

AFMUN 2025

ANTALYA FEN MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

H-DISEC

STUDY GUIDE

AGENDA ITEM:

PREVENTING THE ARMEMENT OF JIHADIST
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL:

RAMAZAN RAHMI OZCAN

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT:

EFE DENİZ YAĞCI

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1. Letter from the Secretary General

Fellow countrymen and countrywomen;

I, as the Secretary-General of the conference, am deeply honored to welcome you, participants, to AFMUN'25. I owe each of you a gramercy for saving yourselves from the darkness of ignorance by attending such an event.

A thank must also be given to our unrelenting academic and organization teams. Without their labor, the light that we are trying to bring to our generation wouldn't have been ignited.

We live in a twilight world; wars, crimes, famines, genocides, drought, environmental crises, economic collapses, etc. The idea of organizing AFMUN was shaped around these core motivations. Our objective is to show the aforementioned aspects of the world to you, our participants, and to provide a world-class MUN experience that is organized in line with our objectives. During the conference, you will expand your horizons and change the way you see the world. Do not forget; we will illuminate the future together.

Let us bow our heads; the king is returning...

Çağan Taylan ÖZGÜN

Secretary-General of AFMUN

2. Letter from the Academic Assistant

First of all, let me extend a hearty welcome to everyone on the Historical DISEC committee for AFMUN'25. Serving as your academic assistant on this committee gives me great pleasure. Our primary objective during the conference will be to guarantee the committee's operational state, whether that means delivering this comprehensive study guide to you, responding to all of your inquiries, or giving you more information if necessary. We are here to help, so you can relax. First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to my beloved Under-Secretary-General Ramazan Rahmi Özcan. It is a privilege for me to work alongside him because of his exceptional personality and boundless academic resources. Second, I want to express my gratitude to the AFMUN'25 Secretariat for providing me with the opportunity to serve at the conference as an Academic Assistant. Without a doubt, the committee will proceed as smoothly as we anticipated, and this study guide will give you all the information your delegates need to conduct the most productive debates. Do not hesitate to get in touch with me or my Under-Secretary-General if you have any questions about the process, the schedule, or the conference. Pleasant regards,

Academic Assistant, Efe Deniz YAĞCI

dnzefe0707@gmail.com

3. Preparing for the Conference

Evaluate your Allocation

Once you receive your allocation, research your country's policies and its position on the committee's agenda. Knowledge about Allocation will always differentiate you from other delegates.

Read the Study Guide

In addition to researching your allocation, it is also important to read the full study guide, because by reading the study guide you can get familiar with the agenda item. Moreover, the guide not only contains basic information about your committee and agenda, but also helps you understand what you will be discussing in committee by providing different perspectives on the history of the topic, current events and key concerns. Even if you are familiar with the topic, it would be a mistake to come to the conference without consulting the study guide.

Read the Rules of Procedure

To ensure that all actions are in accordance with the appropriate Model United Nations protocol, the Secretariat of each conference submits a document outlining the Rules of Procedure. This document ensures that the session chair effectively guides the committee and maintains an orderly conduct throughout the session. Before the first official sessions begin, the presiding committee will brief you on the procedure.

4. Introduction to DISEC

The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) is the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. The committee concerns itself with questions of international importance regarding the security and demilitarization throughout all countries and regions, along with ensuring that citizens across the globe remain protected.

Following the General Assembly General Debate, the First Committee convenes annually in October for a four- to five-week session. Attendance is open to all 193 United Nation members. It is the only primary General Assembly committee that has the right to verbatim records.

DISEC operates within the rules set by the United Nations Charter, so participation on the committee is challenging as delegates must demonstrate a deep understanding of conflict resolution, diplomatic finesse and a commitment to the principles that are also anchored in the United Nations Charter. It is also difficult to navigate the complex web of international politics when issues such as justice, equality, the arms race and world peace hang in the balance, so a cohesive approach by delegates is most appreciated.

5. Introduction to the Agenda Item

Agenda item being Preventing the armament of jihadist organizations. There is a lot for delegates to discuss in this percentage because this issue involves the past, the present and our future.

Within the conference, delegates will seek solutions to prevent the arming of jihadist organizations through diplomatic means and without violating the principles of the committee.

Delegates are encouraged to research the issue in depth before the conference and develop strategies that are appropriate for their country. For example, international cooperation, depletion of financial resources, border security, regional stabilization, arms control, etc. Implementing these strategies would be important steps to prevent the arming of jihadist organizations. However, the complexity of this problem requires a long-term and comprehensive approach.

