



*ACADEMIC GUIDE MONUA XV:  
Subsecretaria General de Naciones  
Unidas*

*PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL*

*Topic A: Effectiveness of international cooperation vs.  
Iran's domestic policies in combating money laundering.*

*Topic B: Effectiveness of U.S. and EU Sanctions on Iran  
over disrupting financial support for terrorist groups*

*IDIOMA: Inglés*

*Mesas directivas: Thea Khanshaghaghhi y Juan  
Felipe Hernández*

**MONUA**

 **Universidad de  
los Andes**  
Colombia

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# *Board of Directors cover letters*

# *Board of Directors cover letters*

*Eimmy Romero,*  
General of MONUA XV

Dear delegates and participants,

Receive a warm greeting and the most heartfelt welcome to a new edition of the United Nations Model of Universidad de Los Andes. My name is Eimmy Romero, and I have the honor of serving as Secretary-General of MONUA XV, leading the academic team that has carefully prepared every detail of this event.

I would like to begin by congratulating you on accepting the challenge of participating in this space. The United Nations Model is, above all, a space for learning and growth, where dialogue, reasoning, and respect for diverse ideas become the foundation for building solutions to global challenges. Participating is no easy task, as it requires weeks of preparation and study to engage in discussions with people as capable as yourselves, putting into practice and developing skills that will undoubtedly challenge and help you grow.

These debate spaces are essential because they allow us to develop a critical perspective on the world, understand the complexity of international relations, and above all, strengthen skills that will be valuable throughout life: effective communication, analytical thinking, and the ability to work as a team. Here, every voice matters, and every contribution adds to the collective construction of knowledge.

I would especially like to emphasize to those participating for the first time that it does not matter whether this is your first committee or if you already have previous experience—there is always something new to learn. Mistakes, far from being a setback, are an invaluable opportunity for personal and academic growth. Trust in your abilities and let every experience, every success and every misstep, teach you something new. In this model, learning is a continuous process, and we are all here to support each other.

For those with experience, we encourage you to continue learning and enjoying every opportunity. There are always new challenges to test and strengthen your skills. Lead each committee with commitment and passion, and continue to inspire others with your example. Remember that true leadership is built day by day with perseverance.

Our academic and logistics teams will always be ready to support you and address any questions that may arise during the conference. I encourage you to make the most of every moment, to participate actively, and to enjoy this unique experience.

I deeply appreciate your enthusiasm and commitment. I am confident that together we will make this edition a memorable space, full of learning, new friendships, and valuable lessons.

After 14 years of hard work and dedication, MONUA XV arrives full of effort and surprises for you. Welcome! I wish you the greatest success and, most importantly, a journey of growth and discovery.

With appreciation and admiration,

**Eimmy Romero**  
es.romero@uniandes.edu.co

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#MONUAXV

*Laura Cediél,*  
Deputy Secretary-General of MONUA XV

Dear attendees,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the United Nations Model of Universidad de Los Andes, a conference organized by the board of the fifteenth edition of the Model. Over the past fifteen years, we have worked tirelessly to meet the highest standards in both the Colombian and international MUN circuits. I can proudly say that being part of this experience as the Deputy Secretary-General is a privilege that allows me to elevate the voices of every delegate in our conference, showing that our stories truly inspire change.

This conference is a unique opportunity for students from diverse institutions to come together and explore the complexities of the international system, promoting dialogue and cooperation among nations. Here, you will engage in global debates covering a wide range of topics that encourage critical thinking among young people worldwide. At MONUA, we aim for each of our participants to find that place they wish to change, and to develop ideas that contribute to improving our system and the world we live in.

Our goal is to foster an environment of learning and personal growth, where you can develop diplomatic and conflict resolution skills. We also want all attendees to become familiar with the core values of our conference: academic rigor and the well-being of everyone involved.

Throughout this journey, we hope you feel part of the uniandina

community—a community committed to learning, international policy, and the development of high-impact academic and personal activities, all while combining competitiveness with education in one place. Our team has worked hard to ensure this experience is enriching and memorable for everyone, from the delegates and sponsors to our staff and all attendees. Each one of you has something to contribute, and MONUA is the space to develop your ideas and take them to the next level. If you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to reach out.

We are here to support you at all times. We have a trained staff that will provide you with one of the best experiences in the circuit.

Thank you for your participation and commitment to this Model. We invite you to be part of the legacy of the United Nations Model of Universidad de Los Andes, becoming an inspiration for change through your actions—because every action matters. I hope you enjoy this experience and carry it with you forever.

Sincerely,

**Laura Cediél**  
l.cediél2@uniandes.edu.co

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*Santiago Jaimes,*  
Director-General of MONUA XV

“A true leader is not only one who interprets the present, but one who, with a deep understanding of the past, is able to anticipate and shape the future.” This reflection by Henry Kissinger, from his book *Leadership: Six Studies in World Strategy*, could not resonate more with the spirit of what it means to be part of the United Nations Model of Universidad de Los Andes.

Today, more than ever, the world needs courageous leaders—leaders with character, historical memory, and a vision for the future. We need young people who understand that the decisions made in the present are rooted in past processes, yet also hold the power to build new realities. You, who are gathered here today in this space for dialogue and constructive debate, are precisely those kinds of leaders.

My name is Santiago Jaimes, and I have the honor of serving as the 15th Director-General of MONUA. This edition represents not only institutional continuity, but a deep renewal of our commitment to shaping ethical, informed, and transformative leadership. I am truly grateful that you have chosen to accept this challenge—your presence makes this experience possible.

Behind this edition are months of meticulous work, rigorous logistical preparation, and a team that has poured heart and soul into ensuring that you don't just debate—you live the experience. From the moment you walk through our doors, you will find a safe, organized, and welcoming environment, designed down to the last detail so you can focus fully on learning and collective growth.

You will have the full support of our Wellbeing Team, as well as an academic and logistics team committed to ensuring that every session, every space, and every moment lives up to your expectations. We know the standards you bring are high—and that not only motivates us, it honors us. We hope to match your talent, discipline, and passion.

And this is just the beginning. Ahead of you lie days full of surprises, unforgettable activities, opportunities to connect—and above all, a learning experience that goes far beyond debate. MONUA is not just a simulation; it is a turning point.

So today, I invite you to give your best. Don't just represent a country—dare to lead a vision. Don't fear mistakes—embrace them as part of your growth. Don't settle for winning a prize—strive to leave a legacy.

Welcome to MONUA 2025. The future is built today, and it begins with you.  
Con admiración y compromiso,

**Santiago Jaimes**  
**[s.jaimesb2@uniandes.edu.co](mailto:s.jaimesb2@uniandes.edu.co)**

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# *United Nations SGAs cover letters*

# *Valentina Roldán, SGA United Nations MONUA XV*

Dear Delegates,

It is an honor to address you in this edition of MONUA as Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations. Before I begin, I would like to introduce myself: I am a fifth-semester student of Biomedical Engineering at the Colombian School of Engineering Julio Garavito and the University of Rosario, and it is a privilege for me to welcome you to this space for debate and learning.

The United Nations has been, since its foundation, a meeting place for international actors in the search for solutions to global conflicts. However, we cannot ignore that this organization has been involved in dynamics of inequality and in a structure influenced by the interests of world powers. This context has put its original mission at risk and has led to questions about its effectiveness in promoting peace and international cooperation.

It is precisely at this point that your role as delegates takes on fundamental relevance. From your position in this model, you have the opportunity to analyze, question and propose solutions with critical thinking, without losing sight of the importance of fostering new partnerships and strengthening international relations. I invite you to take on this challenge responsibly, not only by putting your academic and argumentative skills to the test, but also by enriching the debate with your unique perspectives and experiences.

Take advantage of this edition of MONUA to broaden your worldview, challenge your own positions and contribute to a dialogue that not only focuses on theory, but seeks viable solutions to the challenges facing the international community. Remember that every intervention has an impact, and that, if in the future you decide to integrate into real diplomatic structures, it is vital to

retain the essence of critical thinking and commitment to change.

I will be attentive to any concerns that arise and I reiterate that, together with the board of directors, we will work to make the debate a safe, respectful and enriching space for all. Please do not hesitate to approach us if you require support in any aspect. I wish you every success in this experience.

Sincerely yours, Valentina Roldán Silva

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## *Laura Ariza, SGA United Nations MONUA XV*

Dear Delegates,

It is an honor for me to address you as the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations at MONUA 2025 and the board of directors of ONUANDES, the United Nations Delegation at the University. My name is Laura Juliana Ariza, and I am a fourth-semester student of Global Studies and Economics at Universidad de Los Andes. I have always felt a deep admiration for the work of the United Nations and its ability to bring together actors from all over the world in the search for solutions to the most pressing issues of our time.

I firmly believe that this model is not just an academic exercise but a real opportunity to analyze and debate the complexities of international politics with seriousness and commitment. My expectation is that all participants

engage rigorously, approaching the topics with depth and responsibility so that the solutions we propose are realistic, achievable, and aligned with the spirit of international cooperation.

I am confident that, with effort and creativity, we will be able to avoid dystopian or unrealistic proposals, focusing instead on concrete and viable solutions that reflect the true purpose of the United Nations: to build a fairer, more equitable, and sustainable world.

I invite you all to give your best throughout this process and to take advantage of this experience as an opportunity for learning and growth. I am at your disposal for any questions or concerns that may arise during the model.

Sincerely,

Laura Juliana Ariza Rodríguez  
#StoriesThatInspireChange  
#MONUAXV

# *Dais welcome letter*



# *Thea Khanshaghaghi, Presidential Council Dais, MONUA XV*

Dear delegates, welcome to the Presidential Council Committee for the XV edition of MONUA!

My name is Thea Khanshaghaghi, and I have the honor of serving as your Dais for this committee alongside Juan Felipe. Let me briefly introduce myself: I am an architecture student at Universidad de Los Andes, but my interests and curiosity extend far beyond my drafting table, hence why I'm here. In my spare time (if any!), you'll likely find me dancing, reading one of those old books the cover is barely holding, exploring museums and art galleries, or playing Catan with friends.

