

Forum:	General Assembly 3 (SOCHUM II)
Issue:	Countering Violence and Discrimination through Global Partnerships
Chair:	Silvia Fang (Deputy Chair)

Introduction

In order to discuss the issue of “Countering Violence and Discrimination through Global Partnerships”, it is essential to first understand the concepts of violence and discrimination. Discrimination stems from unconscious beliefs or “implicit biases” against a specific group of people. Most commonly, such unconscious beliefs are built on the basis that certain groups are lesser than others due to their race or religion; racial discrimination is one of the most prevalent issues regarding discrimination in modern society. Such discrimination forms underlying tensions within the world, leading to events such as the Holocaust, slavery and numerous instances of genocide; the Holocaust built on the basis of anti-semitism and slavery on the basis that the ‘Black’ community is lesser. All the tension from such discrimination leads to inability and intolerance for partnerships to strive, yet society has still adapted to normalise daily instances of discrimination and to act indifferently in the face of it. In too many cases, discrimination leads to violence, whether that is on the smaller or larger scale, thus hindering development progresses of both the international and regional level.

As for global partnerships, some of the most notable ones include Group of 20 (G20). Global partnerships pertain to the coming together of multiple countries and/or organisations in order to discuss several ideas, either of the same nature or concerning the members. An example of a recent global partnership formed is the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII), formed by the G20 to “carry forward work on financial inclusion, including implementation of the G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan, endorsed at the G20 Summit in Seoul.” Members of a global partnership are most likely to work together to achieve a final goal. In most cases, the general public is under the impression that global partnerships specifically under financial sectors of countries. However, a global partnership can prove to be efficient in combatting global issues such as violence and discrimination.

In order to do this, members will have to have the same end goal: to end global instances of violence and discrimination in any way possible.

Definition of Key Terms

Violence

The United States produces the most statistical information on violent crimes, showing that crimes in the US itself has continued to decrease, after an initial rise in 2015 and 2016. Though general crime rates has continued to decrease, some specific crimes continue to rise, with rape increasing steadily for the past 6 years.

Discrimination

Discrimination is still prevalent in the modern world, despite a seemingly lower rate of blatant racial and sexual discrimination, they simply exist in different forms. Racial discrimination often leads to violence, putting any instance of it on the forefront. In comparison, sexual discrimination was previously largely hidden, however due to the #MeToo movement, which started in 2006 but only seriously gained traction in 2017 following the Weinstein allegation, propelled forward years of an abundance of sexual discrimination allegations. The main issues of discrimination now occur mostly in the workforce, with discrimination cases often hindering people from gaining the same opportunities, see the “Gender Pay Gap”. It is worth noting that many countries already have existing laws against discrimination in the workforce.

Prejudice

Prejudice and discrimination may seem similar at first glance, however, the difference between the two is that prejudice does not pertain to actions, simply ideals. Prejudice often stems from a person’s environment: how they perceive someone is based off of how they’ve seen their parents or simply, environment, interact with them. It is impossible to completely eradicate prejudice, however it may be possible to lessen the effects of it.

Global Partnerships

A partnership, collaboration, between entities on an international level. ‘Entities’ pertain to both countries, organisations and even individuals. Typically, global partnerships aim to expand opportunities, most commonly in the economics field. For example, the G20 (Group of Twenty), which in itself is also a global partnership, recently launched “Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion” (GPII) which aims “to carry forward work on financial inclusion, including implementation of the G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan, endorsed at the G20 Summit in Seoul.” (gpii.org) Another notable global partnership would be the United Nations, with almost all countries partaking within it.

Civil society

Any individual or organisation working for the public (in the interest of citizens) outside of any government. Commonly referred to as the third sector of a functioning society, with the other two being the public and private sectors. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are part of the civil sector, providing for the general public outside of any existing governmental organisations and without profit. NGOs are most often credited with aiding larger organisations, such as the UN, in resolving crisis or issues (typically humanitarian efforts).

Rights

Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) dictates that “All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination [...]” With several other articles touching the subject of discrimination and violence, it is clear that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights condemns the usage of violence and discrimination, seeing it as a person’s right to be protected against such acts. It is worth noting that the UDHR has and will continue to act as the common standard for the declaration and protection of fundamental human rights, globally.

