

**Committee:** Special Political and Decolonization Committee

**Issue:** Examining pacifist policies of UN Member States in limiting the political consequences of proxy warfares

**Student Officer:** Maria-Artemis Pavlidi

**Position:** Co-Chair

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## PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear Delegates,

My name is Maria-Artemis (Madiana) Pavlidi, and I am an 11th-grade student at Ekpaideutiki Anagennisi. It is a great honour and pleasure to serve as one of the Co-Chairs of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee during the upcoming session of ACGMUN. After attending multiple conferences, and participating for three years in the ACGMUN conferences, I have come to the realization that MUN has become my motivation for breaking out of my shell and continuing to grow as a person. That being said, MUN is an enormous passion for me.

This year, as a member of the GA4, I have the privilege to analyze the issue of "Examining pacifist policies of UN Member States in limiting the political consequences of proxy warfares". Such an issue needs to be addressed in order to ensure the ideal bonding, that of a net-zero future along with a secure global environment. Throughout this guide, you will find information on every aspect of the topic, including definitions, earlier attempts to resolve the issue, a timeframe, and everything else you will need to prepare for and handle the conference debates and discussions. To get a thorough comprehension of the issue, you ought to conduct significant study on it. Of course, if you have any concerns or want further clarification, please contact me at the email address mentioned below.

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Kindest Regards,

Madiana Pavlidi

## TOPIC INTRODUCTION

In today's complex landscape of geopolitics, the prevalence of proxy warfare, where competing states aid third-party forces in conflicts, has become a key concern. The recruitment and use of surrogates has always been a historical characteristic of armed conflicts, but it has grown especially prevalent in the post-World War II era, with significant ramifications for world security. The use of proxies has rekindled interest among academics and policymakers alike, who have investigated its origins, nature, and effects in local, regional, and worldwide contexts.

The prominence of state-centric frames for comprehending and interpreting this phenomenon's defining feature, namely the interaction between sponsors and proxies, is a notable constancy in previous and contemporary debates about it. In this traditional setting and perspective, more often governments play the function of sponsor, whereas non-state actors play the role of proxy. These proxy battles frequently have serious political, humanitarian, and social consequences, making it critical to examine the role of pacifist policies implemented by United Nations member nations in minimizing the political impact from such conflicts. While pacifism as a guiding concept supports the avoidance of armed action and the peaceful resolution of conflicts, UN member states respond to proxy wars with varied degrees of pacifism.

At the same, in an age defined by an increasing desire to confront both international disputes and global warming, UN member states face a challenging issue. The pursuit of pacifist measures to reduce the political implications of proxy conflicts while still pursuing the lofty objective of net-zero carbon emissions necessitates a careful balance amongst international safety and responsibility for the environment. Examining UN member states' pacifist policies in dealing with proxy warfare highlights also the problems and potential of peaceful conflict resolution in the context of local power struggles and global tensions.

With the conclusion of the Cold War, the United Nations became an increasingly essential partner and player in the many duties of conflict resolution and conflict avoidance. That being said, given the complexities of territorial disputes in the Greater Middle East and its peripheral regions, current proxy warfare is on track to set the world on a collision course. At the same time, norm-breaking violence is tearing apart society throughout much of the area. However, much like within the United Nations community, there is little consensus on other fundamentals, such as how the UN can effectively conduct its peace-keeping and peace-making tasks in every aspect. As the UN grapples with these challenges, the examination of member states' pacifist policies in the context of proxy warfare underscores the inherent difficulties and potential opportunities for achieving sustainable peace in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

### Climate change<sup>1</sup>

“Climate change describes long-term changes in temperature and weather patterns are referred to as climate change.”

### Cold War

Between 1945 and 1991, the Cold War constituted a period of geopolitical conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as their respective allies, the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc.

### Global war on terror

The Global War on Terror is “an international, American-led military campaign launched following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.”<sup>2</sup>

### Pacifism

Pacifism is “the notion that war and violence are unacceptable and that all disagreements should be resolved peacefully.”<sup>3</sup>

### Political fallout

The term refers to “the unpleasant results or effects of the actions of the government.”<sup>4</sup>

### Post-war societies

A post-conflict country may be defined as one that is in the midst of a transitional era defined by previous war and future peace, a period that brings with it a slew of new issues. Whether a war was civil or international in scale, ended by a peace treaty or a military triumph, the end of a war is a moment for governments to consolidate political achievements. These transitory phases need adaptation for all participants, which is where third parties frequently come into play.

