

**BURAK BORA ANATOLIAN HIGH SCHOOL
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2026**

The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

STUDY GUIDE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

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Letters from the Academic Team

Welcome Letter From the Under Secretary General

Dear Distinguished Delegates of INTERPOL,
As your Under Secretary General, I am glad to welcome you all to BBALMUN'26 with my warmest wishes.

First of all, I would like to thank the entire BBALMUN family for their hard work and dedication. Every member has made a significant contribution to making this conference possible. But I would like to extend my special thanks to our finance head, Feray Bektaş, who holds a very important place for me. In addition, I would like to thank all the other USGs—especially Onat and Deniz, who are both HOCs and USGs—for their wonderful contributions and support. Last but certainly not least, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to my dear Academic Assistant, Kemal, who has contributed the most to the work of this committee since the beginning of the process. Without him, this committee wouldn't even come close to what it is today.

I guarantee you'll get the most out of these three days. We've gone above and beyond to put together a conference that's fun, exciting, and one you won't want to end. I hope you enjoy it and that everything goes just as you'd like.

If you have any questions about the committee, please don't hesitate to ask—both Kemal and I will be happy to answer them.

My best regards,

Yağız Çağatay Demir

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Welcome Letter From the Academic Assistant

Very distinguished delegates of INTERPOL,

I would like to greet you all with my warmest wishes and welcome you to the 8th annual session of Burak Bora Anatolian High School Model United Nations Conference.

I am so proud of myself for completing this guide and being a member of the BBALMUN family. We have worked very hard with my beloved USG Yağız to let you experience a fun and enjoyable committee that you won't want to end. I guarantee you that you will have non-stop fun in this committee where we will provide you with a special experience and where you will learn what is going on in the dirty world of mafias.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the BBALMUN family that we have worked with in this whole process and I would like to mention a few special people. Of course, I thank my USG Yağız who has helped me in every way, in every time and in every situation, for giving me time and bearing with me difficult times, creating a very comfortable working environment, which I am pleased to work with. In addition, I would like to thank my two dear friends Poyraz, the Academic Assistant of JCC and Onur, the Academic Assistant of the HCC, who have always been with me from the beginning of this process and have helped me a lot during this process.

I hope you have the conference you wish for and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Yağız or me.

Kemal Efe Yağdoğan
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Rules of Procedure

2.1 General Rules

Article 1: Scope

The rules included in this guide apply to all committees of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The Rules of Procedure for Crisis and the Parliamentary Assembly are entirely at the discretion of the Academic Team or the Secretariat. Only the rules mentioned within this document and the United Nations

(hereinafter referred to as UN) Charter are applicable throughout the Conference. In the case of a contradiction between the two documents, Rules of Procedure shall hold precedence. At the discretion of the Academic Team or Secretariat, these rules can be modified to better facilitate healthy debate, and any modification of the rules will be announced clearly to the entirety of the committee and will take precedence over any rules written in this document.

Article 2: Language

English will be the official and working language of the conference. Delegates may not carry out any activities relevant to their committees in any language other than English, which includes discussing committee topics in an unmoderated caucus or by the means of message papers.

Article 3: Representation

Members in a conference represent the delegates of appointed countries and they are expected to proceed in this way. All the members have one right to vote as the delegates of the countries they are given.

Article 4: Credentials

All delegates have certain rights which they obtain by an approved registration. They will have to need permission from the Secretary-General to acquire any kind of privilege. Otherwise, they will have the same fundamental rights as the other delegates. Each and every delegate will be given the same rights unless some extremities that may have occurred. In such cases, the delegate will have temporary rights until the Secretary-General decides on what to do.

Article 5: General Powers of the Secretariat

The Secretary-General or a member of the Secretariat designated by them can modify rules to better facilitate healthy debate, and any modification of the rules will be announced clearly to the entirety of the related participants and will take precedence over any rules written in this document. Under Secretary Generals, at the discretion of the Secretariat, can exercise similar powers inside their allocated committees and they also exercise authority over other members of the Committee Staff. The Secretary-General or a member of the Secretariat designated by him/her also reserves the right to issue official warnings to delegates or organisational members inside the committee who interrupt the flow of the debate and fail to follow the rules of procedure regarding language,

courtesy, dress code, and delegate conduct. After a delegate receives several official warnings which may result in dismissal without a certificate and compensation.

