

The Arab League: Topic B Primary Sources

Preventing the arms trade to extremist groups

Here are the primary sources that your moderator or legal chair thought would be helpful in gaining an understanding of the topic. These are by no means all of the sources available, just sources we wanted to highlight.

Source #1: The United Nations Arms Trade Treaty

This treaty, divided into 28 articles, lays out the rules and limitations for legally exchanging arms around the world. It is recommended that delegates pay close attention to articles 1 through 11, which make up for the bulk of the action in the treaty. Articles 1 through 11 also overview which arms the treaty applies to, and the rules to trade those arms and implement the treaty. Articles 12 through 28 overview the technicalities of the treaty, such as how the treaty can be amended and what to do if a nation would like to withdraw from the treaty.

<https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/English7.pdf>

Source #2: United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/36 (Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction)

This resolution, adopted in December of 2015, outlines the ways in which member states should attempt to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. The resolution itself is fairly vague, so it might be useful to build upon this resolution and/or rewrite this resolution in order to amend it to take more action in preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. The resolution is comprised of 17 preambles and 6 articles that draw attention to national and international measures that have been taken to stop terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

[https://gafc-vote.un.org/UNODA/vote.nsf/91a5e1195dc97a630525656f005b8adf/38982ec3e132788385257f1b005d3ce8/\\$FILE/A%20RES%2070%2036.pdf](https://gafc-vote.un.org/UNODA/vote.nsf/91a5e1195dc97a630525656f005b8adf/38982ec3e132788385257f1b005d3ce8/$FILE/A%20RES%2070%2036.pdf)

Source #3: The Global Reported Arms Trade: The UN Register of Conventional Arms

This website provides an overview of how many major weapons are being imported and exported by countries around the world. We encourage delegates to also look over the small arms section of this page, as extremist groups are gaining illegal access to small arms as well as major weapons. This site is useful for tracking and monitoring the import and export of weapons around the world, which is essential in preventing weapons from falling into the hands of extremist groups.

<http://www.un-register.org/HeavyWeapons/Index.aspx>

Source #4: The Arab Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism

This resolution was passed by the Arab League in 1998 and gives insight into a broader issue involving some extremist groups. Article 3 is especially helpful for our delegates as it mentions the arms trade and sets standards for member nations of the Arab League. This source is helpful for further understanding the Arab League's notion of extremists groups and terrorism and how it may differ from the of the United Nations and other international institutions.

<http://www.refworld.org/publisher,LAS,,3de5e4984,0.html>

Source #5: United Nations General Assembly Resolution 71/48 (The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects)

This resolution seeks to diminish and end the illicit trade of arms, regardless of the recipients. The UNSC seeks to reinforce prior resolutions on the issue and improve cooperation and transparency between its member nations. While this resolution may not reflect the views of the Arab League's members, it serves as an example of an attempt to end the illicit arms trade.

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/unoda-web/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/A-RES-71-48.pdf>