

# Human Smuggling

Migrant smuggling is defined by the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) as "the procurement for financial or other material benefit of illegal entry of a person into a State of which that person is not a national or resident." Almost every country in the world is affected by this crime, either as an origin, transit, or destination country. Migrant smuggling is highly profitable with a low risk of detection and punishment. The UNODC is working with countries all over the world to implement protocol for migrant smuggling and border security. The Protocol seeks to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, protect their rights and promote cooperation between states.

## Questions to consider:

- 1) What is your country's involvement or stance on migrant smuggling?
- 2) How does corruption facilitate smuggling by organized crime groups?
- 3) How do crime networks contribute to forming channels for migration?
- 4) What are the travel conditions of migrants?
- 5) Is this an issue that affects your country, and if so, what policies and remedies have been proposed and/or implemented?

## Sources:

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<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/2013/university-of-queensland-launches-international-online-database-to-deepen-understanding-of-migrant-smuggling.html>

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/2013/assessing-crime-challenge-and-state-response-to-migrant-smuggling---launch-of-the-assessment-guide-to-the-criminal-justice-response-to-the-smuggling-of-migrants.html>

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2012/November/the-fate-of-smuggled-migrants-confronting-violence-and-exploitation.html?ref=fs1>

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# Drug Trafficking

According to the UNODC, drug trafficking is defined as "a global illicit trade involving the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of substances which are subject to drug prohibition laws." The UNODC monitors and researches drug activity in order to understand the illegal dynamic at hand. This allows them to track the route of drugs and how they are smuggled.

Studies are conducted by the UNODC to show the involvement of different countries in the drug trade. For example, research has shown that most of the heroin seized comes from the Middle East and South-West Asia (39 percent of the global total), South-East Europe (24 percent) and Western and Central Europe (10 percent). Research also showed that cocaine is usually transported from Colombia to Mexico or Central America by sea and then onwards by land to the United States and Canada. Europe typically receives cocaine from Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia. Drug trafficking is a very sophisticated operation that employs multiple channels to circulate drugs on global scale. The UNODC assists the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotic Control Board in performing treaty-based functions and assisting States Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the international drug control treaties.

## Questions to consider:

- 1) What are my country's policies on illegal drug smuggling and use?
- 2) Which drugs circulate the most in my country?
- 3) Where are those drugs transported from?
- 4) What effects does the drug trade have on my country?
- 5) How could drug trafficking be better controlled? What are some solutions? What could possibly be effective preventive measures?

## Sources

<http://www.unodc.org>

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/index.html>

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<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/horizontal-initiatives.html>

[http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/international/countriesandterritories/mexico/drug\\_trafficking/index.html](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/international/countriesandterritories/mexico/drug_trafficking/index.html)

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## **Illicit Firearms as a Threat to Global Security**

Organized crime manifests itself in many forms and activities, ranging from traditional types of criminal organizations to trans-national criminal networks, with elaborate structures and the ability to move quickly and transfer its operations and locations. The illicit trafficking and misuse of firearms is intrinsically linked to these criminal organizations and networks. Illicit firearms have multiple uses: as facilitators of violent crimes, as tools to perpetrate power, and as lucrative trafficking commodities that fuel armed conflicts, raise crime rates and insecurity. Oftentimes, different forms of criminality are intertwined such as human, firearms and drugs trafficking.

No region in the world is exempt from the dramatic consequences of firearms violence. While the death toll in the context of armed conflicts is well known, less evident but even more dramatic, is the fact that more lives are lost worldwide from non-conflict firearm events, than do during ongoing wars. The problems associated with firearms violence covers the whole spectrum of human security: ranging from high levels of individual physical insecurity (domestic violence and street, gang and criminal violence) with serious economic and social consequences for the society at large, to large scale armed conflicts in which these arms enable widespread violence and account for the majority of deaths.

The problems associated with firearms are very complex and curtailing them requires coordinated interventions on different fronts including, prevention, investigation and prosecution of crimes.

UNODC Global Firearms Programme was created to assist states in building adequate criminal justice systems to effectively respond to the challenges posed by organized criminality specifically related to trafficking in firearms.

### **Questions to consider:**

- 1) What is my country's position on the illicit sale of arms and organized crime?
- 2) Does my country have any financial ties with the underground community in regards to the sale of firearms?
- 3) Does my country cooperate with the international community and help with this issue?
- 4) Is my country located in a region where the illicit firearms trade is more sophisticated than others?
- 5) What are possible solutions to this problem?

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/firearms-protocol/news.html>

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[http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2006\\_06/SmallArmsFeature](http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2006_06/SmallArmsFeature)

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