6. The establishment and history of Islamic State

Islamic State (IS) is a transnational Sunni Islamist insurgent and terrorist group. The terrorist group was established in 1999 under the name Jamā'at al-Tawhīd wa-al-Jihād (The Organization of Monotheism and Jihad) by Jordanian Salafi jihadist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (also known as Abu Du'a), Abu Omar al-Baghdadi (Hamid Daoud Mohammed Khalil al-Zawi), and Abu Hamza al-Muhajir (also known as Abu Ayyub al-Masri) were the three leaders of the Islamic State in Iraq in succession. The Islamic State's history has national, regional, and international facets, which has given the organization a worldwide presence. This puts the Islamic State in a position to be arguably the most significant non-state armed group in modern history, especially when combined with the organization's military might and adaptable use of communication technologies.

The genesis of the Islamic State harkens back to late 1999 when a radical Islamist militant group known as Jama'at al-Tawhid wal-Jihad (the Group of Unity and Jihad) led by the Jordanian militant and Afghan–Soviet war veteran Abu Musab al-Zarqawi (Ahmed Fadil Nazzal al-Khalayla) was set up in Afghanistan. The group relocated to northern Iraq in May 2002, and a year later began carrying out operations against the US occupying forces and other foreign actors operating there, including the deadly attack on the UN compound in Baghdad on August 19, 2003. The local organization was renamed al-Qaeda in Iraq (Tanzim al-Qaeda fi Bilad al-Rafidayn, the Organization of al-Qaeda in the Land of the Two Rivers, or Mesopotamia) after al-Zarqawi folded his group, which by that time had become the most prominent insurgent group in the country, into Osama Bin

Laden's al-Qaeda in October 2004. Al-Qaeda in Iraq changed its name to the Islamic State in Iraq a few months after al-Zarqawi was killed in a US airstrike in June 2006.

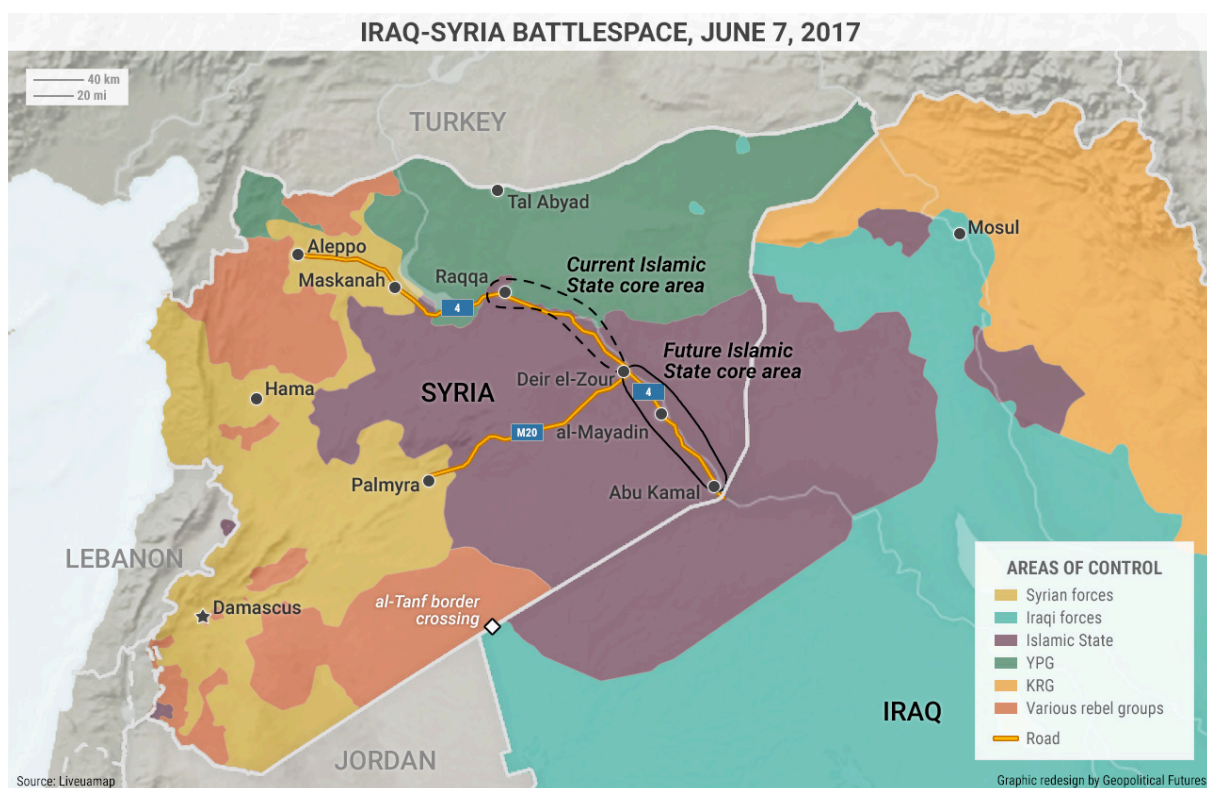
The group assumed its penultimate form in April 2013, becoming the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria/Levant (ISIS or ISIL), which would become its most well-known name globally. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi finally declared in June 2014 that ISIS had changed its name to just the Islamic State (IS) and that it was reestablishing the Islamic Caliphate, which had been established in the seventh century after the Prophet Muhammad's death. He would serve as the new "Caliph" and go by the name of Ibrahim. The split between the two groups was officially announced when al-Qaeda condemned that declaration. The next three and a half years represented the heyday of the group; in terms of military affairs, state-building, global reach, and media communication. Using upgraded military capability and relying on the experience of former Iraqi officers who had joined the group, IS went on to defeat the Iraqi and Syrian armed forces respectively, which were opposed to it and several coalitions of armed groups in the two countries.

