

KLE MUN 2024

**BACKGROUND GUIDE**

United Nations Office on Drugs  
and Crime

**Agenda** : Strengthening International  
Cooperation for Tourist Protection

## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Table of Contents .....                  | 1  |
| Letter from the Executive Board .....    | 2  |
| Introduction to the UNODC .....          | 3  |
| Introduction to the Agenda .....         | 4  |
| Key words .....                          | 5  |
| Key Events .....                         | 6  |
| Information on Key Treaties .....        | 8  |
| Other Proposed Solutions .....           | 10 |
| Questions A Resolution Must Answer ..... | 12 |
| Bibliography .....                       | 13 |

## Letter from the Executive Board

**Dear Delegates,**

I hope this message finds you in great spirits. As Chair of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the 2024 edition of KLE MUN, it is my pleasure to extend a warm invitation to you for our upcoming conference. We are excited to have you join us as we tackle the vital agenda of *Strengthening International Cooperation for Tourist Protection*.

This year, we focus on the pressing challenges that affect tourists worldwide, particularly in the context of rising transnational crime, terrorism, and threats to safety. As delegates, you will engage in robust discussions aimed at exploring effective measures to enhance the protection of tourists while fostering international cooperation among states.

The KLE MUN offers a unique platform for you to step into the roles of diplomats and policymakers, allowing you to address the multifaceted issues surrounding tourist safety. Your insights and diverse perspectives will be invaluable in crafting innovative solutions that address the vulnerabilities faced by travelers today.

We have curated an agenda that reflects the urgency of the topic and the need for collaborative approaches. By engaging with fellow delegates, you will not only enhance your understanding of international law and human rights but also contribute to developing actionable strategies for promoting tourist safety.

As we prepare for this enriching experience, I encourage each of you to bring your ideas, experiences, and questions to the table. Our committee is committed to fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, open dialogue, and collaborative problem-solving.

Should you have any queries about the conference, the agenda, or the committee structure, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am here to assist you and ensure that your experience at KLE MUN is both enjoyable and rewarding.

I look forward to welcoming you to an engaging and productive conference.

**Best regards,**

**Pranathi Shivakumar**

**Chair, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

## Introduction to the UNODC

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime, in addition to being responsible for implementing the United Nations lead programme on terrorism. Established in 1997, UNODC has approximately 500 staff members worldwide.

UNODC works to educate people throughout the world about the dangers of drug abuse and to strengthen international action against illicit drug production and trafficking and drug-related crime. To achieve those aims, UNODC has launched a range of initiatives, including alternatives in the area of illicit drug crop cultivation, monitoring of illicit crops and the implementation of projects against money laundering.

UNODC also works to improve crime prevention and assist with criminal justice reform in order to strengthen the rule of law, promote stable and viable criminal justice systems and combat the growing threats of transnational organized crime and corruption. In 2002, the General Assembly approved an expanded programme of activities for the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC. The activities focus on providing assistance to States, on request, in ratifying and implementing the eighteen universal legal instruments against terrorism.

UNODC has 20 field offices covering over 150 countries. By working directly with Governments and non-governmental organizations, UNODC field staff develop and implement drug control and crime prevention programmes tailored to countries' particular needs.

## Introduction to the Agenda

### Agenda : Strengthening International Cooperation for Tourist Protection

Tourism is a vital global industry, contributing significantly to economic growth and cultural exchange. However, tourists and foreign nationals, particularly in high-risk countries, are increasingly vulnerable to various threats such as terrorism, crime, political instability, and natural disasters. Addressing these risks requires robust international cooperation and crisis management systems to protect travelers.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) plays a key role in combating transnational crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling, which often target tourists. UNODC's work includes initiatives like cross-border collaboration through Border Liaison Offices (BLOs), which help law enforcement officers detect and prevent criminal activities, ensuring safer borders for tourists.

In addition to combating crime, the protection of tourists involves developing comprehensive safety measures. These include diplomatic support systems, emergency evacuation protocols, and legal frameworks designed to provide crisis management in volatile regions. The UNODC promotes preventive measures such as awareness campaigns and best practices to mitigate risks, ensuring that tourists are informed and prepared in case of emergencies.

Furthermore, international cooperation mechanisms are crucial for managing crises that may affect tourists, such as political instability or natural disasters. Through joint efforts, UN agencies and national governments work to ensure the safety of foreign nationals by implementing standardized safety measures, providing diplomatic protection, and offering emergency evacuation plans when necessary. This holistic approach strengthens the global framework for the protection of tourists and promotes safer, more secure international travel experiences.