Here, you won't just be stepping into the shoes of a renowned head of state making key decisions on crucial international matters, you'll be immersing yourself in thought-provoking discussions on critical global issues in which, beyond debating current international affairs, you'll have the opportunity to challenge ideas, contribute to nuanced discussions, and develop your own critical stance on pressing topics. I firmly believe that conversations like these are the foundation for a more informed future, one where well-reasoned decisions develop, no matter what field you are in.

I encourage delegates to craft creative, well-structured, and realistic solutions. We all come from different backgrounds, and I hope you bring your unique spice to the debate; let your interventions stand out, don't be afraid to express yourself authentically through your role. More than anything, I hope you leave this committee not only with new knowledge, new friends and a fulfilling experience, but also with the commitment to keep these discussions alive beyond MONUA.

Welcome aboard, I look forward to seeing what we can build together!

Thea Valentina Khanshaghaghi Barreto  
Email: theavkb@gmail.com

## *Juan Felipe Hernandez, Presidential Council Dais, MONUA XV*

Dear delegates, it is my pleasure to welcome you to MONUA XV.

Today, the world is asking for change, not only in a pragmatic way, but also as a transformation in our thinking, in the way we extract ideas, discuss with other people, create opinions or even the way we express ourselves. Therefore, I think you are privileged to be here, because you are going to be part of this alteration, you are going to create new solutions, arguments, concepts, etc., that maybe will adjust or solve some problems that keep our world as an unfair place.

My name is Juan Felipe Hernandez Solano, I am a 14 year old student from

Liceo de Colombia Bilingüe, with four years of experience in Model United Nations and two years in Model Universities, especially in the roles of dais and delegate, I am a lover of traditional committees, my favorite part is knowing that our solutions can be applied in real life ,and that we can improve our skills with an international outlook based on facts.

My main expectations for this committee are a solid and creative project, effective teamwork, in-depth discussions and lively debate. Think of this committee as a blank canvas, which you can use to exploit your ideas and thoughts, which will eventually, synthesize into a complex proposal or resolution, you can use to mitigate certain real-world problems. I value your effort in a resounding way, despite always seeking excellence, I also believe that it is necessary to value not knowing something, because you can get wonderful things from it, do not hesitate to come to me if you have any questions, I will always be at your disposal, dedicated to you to have a very good experience within this model, I hope we can learn a lot during the course of this opportunity.

Finally, I wish you the best during this model, I want you to remember this event as a space to share, to know, and of course, to share with other people, I hope you make the most of it, and prepare for this extensive, but rewarding experience, I thank you in advance for your dedication, keep in mind that I will always be at your service, either to answer your questions or your recommendations. Without further ado, we look forward to seeing you at MONUA XV.

See you soon!

Juan Felipe hernández Solano  
E-mail: [juanfehernandezs@gmail.com](mailto:juanfehernandezs@gmail.com)

# *Introduction to the committee*



# *Introduction to the committee*

The presidential Council Committee gathers the heads of state of UN member states, forming a decision-making space for pressing global topics that ensures the UN's four pillars: peace and security, human rights, the rule of law, and development. This committee also serves as a diplomatic forum in which heads of state can discuss issues affecting their nations within the international community as well as global matters, aiming for large-scale changes aligned with UN values: inclusion, integrity, humility, and humanity.

For this purpose, the Presidential Council will serve in this edition of MONUA as the main decision-making body, one in which diplomatic relationships may be altered and where interventions or actions will be determined with a significant impact on global dynamics. The committee must operate with great caution and efficiency, as its decisions will directly affect other MONUA's committees.

This year, the Presidential Council will center its discussion on Iran, recognizing its relevance in the international arena and the polarization it has caused worldwide. Additionally, this committee will take place in real-time, as Iran is currently causing great tensions among several nations. This will foster a discussion where many interests are at stake, and all delegates will play a crucial role in addressing the topics.

On this occasion, the committee's objective is to define, redefine, impose, or lift international sanctions on Iran (as the case study), as well as any other relevant cases deemed pertinent by the committee, ensuring an effective approach to international security. The committee will assess sanctions as tools to influence state behavior, evaluating their reach, effectiveness, flaws, and unintended consequences, ultimately determining whether they are an appropriate mechanism or should be reconsidered. Additionally, it aims to foster joint actions and strategies among nations to prevent terrorism and combat money laundering, with these topics being the center of discussion.

Following this framework, the committee's resolution must address two key aspects: a stance on international sanctions and the definition and proposal of joint actions. Always keeping in mind each Nation's best interest aligned with global stability and common goals.

# *Topic A:*

*Effectiveness of international cooperation vs. Iran's domestic policies in combating money laundering.*

## *a. Introduction to the topic*

For many years now, Iran has stood at the center of global geopolitical tensions, facing several international sanctions led by the US as well as several members of the EU and other actors. These sanctions range from restrictions on banking and energy exports to the freezing of assets and have a wide variety of justifications behind, one of them being the necessity to implement strategic measures to weaken the financial networks that allegedly channel funds to terrorist groups in the Middle East, in this case, the Iranian government which has been accused of financing and promoting several organizations designated as terrorist by Western powers. However, there is dispute regarding if these groups are meant to be catalogued as terrorists or not and if sanctions are the right measure to address this issue questioning its reach and side effects.

## *b. Context of the topic*

Relations between the United States, the European Union, and Iran have fluctuated considerably, ranging from mutual support to a marked disparity of interests between nations. In 1953, during the first Iranian coup d'état, which overthrew the government that had ruled the country since then, the CIA served as a lever of support for the revolutionaries, using weapons supplied by the United States. This succeeded in overthrowing Prime Minister Mohamed Mosadegh, propelling Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlavi to power, and forging a regime supported by US President Eisenhower, who expressed his continued support for the coup. With this collaboration, Iran (under the Shah) became a pawn in the Cold War. This support arose from resentment due to the nationalization of oil; various countries considered Mosadegh's government a threat to Western economic interests, especially when the Soviet Union invaded the country during World War II, attempting to seize control of the oil reserves.

But these relations began to weaken in 1978, when supporters of the Mosadegg government organized protests against the interference of the United States in the internal decisions of Iran, and as such the Shah's regime, leading to the Islamic Revolution. Since then US and Iran's relationship went through a rough era: one of the events that would forever stain relations between the U.S. and Iran was when the ambassador of government followers occupied the US embassy in Tehran, taking 52 people hostage and wounding 62, this as a form of protest against the maneuvers of the American government, within the internal affairs of Iran, in the same way, functioning as blackmail so that the Shah (who at that time was in the US), was extradited to Iran, and could be tried for Traitor to the homeland (ICNC, n.D). Although the ensuing Iran-Iraq War (1980–1988) distracted Iranian officials from hostage negotiations in the short term, the embargo imposed by the United States continued to undermine the Iranian economy and the country's ability to contain Iraqi forces. Faced with this weakening, Iran began negotiations with the United States to lift the embargo and boost Iran's economy. After an agreement was finally reached, the hostages were

released on January 20, 1981, minutes after the inauguration of the new US president, Ronald Reagan. (Britannica, 2022)

This event was decisive for US-Iran relations, as it generated new tensions between the two countries due to the incompatibility of the underlying transformations they were undergoing. This created an uncertain environment, where, despite mutual dependence, a small moment could trigger a series of confrontations. Political conditions also played an important role in this event, as the installation of a highly nationalist theocratic government was, in part, the cause of the deterioration of these relations. This not only held certain individuals captive but also deprived the United States of free access to the country's raw materials. Therefore, the hostage crisis was seen as the inaugural event of a tense relationship, where the reciprocity of one country towards the other was threatened by the pride of each nation.

On the other hand, relations between Iran and the United States were affected by rumors about Iran's nuclear production. Until 1990, this capability was considered a rumor, but in the 2000s, US intelligence received information about the Natanz enrichment plant and the Arak heavy water reactor. This information increased global concern about nuclear war, as both facilities could be part of a nuclear weapons program. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) began an investigation into Iran's nuclear weapons capability, which is still ongoing (American Military University, 2024). This fear of nuclear production led the European Union to impose certain economic sanctions on Iran, switching the commercial ties the EU used to have with Iran.

However, in 2015, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei agreed to the Iran Nuclear Deal, called the "Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action" (JCPOA), negotiated during Barack Obama's presidency. The nuclear agreement was signed and celebrated as a major achievement of contemporary US foreign policy. This agreement was essential for the IAEA, as it guaranteed its ability to monitor the movement of nuclear weapons and ensured states' reciprocity with the agency, with periodic reviews. Nevertheless, there have been complaints regarding the compliance of this agreement on all ends and has set a disruptive ground for international relationships.

## *c. Topic's Development*

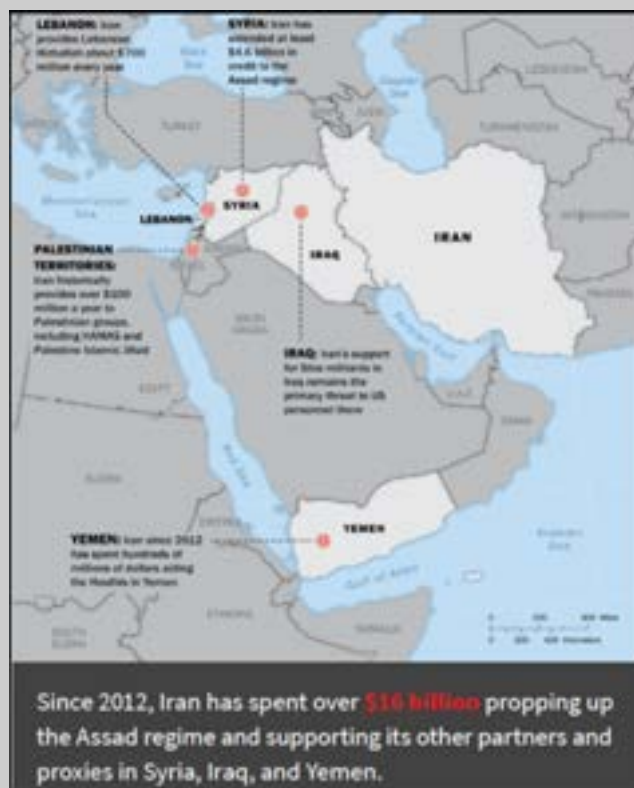
### **IRAN FINANCING ALLEGED TERRORIST GROUPS**

Iran has been designated as a State Sponsor of Terrorism (alongside Cuba, North Korea and Syria) since 1984 by the US, claiming its support towards terrorist groups throughout the Middle East (United States Department of State, 2025). Actually, The White House (2025) claims “Iran remains the world’s leading state sponsor of terror and has aided Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, the Taliban, al-Qaeda, and other terrorist networks. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) is itself a designated Foreign Terrorist Organization” (paragraph 1). The Iranian government has been accused of providing weapons, funding and training to several groups across the region that are seen as a threat to NATO members and the Western world, mainly through IRGC in foreign territories. Nevertheless, Iran recognizes several of these as proxy groups that support Iranian regional objectives, claiming they are not committing terrorist acts and for such matter should not be considered as terrorist groups. “Experts say Iran hopes to further leverage its growing network of partners to bolster its drive for regional hegemony and remove Western powers from the region” (Robinson, 2024).