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<sup>1</sup>“What Is Climate Change?” *United Nations*, [www.un.org/en/climatechange/what-is-climate-change](http://www.un.org/en/climatechange/what-is-climate-change). Accessed 02 Feb. 2024.

<sup>2</sup>“Global War on Terror.” *George W. Bush Library*, [www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/research/topic-guides/global-war-terror](http://www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/research/topic-guides/global-war-terror). Accessed 09 Feb. 2024.

<sup>3</sup>*Pacifism | English Meaning - Cambridge Dictionary*, [www.dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/pacifism](http://www.dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/pacifism). Accessed 09 Feb. 2024.

<sup>4</sup>*Fallout | English Meaning - Cambridge Dictionary*, [www.dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/fallout](http://www.dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/fallout). Accessed 09 Feb. 2024.

## Proxy warfare<sup>5</sup>

Proxy warfare refers to a military conflict during which one or more third parties actively or inadvertently assist in any way one or more state or non-state combatants in order to affect the outcome of the war and therefore promote their own strategic objectives or undercut those of their opponents. Third parties in a proxy conflict play no substantial role in the actual battle, if at all. Instead, they allow large nations to avoid direct confrontation while competing for dominance and resources. Third-party direct support includes military aid and training, economic help, and, on occasion, limited military actions using proxy troops. Blockades, sanctions, trade embargoes, and other methods aimed to hinder a rival's aspirations have been used as indirect forms of assistance.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### The Rise of Proxy Warfare<sup>6</sup>

Proxy wars have weaved a complicated tapestry throughout history, employed by governments and empires as both military and foreign policy weapons to exercise influence over neighboring states. Proxy wars have been employed since the Byzantine Empire to deliberately incite hostility between competing states, supporting the stronger group when civil conflicts ensued. This historical precedent carried on into the twentieth century, when the United Kingdom and France deployed an analogous approach to support the Arab Revolt towards the Ottoman Empire, as well as during the Spanish Civil War, where it served as a proxy conflict between Republican forces supported by the Soviet Union and Nationalist forces supported by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy.<sup>6</sup>

The development of nuclear weaponry in the 1950s and 1960s raised the prospect of direct confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, leading to worldwide catastrophe. As a result, proxy conflicts arose globally as a viable option for countries to compete for worldwide dominance without risking direct conflict. Several proxy battles occurred during the Cold War era, notably the Angolan civil war and the Vietnam War. The Soviet Union and the United States, together with their respective allies Cuba and South Africa, assisted opposing forces in the former, while the Soviet-Chinese collaboration supported North Vietnam, achieving the objective of restricting American dominance in the area in the latter. The Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan in the 1980s prompted the United States to intervene as a third party in a proxy war against Soviet and Afghan soldiers. This struggle,

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<sup>5</sup>"Proxy War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 18 Jan. 2024, [www.britannica.com/topic/proxy-war](http://www.britannica.com/topic/proxy-war). Accessed 02 Feb. 2024.

<sup>6</sup>"Proxy War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 18 Jan. 2024, [www.britannica.com/topic/proxy-war](http://www.britannica.com/topic/proxy-war). Accessed 07 Feb. 2024.

together with the financial toll of the Afghan War from 1978 to 1992, led to the Soviet Union's eventual demise.

Proxy warfare also extended into the twenty-first century, as seen by the civil war in Yemen, which pitted the Houthi movement, backed by Iran, against Yemeni government troops backed by Saudi Arabia and its allies. While at the same, the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 which highlighted the modern importance of proxy battles, with the US and NATO allies aiding Ukraine in multiple means, including military and financial aid, against Russian soldiers, and China along with Iran serving as third-party supporters of Russia.

There has also been a noticeable change in sponsor-proxy relationships in the past few decades though, suggesting that certain non-state players may fulfill superordinate duties in these dynamics. According to studies that acknowledge non-state sponsorship, this challenges traditional beliefs and underlines the action of non-state players in international affairs<sup>7</sup>. Against the backdrop of these historical and present developments, the United Nations, which was conceived as an armory against totalitarianism and a defender of weak post-colonial governments, has faced problems.

