

**Forum:** Disarmament & International Security Committee  
**Issue:** Intelligence Gathering and Espionage  
**Student Officer:** Hande Senguler  
**Position:** Chair

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## PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear delegates,

My name is Hande Senguler and it is my utmost pleasure to be the main chair of the Disarmament & International Security Committee of the General Assembly. PSMUN 2016 will be my first conference abroad and I look forward to this exciting experience. This will be my fifteenth conference in total and sixth time as a chair.

I am a high school student at Saint Michel French High School in Istanbul, Turkey. Thus, I have been doing some reading on historical stories of espionage in France in the past centuries. This subject and all the other subjects of the Disarmament Committee interest me very much.

As your chair, I hope to cooperate and work with all of you throughout the conference. Writing resolutions, debating on solutions, informing you on the subjects and answering your questions will be my pleasure since I am glad to be in this position. I am always open to all of your concerns and/or questions about the committee before and during the conference.

I look forward to PSMUN 2016 and meeting all of you there.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Hande Senguler



## INTRODUCTION

Intelligence gathering and espionage sums up to a single term in the end with all of its history, details and methods, to the name of only espionage. When getting information on this topic, starting from its history, moving on with methods, details and finally finishing with modern day usage with its criticisms will be the most efficient way. Since this is a highly controversial topic, gathering information on the secrets of the world was difficult, hence leaving some of the deep details to the researcher to fill in with their own theories.

## KEY TERMS

### Espionage

Commonly considered as spying and is constructed of governments, companies, individuals gathering confidential and secret information without permission or sometimes information from public sources. Whence it is accomplished without permission it is punishable by law. In such cases it turns into a threat for some governments.

### Intelligence Agencies

Agencies created by the government to collect and analyze information regarding that government's security, threats to legislature, military and international relations. Mostly using assassination, trafficking, coups d'état, propaganda as methods. This is divided into two sub categories: security intelligence and foreign intelligence. Security intelligence focuses on domestic and local threats of espionage; whilst foreign intelligence works on larger-scaled political operations with foreign countries in a national level.

### Military Intelligence

Gathering of information regarding enemy plans and operations with statistics that demonstrate their strengths and weaknesses.

### Civil Intelligence Agencies

Established by governments, first-hand. Duties focused on operations specifically.

### Counter Intelligence

The expansion of intelligence gathering to civil society in forms of security forces and police to deal with foreign espionage to sustain safety of civilians. It is also preventing acts of revolution or fear created by foreign espionage with methods such as undercover agents and operations as such.

### CYBINT

Cyber-intelligence.

### OSINT

Open-source intelligence. Intelligence gathered from sources available to the public. It is focused more on strategy.

### SIGINT

Signals intelligence. Intelligence of communication between targets on electronic/signal platforms.

### HUMINT

Human intelligence. Intelligence gathered from human sources.

### VISINT

Visual intelligence. Intelligence gathered from visual sources.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



Surprisingly, the history of espionage is documented very well. Going back to its roots, the history of espionage goes to China and India with their military documentations. Greek and Roman Empire even had spies at the time. Throughout the history we have seen many methods and ways of spying such as the ninjas of Japan. Also during their rise, the Mongols had most of their espionage done in the Asian and European area. After the 14<sup>th</sup> century the French had espionage chains in

Cardinal Richelieu of France, famous for his plots of espionage in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

between their clergy and royal family because of the intense battle to rule and have power.

As time passed, modernization of the intelligence gathering developed mostly in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Surveillance systems, intelligence and counter-intelligence services were built. In between the colonial powers and other foreign issues, military intelligence was used in a diplomatic fashion using embassies/ambassadors to gather information from a foreign country. Although many of these confidential intelligence gathering using spies were not considered to be legal, the intelligence gathering and espionage sector improved significantly.

## INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND ESPIONAGE

In 2016, intelligence gathering and espionage agencies mostly focus on terrorism and illegal drug trade while using various sources such as HUMINT, SIGINT, VISINT, OSINT, CYBINT. Mostly, enemies or potential enemies are sent as spies in order to bring back information regarding the inside information, strengths and weaknesses of the enemy country. Also stealing technology, plans of operations to sabotage and use counter-intelligence is considered a way of defending one's country and protecting it from attempts of rebellion.

Currently, many countries have severe laws on espionage; it is considered a crime under many legal codes. The consequences of this crime can vary from being imprisoned to execution; it all depends on how the country graduates the punishment for the crime of espionage. For example in the United Kingdom, espionage has been illegal since early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The UK considers it as a threat to the nations security, thus punishes all crimes that indirectly include plans (intentionally) that carry the potential of benefiting the enemy. However, the advantages that espionage provides are usually beneficial enough, that intelligence gatherers make use of it in many aspects.

As being one of the biggest ethical and moral concerns of our time, espionage has been criticized and debated upon in many ways. It has been questioned upon the fact that it is not whether ethical principles apply to governments but rather how they should legitimately be applied to the governments. As intelligence gathering requires virtues such as loyalty, will, diplomacy, military, law and many others, intelligence gatherers are thought to lie, deceive, steal, launder, in other words act in such ways that are illicit if practiced in their own country. Thus, a just cause can be served by intelligence agents to undermine an unjust regime.

