



Diversity & Inclusion Youth Conference

RESEARCH REPORT

DIYC International Peace and Security Council

“Conflict Resolution : The Prospect And Challenges For Peace Against Terrorism”
Co-Chairpersons: Eshaan A/L Priyadev and Hwang Yik Roy

Diversity and Inclusion Youth Conference 2018
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia , Johor, Malaysia
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“Young Moderates for Global Peaceful Co-existence”

Organized By:



In Collaboration With :



DIYC 2018 THEME: “Young Moderates for Global Peaceful Coexistence”

Peaceful Co-Existence - The aim of peaceful co-existence is to establish a foundation where all sides, having found the creed to respect each other, can enhance and enrich their respective philosophical and religious traditions. This is achieved by adopting moderation as a way of life steeped in the search for justice, equilibrium and equity.

ABSTRACT

The Diversity and Inclusion Youth Conference (DIYC) seeks to gather the youth together to understand how the values and practice of moderation, among themselves, can have a significant contribution towards peaceful co-existence in a multi-ethnic and multi-religious environment. By bringing together youth from various countries, this conference seeks to dissect and analyze the varied, multifaceted and evolving meanings of what it takes to create and maintain the peaceful co-existence between communities in their respective countries and regions.

The collective voices of the moderates needs to be heard to quell the extremist rhetoric that completely contradicts with the culture of peace. The rising threat of terrorism and violent extremism across the globe was a grim reminder of the need for sustained efforts to combat this phenomenon. The seeds of intolerance, hatred and extremism must not be allowed to take root and eradicating terrorism requires a collective global effort through moderation as an age-old principle embodied in all the great world religions and personified by many leaders, including Martin Luther King, Jr., Nelson Mandela and Malala Yousafzai.

Promoting a culture of peace was one of the ASEAN's intrinsic values, as affirmed by its “Community Vision 2025” plan and other policies that are firmly committed to do its part to inculcate and uphold the values and norms of peace, harmony, intercultural understanding, and the rule of law, good governance, tolerance, inclusiveness and moderation. ASEAN's endorsement of moderation via the Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates attests that it is very much an ASEAN value, deeply entrenched within the *ASEAN Way*.

What can the world learn from Malaysia and ASEAN that is otherwise lacking in other regions where conflict is rife? Moderation is the pillar of Malaysia's success in dealing with ethnic and religious diversity. The UNGA Resolution on Moderation tabled by Malaysia during the 72nd UNGA is a testament to the country's well-known track record of being a society which practices moderation, tolerance and mutual respect as this initiative was well-received by UN member states. Malaysia believes that moderation could complement the mission and work of the United Nations to proclaim 2019 as the International Year of Moderation, and DIYC aims to emphasize the promotion of dialogue and education in fostering inter-religious, inter-ethnic and intercultural understanding and dialogue, with broad participation amongst youths from around the world.

During the conference, participants will acquire the knowledge and tools to strengthen their ability to communicate across differences, interact with one another and look at diversity as an asset for cross-fertilization and inter-cultural exchange

from which mutual trust; better understanding and a global mindset can emerge and proliferate.

CONCLUSION

The Diversity and Inclusion Youth Conference seeks to highlight the pertinent issues at play. Indeed, the above is by no means easy to answer. But taking the first step, in the right direction, can add to the clarity. The Conference seeks to gather youths to understand the lessons of Malaysia with the attendant aim to understand how the voices of the youth from other regions can jointly enrich this debate too.

The outcome of the deliberations from the conference can also be shared and disseminated to various regional and international agencies, especially if the discourse is rendered into a form of memorandum





DIYC International Peace and Security Council

Eshaan A/L Priyadev and Hwang Yik Roy

“Conflict Resolution : The Prospect And Challenges For Peace Against Terrorism”

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism - The movement work on preventing and countering violent extremism reflects the importance of having a comprehensive approach in preventing all forms of extremism as an effort in ending violence. In line with the goals of the UN PVE Action Plan, the movement works with various stakeholders – government and non-governmental organizations, academicians, community leaders – traditional and non-traditional actors in coming up with 'soft measures' on Preventing Violent Extremism.

Chair Introduction and Foreword

Salutations delegates, my name is Hwang Yik Roy and I will be serving as one of your student officers alongside Eshaan of the International Peace and Security Council at DIYC 2018. I am 21 years old and I am in my first year of Medical School at Newcastle University.