Racial Discrimination

Racial discrimination is the most prominent form of discrimination in modern society. This form of discrimination is based on the prejudice against other races. Racial discrimination often leads to violence, sometimes even largescale genocide. To name a few large-scale instances of racial discrimination: Holocaust (World War II genocide of Jews in German-occupied Europe), racial segregation in the United States (long term prejudice against Black Americans), Apartheid (twentieth century political system in South Africa based on discrimination against non-Whites).

Law

A country or countries’ political system placed to regulate a community’s behavior. Laws are determined by those of legal background (ie. legal profession, education, training). Though some laws are controversial, the legal system is highly regarded as the general rule for conduct in society. In past instances, laws have been made to prevent discrimination and violence. Most countries will have several laws on discrimination, specifically in the business field. For example, in the United States, there are employment discrimination laws in place, preventing discrimination based on race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, physical disability and age by employers.

Ethnic Groups

A category of a country's population that have common ties of race, language, nationality, or culture. As these groups are based off of race or culture, they are often seen as targets for those with prejudice against such race/cultures. Ethnic groups can be targeted with 'ethnic cleansing', the forced removal or genocide of an ethnic group by a larger, more powerful group, such as the government itself (see Nazi policy against Jews).

Terrorism

Terrorism is the act of violence against civilians for political reasons. It tends to manifest mainly in the Middle East, Africa or South Asia, with 95% of deaths in 2017 occurring in the aforementioned areas. There is no current internationally recognised definition of terrorism, nor criteria for it. To consider a violent crime terrorism, the act itself will have to have been carried out for political, economic, religious, or social purposes and typically targets noncombatant civilians.

Genocide

Genocide is the act of violence against a national or ethnic group, with the goal of creating a more homogenous state: essentially wiping the entire national or ethnic group out. There have been several acts of genocide in history, with the most notable acts of genocide being the Holocaust (which was around when the term genocide was actually coined). It is distinct from crimes against humanity however, as genocide pertains to the wiping out of a specific category of the world's population, instead of simply mass murder of individuals.

Background Information

Notable Partnerships

League of Nations

Precursor of the United Nations, meant to resolve any conflicts before members are resorted to warfare. The League of Nations was started by President Woodrow Wilson, but eventually disbanded due to the outbreak of World War II. President Woodrow Wilson (USA) kickstarted the League of Nations when he made the Fourteen Points speech in January 1918. In his speech, Wilson outlined his ideas of a peaceful resolution of conflicts before it led to warfare. The Fourteen Points outlined in his speech would eventually become the Treaty of Versailles,

which humiliated Germany, holding them responsible for starting the First World War. Throughout the duration of its run, the League of Nations failed to put the global community's interest first, instead, lending itself to contending with governments that did not recognize its authority.

The League of Nations was one of the primary ideas in President Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points after World War One. Being one of the "Big Three", Woodrow was able to strongly enforce this idea in the discussions of the Treaty of Versailles. In his eyes, it was the solution to prevent any further war from breaking out, as countries could communicate and support each other without the need of violence. However, the League of Nations had an abundance of problems and flaws within its system, resulting in a lack of trust and belief from many countries. By the time World War Two started, the League of Nations was completely disregarded by the majority of the countries due to the poor reputation it had.

United Nations

The United Nations is currently the largest global partnership, consisting of 193 countries out of a total of 195 internationally recognised states, excluding the Holy See and the state of Palenstine. It is the successor of the League of Nations, forming after World War II on the 24th of October, 1945. Interestingly enough, the League of Nations didn't officially disband until 1946, a year after the formation of the United Nations. The United Nations main purpose is the same as the League of Nations', to maintain peace and security on a global scale. Additionally, the UN prides itself in setting goals for the future of all countries as a collective--the UN millennium development goals and sustainable development goals.

