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Chair Report

Committee: General Assembly

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Student Officers: Kim Ha Eun, Cheong Eun Yeong, Na Weon Bin

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Agenda 1: Europe's migrant crisis

I. Introduction

i. General overview

  Europe, being a continent of comparative wealth over its neighboring continents, has long been a favored destination for migrants. Additionally, with Western Europe being among the regions with the most democratic freedom, Europe has been a hotspot for political refugees from lesser developed democracies/dictatorships. Starting from 2015, Europe's migrant issues have started to become more serious, resulting in many deaths of migrants who sought refuge in Europe from conflicts in their homeland. Thus, this agenda focuses on the recent uptick in migrants towards Europe due to political strife ongoing in the areas that neighbor Europe.

ii. Definitions

 - Migrant

  By their definition, migrants are people who move from one place to another in a search for another place to settle. 'Migrant' as mentioned in this agenda is a wide-ranging word. It encompasses refugees and immigrants, and people with a variety of motivations for moving. As previously mentioned, migrants to Europe are mostly people from lesser developed countries. Many migrants are looking to move because of economical factors. Unemployment in their home regions as well as the comparatively high wages in developed nations in Europe drives these migrants. This traditionally has been the reason for migration to Europe, as exemplified by Northern African nationals moving to France or Turkish people moving to Germany. Another reason is for escaping political conflicts, and this reason has rapidly become more and more pronounced over the last year. The Syrian civil war, among others, has driven many out of their homes. As a result, people are entering the Eurozone through land and sea routes to seek safe shelter. Identifying various causes for migration for these people, and subsequently finding a suitable solution for them, will be key to solving this issue.

II. Status Quo

Currently, the European migrant situation is such that it can be legitimately called a 'crisis'. The case of this sudden uptick in migrant activity is because of the ongoing conflicts in neighboring regions. The Syrian civil war is seen as the biggest creators of displaced persons. More than 700,000 Syrians have moved this year to Europe. The migrants from various countries have arrived to Europe through mainly three routes: the central and eastern Mediterranean, and the western Baltic. Consequently the countries involved in each of these routes (e.g. Italy, Croatia, Greece) have had trouble dealing with the overload of migrants entering their borders. In the status quo, four primary issues have arisen related to the issue of European migrants. First is danger the migrants face on their way to safety. European migrant crisis hit the world news when Alan Kurdi, a 3-year-old Syrian boy, was found dead on the shores of the Mediterranean. This news highlighted the dangers of the routes that migrants take, as both sea routes and land routes are dangerous and unprotected by law. Second, during this course these migrants are potentially subject to human trafficking, which can result in serious human rights violations. Third, the influx of mainly Islam migrants has caused a strong nationalistic response in the European nations. The rampage of Islamic State (IS) is at work as well; France, for example, has taken a stronger right-wing stance after the Paris terror attacks. Thus, conflict between migrants and Europeans must be managed in the spirit of tolerance. Finally, there are disagreements on how to handle the influx of refugees between EU nations. The majority of EU nations fall under the Schengen Area, an effectively borderless region. However, some countries have shut down their borders in an effort to stall the movement of migrants into their countries from other EU nations. Also, nations conflict on how to spread out the migrants, leading to political strife among EU countries.

III. Country Positions

- Germany

Germany is the country most vocal about helping the migrants. It has received the biggest number of refugees in 2015, and on September its federal states has criticized the central government for its liberal intake of migrants. It currently argues for a fair distribution of refugees among all Eurozone nations. It struggles to find allies in this front as other leading members of the EU do not feel that they should go out of their way to help the refugees.

- France

After the Paris attacks, Islamophobic mood is running high. Due to this, although France is among the most influential EU members, it is currently taking a stance against taking in migrants that have entered other EU nations.

- Eastern European nations

Eastern European nations such as Austria, Hungary, and the Balkan states are the most vulnerable to migrants' movement as the nations border Asia. Unlike other EU countries that have migrant influx, Eastern European nations are not as economically or politically stable in the status quo and thus have a lesser capacity for refugees. Adding to this is the poverty in Kosovo, which has in of itself caused a number of migrants to nearby nations. Having the consensus of these countries will be crucial in any upcoming solution.

- Rest of developed world

USA, Japan, and Russia among many others are criticized for not taking a more active role in taking in the refugees, and only helping in monetary ways. Although proponents argue that the monetary support and various aids have contributed to solving the problem, others may also argue that not taking in more migrants is simply burying one's head in the sand. The

question of how to solve this issue is being raised globally and a solution that provides incentives for the developed world to work alongside EU nations would assist greatly.

IV. Future Outlook

With the Syrian conflict ongoing, the stream of migrants will continue for the foreseeable future. However, if the migrants' destinations become only the nations that are bordering these migrants' homes, there will be great dissent among EU nations as the huge number of migrants will leave many impacts in their new society. Another possible issue is of Islamophobia growing stronger; Islamic State has taken actions of aggression on western nations, and this will lead to some fear as to whether the EU can stand to take in more Muslim migrants.