During the Cold War, the emergence and fall of superpowers changed its direction, turning aid for development into a tool of ideological disinformation and territorial defense into a justification for proxy warfare. With the conclusion of the Cold War in 1989-1990, the United Nations faced new opportunities to return to its core missions of delivering economic growth and security, but negotiating this shift is fraught with uncertainty. A long-standing element of armed conflict, reliance on surrogates has grown especially prevalent in the post-World War II era, with significant consequences for world security. Following the September 11, 2001, attacks and the accompanying "global war on terror," the need for analyzing the use of proxies in local, regional, and international contexts, examining its sources, nature, and implications has grown even more.

### **Proxy Warfare as a Tool of Strategic Competition along with Political Power**

Proxy warfare, far from being confined to the battlefield, emerges as a potent instrument of political maneuvering. That being said, while proxies are a military method for state sponsors to achieve political aims, when it comes to non-state actors,

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<sup>7</sup>*The Political Power of Proxies*, [www.scholarlypublications.universiteitleiden.nl/access/item:3076589/download](http://www.scholarlypublications.universiteitleiden.nl/access/item:3076589/download). Accessed 09 Feb. 2024.

they are more often led by a less military-centric reasoning. Non-state sponsors use proxies primarily as political tools, with military contributions coming in second.

The fundamental responsibilities of nonstate sponsors' proxies are as political adjuvants who serve political aims in an unmediated, direct manner. These political ambitions frequently revolve around the consolidation of their own political authority, primarily by improving their search for legitimacy, a minimal level of which is required for taking and keeping power in the post-conflict period, with the upper goal of influencing today's global politics. Military and political aims are inextricably linked, with military objectives intended at accomplishing larger political ones.

Nonetheless, these various actor types lend higher importance to one technique over another. Relying on proxies as a wide political instrument would, in most cases, defeat the overall objectives and exacerbate the constraints political leaders face-hence their tendency to use proxies as military surrogates, as such interactions can be denied more plausibly than relations with highly visible political partners. For what it's worth, political considerations serve a role in governments' decisions to sponsor proxies, and may even be the primary motivator in some cases. It is frequently difficult to distinguish between political and military motivations for proxy sponsorship. States value proxies more for their actual or anticipated military contributions than for their perceived political use, and their proxies often fulfill an offensive military purpose.

### **State and Non-State actors engaging with proxies**

Non-state sponsors approach and motivate proxies differently than traditional state sponsors, resulting in diverse consequences for international security as well.

At the outset, they vary in their objectives; state actors make use of proxies to advance their strategic objectives in a more cost-effective manner, avoiding direct military involvement, whereas non-state sponsors implement proxies to serve both political as well as military purposes, primarily though as political tools. Having noted that, government sponsors perceive proxies more as an indirect, primarily military tool for achieving political and strategic goals, whereas non-state sponsors view proxies as "political ancillaries" for directly advancing ideological, political, objectives, particularly the consolidation of political authority and the quest for legitimacy.

Similarly, states face fewer capacity and resources issues when using proxies to achieve regional or global targets. Yet they are constrained by norms against foreign intervention, causing them to view and use proxies as instruments to advance strategic objectives with reduced target audience costs in order to prevent international penalties. Non-State sponsors, on the other hand, confront a capacity gap, relying on proxies to overcome organizational flaws and striving to reverse

governance and legitimacy shortfalls, relying on proxies to handle organizational issues, particularly political ones.

When it comes to their allies, state sponsors frequently use proxies as military surrogates, stressing plausible deniability in their interactions with less visible political allies. Non-state sponsors, on the other hand, prefer to collaborate with local proxies who have comparative political advantages, resulting in more symmetric interactions. State sponsors and proxies frequently have unbalanced relationships, with state sponsors having greater power and legitimacy. Non-state sponsor-proxy relationships rely more on proxies based on necessity rather than ambition. Furthermore, non-state sponsors form or work with proxies whose identities are closely related to those of the local populations that the sponsor intends to win over, while also selecting proxies with low army capabilities/expected battlefield usefulness.

