

**Oldenburg Model United Nations Conference 2011**  
- Changes and Challenges in a Globalised World -



**Guide to**

**The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

*Combating the Financing of Terrorism with Special Focus on the Illicit Trade  
of Narcotics*

## Personal introductions

Dear Delegates of the UNODC,

My name is Hendrik Napierala and I am serving as president of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at OLMUN 2011. I am 19 years old and currently attending the Altes Gymnasium Oldenburg. At the conference, I will hopefully have passed my final exams, which will take place in April.

OLMUN 2011 will be my fifth MUN and my first time chairing. 2008 I started as a delegate of Uganda in the GA 3<sup>rd</sup>. A year after I was the representative of the United Kingdom in the Security Council and last year I was the Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Palestine to the United Nations in the Economic and Social Council. In 2010 I also attended the BERMUN as a delegate of the UNODC in the Special Conference on Illicit Trade.

Apart from the OLMUN I am very interested in school politics being the student's representative and a member of the school's executive board. Despite that I make a lot of music, playing the trumpet and the guitar and singing in the choir of our school.

I feel very honoured to have the opportunity to chair this committee and with you I want to make the conference an unforgettable one. I am looking forward to seeing you in June.

Yours sincerely,

**Hendrik Napierala**



Honourable delegates of the UNODC,

My name is Tiana Mareen Fischer and I will be serving as Chair of the UNODC at OLMUN 2011. I will be 18 years old in March 2011 and at the moment I am still attending the Otto-Hahn-Gymnasium in Gifhorn (I will hopefully have passed my A-Levels by May).

Pertaining to my MUN history, there is to say that this year's OLMUN will be my fifth MUN conference and simultaneously my first time chairing, though I have often chaired the MUN Club of my school before. I started my MUN career as a delegate at OLMUN 2009, representing the Philippines in the Special Conference. In November 2009, I participated in Leiden Model United Nations (LEMUN) in the Netherlands as delegate of the United Kingdom, again in the Special Conference. In 2010, I once again took part in OLMUN (Special Conference) and LEMUN (GA2<sup>nd</sup>, Economic and Financial), once as delegate of the United Kingdom and then as both ambassador and delegate of the People's Republic of China.

When I am not at school like most of the time these days and not otherwise engaged in e.g. MUN business or tutoring students, I play the guitar and peruse English literature.



At school, I take part in various linguistic activities such as Business English, Prix des lycéens allemands, DELF or our MUN Club.

I really hope that this year's OLMUN will be a unique experience for all of us. I am very grateful to be given the chance of chairing UNODC. Additionally, I am looking forward to a wonderful conference entailing fruitful discussions, fresh ideas and promising (re)solutions. Surely, we will all enjoy it and, in retrospect, will be remembering it as one of our most tremendous experiences.

Sincerely yours,

**Tiana M. Fischer**

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## Our Committee

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is a United Nations agency that was established in 1997 by merging the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division. The agency, employing about 500 staff members worldwide, has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. It entails 21 field offices stationed all over the world and two liaison offices in Brussels and New York City. It is led by Under-Secretary-General and high-level Russian diplomat Yuri Fedotov.



The UNODC is mandated to assist member states in their struggle against illicit drugs, illegal drug trafficking, crime and terrorism. In the Millennium Declaration, member states also resolved to intensify and reinvigorate efforts to fight transnational crime in all dimensions, and to implement their commitment to tackle the world drug problem and to take collaborative action against international terrorism.

The Office operates through three main methods: The first involves field offices coordinating projects that are intended to enhance member states' ability to counteract drugs, crime, and terrorism throughout their state.

Secondly, the UNODC does extensive research and analytical work in order to assist member states in implementing anti-narcotics-policies and operational decisions for their respective state. Finally, the agency strives to provide assistance in the ratification and implementation of relevant international treaties, development of domestic legislation on these issues, and providing general assistance to uphold the commitment to the enforcement of these various treaties and laws.