It all goes back to the Islamic Revolution held in Iran in 1979, in which the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, introduced the notion of “Islamic government” as something meant to be transnational, seeking to export this brand beyond Iran’s borders and targeting Shi’i communities as their main audiences. On a first instance, in 1980 he called for an Iraqi rebellion against Saddam Hussein in hopes of a Shia awakening within Iraqis (Vatanka, 2018). The Ayatollah’s intention was to export Iran’s revolutionary model across the region, referring to the important fact he thought religion and politics were inseparable, reason why further on Shi’i and Sunni rivalry would play a main role in the definition of proxy groups. Although Iran has shown transparent support towards Shi’i groups (with Iran

holding the largest Shia population), in some cases has aided some Sunni groups based on realpolitik necessities, for example regarding enemies in common.

But why rely on proxy groups? “From the perspective of IRGC military planners, the use of foreign proxies is both relatively inexpensive but also provides considerable scope for deniability for their often-controversial actions both in Iran and outside” (Vatanka, 2018). For that reason, ever since the new Iranian regime proxy groups have been a strategy funded by Iran, aiming to establish a “forward defense” strategy in which these groups battle their enemies in other states while protecting Shia Muslims all over the region (Loft, 2024). Nonetheless, each individual group has its own strategic interests and ties with Iran, which implies they do not work as a monolithic bloc and have changing dynamics regarding the situation they find themselves involved in.



Note. Adapted from Wilson Center (2023)

Here is a scope into some of the main Iranian funded groups:

#### - IRGC:

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, also known as IRGC was established as a result of the 1979 revolution, emerging as a way to “unify and organize paramilitary forces that had arisen during the turmoil and were committed to the revolution” (Zeidan, 2025); it began as an armed force that would counterweight the regular army that used to be loyal to the previously ruling Shah, overthrown during the revolution. Nowadays, IRGC is a part of the

Iranian armed forces, and its duties include both preserving Iran's borders as well as extending Iran's ruling ideology abroad (Loft, 2024); furthermore, Article 2 of the IRGC's constitution states that the corps serves to combat "factors and trends that aim to sabotage and overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran, or act against the Islamic Revolution of Iran" (Venkatesh, 2024). Composed of an army, a navy, an airforce and an intelligence unit, IRGC is claimed to be the main source of contact and financing to other proxy groups in the region considered terrorists by the Western world.

Regarding its own financing, a high amount of funds are coming directly from the Iranian Government. Iran's 2021–22 budget assigned approximately 2.3 billion USD to the IRGC, almost a third of funds for the country's defense purposes (Venkatesh, 2024). However, IRGC also generates revenue from several foreign and domestic side-activities, diversifying their income sources.



Note. Adapted from Janes (2024)

#### - Hezbollah:

Hezbollah was Iran's first proxy. This is a Shiite Lebanese movement that functions both as a military and political group; they are a part of the Lebanese political system and participate within it, having representatives

in the parliament (Loft, 2024). Since its beginning during the Lebanese Civil War in 1982, Iran has provided funds to fight against Israel's intervention in southern Lebanon. Iran and Hezbollah share religious ideologies, being both Shiites, and also have common enemies: the United States and Israel.

Most of the financing they receive comes from the Iranian government, according to Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah (2016). "Hezbollah's budget, everything it eats and drinks, its weapons and rockets, comes from the Islamic Republic of Iran." To be precise, it is estimated that Tehran provides about 700 million USD annually (Clayton and Zanotti, 2024). The rest of its funds are coming from legal businesses, criminal enterprises, and the Lebanese diaspora.

#### - **Houthis:**

The Houthis are a Shiite Yemeni movement that arose in the 1990's. They have been in conflict with the Government of Yemen ever since 2014 when they took control of the capital. It has been supported in the last years by Iran, mainly due to the common rivalry both have with Saudi Arabia, sharing ideological and geopolitical interests.

The Iranian government is the main benefactor of the Houthis, "providing them mostly with security assistance, such as weapon transfers, training and intelligence support" (Robinson, 2025).

#### - **Hamas:**

Hamas is a Sunni militia based in Gaza, that has reportedly been funded, armed and trained by IRGC since the early 1990s (Wilson Center, 2023). However, its relationship with Iran has not always been smooth. First, their ideology differs, being religiously affiliated with the opposing Sunni, on the other hand, Iran cut off funding to Hamas after it refused to support the Assad regime in the Syrian civil war. Nonetheless, Iran and Hamas both oppose the Israeli invasion, for which they have a common enemy and purpose that has brought them together despite their differences. Huizenga (2023) affirms "It is important to note, Hamas receives approximately \$350 million dollars per year in support from Iran or roughly 93% of their total funding."

## - **Popular Mobilization Forces:**

Ever since the Iran-Iraq war, Iran has been interested in supporting the Shia Muslim population of Iraq, helping armed militias that represent these people. Groups backed by Iran include the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), in which the majority are Shia militias, but also include Sunnis, Christians, and Turkmen (Loft, 2024). Following Iraq's invasion, they intend to drive the United States out of Iraq and also fight against ISIS, finding multiple common enemies with Iran. Although they receive certain funding from Iran, PMF was legalized as part of the state security apparatus and assigned funding from the Iraqi budget (Dury-Agri, Kassim and Martin, 2016).

## **IRAN'S SANCTIONS**

According to Galtung (1967), the general theory of economic sanctions “involves measures imposed by international actors (“senders”) against other actors (“receivers”) for (...) punishing the receivers through economic deprivation or coercing compliance with norms deemed important by the senders.”

Iran has been under a range of unilateral and multilateral sanctions ever since the Iranian Revolution of 1979. “Initiated by the United States, the European Union, and the UN Security Council (UNSC), sanctions have targeted Iran's nuclear program, ballistic missile program, and support for terrorism as well as domestic human rights abuses” (Alemzadeh, 2014). The goal of imposing sanctions towards Iran is exerting a pressure no nation could resist, seeking change in the Iranian Government in various aspects that go beyond just the alleged terrorist ties.

## - **US sanctions:**

The first ever sanctions were imposed by the US shortly after revolution, in 1979: Iranian imports to the United States are banned and \$12 billion in Iranian assets are frozen after Iranian students get into the US Embassy in Tehran and take diplomats hostage (Sen, 2018). With the new regime, Iran's relationships had a quick shift and was rapidly targeted by the US as

a terrorism sponsor.

According to Clayton (2024), current US-imposed sanctions include the blockage of Iranian Government assets, banning all US trade with Iran, and prohibiting foreign assistance and arms sales. These intend to destabilize Iran's energy sector, financial sector, shipping, construction, mining, textiles, automotive, and manufacturing, arms trade to or from Iran, and several components of Iran's government (including IRGC). The US has implemented measures like banning foreign-based financial institutions that deal with sanctioned banks from dealing with the US or US dollar, establishing an embargo that prohibits most U.S. firms from trading with or investing in Iran, freezing assets and implementing travel bans (Laub, 2015). All of the previously mentioned intend to drag Iran into isolation and, consequently, oblige compliance to several international treaties or western interests.

- **EU sanctions:**

In 2011, the EU introduced a sanctions regime against Iran in response to serious human rights violations in the country and its concerns regarding the acceleration of Iran's nuclear programme that endangers its Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) commitments.

The sanctions imposed include travel bans for individuals, asset freeze for both individuals and entities, prohibition on making funds or economic resources available to Iran related actors, ban on selling, supplying, transferring or exporting to Iran equipment that might be used for internal repression, ban on providing technical assistance, brokering services or financing to Iranian related actors, ban on providing any telecommunications or internet monitoring or interception services to Iran, ban on arms exports to Iran, ban on exports of dual-use goods and goods that could be used in nuclear enrichment-related activities, ban on imports of crude oil, natural gas, petrochemical and petroleum products, ban on the sale or supply of key equipment used in the energy sector, ban on the sale or supply of gold, other precious metals and diamonds, ban on certain naval equipment, ban on certain software, freezing assets of the Central Bank of Iran and of major Iranian commercial banks, preventing access to EU airports of Iranian cargo

flights, and ban on the maintenance and service of Iranian cargo aircraft or vessels carrying prohibited materials or goods (Council of the European Union, 2024). The EU sanctions intend to limit Iran's military, economic and political strength in hopes of helping the aspirations of the people of Iran and weakening the Islamic Republic.

#### - **Security Council's sanctions:**

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has passed five resolutions between 2006 and 2010 imposing several sanctions measures towards Iran which, under Article 41, include a broad range of enforcement options that do not involve the use of armed force (DPPA, 2023).

The resolutions impose sanctions that include arms embargo, calling for all States to Prevent the supply, sale, or transfer of designated nuclear and ballistic missile-related goods to Iran, freezing the funds, financial assets, and economic resources of designated individuals and entities who are involved with Iran's nuclear programs, requiring states to prevent the entry or transit through their territories of designated individuals, restricting international Iranian cargo movement, and banning Iran from investing in nuclear and missile technology abroad (Arms Control Association, 2025).