Proxies for state sponsors generally play active warfare roles, including physical territory acquisition. Non-state sponsors, on the other hand, use proxies largely for security and patrolling in back regions, or "liberated zones," instead of aggressive operations. Moreover, non-state sponsors utilize proxies to interact with the local populace. State sponsors are seldom transparent about their reliance on proxies, usually challenging their level of control or even denying connections to proxies entirely, but non-state sponsors have a political interest in admitting and even highlighting their links to local proxies. In the same mindset, the employment of proxies by state sponsors is distinguished by a proclivity to be more long-term and less transactional, while non-state sponsors' use of proxies turns out as more transactional and sensible, posing hazards of vulnerability to pressures and manipulation by proxies and external players.

### **Sponsorship of Proxies: causes and costs**

The examination of pacifist policies among UN Member States to mitigate the political fallout of proxy warfare requires an understanding of the historical context in relation to the economics one, particularly when it comes to the Cold War and post-Cold War eras, in which the use of proxies in conflict has been extensively studied throughout the years. Notably, the role of sponsors can be attributed predominantly to states, highlighting key motivations behind such sponsorship.

Initially, sponsors, both state and non-state actors, engage overall in proxies due to perceived military advantages, such as greater influence on the territories or inhabitants, as well as adopting unique tactical and operational skills. Secondly, state sponsors often view the use of proxies as a cost-effective alternative to direct military intervention. This calculation encompasses not only direct deployment costs but also factors in domestic considerations, including political constraints on military action, sensitivity to casualties, war weariness, and the potential for international



condemnation or sanctions. Thirdly, leveraging proxies provides state sponsors with plausible deniability, allowing them to obscure their involvement in conflicts, meaning that it gives them apparent transparency, allowing them to conceal their involvement.

The selection of proxies, therefore, hinges on a strategic balance between military capabilities and the desire to minimize costs associated with direct military engagement. For states with limited conventional military or security force capacities, employing proxies may represent one of the few viable options to project power externally or address domestic armed opposition groups in remote areas. Furthermore, backing proxies can, in certain instances, serve to bolster domestic support for the state sponsor. The intertwining of political and military motives in proxy sponsorship poses challenges, as states often value proxies more for their real or anticipated military contributions than for their perceived political utility. Notably, proxies typically serve a predominantly offensive military function, complicating the delineation of political and military motivations in practice.

However, the potential costs of such sponsorship are multifaceted, with proxies pursuing divergent goals, diverting resources according to their preferences, engaging in uncooperative behavior, exerting suboptimal effort, or even changing allegiances and turning against their benefactors. The costs of using proxy conflicts on the political context on which the topic ultimately focuses, vary.

To begin with, when it comes to economic weakness and therefore inadequate leadership, both insurgency-style proxy wars and counterinsurgency-style proxy wars confront lower and larger expenses, respectively, which might result in ineffective leadership, as this is strongly tied to the economic section. Proxy wars often place a pressure on a country's economy, that can result in inflation, increasing public debt, and economic insecurity. At the same time, as proxy wars require direct or indirect public support, the success or failure of a proxy war can shape the public's perception, leading to both enhancing government prominence and, on the other hand, compromising the stability of the political establishment at the time. Having said that, as a type of indirect combat support, proxy conflicts can result in leadership issues and the public may demand accountability or even modifications to the administration.

At the same, proxy wars may strain diplomatic ties between participating governments since allies frequently question pledges, have different objectives, and generally a nation's contribution to proxy wars shapes its image. In addition, the outcomes of proxy wars can lead states to reconsider their national security objectives, perhaps leading to policy revisions or strategic realignment, resulting in higher military spending, which affects defense expenditures and overall security strategies. There are additional issues to be concerned about when it comes to proxy conflicts, including infringements of human rights, unethical tactics used, refugee issues that arise, cross-border tensions, and spill-over effects.



Understanding these dynamics is crucial for assessing the complexities involved in the sponsorship of proxies and its potential impact on political consequences in the context of pacifist policies pursued by UN Member States.