This will be my first time attending a Diversity and Inclusion Youth Conference, and it is my absolute honor to be invited to chair at such a diverse and high caliber conference. I have been doing Model United Nations (MUN) for the past 4 years, and I have been to 24 MUN conferences, including 4 international conferences. I have also served as a student officer for 7 times.

I understand that this conference and council will be slightly different from typical Model UN Conferences. Despite our council (DIYC International Peace and Security Council) not being known as the UN Security Council (UNSC), I would like to clarify that our council will run as the UNSC, and all delegates should familiarize themselves with the rules of procedure and workings of the UNSC. All solutions proposed should be structured in the same way as a UNSC Draft Resolution.

With that being said, if you have any other further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me through email (Y.R.Hwang2@newcastle.edu.my) or whatsapp. To all international delegates, welcome to Malaysia. I look forward to meeting you at DIYC 2018.

Signing
Hwang
Chair of the DIYC International Peace & Security Council

Yik

off,
Roy

Introduction to the Council

As mentioned earlier, our council will simulate the actual United Nations Security Council (UNSC), and as such, all delegates are expected to represent their allocated countries' foreign policy and come up with solutions that are parallel to that of both their country's foreign policies as well as the standards of the UNSC. For this conference, the Rules of Procedure used will be the Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN) format.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the principal organs of the United Nations, and it is the only international body that has the mandate to issue legally-binding draft resolutions, that is, all actors including both state and non-state actors are legally obliged to adhere to all UNSC resolutions. The UNSC also has the mandate to authorize interventions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to address threats to international peace and security and interventions include the following but not limited to: peacekeeping, peace-enforcing, sanctions and blockade. The UNSC also has the authority to summon ambassadors or representatives of another state or non-state actors that are related or directly involved in the agenda discussed. UNSC resolutions normally act under Chapter VI or Chapter VII of the UN Charter, depending on the nature of the clauses of the resolution.

The UNSC is composed of 15 member states of the UN, 5 of them being permanent members and 10 of them being non-permanent members. The 5 permanent members are the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China. The permanent members are veto-wielding members of the UNSC, that is, they can block a draft resolution from being passed with a majority by casting an 'against' vote. The non-permanent members are elected to the UNSC on a 2-year term by the UN General Assembly.

As our topic is focused centrally on the 'soft-measures' to prevent violent extremism, resolutions drafted are expected to surround the 'soft-powers' of the UNSC, which are solutions that are acted under Chapter VI of the UN Charter.

Introduction to the Topic

Violent Extremism and Terrorism are words that are used intertwiningly and ambiguously in the widespread media and most people are aware of what both of these words entail. Both of them share an underlying principle of radicalization that is translated into actions that have drastic consequences on innocent civilians, the widespread society and the nation as a whole.

However, Violent Extremism differs substantially from Terrorism. There are two components of Violent Extremism. Extremism represents ideas and thoughts of a particular subject that deviate significantly from the 'normal range', and violent extremism entails extremism that requires the brutality, the use-of-force, and harm to achieve its goal of extremism. Subsequently, Violent Extremism manifests itself as Terrorism. In the context of our council at DIYC 2018, Violent Extremism can be considered in parallel with Terrorism, that is, violent extremism is equal to terrorism. The widespread and underlying causes of violent extremism can be summarized in the UN Action Plan to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE) presented by former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon to the UN General Assembly in January 2016.



Definitions

Theme: The Prospect and Challenges For Peace Against Terrorism”

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism – The movement work on preventing and countering violent extremism reflects the importance of having a comprehensive approach in preventing all forms of extremism as an effort in ending violence. In line with the goals of the UN PVE Action Plan, the movement works with various stakeholders – government and non-governmental organizations, academicians, community leaders – traditional and non-traditional actors in coming up with ‘soft measures’ on Preventing Violent Extremism.