The United Nations has been a monumental force in recent years, setting the international standard for many issues, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Past occurrences of Violence and/or discrimination

Holocaust

Most notable occurrence of violence based on discrimination: the Holocaust was the widespread genocide of European Jews by Nazi Germany throughout the duration of World War II. Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany, believed that Aryans were superior to Jewish (anti-semitism), calling this the 'Jewish question' and subsequently, the Holocaust the 'the final solution to the Jewish question'. The Holocaust is, till date, the horrendous and notable case of genocide, or ethnic cleansing.

The Holocaust first began in 1933, but gained its momentum around 1941 when Nazi Germany had developed what were known as 'concentration camps' in which to hold captivated

Jews, with special organs there specific to the killing of people (see gas chambers). Those who were sent to concentration camps were forced into manual labor with horrendous living conditions (overcrowded), resulting in many dying of starvation or disease. Apart from labor, Jews who were tagged as 'out of the ordinary', such as twins or homosexuals, were taken to scientists for medical experiments where they were burned with phosphorus or injected with toxic substances, amongst many other experiments. Outside of these camps, Jews who had not been sent yet were forced to identify themselves with a yellow star, setting them as easy targets on the streets. At this point in time, Nazi Germany had expanded to one of the largest empires, conquering Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Belgium, and Luxembourg. This simply meant that Hitler's anti-semitism indoctrination had spread throughout Europe, making more Jews vulnerable to the effects of the Holocaust. By the time the concentration camps were terminated, 6 million Jews had perished in this largescale genocide.

Rwandan Genocide

In the summer of 1994, 800000 Tutsi, Twa and moderate Hutu people were killed in 100 days. In Rwanda, there were approximately three distinct ethnic groups: the Hutu, the Tutsi and the Twa. Hutus dominated the population, containing about 85% of Rwandan citizens, whereas the Tutsi and the Twa were the minorities of Rwanda, despite being the original inhabitants of the land. After decades of ethnic tension between the Hutus and the minorities, including an original favoring of Tutsis over Hutus and an eventual exile of Tutsis, the Rwandan genocide was fast-tracked by an agreement signed by the Major General, Juvenal Habyarimana (a Hutu), and the Rwandese Patriotic Front, consisting of Tutsi refugees for a transitional government reincluding the Tutsis. Hutu extremists quickly took action against such agreement, with many believing that they were to blame for the killing of Habyarimana.

Shortly after Habyarimana's death, the Hutu government, consisting of the Presidential Guard and Hutu militia groups--the Interahamwe and Impuzamugambi--started the mass slaughter of Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Moderate Hutu Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana and 10 Belgian peacekeepers were among the first few victims of the genocide, thus directly involving the UN into this situation. The UNSC voted to withdraw most of the peacekeeping efforts of United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), which was placed to end the Rwandan Civil War and put in place the transitional government Habyarimana had agreed to. But by May, halfway through the genocide, UNSC voted to implemet a larger force, including 5000 troops. However, the UNSC's efforts were proved useless as the genocide had ended by the time the troops were gathered in full.

The mass killings quickly spread throughout Rwanda. Although many initially resisted, they were eventually removed and killed by the Presidential Guard. The mass killing

was severely state-sponsored, with any killings made further encouraged along by rewards of food, drink, money, and drugs. The genocide ended with the RPF (Rwandan Patriotic Force) gaining the upperhand of the civil war, and by early July, the RPF had won, finally setting up a transitional government with a Hutu as president and a Tutsi as vice and defense minister. The extremist Hutus were outlawed for organizing the genocide and eventually, the reference to ethnicity within Rwanda was eliminated by the new government.

Current occurrences of violence and/or discrimination

Situation in Hong Kong

One of the biggest movements, if not the biggest political movement, of 2019 was the political unrest occurring in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a 'special administrative' region of China, meaning that they have their own legal, administrative, and judicial systems but are still legally, a part of the People's Republic of China. The protests started in June, with the Hong Kong government's plans to allow extradition to mainland China, spearheaded by the chief executive of Hong Kong, Carrie Lam. Lam quickly became the icon of pro-Beijing in Hong Kong, with many protesters and pro-Democracy politicians carrying protest posters with her face and name splashed over them. What started off as a peaceful protest against extradition laws with Beijing in fear of losing their autonomy, quickly turned into violent unrest as both sides armed their protests.