### **Contras (Nicaragua 1981) / United States**

As the Sandinista government emerged in 1979, the United States promptly acknowledged it and provided assistance to the country. The Sandinistas rejected US advances and moved toward Cuba and the Soviet Union, despite Nicaragua's stated wish to deepen relations. In retaliation, the US stopped providing help in 1981 and started supporting a fictitious army to safeguard its objectives in the area. Secret CIA activities prevented the supply of weapons to rebels in Central America, leading to the mining of Nicaraguan harbors in 1984. Restrictions on CIA engagement resulted from congressional opposition, but covert backing for the Contras continued. The prestige of the Reagan administration was severely damaged by the Iran-Contra crisis. From this case study, it is clear how a proxy conflict caused political instability in both the sponsoring and receiving countries, and it is an example of the larger Cold War era's ideological battles and geopolitical intrigues.

### **Russo-Ukrainian Wars**

Russia's deployment of proxies in the Russo-Ukrainian War, which began in 2014, has changed from being a concealed approach to one that is more apparent. Groups such as the Wagner Group and local militias were used to covertly take territory at the beginning of the conflict. But as their handiwork became apparent, Russia changed course. By 2014, the Wagner Group and the People's Armies of Luhansk and Donetsk were publicly recognized as proxies. These forces were sent so that Russia could retain its strategic flexibility while incurring casualties and depleting Ukrainian resources. The Donetsk and Luhansk troops were seen as culturally associated with Russia, but the Wagner Group, with its connections to the Kremlin, functioned with a certain amount of autonomy. The goal of this strategy was to weaken Ukraine's armed forces and resources while defending Russia's regular army and securing territorial gains. In summary, the Kremlin's strategy exhibited planned maneuvers, adjusting to the shifting dynamics of the war and tactically employing proxies to achieve its foreign policy objectives.

## **MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED**

### **United States of America**

As the world's circumstances shift, the United States is confronted with the risk of a potential conflict with major nations such as China and Russia. Although the classic narrative of large-scale conventional confrontations dominates strategic debates, the dynamics of great-power competition frequently develop through indirect means, most notably proxy warfare. The Cold War's historical context debunks any concept

of a "long peace," showing a complicated network of externally driven intrastate conflicts and shadow wars. During the Cold War, worries that a conventional armed battle between the United States and the Soviet Union might result in nuclear holocaust drove the deployment of ideological proxies as a safer means to conduct conflicts. The strategic reality involves recalibrating US policy and preparing to successfully fight opposing proxy armies. The United States has been embroiled in many proxy conflicts, including Syria, commencing with the Islamic State's siege of Kobane in September 2014, when they formed a cooperation with the People's Protection Units, the armed wing of the Kurdish Democratic Union Party, producing enormous tensions between the US and Turkey, as well as in Nicaragua with the Contras and Afghanistan with the Mujahideen proxies. All the above, have resulted in many instabilities regarding the governance of the United States, thus it is of significant importance to implement solutions, with a focus on adjusting the pacifist policies to their military objectives.

### **Afghanistan**

Afghanistan has been heavily enmeshed in proxy battles involving many regional and international entities, with few policies in place to address the country's intricate patterns of proxy warfare. Following the terrorist attacks on September 11 in 2001, the United States of America led a multinational coalition to depose the Taliban rule, which had given a sanctuary for Al-Qaeda. The coalition commanded by the United States included NATO soldiers, and many countries committed troops throughout time to ostensibly stabilize Afghanistan. Moreover, regional states have been involved in diplomatic attempts to address Afghanistan's instability. Dialogues were arranged to involve neighboring nations and regional actors in conversations about Afghanistan's future generations, with the goal of fostering collaboration and preventing Afghanistan from serving as a battlefield for proxy wars. These peace discussions involve the Taliban, recognizing their crucial involvement in the Afghan conflict. Attempts have been also undertaken to restructure Afghanistan's security sector in order to improve its capabilities in dealing with internal security challenges. This involves training and equipping Afghan security forces to serve a larger role in sustaining peace and counterinsurgency operations. The international community, particularly the United Nations, has been observing and providing assistance in Afghanistan. However, challenges including political differences, governance, and continuous bloodshed continue, with major nations such as the US soldiers withdrawing from Afghanistan in April 2023, leaving behind weapons that can now be

used in another fight, equipping terrorists in the disputed South Asian territory of Kashmir.<sup>8</sup>