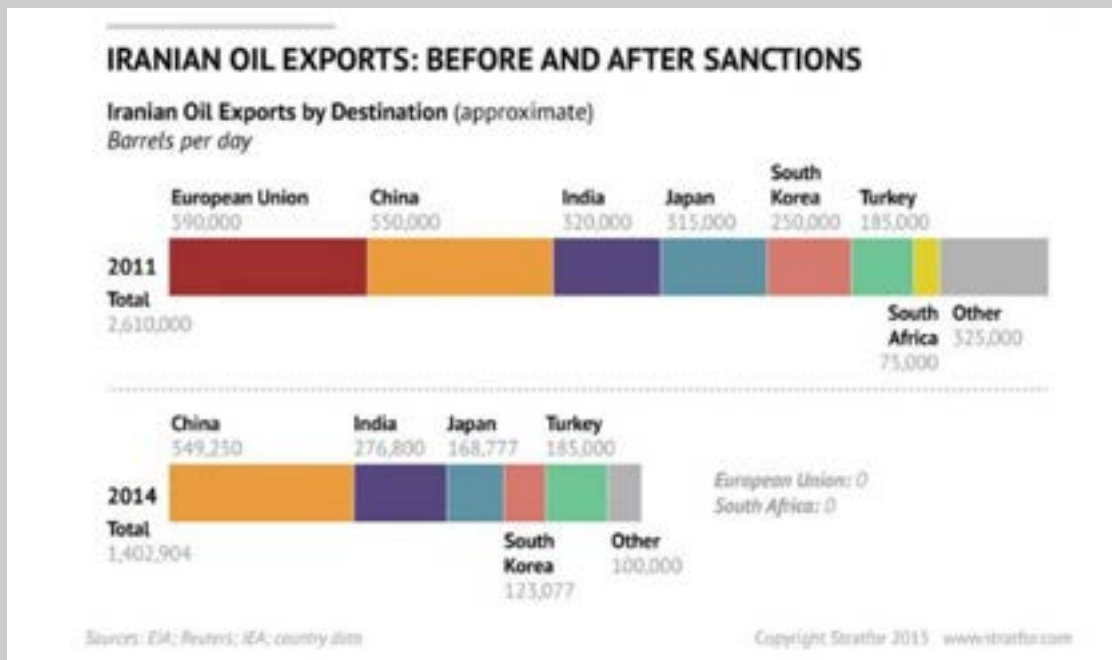
The resolutions establish monitoring mechanisms to be held as well as conditions under which sanctions could be lifted. All of it aligned to the UN's Charter and the legal framework that conducts international relations.

### **SANCTIONS OUTCOME**

Iran has fallen into isolation, being disconnected from the global banking system and cutting a lot of their income and ties with foreign territories, weakening Iran's international stance as well as its economic performance (ultimately having a repercussion in the funds designated to alleged terrorist groups). Clayton (2024) states denying resources to the Iranian government decreased its ability to finance missile programs, international terrorism, and destabilizing regional interventions, out bursting in the fluctuation on defense budget throughout the years linked to the economic impact of sanctions.

The main sectoral impact of sanctions is the disruption to supply chains. Several studies have focused on trying to examine exactly how sanctions placed on Iran made it more difficult for Iranian firms to maintain reliable supply chains. Among the goals of the sanctions on Iran is to hurt the financial performance of major firms, regardless if they are state-owned. Sectoral sanctions have been applied most consequentially to Iran's energy, banking, automotive, aviation, tourism, culture, and healthcare and specially oil industries (Farzanengan and Batmanghelidj, 2023)

One of the key aspects in sanctions has been attacking the oil industry; Laub (2015) affirms prior to 2012, oil exports provided half the Iranian government's revenue and represented one-fifth of its GDP, however, its exports have been more than halved since. This perfectly exemplifies the economic shift sanctions mean to Iran and its severe impact for the Government and its financial capacity, calling also for a significant change in Iran's energy sector strategy.



Note. Adapted from Stratfor (2015)

## *d. Main deterrents for the topic's development*

Sanctions imposed by different previously stated actors may have succeeded in certain ways to achieve their goal, but have failed in certain aspects, either by not getting the desired result or by fostering the arousal of parallel problematics. Some even claim sanctions on Iran vindicated the anti-Western view in the country, leading to greater violence and repression.

To name some of the problems surrounding the effectiveness of imposed sanctions: the common population's quality of life has declined, the Government has found strategies to evade sanctions or its desired effects, and environmental issues have grown.

### **- Civilians affected by sanctions:**

Sanctions have caused or contributed to a wide range of negative macroeconomic outcomes including rapid currency devaluation, severe trade and fiscal deficits, elevated inflation, and rising poverty rates (Farzanengan and Batmanghelidj, 2023), affecting not only the Government but also common civilians regardless of their political or religious affiliations. The civilians' economies inside Iran have suffered the sanctions consequences, redefining the socio-economic position of its population: Hanke (2024) sustains as evidence for this point the Iranian middle class has shrunk significantly from 45 percent in 2017 to 30 percent in 2020, perpetuating the lower class to remain marginalized. Batmanghelidj (2023) has argued that the economic disempowerment of ordinary Iranians has limited their capacity for political mobilization, leaving elites unaccountable to the electorate and fostering the government to remain the same.

Additionally, the commercial and economic blockages imposed through sanctions have led to food shortages and the breakdown of Iran's medical

system, which have severely impacted people's life quality and expectancy. Economic sanctions are not imposed on medicine or health-related items, nevertheless, the effects of sanctions on the currency market increase the costs of importing medical implements. Sanctions also increase the cost of the local production of medical products by increasing the costs of importing raw or intermediary materials. As mentioned by Nephew (2017) in his book *The Art of Sanctions*: "In Iran, for instance, there were reports throughout 2012 and 2013 that medicine and medical devices were unavailable not because their trade was prohibited but rather because they cost too much for the average Iranian due to shortages and the depreciation of the Iranian currency." This raises doubt about who is really being targeted by sanctions, the Government or their ordinary population and the effective reach of these measures.

#### - **Sanctions not being enough to achieve a real change**

The Iranian Government has had to find ways not to be ruined by sanctions, adopting strategies to evade sanctions or measures to avoid falling into the destructive effects of them. This has opened a whole debate regarding the effectiveness of sanctions, since the Government has found many ways around, therefore invalidating the whole thesis behind these measures. Scholars have pointed out the way in which Iran's elite have adopted a "resistance" doctrine and modified the country's political and security institutions, thereby reducing the coercive effect of the measures (Farzanengan and Batmanghelidj, 2023). Regarding its commerce and industrial production, Iran has been able to deflect exports to new markets. Looking at the period between 2000 and 2017, Iranian firms began to substitute "intermediate inputs" supplied by Europe with goods re-exported from markets such as Turkey and the UAE or sourced from Chinese suppliers (Farzanengan and Batmanghelidj, 2023). Also, domestic production, within its capabilities, has had great development amid its isolation and multiple embargos.

Additionally, many claim Iran has not changed its behavior, "Iran remains noncompliant with a wide range of international norms. It continues to operate an unbridled nuclear program, support proxies across the Middle East, and

engage in repression of its citizens at home (Lawder and Singh 2023). IRGC, as an extension of the Government, has also sustained its behavior. Analysts argue IRGC is not only evading sanctions in general but actually benefiting from them; sanctions have enabled IRGC businessmen to replace foreign companies that used to invest in Iran before the tightening of the sanctions and also have fostered the benefit from additional opportunities for corruption that extralegal routes for business create. While entities such as Iran's National Oil Company faced trouble selling oil through conventional channels, powerful individuals within the IRGC deployed IRGC's informal routes and connections throughout the region to export oil instead (Alemzadeh, 2024). Furthermore, sanctions cannot affect many key aspects of Iran's proxy relationships, which include training and technology aid. For which sanctions do not seem to be a holistic and real solution to the issues the Western World wants to tackle.

- **Environmental:**

Even though there might not seem to be a direct relation, sanctions are associated with environmental degradation through decreasing the priority of environmental issues in the sanctioned government's agenda and through increasing the need for natural resources within the economy. Madani (2021) suggests three reasons for the destructive role of sanctions on the quality of the environment in Iran: restricting its access to technology that may be more friendly with the environment, blocking international environmental aid, and increasing the natural resource-intensity of its economy. Recent studies have actually concluded that sanctions have been an important barrier in improving the energy intensity and lowering CO2 emissions in Iran (Farzanegan and Batmanghelidj, 2023).

# *Topic B:*

*Global Prevention: Response to global health threats, working along guidelines and regulations for evolving technologies and genetic manipulation*



## *a. Introduction to the topic*

Money laundering is currently a sensible topic worldwide, posing a serious threat to the integrity and stability of several economies within the international scenario. Specifically, Iran has had a long-standing history with money laundering, being accused of fostering money laundering within its territory. Due to its unique geopolitical challenges, Iran has been the center of discussion for this matter and addressing money laundering has become not only a domestic concern but also an international priority. However, Iran's current relationship with the international community, sanctions and local tensions make money laundering a much more complex issue, since isolation has pushed certain limits and called for desperate actions from the government and other sectors.