## Our Topic

### **Fighting the Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking**

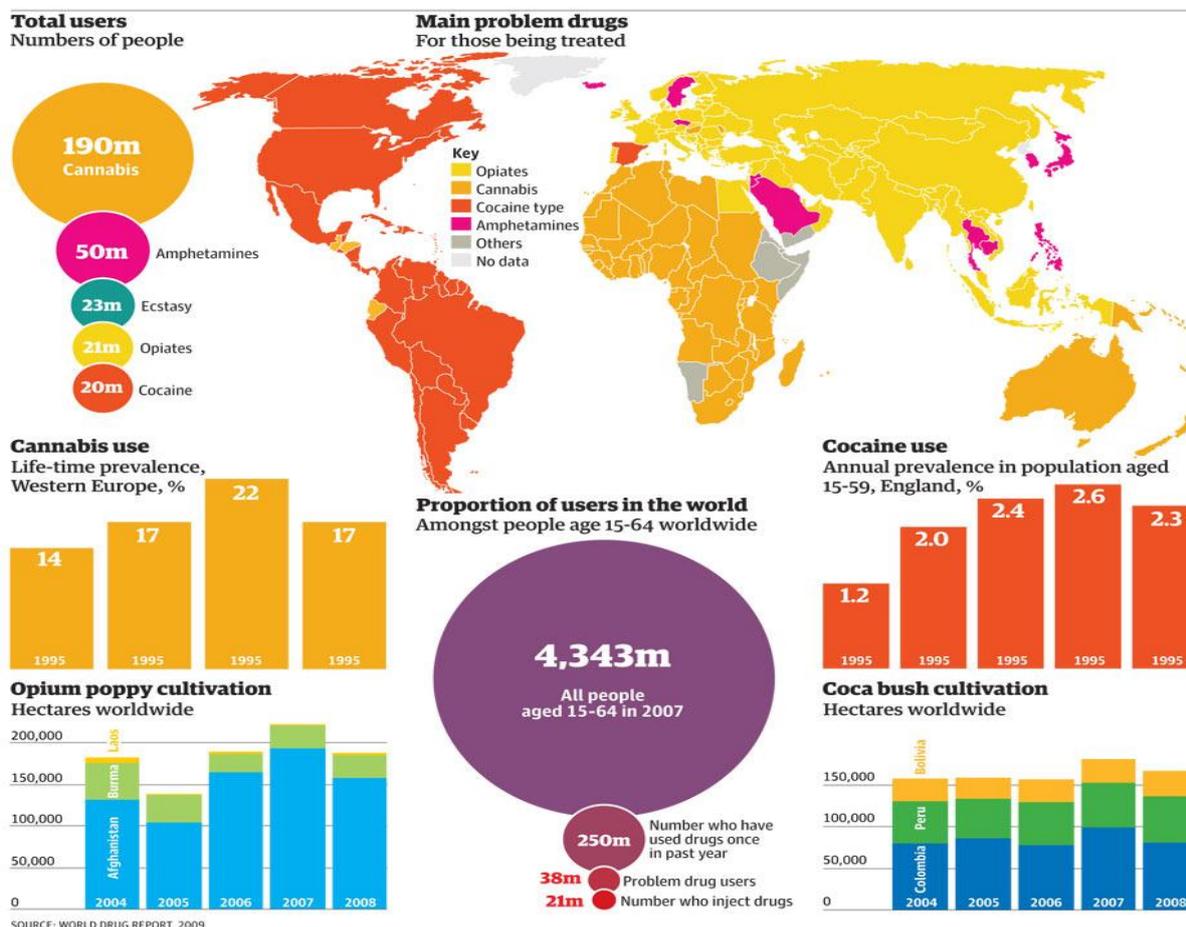
The basis for international drug control is the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs was passed on March 30, 1961. It is a treaty, which highly restricts production, trade and the use of drugs mentioned in the convention itself. It was and is a significant convention as it updated and replaced previous drug control conventions.

The Single Convention restricts a considerable amount of synthetic opioids, which had been invented and developed in the years after the previous conventions were passed. These conventions had only controlled opium, coca and its derivatives (cocaine, heroin and morphine). In addition to that, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs also restricted Cannabis. It is important to note that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs does not completely prohibit drugs - medical and scientific use is explicitly allowed.

In the 1960s, the use of psychoactive drugs increased on a global scale. Unfortunately, due to limitations of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs it was not possible to include this drug type in the convention through amendments of the list of restricted substances. As a result of

this limitation, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances was passed on February 21, 1971. The purpose of this treaty was to combat and control the production, use and trade of a variety of psychoactive drugs, such as amphetamines and psychedelics.