UN PVE Action Plan	UN Action Plan on Preventing Violent Extremism
Government	Also known as the state actor in the context of international relations and UN language; government would represent the state or nation as a whole.
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)	Also known as non-state actors in the context of international relations and UN language; inclusive of bodies that are not affiliated with the government, in other words – bodies or a group of people who are not recognized officially as the legitimate government of a state or nation
Academicians	People who promote certain ideas to the wider community
Traditional Actors	Essentially state actors and their affiliations
Non-Traditional Actors	Essentially non-state actors and their affiliations
‘Soft Measures’	Actions that are relatively less ‘assertive’ – that is, actions that do not involve the use of force; in the context of the UNSC, these are measures acting under Chapter VI of the UN Charter

Note that these definitions are deliberately explained in layman’s terms to enhance better understanding for delegates

Timeline of Past Events Related to Violent Extremism & Terrorism

11 September 2001	19 al-Qaeda Terrorists hijacked two commercial planes and deliberately crashed them into the Twin Towers in New York, killing 2753 people in the process
23 October 2002	Podshipnikov Zavod Theatre Hostage Crisis, in which 50 armed Chechens took 850 people hostage and killed 170 people
11 March 2004	The Madrid Train Bombs occurred 3 days before Spain's General Election, and the attack was claimed by al-Qaeda
7 July 2005	The London Transport Bombing, in which 4 Islamist terrorists detonated bombs in 4 different transports in London, killing 52 and injuring over 700 in the process
14 April 2014	Chibok Schoolgirls kidnapping, where Boko Haram kidnapped a few hundred schoolgirls in Nigeria
17 August 2015	A bomb exploded in Erawan Shrine in Bangkok, killing 20 and injuring 125
10 October 2015	193 civilians were killed in the bombings in a Central railway station in Ankara, and the attack was suspected to be perpetrated by the Islamic State and the Levant (ISIL)
13 November 2015	Three suicide bombers struck near the Stade de France, followed by suicide bombings and mass shootings in public areas; ISIL claimed responsibility
22 March 2016	ISIL perpetrated three coordinated nail bombings at Brussels airport and a metro station near the UN headquarters, killing 32 and injuring 300
12 June 2016	Orlando nightclub shooting, where an American Muslim committed a mass shooting and then swore allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIL
4 July 2016	Four suicide bombings exploded across Saudi Arabia
14 July 2016	Nice attack; A 19-tonne cargo truck drove into crowds celebrating Bastille

	Day. 86 people were killed and a further 434 were injured
22 March 2017	A car was deliberately driven into pedestrians in Westminster, killing and injuring 53
22 May 2017	A suicide bombing claimed by ISIL occurred in Manchester, during a concert by Ariana Grande
31 October 2017	An American Muslim drove a rented vehicle into crowds in New York, killing 8 and injuring 12

The red marks in the map shows terrorist attacks that have happened in the world for the past decade:



Current Situation and Emphasis on Debate

There is no doubt that violent extremism and terrorism is a prevalent issue and the emphasis to both prevent and counter violent extremism has never been this ubiquitous in recent times. Recent events related to terrorism, especially the suicide bombings and mass killings in the West, justify the vulnerability of the world to terror, and it increases the urgency and importance of dealing with both the threat of terror directly, as well as the underlying causes that drive and fuel terrorism.

Individual nations such as Pakistan and Nigeria have reformed and incentivized new national policies to combat terrorism. On the other hand, both the United Nations has also passed multiple resolutions that call for greater co-operability in a collective effort by all member states of the UN to effectively deal with the problem. The UN Security Council has also set up multiple bodies to carry out administrative actions related to counter-terrorism, such as the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) etc. More of this will be discussed in further sections.

Whilst both individual nations and the international community have stepped up their emphasis and attempt in their bid to curb this fundamental problem, their efforts have been focusing mostly on combating terrorism, rather than preventing it. In other words, most efforts are designed to respond to attacks and prosecute the perpetrators, rather than dealing with the underlying reasons that cause and fuel violent extremism and terrorism.

The mechanisms explained above are 'hard-measures' which focuses on combating violent extremism by prosecuting and eliminating the perpetrators. As such, our council at DIYC 2018 will be focusing on the 'soft-measures' which focuses on dealing with the problems that underlie violent extremism, such as those outlined in the UN PVE Action Plan attached in the picture in the above section. These 'soft-measures' will reinforce the 'hard-measures' with the goal of dealing with terrorism comprehensively.

Past Actions and Existing Counter-Terrorism Mechanisms

Counter-Terrorism Committee

The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was established by the UN Security Council through resolution 1373, in wake of the 11 September 2001 attacks in the United States. The CTC is assisted by the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), which carries out the policy decisions of the Committee, conducts expert assessments of each Member State and facilitates counter-terrorism technical assistance to countries.