## MAIN COUNTRIES/AGENCIES INVOLVED

### CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)

The U.S.'s foreign intelligence gathering service established in 1947 that takes action on matters of national security. As mentioned in their own policies, their responsibilities are as follows:

*«-Collecting intelligence through human sources and by other appropriate means, except that he shall have no police, subpoena, or law enforcement powers or internal security functions;*

*-Correlating and evaluating intelligence related to the national security and providing appropriate dissemination of such intelligence;*

*-Providing overall direction for and coordination of the collection of national intelligence outside the United States through human sources by elements of the Intelligence Community authorized to undertake such collection and, in coordination with other departments, agencies, or elements of the United States Government which are authorized to undertake such collection, ensuring that the most effective use is made of resources and that appropriate account is taken of the risks to the United States and those involved in such collection; and*

*-Performing such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the President or the Director of National Intelligence may direct.*

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### MI6 (Secret Intelligence Service)

The Intelligence agency of the United Kingdom, their aim as mentioned:

*«Our mission is to provide Her Majesty's Government with a global covert capability. We collect secret intelligence and mount operations overseas to prevent and detect serious crime, and promote and defend the national security and economic wellbeing of the United Kingdom. »*

### FSB (Federal Security Services)

The intelligence agency of the Russian Federation.

*«Is the principal security agency of Russia and the main successor agency to the USSR's Committee of State Security (KGB). Its main responsibilities are within the country and include counter-intelligence, internal and border security, counter-terrorism, and surveillance as well as investigating some other types of grave crimes and federal law violations.»*

### BND (Bundesnachrichtendienst)

The Intelligence Agency of Germany.

*«The Bundesnachrichtendienst is the sole foreign intelligence service of the Federal Republic of Germany. As such it reports directly to the Federal Chancellery. The mission of the Bundesnachrichtendienst is to provide the Federal Government with fast and comprehensive information. Since nothing goes out-of-date quite as fast as up-to-date information. The security policy parameters within which the Bundesnachrichtendienst operates are constantly changing. We live in a multipolar world. Globalization intensifies mutual dependencies worldwide. Present-day crises and conflicts are often highly dynamic and require rapid action from policymakers. New conflict types and conflict scenarios dominate the international arena. »<sup>4</sup>*

### RAW (Research and Analysis Wing)

The intelligence agency of the India.

*«The primary foreign intelligence agency of India (...) objectives include, and are not limited to: Monitoring the political, military, economic and scientific developments in countries which have direct bearing on India's national security and the formulation of its foreign policy. Molding international public opinion with the help of the strong and vibrant Indian diaspora. Covert Operations to safe guard India's National interests. Anti – Terror Operations and neutralising terror elements posing a threat to India. »<sup>5</sup>*

### DGSE (Direction Generale De La Securite Exterieur)

The Intelligence Agency of France.

*«The DGSE's activities, defined by the Political Authorities, are exclusively tasked to protect French interests. Its activities particularly contribute to protecting French citizens anywhere in the world. For this particular mission, the DGSE closely works with all the national security services.»<sup>6</sup>*

### MSS (Ministry of State Security)

Responsible intelligence agency of China formed in 1983.

### Pakistan Inter-Services Intelligence

The intelligence agency of the Pakistani government. Has had major operations in many crucial countries in the recent world politics.



## IMPORTANT EVENTS, VIOLATIONS AND CRITICISMS

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Human Rights Treaties, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights the fundamental freedoms are being violated in acts of espionage in matters of right to privacy on the Internet and violating freedom of expression. Further, since this issue concerns national security and criminal activity, the protection of delicate information to maintain the consent of governments in response to protect their sovereignty. For example, there has even been a spying act committed by states such as the United States, United Kingdom, Cyprus and Morocco with many others, against the United Nations. To conclude on violations, freedom of expression and opinion of individuals and governments are endangered as the outcome of activities of espionage.

Apart from these events and violations, intelligence gathering has been increasing in risk with the improvement of modern technology. Internet, whilst allowing us to gather more information about others, in wrong hands, it may be used to weaken the acts of intelligence agencies meanwhile increasing technology arms race.

Another criticism for espionage is the insufficiency of information in the hands of intelligence agencies, since many of them are either unable to predict attacks or they are not informing the people on their predictions. For example, after the event of 9/11 in the United States, before the attacks many intelligence agencies had relevancies to Al-Qaeda. Many had already conceded that Al-Qaeda was a terrorist organisation by then. As seen in the example, the problem is either insufficiency of information or the lack of correspondence.

Finally, very recently we have observed that a «whistleblower» just by telling that the government has been «spying on»/ monitoring their citizens for a long time. (The example of United States, National Security Agency, NSA and the whistleblower, Edward Snowden)The exposed news caused a division between the citizens as: the ones who believe that the government should and could monitor their actions for



their own safety; and the ones who were gasped by the news and felt a large discomfort in their lives with the government spying on them.

## PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

- United Nations 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> Meetings of the General Assembly, where measures were taken on 18 draft resolutions, including the concerning “The Right To Privacy In The Digital Age”
- United Nations declaring peace in between Iraq & Iran whilst British Intelligence Agency, MI6 was interfering with the war by helping Saddam Hussein against Ayatollah Khomeini.

## POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- I. Civilian and political rights should be protected accordingly to international law by governments in such acts of espionage.
- II. Recognition and prevention of cyber surveillance and violations.
- III. Ensuring respect, measures, review, transparency and accountability of violating facts such as but not limited to communication.
- IV. Report, identify, interpret implications of human rights in such cases.

Keeping in mind solutions are certainly not limited with the aforementioned items, all delegates are expected to go beyond the unsolved issues with brand-new solutions.

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