## Ukraine

In Ukraine, the Russian proxy approach is on one end of the spectrum, while the US proxy strategy is on the other. While Ukraine strives for its national sovereignty and its territorial integrity, the US relies on Ukrainian military operations for defense against Russia. Aside from ensuring Ukraine's sovereignty, defeating Russia assists several U.S. objectives. These objectives involve strengthening NATO's and the European Union's significance and magnitude, spreading Western idealism and democracy at the expense of balance-of-power governance and single-party authoritarianism, and strategically weakening Russia's position within the international system. In the tragic irony that is war, both techniques feed off one another, turning the struggle into an endless war of attrition. The nature of such proxy wars has resulted in major political instabilities in the country, with the president of Ukraine's President Zelensky being accused of embezzling Western aid money.<sup>9</sup>

## North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

NATO, as a military alliance that supports UN initiatives by fostering tranquility in member states and neighboring nations, is offering shared security, especially when it comes to proxy wars. NATO is primarily concerned with conventional defense and prevention, yet it also works on building capacities, handling emergencies, and avoiding conflict initiatives. Members of NATO can collaborate diplomatically and share information so as to handle security issues brought on by proxy wars, including those in the region of the Middle East and Eastern Europe. That being noted, in order to minimize the political ramifications of proxy warfare, NATO places a strong emphasis on communication, collaboration, and dispute resolution, as it supports global initiatives aimed at lessening the effects of proxy conflicts and advancing enduring peace and stability.

## TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description of event
1979	Emergence of the Sandinista government in Nicaragua; U.S. begins supporting Contras against Sandinistas.

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<sup>8</sup>“U.S. Arms Left in Afghanistan Are Turning up in a Different Conflict.” *NBCNews.Com*, NBCUniversal News Group, 30 Jan. 2023, [www.nbcnews.com/news/world/us-weapons-afghanistan-taliban-kashmir-rcna67134](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/us-weapons-afghanistan-taliban-kashmir-rcna67134). Accessed 09 Feb. 2024.

1981	United States initiates support for Contras in Nicaragua, leading to political instability.
1984	CIA activities lead to mining of Nicaraguan harbors in support of Contras.
September 11, 2001	United States leads coalition to depose Taliban rule in Afghanistan, leading to ongoing conflict.
September 2014	U.S. cooperates with Kurdish Democratic Union Party's armed wing against ISIS siege in Kobane, creating tensions with Turkey.
2014	Russia deploys proxies in the Russo-Ukrainian War, altering strategies as the conflict evolves.
July 20, 2015	Adoption of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)
February 14, 2023	European Parliament proposes a resolution addressing transparency, accountability, and ethical behavior within EU institutions.

## RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

- UN Charter, Article 2.4, 26 June 1945<sup>10</sup>
- Geneva Conventions, 22 August 1864<sup>11</sup>
- The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), 24 December 2014<sup>12</sup>

## PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

### Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), adopted on July 20, 2015, lifts sanctions in return for limits on its nuclear operations. This entails analyzing diplomatic and peacekeeping initiatives designed to deter or lessen wars fought through proxies. These strategies might involve diplomatic talks, reconciliation, negotiation, and conflict resolution in order to address the underlying issues that lead to proxy conflicts and encourage amicable settlements. The JCPOA's scope and goals

<sup>10</sup> United Nations. Article 2(4) Contents. 26 June 1945.

[https://legal.un.org/repertory/art2/english/rep\\_supp7\\_vol1\\_art2\\_4.pdf](https://legal.un.org/repertory/art2/english/rep_supp7_vol1_art2_4.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> Icrc.org, 2023, [www.ihl-databases.icrc.org/en/ihl-treaties/gc-1864](http://www.ihl-databases.icrc.org/en/ihl-treaties/gc-1864).

<sup>12</sup> woolcott, peter. "Arms Trade Treaty." Legal.un.org, 2 Apr. 2013, [www.legal.un.org/avl/ha/att/att.html](http://www.legal.un.org/avl/ha/att/att.html).

vary from those of researching pacifist strategies connected to proxy warfare, even if it is a noteworthy diplomatic success meant to ease Middle East tensions and prevent the expansion of nuclear weapons.