The Committee, comprising all 15 Security Council members, was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which requested countries to

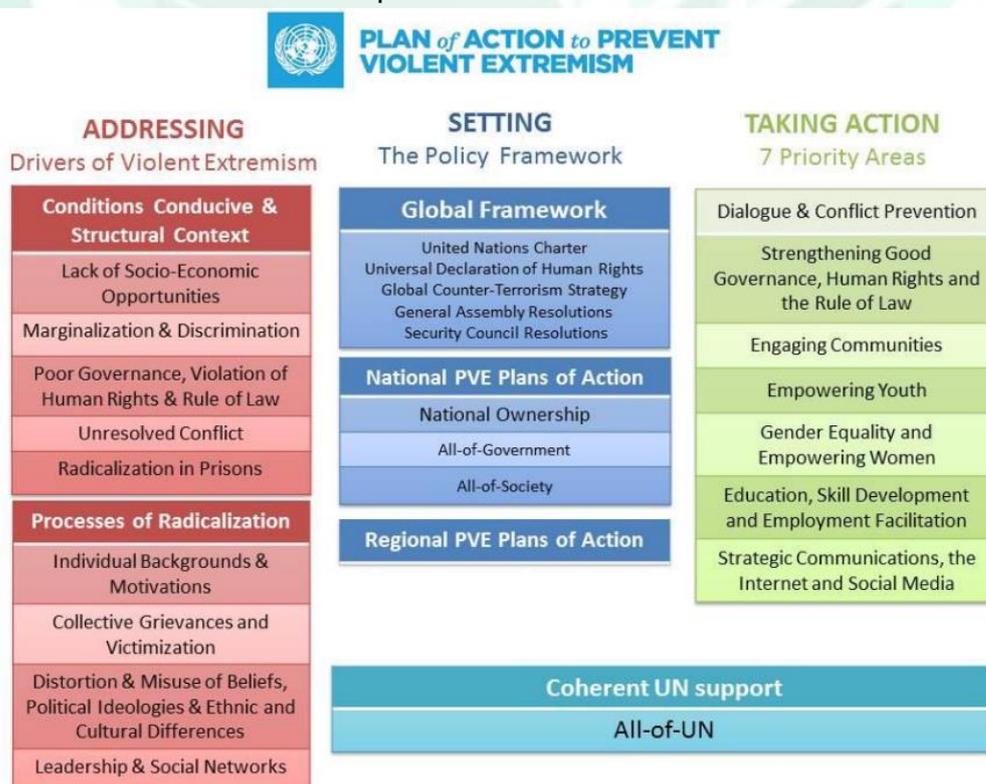
implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions and around the world, including taking steps to:

- Criminalize the financing of terrorism
- Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism
- Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups
- Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists
- Share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts
- Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts; and
- Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law and bring violators to justice.

The resolution also calls on States to become parties, as soon as possible, to the relevant international counter-terrorism legal instruments.

UN Action Plan on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE)

This was initially proposed by former UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and then passed by the UN General Assembly in January 2016. This action plan generally laid out the problems underlying violent extremism, the policies that should be considered in accordance with international law, as well as the aspects that should be worked on to prevent violent extremism. The whole action plan can be summarized in the below same picture:



This action plan acts as a reference and guideline when individual member states are drafting their own national policies in preventing violent extremism. As such, this is not a legally-binding document, and countries can opt not to utilize this document. In our council, delegates should work on this action plan and draft a resolution that is more of UNSC resolution in nature.

Past related UN resolutions worth noting:

- S/RES/2255 (2015)
- S/RES/2253 (2015)
- S/RES/2178 (2014)
- S/RES/1963 (2010)
- S/RES/1611 (2005)
- S/RES/1373 (2001)
- S/RES/1368 (2001)

Aspects/Questions a Resolution Must Consider

1. How to ensure that individual member states are more compliant in implementing counter-terrorism policies outlined by the international community?
2. What are the roles of the various stakeholders (e.g. those outlined in the theme of this council) in preventing violent extremism?
3. How to strengthen the existing mechanisms to allow better UN supervision and mediation of a particular conflict?
4. How to strengthen the process of mediation? Who is responsible for mediating a conflict?
5. How to improve the current mechanism of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)?

Delegates are encouraged to refer to the aspects outlined in UN PVE Action Plan and come up with solutions for each of the aspects outlined in that particular action plan:



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