### The world of drugs

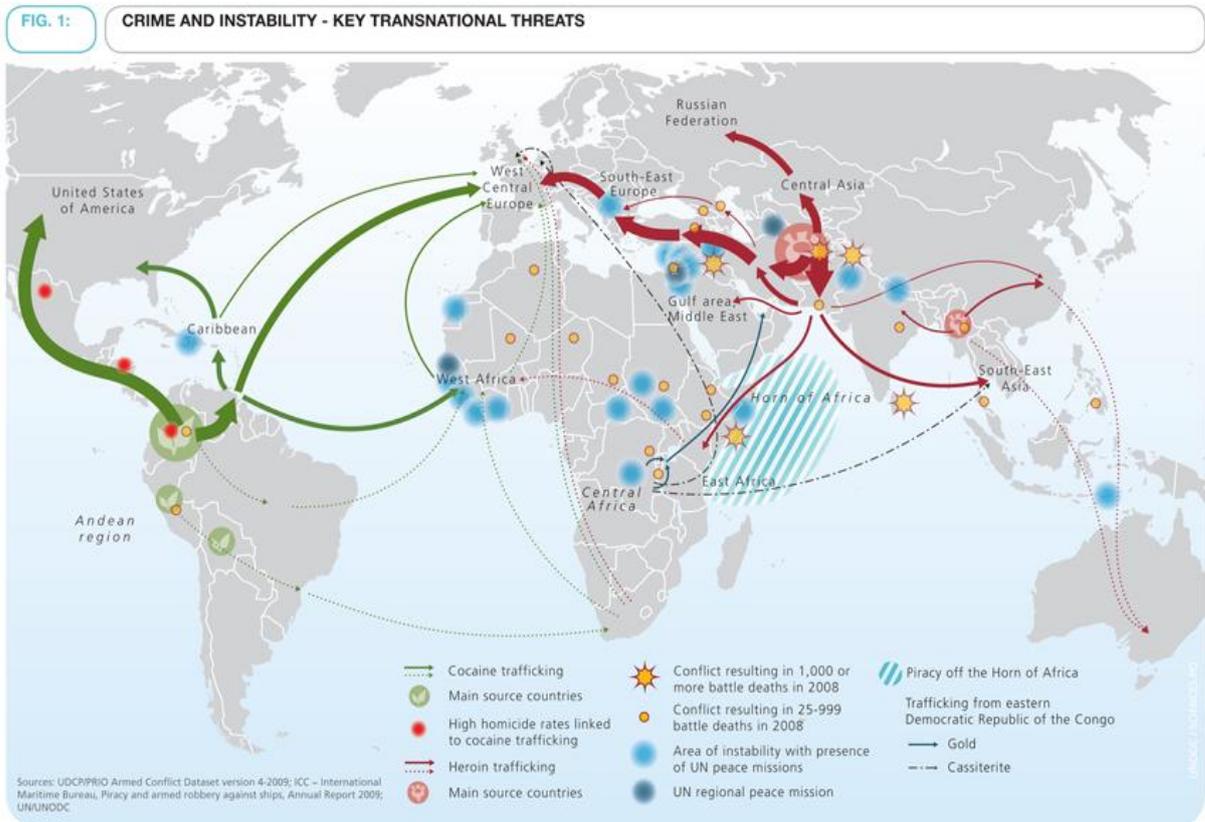


The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances was passed on December 20, 1988. It provides additional legal mechanisms in order to enforce the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

The illegal drug trade is one of the most widespread and lucrative criminal activities in the world. In 2005, the size of the global retail market for illicit drugs was estimated at 320 Billion US\$. At the time, this amount was higher than the annual individual GDPs of approximately 90% of all countries in the world. This directly relates to the number of drug users. The 2010 World Drug Report states that in 2008 approximately 150 to 250 million people used illicit drugs. It was also suggested that approximately 10% to 15% of this amount were “problem drug users”, i.e. heavy drug users who are addicted to illicit drugs.

A significant proportion of illicit drugs is produced in South America (particularly Colombia), South Asia (in the “Golden Crescent” area, which encompasses Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran) and South East Asia (the major drug production area in that region is dubbed “Golden Triangle” and includes Burma, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand). Once produced, the drugs are distributed to countries all around world, where they are eventually sold to drug users. Since most countries have very strict anti-drug laws, this distribution is difficult. However, the still

manage it, which is a big problem countries have to face regarding their anti-narcotic-policies and their implementation.



Over the years, a link between drug activity and terrorism has become more than evident. The former Executive Director of UNODC, Antonio Maria Costa, stated the following in 2004: *“The fight against terrorism will be more effective if drug trafficking is interrupted...There is mounting evidence of drug money being used to finance criminal activities, including terrorism”*.

This statement referred to the situation in Afghanistan, but it also fits to the situation in other Middle Eastern countries or Colombia.