Article 6: Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General or a member of the Secretariat designated by him/her reserves the right to make either written or oral statements to the Committee at any time. Delegates should expect to receive an address from the relevant Under-Secretary-General for their committee, either of the General Assembly, the Security Council or Parliamentary Assembly, or Crisis Committees, at least once per day for committee feedback and announcements.

Article 7: General Powers of the Committee Staff

The Committee Staff –also known as Dais- includes, by order of precedence, the Under-Secretaries General, Presidents of GA, Committee Chair, Academic Assistants, and Crisis Members. Each Committee session will be announced open and closed by the Committee Chair, who may also propose the adoption of any procedural motion to which there is no significant objection. The Chair, subject to these rules and at the discretion of their Under-Secretary General or President of GA, will have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting. The Chair will direct the flow of debate, grant the right to speak, ask questions, announce decisions, rule on points of order, and enforce adherence to these rules. If necessary and given no objections from their superiors, the Committee Chair may choose to suspend the rules to clarify a certain substantive or procedural issue. The Committee Chair also has the right to interrupt the flow of debate to show a presentation about the committee. The Chair can choose to temporarily transfer his or her duties to another member of the Committee Dais staff. Committee Dais staff members may also advise delegations on the possible course of debate. Further, the Chair reserves the right to administer unofficial warnings to delegates or organisational members inside the committee who interrupt the flow of the debate and fail to follow the rules of procedure regarding language, courtesy, dress code, and delegate conduct. After a delegate receives several unofficial warnings, the Chair has the right to consult the Secretariat to issue an official warning, which may result in dismissal without a certificate and compensation. In the exercise of these functions, the Committee

Dais staff will be at all times subject to these rules and responsible to the Secretary-General.

Article 8: Courtesy

Every delegate will be courteous and respectful to the Committee staff and other delegates. The Chair will immediately call to order any delegate who does not abide by this rule and may issue an unofficial warning. Any delegate who feels that he or she is not being treated respectfully is encouraged to speak to the Chair, who will then take the appropriate action.

Article 9: Delegate Conduct

Delegates are expected to use formal English in their speeches. This includes abstaining from using slang or profanity. Delegates are also warned that BBALMUN has a zero-tolerance policy for hate speech, slander, disparaging, or acting in any other way that is inflammatory to other delegates. Neither speeches nor debates with other delegates may contain remarks of this nature. Those delegates who believe that their countries' policies merit such conduct are advised to consult the Chair before taking any action. Crosstalking and the usage of electronic devices are out of order for delegates. Electronic devices can only be used for research purposes during unmoderated caucuses. Delegates cannot eat or drink anything other than water. Delegates shall stay seated during sessions unless it is an unmoderated caucus, or they have the floor, or they have been specifically authorised by the Chair to leave their seat. Delegates may use message papers to communicate with members of the committee. Message papers can contain messages to other delegates and procedural or personal requests from the Chair. Message papers that do not abide by the Rules of Procedure can be exterminated by the Chair.

Article 10: Dress Code

The delegates are expected to be dressed according to the western business attire for all sessions. Failure to follow the dress code shall result in an official warning by the Secretariat and may result in dismissal without a certificate and compensation.

Article 11: Absences

Delegates are expected to be present at the beginning of the sessions. If a delegate is not present during roll call, he or she is considered absent until a

note is sent to the dais staff. A delegate who is recognized but is not present when called upon yields his or her time to the Chair, and debate shall continue unabated. Abstaining from three or more sessions may result in dismissal without a certificate and compensation. However, delegates can consult their committee staff to inform them about a planned absence from the committee. Which then can be exempt from being regarded as an absence at the discretion of the Chair.