When the bill was finally withdrawn in September, the clashes between HK Police and protesters had escalated beyond containment. Protesters had gone from one demand (withdrawal of extradition bill) to 5: an inquiry into alleged police brutality, implementation of universal suffrage, amnesty for arrested protesters, retraction of the classification of protesters as 'rioters' and finally, the withdrawal of the extradition bill. As China's 70 years of Communist Party rule, or China's National Day, approaches, the situation in Hong Kong only worsened, with the 1st of October being one of its most 'violent and chaotic days', as reported and summarised by the BBC:

"An 18-year-old was shot in the chest with a live bullet as protesters fought officers with poles, petrol bombs and other projectiles. The government then banned protesters wearing face masks, and in early November a pro-Beijing lawmaker was stabbed in the street by a man pretending to be a supporter. One week later, a policeman shot one protester at close range when activists were trying to set up a road block. Later that day another man was set on fire by anti-government protesters. In November, a standoff between police and students barricaded on the campus of Hong Kong's Polytechnic University became another defining moment."

In November of 2019, district council elections were held, standing as one of the most imperative indications of public opinion. The election saw the pro-democratic side win with a landslide victory, with 17 of 18 councils now under the pro-democratic side. The situation in Hong Kong has now died down in the public's eyes, only due to the global hysteria that is the 2019 Novel CoronaVirus, originating from mainland China and the isolation of Hong Kong it has now resulted in. However, within Hong Kong itself, it has been reported that there is a further mistrust between citizens and the government, with how non-transparent government executives have gone about dealing with the issue.

Situation in Xinjiang - Uyghur internment

Xinjiang, like Hong Kong, is an area within China that is considered autonomous. The region is fully named 'Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR)', and is located within mainland China. The tension between Islamic Uyghurs and Beijing has existed for over 200 years, but only recently, has the oppression of Uyghurs gotten so bad. The basis of which these Uyghurs are detained for range from texting Quranic phrases to simply being Muslim: the Chinese government seem to be concerned the ethnic Uyghurs are spreading and holding extremist views. It is estimated that 1 to 2 million Uyghurs have been detained in 'Vocational training centres', not all different from the 1940s internment and killing of European Jewish in concentration camps within Nazi Germany. In fact, this will be the largest internment of an ethnic group since the Holocaust of World War II.

In response to claims of mass Uyghur detainment and the subsequent violation of human rights, the Chinese government has claimed that the camps, or centers, these Uyghurs have been sent to are simply for vocational training, and the figures were 'pure fabrication' of the international media. Despite frequent international responses to the allegations of detainment of Uyghurs, which have all but been officially confirmed, the Chinese government has continued to deny such genocide or ethnic cleansing efforts.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

United States of America

The United States of America has been an influential party within the UN, being one of the Permanent 5s who wield veto power and the biggest contributor to the UN funding. The United States however, was infamous for the long term slavery and a depressing history of Black oppression. For the duration of 1619 to 1895, slavery was prominent in the United States, with even laws passed which

made it a federal crime to assist escaping slaves. Nowadays, slavery is an imperative part of US history, with it being implemented as part of its national curriculum. The United States also adopted their first colored president, Barack Obama, for the full 2 terms one can serve.

It is worth noting here that although the United States has long said farewell to its black slavery days, there are still instances of white supremacy strewn across the nation. With the sudden gain of attention white supremacists have gained, many individuals have taken it upon themselves to perpetrate horrendous acts of terrorism, including mass shootings, which have gone up violently in numbers in recent years. In 2019, there were 417 mass shootings in the United States, totaling up to more mass shootings than days in a year (GVA). Such acts have sparked heated debates on gun violence, and the laws accompanying it.

