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DISEC: Topic #1 – Disarmament of Terrorist Groups

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Armed non-state actors, including terrorist organizations, remain one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. These groups, whether large networks or smaller decentralized cells, often operate across borders and beyond the reach of governments or international law. Their growing access to firearms, explosives, and advanced weaponry enables them to destabilize regions, undermine legitimate governments, and inflict devastating harm on civilian populations.

The continued strength of these groups is closely tied to the global illicit arms trade. Weapons often move freely through weak borders, active conflict zones, and black markets, where corruption and limited enforcement make control nearly impossible. Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) are of particular concern because they are inexpensive, easy to transport, and simple to conceal. The steady flow of such weapons not only empowers terrorist organizations but also prolongs conflicts and obstructs recovery and peacebuilding efforts.¹

The United Nations and its member states have created several frameworks to address this problem, including the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and the Arms Trade Treaty. Yet, serious challenges remain in ensuring that these measures are effectively implemented. Inconsistent enforcement, limited monitoring capacity, and uneven participation in disarmament initiatives allow many armed groups to continue accessing weapons.²

Delegates in DISEC will need to consider how the international community can strengthen disarmament and arms control while still respecting national sovereignty. Productive discussions might focus on improving intelligence sharing, enhancing border security, and supporting disarmament in post-conflict areas. Finding the right balance between security,

¹ [NATO SALW | DISEC](#)

² [SALW | DISEC](#)

diplomacy, and humanitarian priorities will be essential in crafting lasting and effective solutions.

Some questions to consider: (Keep in mind that these questions are provided to guide your preparation.)

- What steps has your country taken to combat the illicit flow of arms to non-state actors and terrorist organizations?
- How does your country regulate the trade, transfer, and tracking of Small Arms and Light Weapons?
- Should international bodies be given greater authority to enforce disarmament measures across borders?
- How can nations enhance intelligence cooperation and border security to prevent arms trafficking?
- What measures can be taken to cut off or monitor the financial networks that fund both terrorist organizations and arms trafficking operations?

A few important reminders:

1. You are representing your assigned country's perspective, not your personal view.
2. Use reputable, verifiable sources for all research and citations.
3. Papers will be checked for originality; plagiarism and artificial intelligence will not be tolerated.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at jmehlma5@mail.yu.edu or yunmunDISEC@gmail.com or TheBestYunmunCommitteeEver@gmail.com – I would truly be more than happy to offer guidance, support, and advice as you prepare to discuss this topic!

Best,

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