Article 12: Awards

After the adjournment of the debate, The Committee Staff may give out rewards to delegates who showed exemplary behaviour and performance. Possible awards are, by order of precedence, Best Delegate Award, Outstanding Delegate Award, and Honourable Mentions. The awards are distributed during the closing ceremony of the conference. Only the first two award degrees shall include certificates and require the delegates to attend the stage. The amount and allocation of rewards to delegates can vary in accordance with the size and performance of the committee, and ultimately to the judgement of the Committee Staff. Delegates who suspect the judgement of their Committee Staff involving the award allocations can discreetly contact their Under Secretary Generals, which then will report the complaint directly to the Secretariat, who will take the necessary actions.

2.2. Rules Governing Debate

Article 1: Quorum

Quorum is the minimum number of delegates who need to be present to open debate. When at least one-quarter of the members of the Committee (as declared at the beginning of the first session) are present, the quorum is met, and the Chair declares a Committee open to proceed with debate. A quorum will be assumed to be present unless specifically challenged and shown to be absent. A roll call is never required to determine the presence of a quorum. However, The Chair will entertain roll calls at the beginning of the sessions to facilitate debate. To vote on any substantive motion, the Committee must establish the presence of a simple majority of members.

Article 2: Opening Speeches

Delegates are required to present their opening speeches before setting the debate. The Chair will present the floor to delegates by following the alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Article 3: Agenda

The Agenda decides the order in which the topics will be discussed in the committee. Therefore, the first matter the Committee decides on will be setting the agenda. The delegates are expected to raise a motion to set the agenda. This motion requires a second. If there happens to be no opposition to the motion, it is considered to be adopted. If there is opposition, the committee directors will establish a Speaker's List which consists of 2 or 4 delegates to give for and against speeches. After the speeches, the committee will proceed with the voting.

Article 4: Debate

Setting the Agenda is followed by a motion to open debate. This motion is not debatable and requires a simple majority to pass. A motion to open debate, if it passes, results in the opening of a new, continuous Speakers List, which is used to conduct a general debate. This Speakers List will decide the order of speakers for the entire debate on the Topic Area, except when superseded by procedural motions, amendments, or the introduction of a draft resolution.

Article 5: Speakers List

The Committee shall at all times have an open Speakers' List for the Topic Area being discussed. However, the Speakers' List needs to contain the names of several members otherwise the debate shall be terminated. The Chair will either set a speaking time or entertain motions to set a speaking time. A member may add their name to the Speakers' List by submitting a request in writing to the Chair or any time the Chair calls for members that wish to be added to the Speakers' List. Members may not add their name to the Speakers' List while already being registered to it, and may remove their name from the Speakers' List by submitting a request in writing to the Chair.

Article 6: Yields and the Floor

The Chair may offer the floor to delegates during several procedures like opening speeches, the Speakers' List, the introduction of resolutions, and against/in favour speeches. A delegate who has the floor shall address the committee from

a lectern that can be assigned by the Chair. The floor belongs to the Committee Staff at all times and can only be lent to delegates by the Chair. A delegate who has the floor and a remaining time after their speech may yield their time or the floor to another delegate in the following ways;

A: Yield to another delegate: His or her remaining time will be offered to that delegate. If the delegate accepts the yield, the Chair shall recognize the delegate for the remaining time to inquiries.

B: Yield to inquiries / Open themselves any kinds of points: Questioners/Point raisers will be selected by the Chair and limited to one question each unless they give a motion to follow up. Only the speaker's answers to questions will be counted against the speaking time.

C: Yield the floor: Such a yield should be made if the delegate wishes their speech to end. The Chair will then resume their ownership of the floor.

Article 7: Right of Reply

A delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate may submit a Right of Reply only in writing to the Committee staff. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order.

Article 8: Moderated Caucus

The purpose of a moderated caucus is to facilitate substantive debate at critical junctures in the discussion. The delegate making the motion must briefly explain its purpose and specify a time limit for the caucus, not to exceed twenty minutes, and a time limit for the individual speeches. In the case of multiple moderated caucuses, the Chair will rank the motions in descending order of length.