GUN VIOLENCE ARCHIVE 2019
Evidence Based Research - since 2013

PUBLISHED DATE: February 07, 2020

Total Number of GV Deaths - ALL Causes⁴	39,423	
Homicide/Murder/Unintentional/DGU ¹	15,333	
Suicide ³	24,090	
Total Number of Injuries¹	29,634	
Mass Shootings ²	418	
Mass Murders ²	31	
Number of Children (age 0-11) ¹	Killed	209
	Injured	487
Number of Teens (age 12-17) ¹	Killed	776
	Injured	2,301
Officer Involved Incident ¹	Killed	71
Officer Killed or Injured	Injured	302
Officer Involved Incident ¹	Killed	1,271
Subject-Suspect Killed or Injured	Injured	792
Defensive Use ²		1,571
Unintentional Shooting ²		1,862
Murder/Suicides Incidents ²		627

Caption #1: Gun Violence in the United States, 2019

In retaliation to its long history of slavery, the United States has been an ardent force against global terrorism, having diminished both ISIL and Al-Qaeda through armed forces several times. It is the major force behind the killing of Osama bin Laden and the attacks against ISIL which led to its loss of Mosul, the largest city it had captured. Though these efforts were mainly backed by the fact that both terrorist groups had terrorized the United States several times, having been both part of the Al-Qaeda, in addition to the catastrophic events of September 11, it is without a doubt that the US has been one of the greatest forces in the global battle against terrorism in joint efforts with several other allies.

Germany

Germany has been notorious for their crimes against the Jewish population, defined by the Nazi Germany sponsored genocide. However, ever since the abolishment of the Nazi rule, Germany has worked endlessly towards reimbursing any they have wronged in the past. Though since then, Germany has tried to divide themselves from their past, there has been an upsurge of Neo-Nazis, post World War II political movement operating to revive Nazism. Neo-Nazis are similar to white supremacists in the fact that both groups believe they are superior to certain minority groups. Germany has since banned a large neo-Nazi group, Combat 18, with Prime Minister Angela Merkel stating that “Right-wing extremism and antisemitism have no place in our society.”

China

The People’s Republic of China has been under the rule of the Communist Party of China (CCP) since 1 October, 1949 and has remained the sole governing power since then. The CCP is infamous for being non-transparent with their actions and any events happening within its mainland. China has taken a large part in various recent occurrences of violence and or discrimination, with the Hong Kong political unrest and Uyghur internment coming to mind. However, the Chinese government denies ties with most events, stating that such events are simply media speculation. China, just like the United States, is one of the strongest powers within the United Nations, wielding one of five veto rights.

Afghanistan

In recent years, Afghanistan has been a large name in the media for the wrong reasons. The Al-Qaeda, one of the largest militant Islamist organization, is headquartered in Afghanistan and consists of mainly volunteer Saudi Arabians. Led by Osama bin Laden, the Al-Qaeda was originally started to support Muslims caught in the Soviet-Afghan war and fight against the Soviet Union, however, after the end of the Soviet-Afghan war, Al-Qaeda continued to operate, rebranding under the leadership of the Taliban (Afghanistan militia). The Taliban had held power over most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, holding Afghanistan under strict military rule, even being recognized as the official Afghani government, albeit only by three nations. Since then, the group had declared a war against the United States, perpetrating the devastating September 11 attacks and subsequent constant suicide bombings.

The September 11 attacks led to an ongoing war between the United States and Afghanistan, named ‘Operation Enduring Freedom’. Operation Enduring Freedom demanded the delivery of all leaders of Al-Qaeda, release of foreign nationals, protection of foreign journalists/diplomats/aid workers, termination of all terrorist training camps amongst others. Less than a month after the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom, uniform efforts removed the Taliban from power, aided by several allies

part of the NATO alliance. A few years later, Osama bin Laden was killed by an armed effort carried out by US Navy SEALs and led by CIA and JSOC.

Iraq

Along with Al-Qaeda, another large militant Islamist organization is the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria ISIS). Though ISIL had never gained as much power as the Al-Qaeda once had, ISIL still terrorized the global community through acts such as bombing and mass killings and had held power in a large area of western Iraq to eastern Syria. Most notably, ISIL had televised the beheading of several non-Sunnis, including foreign nationals and aid workers alike. The UN has formally recognized ISIL as a terrorist organization and has held it responsible for committing crimes against humanity, genocide, war crimes and human rights abuses. Through global efforts against ISIL, it was estimated that they had lost 40% of their territory in 2016 and in 2019, the United States forces killed Baghdadi, the leader of ISIL up to his death.