Counter money laundering actions have been held both domestically and internationally, nonetheless, questions remain about their effectiveness and call for a deeper study of the problematic to address its complexity. Iran, which has become a center for money laundering, is not only

## *b. Context of the topic*

responsible for supporting terrorist groups in the country, but also for regrouping and financing them along the Golden Crescent, the world's largest drug and heroin trafficking route (UNODC, 2023), which also includes countries such as Pakistan and Afghanistan. During the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, anti-Soviet insurgent groups decided to use opium as a means of economic production, using Iran as the main route to reach European markets, in order to avoid customs surveillance on other routes, such as those through Turkey. The choice of Iran as a route was mainly due to the ineffective policies imposed by the then Shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, during the 1960s and 1970s, when many people opposed to his government (mostly Islamic groups) used the sale of this material as a way to obtain weapons and funds. Similarly, during the Iraq-Iran war from 1980 to 1988, asset trafficking was used to maintain the economic stability of the different groups fighting each other. Since the Islamic revolution of 1979, many proxy groups, such as Hezbollah, have used opium trafficking as a means of self-financing for their proxy groups. Asset trafficking has been carried out through the interference of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, created at the same time by Ruhollah Khomeini, with the aim of maintaining the Iranian regime and protecting it from external threats. Despite having been created as an entity external to the regime since the revolution, it has been accused of having ties to the regime for reasons of protection against nearby groups. This same corps has been accused by countries such as the United States of money laundering, thanks to various intercepted documents that point to the use of techniques such as, for example, a company run by members of the cell that was dedicated to home repairs, including masonry, plumbing, electrical wiring, etc., and hired mujahideen from conflict zones such as Bosnia. Another company run by members of the group bought cars in poor condition, repaired them, and resold them. The cars were purchased in a European country and resold in the country where the group members were located (FBI, n.d).

On the global stage, we observe that there is constant negligence when it comes to mitigating illicit trafficking. Since 2000, the Financial Action Task Force has been interfering in decisions made in diplomatic circles due to its affiliation with the Anti-Terrorism Campaign, with the aim of “establishing international standards for combating money laundering, terrorist financing, and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.” (Fafta,n.d) This power was further reinforced in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime or Palermo Convention (2000), where FAFTA divided countries into three categories: a group of countries that have fully complied with the recommendations of this group and implemented them, this group is mainly composed of those countries; a second group of countries that have developed and adapted to the specified standards; and a final group, countries that have not cooperated with this group and, therefore, from the group’s point of view, are countries at risk of money laundering and terrorist financing. In the latter, during 2008, the Islamic Republic of Iran was added. However, the argument that it does not oppose the law and the solid legal system, it is necessary to take into account money laundering issues and active activities, even if it does not contain a high degree of corruption, or that it distrusts the various accounts lost by the organization. The implementation of these sanctions may make it difficult for Iran to maintain reciprocal and strategic relations on all continents. Since the 2009 embargo, Iran ratified its National Law against White Capital, which allowed it to temporarily resolve existing conflicts. In 2013, Hassan Rouhan’s rise to power put the country’s economy on the road to recovery. From these beginnings, it is necessary to eliminate industrial monopolies and corruption. It also involves lifting international sanctions through the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and adapting Iranian banking policies to international standards.

## *c. Topic’s Development*

## MONEY LAUNDERING IN IRAN

Money laundering in Iran responds to a complex rooted issue that involves economic challenges, political dynamics and external pressures. Certainly, countering this situation is not a simple task and requires understanding of the reasons why this context is fostered.

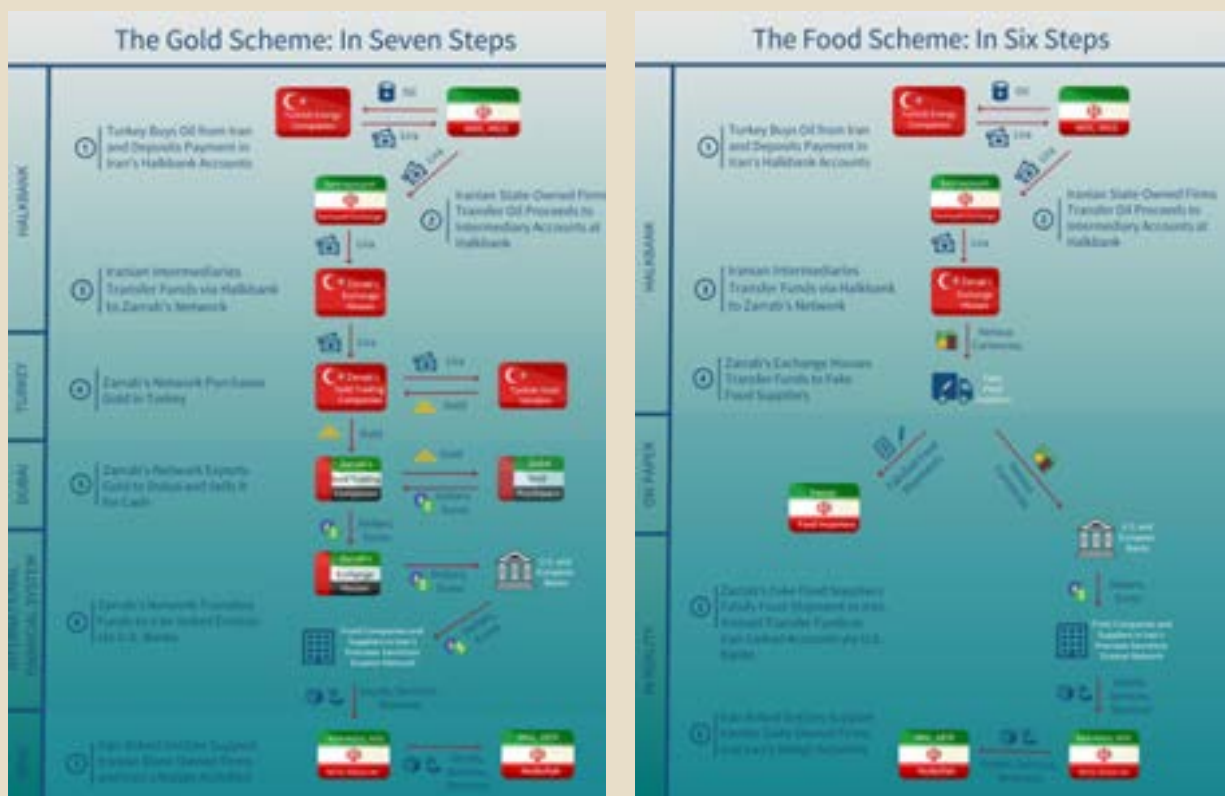
### - Economic sanctions

Iran has been subject to several economic sanctions from the U.S, E.U and the UNSC, which has altered its capability to participate freely and adequately within the global financial system. The urge to survive subject to sanctions has led to a series of strategies to evade sanctions, one of them being money laundering both by the government and other entities or people that want to access the western market.

As an example of this situation, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (2024), following sanctions against Iran's petroleum sector, which was Iran's most important economic sector, a large-scale global oil laundering network was created to give Iran's government-owned National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) illicit access to global markets to sell crude oil and petroleum products. They state that the proceeds were channeled through layered transactions with a Cypriot company and the oil sales were laundered through bulk cash smuggling and trade-based money laundering involving Russian agricultural products. Likewise, Iran has used several allied financial systems with convenient loopholes that intend to support Iran's survival.

There has been a whole illicit global network of front companies, banks and exchange houses that facilitate transactions (Donovan et al., 2023), not only for oil exports but for other fronts as well. This network works alongside other techniques such as ship-to-ship transfers, crypto exchanges or the hawala system that facilitate laundering actions and the disguise of commercial exchange with the western market.

Iran's desperate need to not sink in isolation has driven it to take measures like the previously stated to have some kind of economic stability. However, there is a huge discussion regarding the effects of sanctions on money



Note. Adapted from Caves & Crimmins (2020)

laundering, driving attention to its implication in pushing the government to launder its assets.

## - Drug trafficking:

Due to its geographical position, Iran stands amid the region's drug trafficking routes. According to UNODC (n.d.) "Iran is heavily affected by trafficking in narcotics, especially opiates, originating from Afghanistan and destined for markets in Europe and the rest of the world". Drug trafficking is one of the main activities of organized crime groups and generates enormous profits that benefit individuals but also the government on a certain level. The persistence of this situation through time has made it a normal part of Iran's economy and has promoted money laundering. Corruption as well as a weak institutional framework has allowed this situation to persist and has fostered the need for money laundering

mechanisms.

- **Proxy groups:**

Money laundering is used for strategic or ideological purposes, including financing proxy groups abroad. Laundered money is implicated in the funding of alleged terrorist groups, but also the same proxy groups are involved and help with the laundering of the money, mainly Hezbollah. According to Mailey (2024)

Criminalized proxies and transnational criminal organizations have become important money launderers for Iran. Largely cut off from the international financial system, Tehran has leaned heavily on Hezbollah and other criminal enterprises that operate money exchanges and hawala networks to clean their cash. In some places, however, Iran-backed groups' direct involvement in illicit trades – such as the flow of methamphetamine through Iraq – has become a source of dollars and a means of circumventing foreign exchange restrictions imposed by the US government (p. 10).

Hezbollah, however, acts both illicitly and transparently through different types of commercial activities. They have a key involvement with foreign exchange houses in nodes such as UAE, Canada, Turkey and Russia, remaining present in transnational illicit markets. Nonetheless, as Comsure (2024) states, they use front companies, legitimate business and cryptocurrencies taking advantage of free trade zones and territories with weak regulatory frames. This means not only illicit activities are used to launder money, but also proxy groups act as intermediaries in the global market for Iran, taking advantage of their commercial network abroad and its capacity to play with regulations and jump through loopholes. Ideologically and economically, Hezbollah remains a key asset to the Iranian government, being a main actor in the international scenario that provides funds and other assets for Iran that they cannot get on their own due to restrictions.

## INTERNAL POLICIES

In response to international concerns about Iranian money laundering, the Iranian government ratified the Anti Money Laundering Law in Iran in 2008 with 12 articles and defined three different types of activities and acquisition shall be considered as money laundering. According to the Islamic Republic of Iran (n.d.) these are:

- a)** Acquisition, possession, keeping or using the proceeds from illegal activities with the knowledge that they have been acquired directly or indirectly through a criminal offence.
- b)** Change, exchange, or transfer of proceeds with the intention of hiding their illegal origin with knowledge that they have been acquired directly or indirectly through a criminal offence ,or helping the offender in such a way that the legal effects and consequences of the commitment of that crime would not involve him/her.
- c)** Hiding or covering up the real nature, origin, source, location, movement, displacement, or possession of proceeds obtained directly or indirectly as a result of an offence.

