consider strengthening their institutions concerning drug prevention, usage, and control. The institutions might act as guidelines for each country's drug control. By having each of the countries having its own drug-related institutions, it can help to raise awareness regarding different kinds of drugs and could make an international program for addiction-curing that will be available to any citizen who wishes to take the detoxification.

Reduce impunity of drug usage

Some countries such as Italy, and New Zealand, still provide the impunity of drugs by permitting recreational usage. In order to prevent indiscreet drug trafficking, reducing impunity of drug usage by law will be the effective solution. An international organization could be created to manage and oversee each nation. The UNODC Conference may also attempt to choose the high boundary of impunity. The specified punishment by using drugs could be also discussed during the conference.

Questions to Consider

1. What is your country's perspective on drug usage? Is there any drug specifically allowed (Etc, for medical use) or banned explicitly in your country?
2. Considering allowing drugs for medical usage is a double-edged sword, what perspective should UNODC take on this? Is preventing drug abuse by completely blocking it worth enough to give up any medical benefit a drug can have?
3. How might an economic crisis due to significant events such as the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine influence drug abuse?
4. According to a UNODC report, **all** sub-region showed males have a higher percentage of cannabis users than females. Which factors can explain significantly different rates of drug usage? How identifying these factors might help the committee?
5. Should UNODC view drug users as a patient or criminals? In other words, should UNODC focus the conference on the purpose of rehabilitation and healing or punishment? What would be the Pros and Cons of each attitude?
6. How would dividing and promoting cooperation between a separate bloc of countries (Etc, combinations of countries in a specific region/Countries sharing similar problems) could help solve this problem?
7. Will vanishing drugs in economically-drug-dependent countries be worthy enough to endure any possible economical or social consequences?
8. Which solution(s) can solve this problem immediately and long-term? How can UNODC effectively keep resolutions to be implemented by countries?
9. How will UNODC cooperate with different UN entities (Etc, UNICEF, WHO, UNESCO, and World Bank) to contribute to a solution?
10. Some countries has measure of capital punishment for drug trafficking which is deviated from UNODC's position. Should there be additional modification to these kinds of laws?

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