Moderated caucuses of the same length will be ranked in descending order of individual speaking time. Moderated caucuses that differ only in terms of topic will be ranked in the same order that they were proposed. While in a moderated caucus, delegates do not possess the floor and are not subject to the rules regarding yields. Therefore, they cannot leave their seats and can only address the committee while standing up. A delegate who has been recognized to speak during a moderated caucus can and will be ruled out of order if the delegate's speech does not address the topic of the moderated caucus. If no delegate wishes to speak during a moderated caucus, the caucus may be terminated by a motion. A moderated caucus may be extended only once, but only after the caucus has ended and provided that the length of an extension does not exceed the previous motion.

Article 9: Un-Moderated Caucus

A delegate may raise a motion for an unmoderated caucus after at least one moderated caucus followed by a speech from the Speakers' List was held, while the floor is open, before the closure of debate. The delegate making the motion must specify a time limit for the caucus, not to exceed twenty minutes. The motion will immediately be put to a vote and will pass given a simple majority. During the unmoderated caucuses, delegates are not required to be seated, can talk directly with each other, and may only work towards the preparation of committee documents. An unmoderated caucus can be extended only once, and the length of an extension may not exceed the previous motion.

Article 10: Closure of Debate

When the floor is open, a delegate may move to close debate on the substantive or procedural matter under discussion. When the closure of the debate is moved, the Committee Chair will ask the delegates if there are any objections to voting by unanimous consent. If there are no objections, the motion to close the debate will automatically be adopted and the Committee will move immediately to the substantive voting procedure.

Article 11: Suspension or Adjournment of the Meeting

In the last 5 minutes of parliamentary sessions, delegates are expected to raise a motion to suspend the meeting. When in order, such motions will not be debatable but will be immediately voted upon, barring any motions taking precedence, and will require a simple majority to pass. In the last thirty minutes of the last session, delegates can raise a motion to adjourn the meeting. When the meeting is adjourned, all committee functions will be postponed or terminated for the duration of the conference.

Article 12: Reconsideration

A motion to reconsider a draft resolution is in order when a draft resolution or amendment has been adopted or rejected and must be made by a member who voted with the majority on the substantive proposal. The Chair will recognize up to two speakers opposing the motion after which the motion will be immediately voted upon. A two-thirds majority of the members present is required for reconsideration. If the motion passes, the Committee will immediately vote again

on the draft resolution or amendment being reconsidered without further debate.

2.3. Rules Governing Points

Article 1: Points of Personal Privilege

Whenever a delegate experiences personal discomfort, he or she may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege to request that the discomfort be corrected. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the delegate speaking is inaudible.

Article 2: Points of Order

At any point when a committee is in session, a delegate may rise to a Point of Order for expressing his or her belief that the rules of procedure are not being followed. The Point of Order will be immediately decided by the Chair in accordance with these rules of procedure. A Point of Order may never interrupt a speaker.

Article 3: Points of Parliamentary Inquiry

When the floor is open, a delegate may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the Chair a question regarding the rules of procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker.

Article 4: Points of Information

Points regarding issues rather than parliamentary procedure and that are not covered in the rules governing other points shall be asked to the Committee Director as a Point of Information. A point of information cannot interrupt a speaker.

2.4. Rules Governing Committee Documents

Article 1: Working Papers

Delegates may propose working papers for Committee consideration. Working papers are intended to aid the Committee in its discussion and formulation of draft resolutions and need not be written in draft resolution format. Working papers are not official documents and may be presented in any format approved

by the Chair. Working papers do not require signatories or votes of approval. Working papers are not introduced by motion.