This proves an internal effort to set a clear framework for Anti Money Laundering regulations that set a better economic stance. Within the Anti Money Laundering Law, the High Council to combat Money Laundering was also established chaired by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance. The Islamic Republic of Iran (n.d.) claims it was created to coordinate relevant organizations, analyze and process documents and reports, prepare intelligent systems, identify suspicious transactions and combat money laundering crimes. The establishment of the council creates a whole body within the Iranian territory dedicated to preventing and condemning Money Laundering acts.

In addition to the previously stated, the Iranian Civil Code criminalizes money laundering. Rahmdel (2018) recalls article 2 of the law on aggravating punishment for bribery, embezzlement and fraud ratified in

1998 which states:

*Anyone who in any way deals with the privileges granted to specific persons based on special conditions, such as import and export licenses, and which in practice called basic agreement, or abuses it, or commits cheating in the distribution of goods, which are supposed to be distributed in a specified manner, or in general earns money or property illegally, in addition to returning the money or property, shall be convicted for a penalty of three months to two years imprisonment or a fine of twice the amount of money or property (p. 3).*

This article seems to cover all acts committed to foster money laundering activities, which further reveal clear regulations and guidelines within the justice system that intend to detain money laundering.

Additionally, Rahmdel (2018) recalls article 28 of the Iranian Anti-Narcotic Code which says, “Any property earned through smuggling and the assets of escaped offenders subject to this Act, if there is enough evidence, shall be confiscated in favor of the Government” (p. 8). However, this isn’t strict and permits smuggling and other laundering activities since courts can replace confiscation with a fine, also perpetuating corruption acts within the system and further allow laundering actions.

In accordance with all the efforts of combating internally Money Laundering, the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran (CBI) is a main actor. As the same CBI (n.d.) indicates, it being the regulator of all financial institutions is obliged to provide these institutions with the required infrastructures to comply with the regulations and is also in charge of monitoring them. Additionally, they have been committed to the divulgation of Anti Money Laundering regulations, dedicating a part of their website for this matter.

Additional to this, other bodies such as the Financial Intelligence Unit of Iran are responsible for overseeing and enforcing Anti Money Laundering regulations in the national territory (AML Watcher, n.d.). This shows how there is not only one agent in charge of monitoring Money Laundering in Iran, but there is a whole network built to prevent these actions in different

sectors and levels. Nonetheless, the current situation and the persistence of the issue drive concerns about the effectiveness of these Anti Money Laundering efforts and show the issue is much more complex and there is a whole other type of problematics that aggravate the matter that should be treated as well.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Money laundering has been a matter of international concern, for which several nations have come together and cooperated to prevent and condemn money laundering throughout the globe. Rahmdel (2018) states that in response to mounting concern over money laundering.

The 1989 Paris G7 Summit established the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF). Recognizing the threat posed to the banking system and to financial institutions, the G7 Heads of State of Government and President of the European Commission convened the task force from the G7 member states, the European Commission, and eight other countries. The G7 Summit conferred on FATF the responsibility to examine money laundering techniques and trends, review actions that have already been taken at a national or international level, and establish measures needed to combat money laundering. In April 1990, less than one year after its creation, the FATF issued a report containing a set of Forty Recommendations, which provide a comprehensive plan of action to fight money laundering (p. 14). FATF appears as the vigilant global body that monitors the financial system of several countries, gives recommendations and sets international guidelines to combat money laundering. FATF has a blacklist for countries with weak measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, placing Iran in this alongside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Myanmar (FATF, n.d.).

Within the FATF efforts, there are several actions pursued, conventions celebrated, and measures taken. As an example of this, FATF established a document with 40 recommendations for nations to incorporate. One of the things this document states is that "Countries should criminalise money laundering on the basis of the United Nations Convention against Illicit

Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 (the Vienna Convention) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (the Palermo Convention)” (FATF, 2003).

The Palermo convention was an important step towards the criminalization of money laundering, it was adopted by the General Assembly in 2000 and “is the main international instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime” (UNODC, 2000). In the beginning of 2025 Iran’s Expediency Council has conditionally approved the Palermo Convention, announcing they agreed on joining the convention within the framework of their own laws (Iran International, 2025). This move could help their stance in the FATF blacklist and improve their international economic relations, however, there are a series of international standards yet to be adopted, for which they remain blacklisted until they comply with the larger FATF agenda.

Alongside FATF, UNODC as a direct part of the United Nations has been assisting Iran in the Anti Money Laundering journey. UNODC (n.d.) ensures they have been providing technical assistance to Iran through seminars, workshops, and training on AML/CFT. They further affirm “these activities aim at exposing Iranian officials and national experts to best practices in order to bring the Iranian AML/CFT legislative and institutional framework in line with UN and international standards”.

Both FATF and UNODC comprise different nations and set a neutral ground for the establishment of a framework to combat money laundering, both from the internal part of the country and an external front. Nonetheless, several countries have jumped to sanction Iran for their money laundering activities as an external international pressure measure, which appears to be counterproductive for some.

## *d. Main deterrences for the topic’s development*

Money laundering has become a daily matter in Iran, making it a common part of the economy. Mostly, this seems to be the only way to escape isolation and not sink with all the sanctions imposed. Nevertheless, there is a vicious cycle to this in which money laundering is enforced, provoking heavier sanctions and once again illicit forms of obtaining resources are needed to survive. This never-ending cycle has negative effects for the economy, Shiva and Mikaeili-Pour (2007) state that money laundering undermines the activities of financial institutions that are crucial for economic growth, which leads to a decrease in productivity, encouraging criminal activities and corruption. As long as Iran remains sanctioned, they will have to rely on informal financial networks to conduct global transactions, which poses a threat both for Iran as the global financial system and makes this a complex situation. This probably indicates solutions must aim to a wider spectrum, not only targeting money laundering but contemplating a complex network of issues.

Additionally, the problem becomes more complex since Iran often resists implementing international measures due to its concerns over national sovereignty and possible external political influence from the west. According to Villar (2025), critics view the FATF as a foreign pressure mechanism that could compromise Iran's national sovereignty, even comparing it with the "Treaty of Turkmenchay" that weakened Iran against Russia in the 19th century. The FATF could violate certain articles of the Iranian Constitution that prevent foreign interference in the country's internal affairs, which has restrained the government from fully complying with the FATF recommendations that would get Iran out of the blacklist.

On the other hand, although domestic laws against money laundering exist, enforcement remains weak, making internal efforts ineffective . According to Owens, Tovar & Gilroy (2019) "Iran is a jurisdiction characterized by a high level of institutional corruption and weak AML/ CFT laws", which reveals internal issues that restrict the domestic policies from being effective and making progress. Afterall, this is not a black or white situation and involves a huge amount of complexities to it, both on a domestic level as well as on a global scale.

# *Procedure*

# *Procedure*

During the committee we are going to follow the Harvard Procedure established by the MONUA handbook, specifically on page 35, it is crucial for you not only to know the points and motions but also the format to be managed on the documents and the voting process. Here we provide you with most of the motions in English. In any case of doubt feel completely free to approach.

Español	Inglés
Punto de Orden	Point of Order
Punto de Privilegio Personal	Point of Personal Privilege
Punto de Información	Point of Information
Punto de Información al Orador	Point of Information to the Speaker
Punto de Relevancia	Point of Relevance
Moción para Abrir Sesión	Motion to Open the Session
Moción para Establecer la Agenda	Motion to Set the Agenda
Moción para Iniciar una Sesión Extraordinaria de Preguntas	Motion for an Extraordinary Questioning Session
Moción para Abrir Caucus Moderado	Motion to Open a Moderated Caucus
Moción para Abrir Caucus No Moderado	Motion to Open an Unmoderated Caucus
Moción para Extender el Tiempo	Motion to Extend the Time

Moción para Suspender un Debate	Motion to Suspend the Debate
Moción para Reanudar un Debate	Motion to Resume the Debate
Moción para Cerrar el Debate	Motion to Close the Debate
Moción para Introducir un Papel de Trabajo	Motion to Introduce a Working Paper
Moción para Introducir un Proyecto de Resolución	Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution
Moción para Dividir la Pregunta	Motion to Divide the Question
Moción para Reordenar la Votación	Motion to Reorder the Voting Procedure
Moción para Entablar un Proyecto de Resolución	Motion to Enter into Consideration of a Draft Resolution
Moción para Votación de Papeles Resolutivos	Motion to Vote on Draft Resolutions
Moción para Cerrar Agenda	Motion to Close the Agenda

Before the conference starts, all delegates **MUST** send their Position Paper to both DAIS, the score of this document will be considered during the first session, all the papers should be in the DAIS emails before **August 13 at 23:59.**

The final document of the committee will be a draft resolution, the DAIS will establish specific points associated with the structure but it is important for the delegates to read the general rules about the draft resolutions and the amendments to be made, delegates can find these rules from the **Article 100 to the Article 107 of the Handbook.**

**A continuación se presentarán algunos detalles específicos del comité en español. El propósito exclusivo es garantizar que los procedimientos se comprendan en su totalidad. Recuerde que todos los formatos deben redactarse en inglés. Se aconseja imprimir las plantillas —las cuales les serán proporcionadas con antelación— para agilizar el trámite. Podrán realizar ajustes menores, como incluir el nombre de su delegación, pero no se permite modificar la estructura de los formularios.**

## a. Interconexión

La interconexión es un ejercicio académico dentro de los Modelos de Naciones Unidas que busca la dinamización y la comunicación efectiva entre los distintos comités que conforman el modelo. Con base en lo anterior, se busca conectar bajo un mismo hilo a las distintas comisiones a través de un sistema que informa a todos los delegados de forma adecuada y simétrica. La interconexión brinda una dinamización en el debate en la medida que provee a las delegaciones argumentos derivados de sucesos ocurridos en otros comités. En otras palabras, la interconexión busca simular un entorno internacional coherente con la realidad, un espacio siempre cambiante lleno de sucesos que modifican, constantemente, las alianzas, consideraciones, dificultades, mecanismos y demás utilizados por cada país, mientras que este busca mantenerse coherente en su política exterior a través de sus diversas representaciones en la Comunidad Internacional. El Consejo Presidencial, al contar con la máxima autoridad de cada país dentro de su recinto, tendrá la máxima potestad en términos de política exterior, lo cual será transversal en el enfoque de interconexión de MONUA 2025.