By taking over the border-straddling cities and winning over tribal leaders on both sides, it was able to establish control over strategic areas in northeastern Iraq and northeastern Syria. Weapons that the US Army had given to the Iraqi military for its counter-terrorist special forces were taken by the group. The group saw the swift influx of these militants after declaring that it was creating a “Islamic state” and inviting Muslims from all over the world to join it. About 35,000 people from about 80 countries had joined the Islamic State by 2015. The group killed 1280 people between June 2014 and June 2016 by carrying out or inciting 75 attacks in 20 countries, excluding Iraq and Syria, where it operated on a daily basis. Paris in January and November 2015, Brussels in March 2016, and London in March 2017 all experienced high-profile attacks.

The creation of a comprehensive territorial administration served to further the group's "statehood" agenda (Mohamedou 2017). The group's teams repaired roads, installed telephone lines, gathered trash, established police checkpoints, paid salaries, provided banking services, and enforced law and order (including through public executions and beheadings). With departments for water, electricity, communication, and transportation, a prototype administration was declared. In the middle of 2015, the group reportedly made one million US dollars a month by seizing the oil fields near Mosul and establishing underground sales channels. They sold an average of 50,000 barrels of oil per day. The organization announced that its “state” (dawla) consists of 35 “regions” (wilayat) in ten countries (Afghanistan, Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen) and that nineteen of these “regions” are in Iraq and Syria. In the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, 40 organizations formally and publicly pledged their support or allegiance to Islamic State. Four distinct sectors made up the group's territorial structure at the time: areas of control and action (Libya, Egypt, Turkey, and

Yemen); centers of immediate importance (Iraq and Syria); areas of active influence (Sahel, Afghanistan); and strategic locations with active operators (Europe, particularly France, Belgium, and Germany). The group was successful in taking over a large area of the Mediterranean coast in Derna, Libya, which it intermittently occupied between 2015 and 2017.

The group had lost authority over the areas it had controlled in Syria and Iraq since 2013. The group was ultimately defeated in both countries as a result of the combined impact of military campaigns led by the Iraqi military and a number of Shiite militias in Iraq and the Syrian armed forces, as well as air and ground interventions by Russia, the United States, and Turkey. Although its influence remained, IS's operational control over other groups decreased on a global scale. However, the group did not completely vanish; in fact, it began to reorganize and spearhead more attacks in Syria and Iraq in 2020.



7. Goals and strategy of Islamic state

The creation of a Sunni Islamic state has been one of the group's main objectives since at least 2004. ISIS has specifically aimed to become a caliphate, which is an Islamic state headed by a caliph considered to be Muhammad's heir and governed by a body of religious leaders.

In the Dabiq magazine, ISIS outlined its objectives and declared that it would keep capturing new territory until it had conquered the entire planet. Even if America and its coalition denigrate it, it will continue to seize territory until it encompasses the whole East and West, spreads the justice and truth of Islam throughout the world, and ends the oppression and lies of the age of ignorance, it added. They firmly believe that their sacred flag will cover the entire expanse of East and West, filling the world with the truth and justice of Islam and ending the lies and oppression of the age of ignorance (even if America and its coalition scorn it). In addition, journalist Jürgen Todenhöfer spent ten days with ISIS in Mosul and heard that ISIS wants to “conquer the world” and that anyone who does not believe in the group's interpretation of the Quran will be killed. Todenhöfer spoke of ISIS fighters' belief that “all religions that agree with democracy must die”.