Article 2: Draft Resolutions

A draft resolution is the improved version of a working paper with formal procedures and may only include topics that have been discussed during previous moderated caucuses. A draft resolution must include the heading, the pre-ambulatory clauses, and the operative clauses. The heading contains the committee's name, topic, Sponsors, and Signatories of the draft resolution. The heading has to begin with the name of the UN committee that adopts the resolution. The pre-ambulatory clauses need to recall the previous actions and explain why the committee needs to pay attention to these matters. All the preambulatory clauses have to start with preambulatory phrases such as "Alarmed by " or "Guided by " and you cannot use the same phrase again. Also, all the pre-ambulatory clauses have to finish with a comma so they can sound like a long sentence. And lastly the operative clauses, The purpose of operative clauses is to provide and to forward the solutions that you found in the committee's past process with an official language. The operative clauses should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it. Just like the pre-ambulatory clauses, operative clauses also have to start with operative phrases like "Calls for" or " Deplores". Besides, you cannot use the same phrase and need to add a semicolon except for the last one which needs to end with a comma. A draft resolution may be introduced to the Secretariat when it receives the approval of the Chair and the signature of at least one-fifth of the present Member States. Signing a draft resolution need not indicate support of the draft resolution, and the signatory has no further rights or obligations. Signing a draft resolution only indicates a desire for the draft resolution to be discussed in Committee. There are no official sponsors of draft resolutions. Signatories should be listed in alphabetical order on every draft resolution. A draft resolution requires a simple majority of members present to pass.

Article 3: Introduction of Draft Resolutions

Once a draft resolution has been approved, a delegate or delegates may move to introduce the draft resolution. Each motion will specify one draft resolution to introduce. A procedural vote is then taken to determine whether the resolution

shall be introduced. Should the motion receive the simple majority required to pass, the draft resolution will be considered introduced and on the floor. The Chair, at his or her discretion, may allow a brief presentation of the resolution in a manner determined by the Chair and/or open the floor for speeches that are for or against the introduced draft resolution. More than one draft resolution may be on the floor at any one time. Debate on draft resolutions proceeds according to the general Speakers' List for that Topic Area and delegates may then refer to the draft resolution by its designated number.

Article 4: Amendments

Delegates may amend any draft resolution that has been introduced by adding to, inserting into, deleting from, or revising parts of it. Only one amendment may be introduced at any given time. Amendments to amendments are out of order; however, an amended part of a draft resolution may be further amended. A motion to introduce an approved amendment may be made when the floor is open. After this motion, the Chair may read the amendment aloud, time permitting. A Speakers List will be established for and against the amendment. The motion will pass by a simple majority.

2.5. Rules Governing Voting

Article 1: Procedural Voting

Voting on any matter other than draft resolutions and amendments is considered procedural. No abstentions shall be allowed in procedural votes. A simple majority shall be considered achieved when there are more "Yes" votes than "No" votes. If the counted vote is less than the number of Delegates present; the Committee Directors shall take the vote repetitively until the number is met.

Article 2: Substantive Voting

Substantive voting includes voting on draft resolutions and amendments. Once the committee closes the debate on the general Topic Area, it will move into substantive voting procedures on resolutions. At this time, the chambers are sealed, and no interruptions will be allowed. For substantive voting, each member will have one vote. Each vote may be a 'Yes,' 'No,' or 'Abstain.' Abstaining members are not considered to be voting, and are subtracted from the quorum to calculate a simple majority. All matters will be voted upon by a show of

placards unless a motion for a roll call vote is accepted. Once any Resolution has been passed, the voting procedure is closed, as only one Resolution may be passed per Topic Area.

Article 3: Voting by Acclamation

The Committee Directors may ask if there are any objections to passing the matter by acclamation, just before votes involving procedural voting. Any objection will be seen as a request for a vote.

Article 4: Roll Call Voting

A delegate has the right to request a roll call vote after debate on a draft resolution is closed or for any other substantive vote. A roll call vote is only for substantive votes. In the first sequence, delegates may vote "Yes," "Yes with Rights", "No," "No with Rights", "Abstain," or "Pass." Delegates who vote either "Yes with Rights" or "No with Rights" reserve the right to explain their vote only when the delegate is voting against the policy of his/her country. The delegate will only be allowed to explain an affirmative or negative vote, not an abstention from voting. All delegates who had requested the right of explanation will be granted time to explain their votes. The speaking time will be set at the discretion of the Chair, not to exceed thirty seconds.