Este año en MONUA se busca que todos los comités del modelo se vean adheridos a una discusión sustancial, considerando temáticas coyunturales que sean transversales a la Subsecretaría de Consejo Presidencial e Interconexión. Fundamentalmente, esto cobra sentido al llevar el ejercicio a una realidad similar, esto es, al considerar qué situación sería tan crítica e importante que convoque al Jefe de Estado y a los Ministros o equivalentes en un mismo espacio. En otras palabras, durante el desarrollo de la Subsecretaría de Consejo Presidencial e Interconexión se llevará a cabo una discusión, de agenda abierta, orientada por unos ejes planteados en la guía académica. Esto será crucial para el desarrollo de MONUA 2025 en su totalidad.

Los delegados del Consejo Presidencial se encuentran oficialmente citados a tratar esta temática, esto implica que los miembros del deberán estar en la capacidad de construir una línea discursiva

argumentativa clara para los cuatro días de debate que les permita trabajar la complejidad de la temática durante el modelo articulando esto con lo discutido en toda la conferencia y sus demás comités. Así mismo, para contribuir con el desarrollo y la dinamización de los diferentes temas, se propondrán casos de estudio para las diferentes delegaciones a lo largo del modelo con el ánimo de fomentar el trabajo constante dentro del comité sin que esto deje de lado el eje central que orienta la reunión.

Es importante mencionar que el Consejo de Seguridad, comité que pertenece a la Subsecretaría de Naciones Unidas, es el único que tiene vinculatoriedad bilateral respecto a sus decisiones y comunicados además del Consejo Presidencial. Esto también será relevante para el desarrollo de la interconexión durante los días del modelo. Ahora bien, las delegaciones deberán tener en cuenta siempre lo que suceda en las diversas subsecretarías y la organización del modelo como un todo, dado que podrán llegar notificaciones de lo sucedido en los distintos comités, más aún con procesos de dinamización como la Subsecretaría de Regionales y Especializados.

## **b. Documentación**

Los Jefes de Estado y sus Ministros representan la máxima autoridad ejecutiva de cada uno de los países representados dentro del comité, lo que quiere decir que tiene la capacidad de definir el actuar de su país. El Consejo Presidencial propone una experiencia retadora para los delegados asistentes al comité donde cada uno como representante de su delegación tendrá la potestad de emitir directrices que modelen cambios en el diálogo y la comunidad internacional. En virtud de lo anterior es de gran importancia que los asistentes a esta comisión tengan un conocimiento robusto no sólo sobre la política exterior de su delegación, también es clave que conozcan el funcionamiento logístico que se emplea en el comité. Lo anterior con el fin de obtener el mejor provecho de los recursos ofrecidos para el desarrollo del comité y mantener el rigor académico que exige esta subsecretaría.

Es por esto que las siguientes páginas están dedicadas a describir e ilustrar con detalle los documentos que se emplean dentro del comité así como los momentos clave que cada delegado deberá considerar dentro de su preparación para los días del modelo.

## 1. Declaración conjunta de principios:

Es el documento por excelencia que caracteriza y reúne los resultados del debate y el trabajo conjunto de los Jefes de Estado presentes en el comité. El objetivo final del Consejo Presidencial será producir una declaración conjunta de las delegaciones sobre las temáticas que se abordaron durante el modelo. Por supuesto, este proyecto deberá encapsular la mayoría de aristas discutidas en comité, proyectos realizados en conjunto y entrever los principios fundamentales que debe seguir la Comunidad Internacional.

Se contará con un Proyecto de Declaración que contará con la forma de un proyecto de resolución y se presentará el último día de modelo ante la mesa directiva. El documento tendrá como mínimo 7 cláusulas preambulatorias y 10 principios. Un ejemplo del formato de documento que deberá ser presentado a la mesa, es el siguiente:



## 2. Formato Unificado para Consejo Presidencial

Es el documento que permite entretejer el diálogo entre delegaciones y Jefes de Estado a lo largo del modelo. A través de los formatos unificados se les provee a los delegados una herramienta con un amplio campo de acción para fomentar la diplomacia y el ejercicio de las relaciones internacionales. El uso de Formatos Unificados encapsula la esencia del Consejo Presidencial. Así mismo, el producto de estos documentos contiene la información que se podrá usar para moldear el debate de otros comités del modelo a través del sistema de interconexión.

Este formato será presentado ante la mesa, quien decidirá si se aprueba y envía al Centro de Interconexión.

El formato contará con las siguientes secciones:

- **Tipo de formato:**

Se deberá señalar en la casilla a qué tipo de formato se refiere en el Formato Unificado con el fin de que la Mesa de Consejo Presidencial y el Centro de Interconexión logren interpretar a cabalidad qué se pretende lograr, dentro de esta casilla se encontrará la posibilidad de realizar:

» *Acuerdos llevados por vía diplomática*

Para fortalecer los lazos de la comunidad internacional afines a los principios fundantes de la Organización de Naciones Unidas, se brinda a los delegados un instrumento para reforzar y consolidar las diferentes soluciones a las que se llegan al interior de este órgano a manera de acuerdos diplomáticos. Atendiendo a que las disposiciones en materia de diplomacia y política internacional son parte de la soberanía fundamental de todos los países representados, las delegaciones tendrán la potestad de utilizar estos acuerdos cuando crean conveniente. Por supuesto, se debe tener en cuenta la pretensión realista del modelo.

## » *Ruptura de Relaciones Diplomáticas:*

El rompimiento de las Relaciones Diplomáticas busca expresar formalmente la inconformidad entre delegaciones presentes en el Consejo Presidencial. Debe ser considerada a modo de ultimátum o de máxima instancia, por lo cual no debe ir en detrimento de las disposiciones en materia de diplomacia y política internacional que hacen parte de la soberanía de todos los países representados en el Consejo Presidencial. En consecuencia, los Jefes de Estado tendrán la potestad de utilizarla cuando crean conveniente, estando sujetos a la calificación del buen uso de las figuras y herramientas del Consejo, según su Política Exterior y el curso del debate dentro del comité.

Es importante tener en cuenta que los estamentos internacionales de discusión y diálogo son espacios concebidos para evitar el quebrantamiento definitivo de las relaciones entre Estados. Sin embargo, es entendible la existencia de circunstancias extraordinarias que requieren el uso de medidas extremas. Y tomar la determinación de romper relaciones diplomáticas, los Jefes de Estado no solamente deben tener en cuenta las repercusiones de su decisión en distintas áreas sino que deben contar con el cumplimiento del trámite interno en su respectivo estado. Para efectos prácticos del Consejo Presidencial, se presumirá la existencia y validez del trámite interno previo, donde este será evaluado por medio del Centro de Interconexión.

## » *Modificación de Relaciones:*

Ahora bien, en coherencia con todo lo expuesto anteriormente, los Estados podrán modificar acuerdos ya existentes entre los miembros de la Comunidad Internacional, con el fin de modificar cuestiones con las que se ha formalizado anteriormente. Específicamente, este tipo de formato no pretende ni eliminar ni agregar acuerdos, sino ser una herramienta de diplomacia para intensificar las ya vigentes relaciones simbióticas entre los Estados. Del mismo modo, es potestad de cada Estado modificar las relaciones de modo que se negocien las condiciones de la mejor manera

posible. Nuevamente, estas modificaciones se realizan concorde a lo que se ha pactado en el pasado y deberá acercarse a un ejercicio consecuente a la realidad de la Comunidad Internacional.

Por otro lado, para la aprobación de modificación existe la posibilidad de que se deseen modificar acuerdos entre muchos países como lo son la Unión Europea, la Organización de Estados Americanos y demás, por lo que para este tipo de modificaciones se deberá contar con el 70% del quórum de la organización presente en el Consejo Presidencial para ser considerado por el Centro de Interconexión como un proyecto válido. Del mismo modo, si se trata de la modificación frente a un tratado vigente entre las dos partes, se deberá contar con estas para su formulación dentro de un ejercicio diplomático y de negociación. En cuanto a la vinculatoriedad de lo establecido, cada país cuenta con una agenda política y de prioridades particular, por lo que los representantes reunidos ante la Subsecretaría, en tanto aceptarán como vinculantes los acuerdos establecidos en coherencia con su agenda gubernamental y de política exterior. En consecuencia, una vez establecidos como tal y entendidos como primordiales para el Estado, la vinculación será tomada ante el Centro de Interconexión y el modelo como un compromiso del país de absoluta obligatoriedad y cumplimiento. Del mismo modo, se espera que los delegados tengan clara esta diferencia al establecer el nombre del Formato Unificado.

En cuanto a la ratificación, una vez firmado y establecido el acuerdo de cada Estado, se asumirán como ratificados inmediatamente por el Centro de Interconexión y se tendrá en cuenta la vinculatoriedad establecida por el mismo.

Estos formatos serán lo que en principio guíen la Declaración de Principios que realice el comité considerando que se debe seguir una línea de política exterior clara.

Tipo de documento		<input type="checkbox"/> Acuerdos llevados por vía diplomática <input type="checkbox"/> Ruptura de las Relaciones Diplomáticas <input type="checkbox"/> Modificación de las Relaciones		Aprobación de la Mesa: Fecha: Lugar: Consejo Presidencial, Bogotá, Colombia	
<b>Presentación</b>					
Díctele un título a su proyecto y cabezas de bloque					
<b>Países Involucrados</b>					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.
37.	38.	39.	40.		
<b>Justificación</b>					
¿Por qué se realiza el acuerdo? ¿Cuál es el propósito de su acuerdo?					
<b>Clausulas</b>					<b>Vinculante</b>
¿Cuáles son las acciones que demanan del acuerdo?					<input type="checkbox"/> Vinculante
					<input type="checkbox"/> No Vinculante
<b>Anexos (detrás de la hoja)</b>					
<b>Países Firmantes</b>					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.
37.	38.	39.	40.		