V. Possible Solutions

A solution for this agenda must come out as a result of cooperation of various organizations, groups and nations, in order to facilitate the resolution of issues arising from the influx of migrants. Specifically, working alongside various NGOs and thinktanks for policies and field work would be helpful. From another view, the EU countries and other members of the UN must work alongside each other to bring swift solutions. The solutions must have consensus from the general public of EU as their support will facilitate the integration of migrants as well as providing a general base to work towards solving the issue. To be clear, a way to overcome strong nationalistic stances and find true tolerance is needed.

VI. Questions to Consider

1. What are the actions taken by EU nations so far?

2. What are the differing opinions of EU members on this agenda and why?

3. What global repercussions can this agenda have?

4. How can the committee come to a consensus?

5. How can other members of the world contribute?

6. How can the members of EU be incentivized to accept more migrants?

7. How can we prevent Islamophobia running rampant?

8. What are the required steps to prevent security issues from migrants?
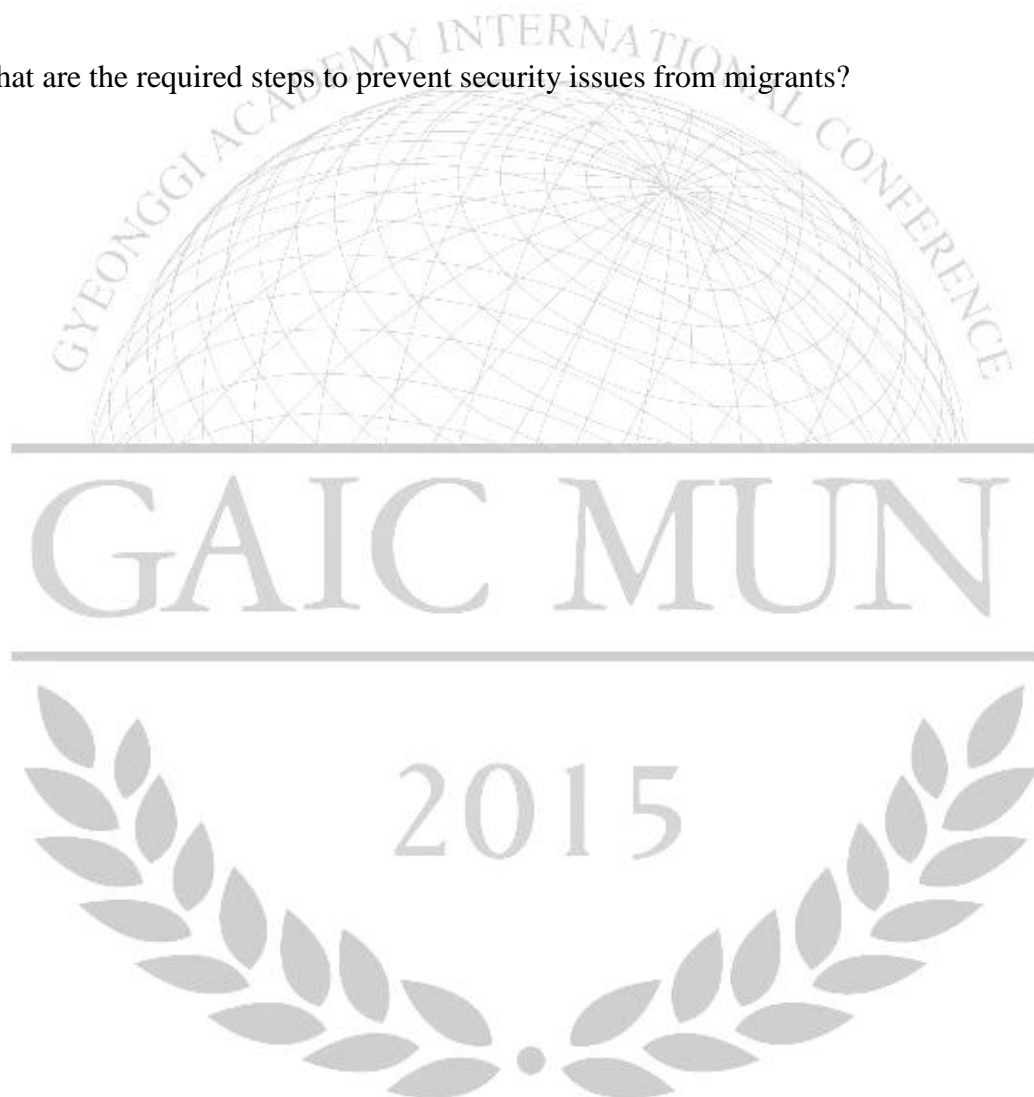
Agenda 2: Cyber-crime as a continuous threat to international society