## Key words

1. **Tourism** : Tourism is a social, cultural and economic phenomenon which entails the movement of people to countries or places outside their usual environment for personal or business/professional purposes.
2. **Terrorism** : Violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups who are inspired by, or associated with, designated foreign terrorist organizations or nations (state-sponsored).
3. **Crime** : The intentional commission of an act usually deemed socially harmful or dangerous and specifically defined, prohibited, and punishable under criminal law.
4. **Political instability** : in simple terms it is defined as a situation whereby the control of a country is affected badly due to civil war. It could also arise due to gross misunderstanding between groupings of persons with different political affiliation.
5. **Crisis management**: it is the application of strategies designed to help an organization deal with a sudden and significant negative event, it also involves implementing policies and procedures to defend, mitigate and prevent a crisis.
6. **International cooperation**: A collaborative relationship between entities to work toward shared objectives through a mutually agreed division of labour.

## Key Events

### 1. UNODC Promotes the International Legal Framework against Terrorism and its Financing in Montenegro

A National Workshop on the International Legal Framework against Terrorism and its Financing, organized by the Government of Montenegro with UNODC's support, took place in Podgorica from 8 to 10 October 2013. Funded by Slovakia, the workshop aimed to strengthen Montenegrin criminal justice and law enforcement officials' ability to combat terrorism and prevent terrorist financing. UNODC experts outlined the international legal framework, while the OSCE discussed regional challenges. Practitioners from Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Spain shared their experiences in investigating and prosecuting terrorism and its financing cases.

### 2. UNODC Strengthens Cross-Border Cooperation between North and West Africa to Prevent Terrorism and its Nexus with Organized Crime

Since 2022, Africa has become the epicenter of global terrorism, accounting for over 60% of terrorism-related deaths, with weak governance, porous borders, and social inequalities enabling terrorist groups. These groups collaborate with organized crime networks, exploiting the trafficking of arms, people, drugs, and goods. The Sahel, especially the tri-border area of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, has been particularly impacted, disrupting trade and livelihoods. To address this, UNODC organized an exchange visit for Egypt and Sahelian countries in July 2024 to strengthen judicial cooperation. The visit, part of UNODC's project on Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism in the Sahel, focused on improving investigation, prosecution, and crime prevention while fostering regional cooperation. Officials from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger engaged in discussions with Egyptian counterparts on strategies for tackling terrorism and organized crime, sharing best practices for cross-border collaboration. This initiative enhanced mutual understanding and cooperation to better combat these intertwined threats.

### 3. UNODC Strengthens International Cooperation in Terrorism-Related Cases Through Regional Workshop for Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Yemen

Terrorism remains a critical security challenge in the Middle East, necessitating regional cooperation. To enhance collaboration, UNODC's Terrorism Prevention Branch held a regional workshop in Amman from 22-24 September

2024. The workshop brought together senior officials from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Yemen to improve international cooperation in terrorism-related cases, with a focus on mutual legal assistance. Participants, including representatives from justice, interior, and foreign ministries, as well as military courts, shared challenges and best practices in prosecuting terrorism and handling cross-border cases. The event featured expert presentations from Egypt, EUROJUST, and INTERPOL, and fostered bilateral discussions on improving legal frameworks and communication channels between countries. A key outcome was Iraq's decision to pursue cooperation agreements with Yemen and Lebanon on mutual legal assistance and extradition. Participants emphasized the importance of ongoing regional cooperation, capacity-building, and technical assistance to effectively counter terrorism.

**4. UNODC Strengthens Capacity to Enhance Border Security in Bangladesh**

UNODC conducted a workshop in Dhaka on 9-10 October 2019, focused on enhancing Bangladesh's border security by improving the use of advance passenger information (API), passenger name record (PNR), biometrics, and other data. Organized under UNODC's project for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 2396 (2017) and funded by the U.S. Government, the event brought together around 20 government officials and experts from various agencies. International experts provided training on topics like the use of INTERPOL's tools, API/PNR system deployment, and the application of biometric data. Participants also discussed best practices for API/PNR systems while ensuring personal data protection. Bangladeshi officials showed strong interest in adopting API/PNR systems, strengthening cross-border collaboration, and continuing cooperation with UNODC to combat transnational crime and terrorism.



## Information on Key Treaties

### 1. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)

The UNTOC (2000), also known as the Palermo Convention, is the leading international framework to combat transnational organized crime. It is supplemented by three protocols addressing human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and illicit firearm trafficking. Its provisions are critical for addressing criminal activities that target tourists, such as trafficking and organized crime. Key aspects include:

- **Mutual legal assistance:** Enhances cross-border cooperation on investigations, prosecution, and information sharing among states.
- **Extradition agreements:** Facilitates the apprehension of criminals across borders, ensuring they face justice regardless of their location.
- **Tourist Safety Aspect:** Tourists can fall victim to organized crime syndicates, such as those involved in trafficking and scams. The UNTOC ensures governments coordinate to apprehend criminals exploiting tourists, even when crimes span multiple countries.