Nota: es pertinente aclarar que el formato puede ser denegado por errores en la forma o el contenido, lo cual será susceptible de valoración por la Mesa o el Centro de Interconexión. Así mismo, se aclara que una vez entregados al Centro de Interconexión los formatos únicamente se devolverán a la mesa, estos no se presentarán entre comités.

El resultado de las acciones que se tomen dentro del comité serán comunicadas por los agentes de interconexión, de la SGA de Prensa & Interconexión correspondientes a través de la plataforma MONUA Connect o por los delgados de Global News, en virtud de mantener una comunicación efectiva entre comités. Así mismo esto permitirá alinear los formatos realizados en el desarrollo del debate y tener disponibilidad de la información para sacar provecho de la misma en la consolidación de nuevas soluciones.

Los formatos son elementos clave para la articulación de la interconexión

por lo cual el Centro de Interconexión podrá disponer de ellos en todo momento.

### 3. Sobre las mociones

Sin perjuicio a las mociones establecidas en el Código Estatutario, Disciplinario y de Procedimiento de MONUA , y con el ánimo de fomentar un desarrollo óptimo del comité, las mociones especiales para el Consejo Presidencial serán, en orden de disruptividad, las siguientes:

#### 1. Moción para introducir un Proyecto de Declaración

Esta moción tiene carácter procedimental y su objetivo es presentar al comité el proyecto de declaración previamente trabajado. Antes de presentar un proyecto de declaración este deberá ser remitido por escrito a la Mesa Directiva, quien se encargará de aprobar su contenido y forma, sin esta aprobación no podrá ser introducido al comité. Todas las correcciones gramaticales y de forma serán realizadas de oficio por la mesa. Los proyectos de declaración estarán sujetos a revisión legal, económica y política para verificar su viabilidad. En caso de no pasar este aval, el proyecto será regresado a las delegaciones, quienes podrán modificar los puntos que han generado la negativa. Ergo, una vez dada la aprobación respectiva, la Mesa otorgará la numeración al proyecto y permitirá a dos delegaciones representantes pasar a exponer los puntos sustanciales ante toda la sesión.

#### 2. Moción para Votar el Proyecto de Declaración

Previa exposición de los proyectos de declaración, se deberá introducir una moción para votar el proyecto y así lograr su aprobación. Una vez introducida y aprobada la moción por mayoría simple, se realizará el proceso de votación por llamado a lista. En caso de que una mayoría de dos tercios del quórum vote favorablemente, se entenderá aprobado de forma definitiva el proyecto de declaración. Durante el trámite de lectura y exposición de proyectos de declaración, se faculta el uso de

las mismas mociones que establece el Código Estatutario, Disciplinario y de Procedimiento de MONUA. Por ejemplo, la moción para dividir la pregunta y la moción para entablar un proyecto, en este caso específico de declaración. Una vez aprobado, el proyecto se convierte en una Declaración Oficial del Consejo Presidencial. Sólo se podrá aprobar un único proyecto de declaración que reúna la voluntad mayoritaria (compuesta) del Consejo Presidencial.

### 3. Moción para introducir un formato unificado

La delegación deberá postular la moción incluyendo el nombre del acuerdo. (Por ejemplo, la delegación del Reino Unido quisiera establecer una moción para presentar el formato unificado llamado Acuerdo de Comercio Exterior Regional “CER”). Así, se presentará de forma escrita el formato unificado a la mesa y, con el correcto diligenciamiento del formato, se brindará su aprobación. De forma inmediata, la mesa reconocerá a los delegados quienes presentarán el contenido a la totalidad del comité, para lo cual la mesa brindará un tiempo limitado a dos delegaciones representantes del acuerdo (Sección de Cabezas de Bloque en el Formato Unificado) para la exposición de motivos y contenido del acuerdo. Por supuesto, lo anterior implica entonces que los formatos unificados se encontrarán sujetos a revisión legal, económica y política para verificar su viabilidad por parte de la Mesa y el Centro de Interconexión. En caso de no pasar este aval, el formato de recomendación será regresado a las delegaciones, quienes podrán modificar los puntos que han generado la negativa.

### 4. Momentos claves del comité

A continuación se presenta una serie de momentos y tiempos clave que son útiles para orientar la dinámica de la subsecretaría durante los días del modelo y de MONUA como un todo. Esto último, con el fin de que se fomente la discusión y el trabajo de manera óptima para que mantengan la rigurosidad académica que permita hacer de este ejercicio más enriquecedor para los participantes

a. *Establecimiento de posiciones como delegación*

Se reunirán todas las delegaciones, es decir, Jefes de Estado el primer día del modelo. Posteriormente, se iniciará sesión y se procederá a la lectura de Discursos de Apertura como se describe en el Código Estatutario, Disciplinario y de Procedimiento de MONUA 2025 .

Este discurso debe enmarcar la posición del país frente a las diversas temáticas del modelo, haciendo hincapié en las temáticas del Consejo Presidencial. Cabe resaltar que se evaluará el seguimiento de la línea de política exterior y discursiva establecida desde el primer día hasta el último del comité. Cada delegación contará con un minuto y medio para su discurso.

b. *Discusión y formulación de propuestas*

Habiendo iniciado con el trabajo formal de comité el segundo día de modelo, el Centro de Interconexión y la Mesa estarán atentos ante las eventuales propuestas formuladas. Estas deberán estar enviadas en el formato presentado previamente que proveerá la mesa, quien se encargará de presentar por orden de llegada al Centro de Interconexión los formatos para revisión.

Para este punto es válido resaltar que bajo ninguna circunstancia se permitirá el plagio ni alguna falta académica. Se hace un llamado para el trabajo limpio y ético por parte de los participantes.

El tiempo de formulación y discusión será constante de propuestas, por lo que se esperan una serie de respuestas por parte de los delegados en tiempo real. Sin embargo, estos deben mantener la calidad académica y los requisitos especificados en este manual. De lo contrario, no serán recibidos los formatos. Se busca un adecuado balance entre academia y eficiencia. En otras palabras, no se tolerarán formatos innecesarios o irrelevantes, no se trata de producir por producir, sino de producir formatos funcionales para la resolución de las situaciones propuestas

y que, a su vez, dinamicen el modelo en coherencia con la temática propuesta por la subsecretaría y las dinámicas de interconexión. Este tiempo de discusión y formulación irá durante los dos primeros días, siendo el objeto principal de la reunión.

e. *Formulación de Declaración de Principios*

Se espera que las delegaciones estén en constante creación de formatos unificados. A su vez es importante que lo realizado quede cristalizado ante la comunidad internacional. Por supuesto, se espera que en el último día se preste el espacio, durante la primera sesión, para la discusión de contenidos y, posteriormente, para la redacción de la cristalización, la Declaración de Principios.

# *Aspects of performance evaluation*



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- **Argumentative quality:** This can be understood as how your speech is reasonable and aligned with the topic to be managed during the committee, also this includes the process of formulating and answering questions.
- **Oratory:** It is not only important what you say but also how you say it, the delegates must make an impact in every intervention and space.
- **Lobby:** Is about how the delegates unfolds during the times of unmoderated caucus and permanent lobby, not only to lead this space but also the ability to hear and incorporate the contributions of other delegates.
- **Use of the Harvard Procedure:** This aspect involves the quality of the motions and points proposed, also the correct use of the different resources the procedure offers.

- **Use of English:** Since the committee is in English, it is crucial for the delegates to be understood but others and also this aspect involves the use of parliamentary language.
- **Topic Management:** All the interventions and proposals need to be aligned and creative around the two proposed topics so delegates need to expose that knowledge thoroughly.
- **Document production:** This section includes the position paper delegates must send before the conference starts, also the press releases, working papers, amendments and contributions to the draft resolution.
- **Foreign Policy:** It is important for the delegates to be completely aligned with their foreign policy, we will evaluate this during your proposals and alliances you make during the conference.
- **Human Quality:** The respect among the delegates and to the DAIS, also the importance of helping others. All delegates will start with a score of 5 susceptible to changes due to any bad behaviors.
- **Duo dynamics:** Is about how ministers and heads of state are aligned during the committee, involving interventions, agreements during the spaces that allow it, their proposal and the execution of their plans.
- **Use of interconnection tools:** Since this committee will interact with the negotiation between the G7 and BRICS, every agreement and interaction you have between this committee and the impact they have in the debate of both committees will influence your score.

# *Qarmas*

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- To what extent have international cooperation mechanisms (FATF, UNSCRs) been more effective than Iranian domestic reforms (2018 Anti-Money Laundering Law) in reducing illicit flows?
- How does the Council explain the gap between the formal adoption of FATF standards and poor implementation in entities controlled by the IRGC and Bonyads?
- To what extent do systemic corruption and the informal economy (estimated at 30% of GDP) nullify anti-money laundering efforts, regardless of international cooperation?
- Is resistance to external oversight (FATF/EU) an exercise of legitimate sovereignty or a de facto obstacle to combating illicit flows?
- Beyond technical reports, what macroeconomic variables (capital flows, fiscal transparency) prove the real effectiveness of Iranian policies?
- Could Iran develop an effective anti-money laundering regime without rejoining the global financial system?

- What evidence is there that sanctions have directly reduced financial flows to Hezbollah/Hamas (e.g., bank interceptions), versus merely increasing transaction costs?
- Doesn't the persistence of financing networks (e.g., use of crypto assets, cross-border trade) demonstrate that sanctions generate innovation in evasion?
- Why have sanctions on Iranian banks (e.g., Banco Saderat) failed to halt transfers to regional groups, despite freezing \$150 billion in assets since 2018?
- Do sanctions reinforce the dependence of armed groups on illicit economies (drug trafficking, kidnapping), increasing their autonomy from Tehran?
- To what extent does the divergence between US sanctions (maximum pressure) and European sanctions (humanitarian exceptions) weaken their collective effectiveness?
- Was Iran's exclusion from the SWIFT system (2012-2016) strategically counterproductive by promoting alternative payment systems (INSTEX)?
- Can financial sanctions be structurally effective against a state that prioritizes geopolitical spending over domestic welfare? Try to project scenarios 10 years into the future.

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