UNICEF

Formally known as the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF works to provide humanitarian aid to children in need. It is estimated that up to 1 billion children have experienced a form of violence in 2018. UNICEF works to prevent such violent acts and to protect vulnerable children, as well as providing developmental aid (such as education). They work under the mottoes, 'Every child has the right to grow up in a safe and inclusive environment', 'Every child has the right to survive and thrive', 'Every child has the right to learn', 'Every girl has the right to fulfil her potential', 'Using data to drive results', etc. with the overarching motto being 'for every child'.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
1776	Slavery in America starts, marking the first monumental act of discrimination in recent history. Slavery will continue for years, resulting in a deep rooted bias against Black people, marking the start of racial discrimination.
1865	Abraham Lincoln calls for the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution to be passed, in order to abolish slavery. Slavery is outlawed in all the states and all the slaves are freed. Abraham Lincoln later gets assassinated in an evening performance.

- 1933 Nazism is slowly implemented through Nazi Germany, starting with the nation wide boycott of businesses and shops owned by Jews, in an attempt to liquidate them.
- 1935 The Nuremberg Laws are put in place, consisting of antisemitic laws written by Nazi Germany, banning marriages and relationships between Aryans and Jews and stripping Jews of their German citizenship.
- 1939 World War II is declared, marking the second global scale war in 40 years.
- 1941 Ordinance to Reich Citizenship law is passed, stating that any Jew residing outside of Germany be stripped of their citizenship and become stateless refugees.
- April 29, 1945 Following the Death March of Auschwitz in January, concentration camps are slowly being liberated by American forces throughout Nazi occupied Poland and Germany, starting with the Dachau camp.
- 1945 World War II ends with an estimated 85 million deaths, with 6 million being European Jews killed under Hitler's Nazism rule.
- 1955 Rosa Parks set in motion the Montgomery Bus Boycott, one of the largest social movements in history, calling attention to the racial discrimination still present in American society.
- 1961 Rwandan Hutus force Tutsi minorities into exile, further deepening ethnic tensions between the two groups which would lead to a civil war between the rebel group Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) and the government sponsored Rwandan Armed Forces (RAF) and the Rwandan genocide of Tutsis.
- 1973 Habyarimana, a moderate Hutu, is installed as Major General by a military group in Rwanda. He will go on to become the sole leader of Rwanda for two decades up to his death.
- 1989 Al-Qaeda forms in support of Muslims caught in the Soviet-Afghan war as a support network and as an effort to fight the Soviet Union.
- February 26, 1993 Van explodes below New York Twin Towers, killing six civilians. Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda take responsibility for this attack, marking al-Qaeda's first international attack.
- August 1993 Habyarimana signs an agreement in Arusha that angers Hutu extremists in Rwanda as he has signed for the creation of a transitional government to include the Tutsi minority.

April 6, 1994	Habyarimana is killed when his plane was shot down, with many blaming Hutu extremists. The Rwandan genocide begins with Rwandan armed forces and Hutu militia isolating and mass killing Tutsis.
April 7, 1994	10 Belgian peacekeepers, stationed under UN peacekeeping efforts to stop Rwandan civil war, are killed in the genocide against Tutsis and moderate Hutus.
July 15, 1993	The Rwandan genocide ends after 100 days of mass killings as RPF, consisting of Tutsi refugees, gains control over the country.
August 23, 1996	Osama bin Laden declares holy war on the United States.
September 11, 2001	19 al-Qaeda militants stage a suicide attack, leading to the global catastrophe, killing 2977 victims, including the crashing of four hijacked planes.
October 7, 2001	The US government announces Operation Enduring Freedom in response to the 9/11 attacks.
October 2006	Masri, the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq, declares the formation of the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) and announces Baghdadi as its default leader. ISI will go on to become ISIS and then ISIL, killing thousands in the process.
May 2, 2011	Osama bin Laden is killed by US armed forces.
February 3, 2014	Al-Qaeda renounces ISIS, leaving the group to become a rogue operation.
2014 -	ISIS makes its name around the world by releasing various videos of beheadings, executions or crucifixions of hostages, many being foreign journalists, aid workers or civilians.
October 17, 2017	ISIS loses control of Raqqa, their self-declared capital of the Islamic State, to US forces.
December 9, 2017	Iraqi forces, with the backing of US forces, has retaken control of the Iraqi-Syrian border, ending the three year campaign to defeat ISIS.
December 11, 2017	Al-Qaeda claims responsibility of two explosions at a UN office in Algiers, killing 41 people.
February 2019	Hong Kong's Legislative Council (LegCo) considers adopting the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation Bill (Extradition bill) in accordance with mainland China. Citizens of Hong Kong start protesting in response to this bill, afraid of losing autonomy to mainland China.