### 2. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997)

- This convention addresses the growing threat of terrorist bombings, particularly those targeting public spaces such as tourist sites, transport hubs, and monuments. It criminalizes terrorist attacks and obligates signatories to either prosecute or extradite offenders. Key features include:
- **Universal jurisdiction:** Offenders must be prosecuted in the country where the offense occurred or extradited to another state willing to prosecute.
- **Prevention measures:** Nations must cooperate in preventing attacks by sharing intelligence, improving border security, and ensuring effective law enforcement coordination.
- **Tourist Safety Aspect:** By establishing frameworks for international cooperation, this convention ensures that individuals responsible for terrorism targeting tourists are held accountable. High-profile attacks on tourist destinations (e.g., Bali bombings) are clear examples of where this treaty's provisions come into play.

### **3. UNODC's Role in Strengthening Cooperation**

- The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** plays a crucial role in implementing these treaties by supporting member states with technical assistance, promoting legal reforms, and strengthening institutions to prevent crimes targeting tourists. UNODC aids countries in aligning their national legislation with international standards, particularly in terms of human trafficking, organized crime, and terrorism.
- **Tourist Safety Aspect:** The UNODC helps countries implement crime prevention strategies that specifically protect vulnerable groups such as tourists, while also facilitating international legal cooperation.

## Other Proposed Solutions

### 1. Enhancing Law Enforcement Cooperation

- **Proposal:** Develop specialized units within law enforcement agencies to focus on crimes involving tourists and tourism-related threats. Interpol could be further utilized to coordinate international crime response.
- **Goal:** Establish rapid-response teams that can act on shared intelligence, preventing crimes that may harm tourists and ensuring swift response to incidents.

### 2. Developing International Tourism Security Programs

- **Proposal:** A global tourism security initiative under the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) to train tourism professionals and security personnel in handling emergencies, such as terrorist threats, natural disasters, or health crises.
- **Goal:** Create an international standard for tourism safety protocols that can be adopted by member countries, ensuring tourists are safeguarded through consistent global practices.

### 3. Establishing a Global Tourist Protection Fund

- **Proposal:** A funding initiative led by global financial institutions like the World Bank, which would support nations—especially developing countries—in enhancing their tourist protection infrastructure. The fund could be used to improve airport security, build tourist-specific law enforcement units, and fund tourism safety campaigns.
- **Goal:** Ensure that countries reliant on tourism have the resources necessary to protect tourists from crime, terrorism, or natural disasters.

### 4. Global Code of Conduct for Tourist Protection

- **Proposal:** A legally binding international agreement outlining guidelines for tourist protection, emergency response, and treatment of tourists affected by terrorism or crime.
- **Goal:** Provide a comprehensive set of safety standards to be adopted by tourist destinations worldwide, ensuring tourists are protected by unified laws and protocols, regardless of their destination.

## Case Studies and International Cooperation Successes

1. **Bali Bombings (2002):** This attack highlighted the vulnerability of tourist sites to terrorist activity. Following the attack, Indonesia and neighboring countries cooperated under international frameworks to bring the perpetrators to justice. This case emphasizes the importance of intelligence sharing and joint law enforcement operations.
2. **Egypt Tourist Attacks (1997):** The Luxor Massacre in 1997 led to international efforts to enhance security in Egypt's tourist destinations, with countries cooperating on preventive measures, training, and tourism-specific law enforcement.

## Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMA)

Here are some Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMA) for the topic *Strengthening International Cooperation for Tourist Protection*:

1. **How can international legal frameworks be enhanced to better address crimes targeting tourists?**
2. **What mechanisms can ensure effective intelligence sharing between countries to prevent terrorism and organized crime affecting tourists?**
3. **What role should international organizations like the UNODC and INTERPOL play in coordinating tourist protection efforts?**
4. **How can developing countries be supported in implementing stronger tourist safety measures?**
5. **What protocols should be adopted globally to respond to emergencies (e.g., terrorist attacks or natural disasters) impacting tourists?**
6. **How can public-private partnerships, particularly within the tourism industry, contribute to improving tourist safety?**
7. **What monitoring and evaluation processes can be implemented to measure the effectiveness of international tourist protection initiatives?**
8. **How can countries work together to ensure consistent application of safety protocols in high-traffic tourist areas?**

These questions aim to guide a comprehensive resolution, addressing legal, security, and cooperative measures to enhance international collaboration for tourist protection.

## Bibliography

<https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/v3/sherloc/treaties/search.jspx?v=results&mv=signatures>  
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/cpcj-crimeprevention-home.html>