2.6. Precedence of Motions

Points shall always entertain a priority over motions. The precedence of points is as follows:

- Point of Personal Privilege
- Point of Order
- Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
- Point of Information
- Motions will be considered in the following order of precedence:
- Motion to Adjourn the Meeting
- Motion to Suspend the Meeting
- Motion to Close the Debate
- Motion to Postpone the Debate
- Motion to Resume the Debate
- Motion for Reconsideration
- Motion to Reorder the Resolution

- Motion for a Roll Call Vote
- Motion to Introduce Draft Resolution
- Motion to Introduce Amendment
- Motion to Extend the Previous Caucus
- Motion to Unmoderated Caucus
- Motion to Moderated Caucus

Introduction to The Committee

The International Criminal Police Organization, also known as INTERPOL or ICPO, is an intergovernmental organization that aims to make the world a safer place by providing assistance to the police forces of its 196 member countries. In regard to this purpose, INTERPOL enables member countries to share and access data of the criminals and crime groups, and offers technical and operational support.

The organization was founded on September 7, 1923 under the name International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) and adopted its current name in 1956. Although its name was changed later, INTERPOL's main purpose has remained the same since 1923, which is to promote international cooperation and combat crime. The organization's activities are coordinated and controlled by the General Secretariat. The General Secretariat is the main part of the organization that runs all of the activities.

INTERPOL's headquarters are located in Lyon, France, and in each country, the organization has National Central Bureaus (NCB) which are run by national police officials. An NCB connects the member countries and the General Secretariat by providing data about criminals and assisting other countries via INTERPOL's secure global police communication network called I-24/7. This network is a database that includes all kinds of information on wanted criminals across all the member countries and the main reason why INTERPOL is one of the world's most successful anti-crime organizations.

INTERPOL focuses on current day's four most pressing crime areas: terrorism, financial crime and corruption, cybercrime, and organized crime. In the fight against crime, INTERPOL works in cooperation with the UN and acts in a coordinated manner. Since 1996, the organization has held the Permanent

Observer status at the UN. As part of this collaboration, INTERPOL officials have been in regular contact with United Nations agencies and the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations, thus enabling law enforcement concerns to be represented more effectively on the international stage.

INTERPOL is the largest international police organization in the world. It was created to improve cooperation between countries in the fight against international crime. The organization helps law enforcement agencies globally by sharing intelligence, coordinating operations, and promoting security. One major challenge the international community faces today is the rise of transnational drug cartels like the Sinaloa Cartel. This cartel originated in Mexico and has become one of the most powerful criminal organizations worldwide. It is involved in drug trafficking, money laundering, human smuggling, violence, and corruption. Its activities impact not just Latin America but also many countries in Europe, Asia, and North America. INTERPOL is crucial in fighting organized crime by helping member states work together against criminal networks that operate across borders. Through sharing intelligence, joint investigations, and international operations, the organization aims to reduce the global effects of drug trafficking and cartel violence. In this committee, delegates will discuss the threat of the Sinaloa Cartel and explore international solutions to fight organized crime while protecting human rights, security, and stability.

4.1 Introduction To The Agenda Item

Mexican cartels are criminal groups that mainly sell illegal drugs. They also do other crimes like smuggling weapons, and using violence. Cartels have leaders, managers, and fighters, and they use fear to stay in control. They run networks to make, move, and sell illegal things. Some cartels even have connections with police and politicians.

The cartel era in Mexico began to take shape during the mid-20th century. In the 1970s the USA was dealing with a problem about drugs that are shipped from Colombia. As a solution, the US government decided to shut the roads down. Due to that, drug dealers made a decision which is using the roads that are going through Mexico. After a while "The cartel era" in Mexico has started to shape. The Sinaloa Cartel was formed after the Guadalajara Cartel broke apart in 1989,

following the arrest of its leader, Gallardo. Its founders included Joaquín “El Chapo” Guzmán and Ismael “El Mayo” Zambada. The cartel quickly became one of Mexico’s most powerful criminal organizations.