### **Report - A9-0215/2023 by the European Parliament**

On 14 February 2023, the European Parliament proposed a resolution proposal covering a number of concerns regarding transparency, accountability, and ethical behavior within EU institutions and is relevant to proxy wars. As it calls for stronger transparency regulations, a cooling-off period for former lawmakers, increased monitoring of lobbying activities, and the formation of an independent EU ethics authority are among the key themes, these are proven really helpful for the overall resolution of proxy wars and the political fallout. Furthermore, it underlines the need for collaboration with other EU and national institutions, offers methods to fight foreign meddling, and proposes amendments to the regulations controlling Members' actions as well as fines for noncompliance. Relevant to proxy warfare, the resolution emphasizes the importance of scrutinizing politicians' relationships with non-EU nations and institutions, particularly those participating in strategic intervention in EU democratic processes.

## **POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

### **Arms Control and Registration**

Strengthening arms control and registration systems can be crucial in aiding countries pursue pacifist policies and lessen the political fallout from proxy conflicts. In order to promote global peace and stability, it is essential that member-states regulate the trafficking and smuggling of weapons, especially those supplied by sponsors in the form of firearms. Steering clear of illicit transactions as well as minimizing the likelihood of weaponry ending up in the possession of proxy organizations is of paramount importance and requires that rigorous limitations on the trafficking of weapons are put in place. Furthermore, global standards on guns must be updated and reinforced on a regular basis to address past sub-registration issues and guarantee a more accurate record of arms interactions, through enhancing the ammunition documentation systems. Qualifying information collection can occur along with the aid of other services, such as an annual registration management service which can be in charge of maintaining and be accountable for all information pertaining to yearly reports on a secure website. ARMS can save time and allow us to focus on more pressing issues, while also making a big difference in building and growing a knowledge base. When documentation is done well, it may serve to showcase the nations and the individuals engaged in the legal system.

### **The use of technologies**

At the same time, UN Member States may use the potential of emerging technologies, such as commercial drones, cyber weapons, military robots, and autonomous systems, to boost safety while abiding by non-aggression norms. Commercial drones and military robots employed for surveillance and research on the battlefields can be extremely beneficial to a state's ability to track and defend its people without requiring direct human intervention. Implementing such autonomous systems can help to improve efficiency and precision in security procedures, lowering the possibility of human deaths. Simultaneously, such tools may be extremely beneficial in assuring openness, accountability, and responsibility regarding what occurs as well as who bears the responsibility, allowing political players to be held accountable or not.

### **Cross-border security and intelligence**

When it comes to overall stability and especially preventing political fallout, firstly addressed must be the issue of security. That noted, it is crucial to improve security cooperation and counter security threats globally, with adjacent nations aiding in developing cooperative border patrol settlements that will serve regional and political stability. Likewise, providing early warning systems that are able to recognize any cross-border dangers and initiate quick action plans in order to deal with them. A solid scientific foundation for anticipating and forecasting dangers, as well as a dependable prediction and warning system that runs daily, are required. Continuous monitoring of hazard characteristics and precursors is necessary to deliver accurate and timely alerts. Wherever practical, warning services for various dangers should be coordinated to take use of shared institutional, procedural, and communication networks. Furthermore, encouraging missions of observation along common borders to keep an eye on adherence to ceasefires, safeguard people, and stop proxy actors from traversing boundaries can be proven really helpful, along with the adoption of the checklist of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction regarding the development of early warning systems.

### **Identification and prevention**

It is of paramount importance when discussing the topic to identify areas that might be susceptible to proxy warfare at the strategic level and offer further global stabilizing assistance beforehand. This identification can be reassured with annual reports of countries being involved in conflicts, as to their ammunition, funding, and interaction with non-state and state agents. That being said, assistance for the prevention of involvement of other countries can occur beforehand through multiple means. Such means can include the transportation connections and aid for economic development for subnational areas having a history of separatist movements or other grievances, while also providing assistance in the form of political and diplomatic backing for attempts at reconciliation and political agreements with separatist

organizations that would later be the focus of opponent proxy support. Alternatively, it could comprise resources aimed at enhancing security governance in nations that are considered vulnerable, particularly those that exhibit a readiness to implement changes.

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