I. Introduction

i. Definition

- Cyber-crime

Cyber-crime refers to any crime that involves computers and/or networks. By this definition, cyber-crime can exist in an interconnected state with other forms of crimes. For example, fraud may exist as a crime form; internet fraud is simply another way for committing a crime. In other cases, computers and/or networks may be targets, rather than tools, of cyber-crime. Distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks damage entire servers, causing massive harm to their users. Both forms of cyber-crime have become troublesome for people worldwide especially so because it is both borderless and anonymous. Borderless means that typical legal actions struggle to be effective, as the perpetrator may be out of the jurisdiction of the people harmed. Anonymous, meanwhile, means that it is difficult to find out who the perpetrator is in the first place, and thus cyber-crime is difficult to prevent or stop. Additionally, the wrongdoers may differ in each case, as committers of cyber-crime may be individuals, criminal groups, or governments; this provides an additional hurdle in overcoming cyber-crime. All in all, the varied and volatile nature of cyber-crime means that it requires the consensus of the global society to overcome.

ii. Urgency of agenda

As given in the definition, cyber-crime is unpredictable and thus is a big problem for the international society. McAfee, the internet security corporation, claims that global damages range from anywhere from 375 to 575 billion dollars. Furthermore, cyber-crimes have critical impact on people's daily lives and thus can be used for various political purposes. A good example would be cyberterrorism. Attacks on nations' networks can not only create economic damage, but also send a political message.

II. Status Quo

The status quo regarding cyber-crimes can be best described as volatile. As not only the developed world but the developing world starts to become more integrated into the internet, the reward for cyber-crimes has grown bigger. As previously mentioned, there are many types of cyber-crimes, but in the General Assembly the most serious and globally impacting types should be discussed within the committee, such as cyberterrorism or cyber warfare. Cyberterrorism is a serious issue in the international society; the hacker group Anonymous stands at the forefront of cyberterrorism as they have damaged many governments with their operations. It has become easier than ever to leave damage on other people's data or networks, and many are taking advantage of that fact. Also, individual nations' governments initiate cyber warfare, as an intelligence work designed to gain diplomatic advantage. This has led to various surveillance activities on the public as disclosed by Edward Snowden (Five Eyes, etc.). Overall, in the status quo there are many types of cybercrime activities and delegates must identify which of them are significant for debate and how to overcome them.

III. Country Positions

- USA

The United States is both the perpetrator and the victim of cyber-crimes. In 2013, the disclosure of Edward Snowden's files revealed that USA had been undergoing surveillance on nearly every allied nation while also tracking the internet itself indiscriminately. At the same time, as one of the world's superpowers, it is vocally against cyber-crime. Due to its being victim of various copyright infringements as well as cyberterrorism, USA is one of the main countries which are damaged most heavily by cyber-crime.

- Russia and China

These two nations are thought to be among the chief sources of cyber warfare, as the international society feels that there are legitimate fears about these nations' attacks on other countries. Recent reports suggest that investments in industrial espionage are running high in these nations. At the same time, these two countries fear cyber-crimes within their own borders. China, especially, has set up a 'firewall' which blocks internet access to restricted

sites, but internet surveillance is under constant duress. Therefore, securing the trust of the international society while gaining enough leeway for legislation within their own nations will be key for these countries.

- Scandinavian nations (Finland, Sweden, Norway Iceland, etc.)

Nations nearing the North Sea are among the world's leaders in cyber security (although Iceland is not strictly a Scandinavian nation, it is relevant enough for this agenda). Finland and Sweden, for example, were the two nations most secure from cyber-crimes in 2012. Thus these nations have lot to offer for other nations in terms of how to overcome this international crisis.

IV. Future Outlook

The dangers of cyber-crime is set to increase over the future. Cyber-crime is already taking a more systematic approach; drug cartels and sellers of child pornography are retreating to the internet, where the legal punishments are easier to escape. Another is that there are sure to be more indiscriminant cyber attacks. The hacktivist group Anonymous work as cyber vigilantes, working outside the norms of law while acting for their own ideals. These sorts of 'lone wolves' are dangerous because they can do great harm while being difficult to punish. The advent of the information era has shown that a single person can do greater harm if he so wished than ever before, so cyber-crimes must be shut down systematically and multilaterally.

V. Possible Solutions

It is impossible to eradicate cyber-crimes completely, but creating an international consensus and working together to eliminate them would assist greatly in lowering their threats. First, because the internet is borderless, taking a unified approach in each country would be ideal to lower the threat levels of each cyber-crime committed. Working alongside International Telecommunications Union, the UN agency for communications technologies, would help calibrate each nations' stance and legislation. Another approach is to agree on how to talk about internet surveillance. When governments do not have support from citizens of the globe,

cyber-crimes will be more difficult to overcome. Therefore, by making sure that each and every government agrees on the policies taken for the security of their own, it is easier for each other to come to a consensus how to fix this issue. Cyber-crimes are difficult to fix, but at the same time, there have not been significant debate from the General Assembly on how to overcome them. This committee can be a landmark and a basis for other debates of this sort and provide support on how to overcome other similar issues in the future.

VI. Questions to Consider

1. Who is committing cyber-crimes?

2. What types of cyber-crimes can be considered to be threatening to the international society?

3. What can the international society do to overcome cyber-crimes, without ignoring the jurisdiction of each country?

4. How can we prevent cyberterrorism in advance?

5. What will incentivize the nations who are supporting cyber warfare to give them up?

6. How can we restrict nations that commit cyber warfare?

7. Why are cyber-crimes so difficult to deal with?