Terrorist organisations need to finance their operations and their organisation (recruit members, administration). In order to do so, they engage in drug trafficking activities. In addition to the main reason for engaging in illicit drug trafficking, it has been said that organisations try to weaken their enemies by making drugs available in their enemies’ societies. Furthermore, it has to be noted that the relation between the terrorist organisation and the drug traffickers is beneficial for both parties. Drug traffickers gain military skills, weapons and relations with other organisations who they cooperate with. Thus, they are able to exercise control and decisively influence the society, even though their major goal is broadly considered money, which is a crucial means of manipulation and extortion. The terrorist organisations’ most important profit from the illegal trade with narcotics is predominantly money which they can finance their terroristic actions with. Another benefit is the manipulation of corrupt governments. Terroristic organisations often bribe or threaten unstable governments or high-level politicians.

## **The Taliban, Al Qaeda and Afghanistan**

After the bombings of 9/11, all eyes were on the Middle East, Osama Bin Laden, Al Qaeda and the Taliban. A special focus lay on Afghanistan for Osama Bin Laden and Al Qaeda settled in this country. Apart from terrorist activity, there is another factor that was taken into account when considering Afghanistan: Within ten years, it had become the biggest opium producer in the world.

The Afghanistan Opium Survey in 2007, published by the UNODC, revealed that opium is now equivalent to more than half of the country's licit GDP (Gross Domestic Product). The former president stated that the total export value of opiates trafficked from and produced in the country was roughly \$4 billion. According to the survey, the Taliban capitalise on the opium production. Before 2000, the production was the regime's sole source of foreign exchange. Mullah Mohammed Omar, leader of the Taliban, banned opium cultivation since he believed it was against the Islamic belief. The export of opium, was not banned.

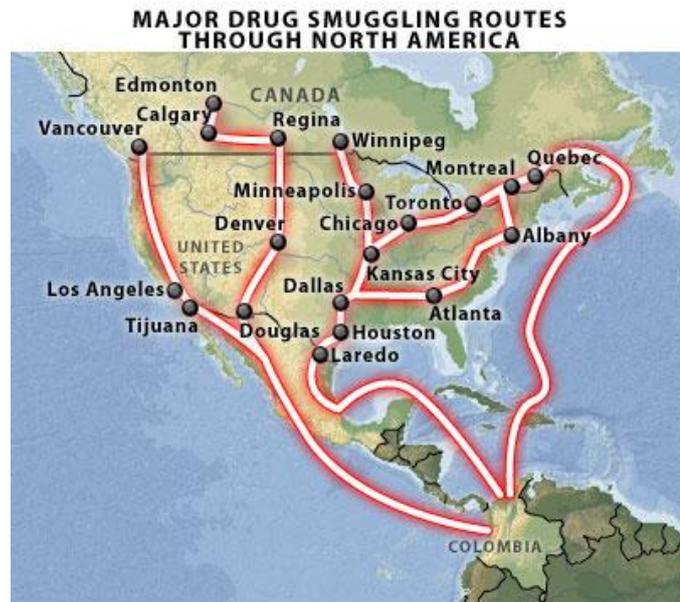
After the war in Afghanistan had begun in 2001, the Taliban regime was overthrown. Unfortunately, the Taliban still have influence in certain regions of the country and fight a guerrilla war against not only Afghanistan itself, but also against Pakistan and NATO forces. The production of opium was - and still is - one of their major sources of income.

The connection between the Taliban, Al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden is suggesting that both terrorist organisations are somehow collaborating when it comes to the illegal trafficking of narcotics. Even though relations between Mullah Omar and Bin Laden initially had not been well, they improved when both realised they could profit from joint dealings. The Taliban and Al Qaeda support each other in many ways, especially financially.

## **The FARC**

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's Army, also known as the FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – Ejército del Pueblo) is an organisation in Colombia. The members of the Columbian Communist Party established it in 1966. Even though it was primarily an agricultural movement that was based in the remote rural areas of Colombia, it slowly became one of the best-organised guerrilla movements of Latin America. The FARC is recognized as a terrorist group by the governments of Colombia, the United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and the European Union.

The FARC finances its operations via multiple ways. Immediately after its establishment, the organisation received support from citizens of the areas they were active in. This way of financing their terroristic acts slowly decreased, but it was substituted by extortion, protection money, ransoms from kidnapping and drug trafficking. Especially during the 1980s, 80% of all the cocaine smuggled into America was done by Colombian drug cartels. A report of the United States stated in 2005 that the UN estimated the average annual income of the FARC was \$342 million, \$204 million of which had their origin in the trade of drugs.