The strategy of IS, according to security and intelligence expert Martin Reardon, is to "break" people psychologically "so as to ensure their absolute allegiance through fear and intimidation" while inciting "outright hate and vengeance" among its adversaries. Second, according to journalist Jason Burke, who writes about Salafi jihadism, IS wants to "terrorize, mobilize, polarize." The goal of its terrorization campaigns is to drive the target enemy's governments "to make rash decisions that they otherwise would not choose" and to frighten civilian populations. Its objectives are to: "Eliminate neutral parties

through either absorption or elimination"; "polarize by driving Muslim populations - particularly in the West - away from their governments, increasing the appeal of IS's self-proclaimed caliphate among them"; and "motivate its supporters with, for instance, spectacular deadly attacks deep in Western territory."

8. Force of arms

The Islamic State's military is composed of light infantry mobile units that move quickly using vehicles like buses, motorcycles, and pick-up trucks (technicals) equipped with guns. Additionally, they have made use of tanks, armored vehicles, and artillery, many of which they took from the Syrian and Iraqi armies. IS has a long history of using improvised explosive devices, suicide bombers, and truck and car bombs. Additionally, they have used chemical weapons in Syria and Iraq.

Furthermore, ISIS has obtained and started utilizing FIM-92 Stinger-type missile systems, which are used to target enemy helicopters and aircraft at low altitude. It also has at least one Scud missile, vehicle-mounted DSK heavy machine guns, and the M198 mortar. The group took control of Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk military transport and attack helicopters as well as cargo planes when it took over Mosul Airport in June 2014. Daesh confiscated nuclear materials from the University of Mosul in July 2014. The Iraqi ambassador to the UN claimed that ISIS could use these materials to produce nuclear weapons in a letter to Ban Ki-Moon. The nuclear threat, according to experts, is not insignificant.

9. International responses and assistance

ISIS has mostly been condemned and classified as a terrorist organization in the international response. In 2014, the US formed an international coalition to combat ISIS militarily as well. The coalition now consists of more than 80 nations, including Turkey. The United States, France, and the United Kingdom have conducted extensive airstrikes against ISIS targets in Syria and Iraq. Politically speaking, ISIS's activities were classified as "genocide" and "crimes against humanity." The UN Security Council urged the fight against terrorism and passed numerous resolutions. Some nations demanded that the International Criminal Court try members of ISIS. Socially speaking, people also began to leave areas where ISIS was active.

Organizations like UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) provided assistance to these individuals. Furthermore, a number of Muslim nations have stated unequivocally that ISIS does not speak for Islam, including Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Indonesia. Lastly, social media has taken over the world. Sites like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube have taken action against ISIS propaganda on social media, and organizations like Anonymous have targeted ISIS's online activity.

10. Nations and factions engaged in conflict with IS

i. United States of America

It established a global alliance against Daesh in 2014. In Syria and Iraq, it coordinated heavy airstrikes against ISIS. Additionally, it trained and armed organizations like the SDF and YPG.

ii. Iraq

The Iraqi army immediately entered the conflict after ISIS took control of Mosul and other cities. carried out ground operations with Shiite militias supported by Iran against ISIS.

iii. Syria

The Bashar al-Assad government has engaged in combat with both the opposition and ISIS. Particularly after 2015, the regime used Russian air support to conduct operations against ISIS.

iv. Russia

It bombed Daesh targets and supported the regime in Syria, but it frequently targeted other opposition groups as well.

v. Turkiye

It began operations against ISIS in 2016 after entering northern Syria as part of Operation Euphrates Shield. Conflicts with ISIS over border security occurred on multiple occasions.

vi. Iran

It backed Hashd al-Shaabi, a Shiite militia that fought ISIS in Syria and Iraq. On the ground, the Revolutionary Guards offered operational and advisory assistance.

vii. France, United Kingdom, Germany and Other Coalition Countries

They joined the coalition led by the United States and took part in airstrikes. Certain nations have dispatched special forces and military advisors.

11. Questions to be addressed

1. How can the underlying issues that gave rise to ISIS be resolved?
2. How can information sharing and technological cooperation be strengthened internationally to combat ISIS's use of encryption and communication technologies?
3. How can the funding sources that ISIS uses be cut off and their access stopped?
4. In regions freed from ISIS, how should local security forces be organized and trained to stop rearmament in the future?
5. How can ISIS and other terrorist groups be prevented from resurfacing in the future?

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