March 2019	Hong Kong peaceful protests begin, with thousands of civilians taking to the street with signs and umbrellas, a symbol of the previous large scale protest in Hong Kong.
June 2019	Hong Kong police starts to fire tear gas and arm themselves with rubber bullets, attacking civilian protesters, making peaceful protests take a turn for the worst. Protests will start to become violent, leading to one of the bloodiest days of protest in October.
October 1, 2019	Thousands take to Hong Kong streets to protest on China's 70th National Day, which celebrates the day the Chinese Communist Party took control. This marks one of the bloodiest days of protest in the past decade, with police attacking protesters from all directions with tear gas and a live round fired at a protester, allegedly grade 11, at close range.
October 27, 2019	President Donald Trump of the United States announces the death of Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS, only for ISIS to announce al-Qurashi as their new leader.
November 2019	Police faces off with protesters in several universities all throughout Hong Kong, with the largest one in PolyU. Later that month, the first local elections will take place, marking one of the largest victories of the pro-democracy movement, with them winning 17 out of 18 district seats.

Relevant UN Resolutions and Treaties

- Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, 15 July 2016 (**A/HRC/RES/32/2**)
- Panel on the promotion and protection of human rights in a multicultural context, including through combating xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance, 14 October 2011 (**A/HRC/RES/18/20**)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 21 December 1965 (**A/RES/2106(XX)**)
- Manifestations of racial and national hatred, 12 December 1960 (**A/RES/1510(XV)**)
- United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 20 November 1963 (**A/RES/1904(XVIII)**)
- Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: eliminating domestic violence, 22 July 2015 (**A/HRC/RES/29/14**)

Possible Solutions

Strengthening control over arms trade. As modern day violence is typically perpetrated through gun violence, the most effective solution at hand, one would be inclined to believe, would be to strengthen control over arms trade and arms laws. Strengthening control over arms trade would pertain mainly to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which has been signed by most countries, save about 60 states. Though 60 states is a small number against the 130 signatories, some of the 60 include global arm trade strongarms such as the United States (who has planned to withdraw from the treaty), Afghanistan, China, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Russia. The main dispute over the ATT is the opinion that it does not pertain to all states' benefits and does not consider many other legal loopholes such as gang trading. To implement the ATT at a global scale would require all nations' agreement, yet the current situation is at a stalemate, with both sides unwilling to compromise.

Use of peacekeeping in an effort to counter violence and discrimination. Peacekeeping efforts are called on and used by the UN as an attempt to establish peace in a troubled region. Though peacekeeping may pertain to the armed forces sent by the UN, it can also pertain to the constant monitoring of the region to prevent violent confrontations sent by either the UN or other affiliated international/regional organisations. However, the implementation of these peacekeeping efforts may be costly, meaning that states will either be unwilling to spend large portions of their budget on a hypothetical peace establishment effort, or states will be unable to entertain such efforts themselves, resulting in nations possibly looking to more cost-efficient, yet less humanitarian, efforts.

Women and youth empowerment. As the common victims of domestic violence and small-arms related violence, women and youth are especially vulnerable to such violent attacks. By empowering women and youth through the efforts such as access of education, anti-abuse hotlines and larger presence in nationwide events such as politics, member states are decreasing the vulnerability of women and youth, dampening the effect of violence on the basis of gender or age discrimination on a community in general. Though such efforts may seem ideal, women empowerment specifically may go against certain member states, in which many with their central religious belief still adopts the ideology that women are secondary to men. This will prove the effort to be ineffective and counterintuitive in such countries, where the empowerment of women may only cause mistrust between the acting government and the citizens.

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