The FARC is still fighting a guerrilla war against the Colombian government, even though the organisation is weakened. Various presidents tried to establish peace talks or agreements, but most negotiations failed. The former president Álvaro Uribe (2002-2010) tried a different strategy and increased the state's security budget and combated the FARC. By doing this, he hoped that he would have more success in future peace talks. The war on the FARC and thus the narcotic terrorism has not yet come to an end in Colombia.

## Narcoterrorism

The term "narcoterrorism" was coined by Peru's former president Belaunde Terry in 1983 so as to describe attacks by cocaine traffickers against the police, who suspected that the Maoist rebel group, Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), had found common ground with cocaine traffickers. It has been used to imply violence waged by drug producers to extract political concessions from governments by e.g. blackmailing them and thus enhancing corruption. The most famous example of this was the battle waged in the 1980s by Pablo Escobar, head of the Medellin drug cartel, against the Colombian government. This battle involved not only assassinations, but also hijackings and bombings. Escobar wanted Colombia to revise its extradition treaty, which they eventually did.

Narcoterrorism has also been used to refer to groups understood to have political intentions that support or engage in drug trafficking to fund their activities. The term is being increasingly used for known terrorist organizations that take advantage of drug trafficking as to fund their operations and gain recruits as well as expertise. Such organisations include the Taliban, Hamas and Al Qaeda in the Middle East, the FARC and AUC in Colombia, the PCP-SL in Peru and the ELN in various South American states. On paper, references to narcoterrorism of this sort suggest that trafficking merely funds a distinct political agenda. In fact, the drug trafficking and armed violence by group members can become an autonomous activity to which politics is secondary.

It is important to understand that crime and terrorism are nowadays not always to be distinguished. Often, one involves the other.

## The difficulties Narcoterrorism implicates and possible solutions

Terroristic attacks need to be financed. In order to do so, many terrorist organisations engage into the illegal trafficking of narcotics. The trade of drugs involves numerous border crossings. This constitutes a possible point where to start combating narcoterrorism: stricter border controls, especially in regions where the illegal drug trade is initiated (South America, Middle East). This would entail that the illegal drug trafficking were already nipped in the bud. When trying to combat the illegal trafficking of narcotics, there is another problem that exacerbates possible solutions, and that is the corrupt governments. They are not only contributing to the illegal trade of narcotics by failing anti-drug-policies and non-implementation of these, but also by fuelling it by actively participating in and prospering from it.

Another way to tackle narcoterrorism might be to thwart or eliminate the opium poppy cultivation or in general the cultivation of drugs in countries such as Afghanistan. This would however entail the problem that many peasants rely on the cultivation of drugs.

The Afghan GDP consists by the large percentage of 53% of the illegal poppy cultivation. There would have to be found alternative agricultural products for the Afghan farmers or even another profession, otherwise the UN and NATO mission of supporting the (re)construction of an independent, democratic Afghan state would be severely jeopardised.

In 2001, the United States of America burned down thousands of poppy fields in Afghanistan when invading the country. But surveys show that this was ineffective since one year after the poppy cultivation had reached an even higher level. Until 2007, the Afghan poppy cultivation was doubled in comparison to its extent in 2001.

As a role model for tackling illegal drug trafficking you could take the anti-drug-policies by e.g. the United Kingdom or Turkey. But the United States also have an impressive counter-drug-trafficking system to protect their country: The SOUTHCOM, the United States Southern Command Partnership for the Americas (for more information, cf. the annotations). When tackling the problem of narcoterrorism, it is of great importance that countries cooperate. Drug trafficking crosses borders and without communication between countries and agreements, combating this phenomenon is impossible.

## Organisational matters

### **Research**

It is vital that you start your research as soon as possible so that you do not run out of time. However, you will still need to get updates on your country's position just before the conference as there frequently take place summits and discussions on that topic. Countries publish

statements or reports, and sometimes even change positions. Your research should be focused on three main points:

Primarily, it is of utmost importance that you be familiar with the **problem of drug production, trafficking, abuse and its close connection to terrorism**. How is the world/your country affected and how do they tackle these problems? You should furthermore be aware of your country's position in terms of this issue (legalisation/banning/...). This will be the position you have to represent at the conference.

Secondly, it is very important that you **know as much as possible about the country you will be representing**: Its history, current policies, religion, socio-economic structures, etc. You will always have to stick to your country's opinion.

We would also advise you to look at current probable solutions and strategies and, based on these, to create your own draft resolution, but **going even further by developing new approaches yourself**. Remember that the committee guide is but a mere stepping stone to help you start your research. If you do all this thoroughly you can look forward to an interesting debate!

A good way to get going is to download the current CIA World Factbook at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/download/> and read the information on your country. This gives you a first insight and it is a perfect steppingstone for further research. A look at the World Drug Report 2010 is obligatory. In it you can find a lot of information about drugs and everything related to it. It can be found at [http://www.unodc.org/documents/wdr/WDR\\_2010/World\\_Drug\\_Report\\_2010\\_lo-res.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/wdr/WDR_2010/World_Drug_Report_2010_lo-res.pdf).

## What do you have to bring to OLMUN 2011?

1. You will be required to come to OLMUN 2011 with a draft resolution and a policy statement. For tips on how to write a resolution, please read the handbook of OLMUN 2011. Each draft resolution should be at least one page long and concentrate on the Operative Clauses.
2. Before we will start lobbying, you can voluntarily present your country's opinion to the house by means of reading out your policy statement. It should be concise (not more than 150 words) and shortly outline the major points of your resolution. This is supposed to simplify the lobbying process.
3. Most importantly: bring yourself and all your enthusiasm in order to fight narcoterrorism! Bring your willingness to debate and compromise, and be willing to participate even if OLMUN 2011 is your first MUN conference. Do not be shy or intolerant but diplomatic and openminded and we will be looking forward to one of the best OLMUN conferences with great results whose memory shall never fade!

## Contact

If you have any questions concerning our committee's topic, your country's policies, how to conduct your research, procedural matters, how to write the resolution or any other issue, please feel free to contact us at [unodc@olmun.org](mailto:unodc@olmun.org). We would also volunteer to correct your resolutions

or policy statements according to style and content and to send it to other delegates. Furthermore, it has proven to be useful for a smooth debate to get in touch with your fellow delegates prior to the conference using the OLMUN-Forum at [www.olmun.org](http://www.olmun.org). At this forum you can exchange your ideas, resolutions, tactics, policy statements or more useful research sources you have discovered. Both emailing and the forum are a helpful opportunity to conduct pre-lobbying and to get to know more about the other countries in advance. You can also find useful information on procedural questions in the OLMUN Handbook.

We are looking forward with vivid anticipation to another interesting and fruitful MUN experience with all of you from June 6th to June 9th 2011.

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## Sources

### *UNODC*

Homepage of the UNODC

[www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)

Wikipedia-article

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNODC>

Short summary at Global Compact

[http://www.unglobalcompact.org/ParticipantsAndStakeholders/un\\_agencies/United\\_Nations\\_Office\\_on\\_Drugs.html](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/ParticipantsAndStakeholders/un_agencies/United_Nations_Office_on_Drugs.html)

Facebook-page

<http://www.facebook.com/unodc>

UNODC organization chart

[http://www.unodc.org/images/aboutunodc/UNODC\\_Organizational\\_Structure\\_April\\_2010.jpg](http://www.unodc.org/images/aboutunodc/UNODC_Organizational_Structure_April_2010.jpg)

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### *Major Conventions of the UN dealing with drugs*

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)

- [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Single\\_Convention\\_on\\_Narcotic\\_Drugs](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Single_Convention_on_Narcotic_Drugs)

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single\\_Convention\\_on\\_Narcotic\\_Drugs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_Convention_on_Narcotic_Drugs)

- [http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/convention\\_1961\\_en.pdf](http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/convention_1961_en.pdf)

Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention\\_on\\_Psychotropic\\_Substances](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention_on_Psychotropic_Substances)

[http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/convention\\_1971\\_en.pdf](http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/convention_1971_en.pdf)

United Nations Convention Against Illicit Trade in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_Convention\\_Against\\_Illicit\\_Traffic\\_in\\_Narcotic\\_Drugs\\_and\\_Psychotropic\\_Substances](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Convention_Against_Illicit_Traffic_in_Narcotic_Drugs_and_Psychotropic_Substances)

[http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/1988\\_convention\\_en.pdf](http://www.incb.org/pdf/e/conv/1988_convention_en.pdf)

*Narcoterrorism, FARC, possible solutions:*

<http://policytracc.gmu.edu/resources/publications/studentforum/HolmbergNarcoterrorism.pdf>

Information on SOUTHCOM:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_Southern\\_Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Southern_Command)