The Sinaloa Cartel doesn’t just operate in Mexico, It also shows action outside of Mexico. The cartel sends cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and marijuana from Mexico to the United States. They also send drugs to Europe, Asia, and other parts of Latin America. These events aren’t just limited to “drugs” , they also include money laundering, illegal guns trade, person threatening, human trafficking, etc.

Interpol is an international police organization that helps police forces from different countries work together. Interpol plays an important role fighting against international crimes, and terror organizations. One of these organizations is the Sinaloa Cartel. Cartel’s leaders are in red notice which is a ranking system about international criminals. Interpol also carries out border security, information sharing, arrest requests and much more.



4.2 Key Vocabulary

Human rights violation: Acts or behaviors that infringe upon the basic rights and freedoms entitled to every person.

Nanotrafficking network: Organized systems or groups involved in the illegal production, transportation, distribution, and sale of narcotic drugs.

Border security: The measures and strategies used by a country to monitor, regulate, and protect its borders from illegal activities.

Smuggling routes: The paths or corridors used to illegally transport goods or people across borders, avoiding detection by authorities.

Cartel: A criminal organization involved in the production and distribution of illegal drugs.

Criminal database: A computerized system or collection of records containing detailed information about individuals who have committed crimes.

El Chapo: Mexican drug lord and former leader of the Sinaloa Cartel, one of the world's most powerful drug-trafficking organizations.

3. Background

1. ESTABLISHMENT

The Sinaloa Cartel started in the 1960s and 1970s in the Sinaloa region of Mexico. At that time, the area was poor and most people lived from farming. Because there were not many jobs and the government was weak in that region, some groups began to grow opium and marijuana. In the United States, the demand for drugs was increasing, so drug traffickers in Mexico began to make more money and gain power. The Sinaloa Cartel was formed because several important factors came together over time in Mexico.

One of the main reasons was geography. The state of Sinaloa has many mountains and remote areas that are difficult for the government to control. The cartel started in the state of Sinaloa, which has natural features that helped criminal groups operate more easily. Sinaloa has many mountains and rough areas. These areas are difficult for the government and security forces to control.

Because of this, cartel members could hide, protect their activities, and move without being easily found. This helped the cartel survive for a long time. The climate and soil productivity of the region are suitable for growing illegal crops such as opium poppy and marijuana. This allowed the Sinaloa Cartel to control not only drug transportation but also drug production. Having production and distribution in the same area reduced costs and increased the cartel's power. Another important factor is Sinaloa's location near the United States. The U.S. is one of the largest drug markets in the world. Being close to the border made it easier for the cartel to move drugs using different routes and methods. It also allowed the cartel to interfere in the area if something urgent happened. Finally, Sinaloa has many rural and isolated communities where government presence was sometimes weak. In these areas, the cartel could grow stronger and gain local influence. It was also important to gain the support of local people.

Another important factor was poverty and the lack of economic opportunities. The economic difficulties in the region played a major role in the growth of the Sinaloa Cartel. Many people in rural parts of Sinaloa did not have stable jobs or enough income. Due to limited legal work, some people turned to drug production and trafficking as a way to earn money and support their families. This made it easier for criminal groups to find workers and expand their activities. Also it caused a more suitable environment for drug usage and trade. In many parts of Sinaloa, especially in rural areas, people faced poverty, unemployment, and low income. There were very few legal job opportunities. Even farming wasn't a common option. Because of these conditions, working for or supporting illegal activities became an alternative source of income. Growing illegal crops or helping with transportation was a better option than legal work. This made it easier for the cartel to recruit local people, including farmers, young workers and expand their population. In addition, poverty made it harder for the government to control the region. Weak connection with the locals and limited public services reduced state presence, allowing the cartel to expand its influence on the public with less resistance.

Leadership was another important factor. Figures such as Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán and Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada had experience in drug trafficking and knew the main routes to the United States. They created a flexible and organized structure that could continue working even when some members were arrested. This helped the cartel survive pressure from the government. Leadership had a strong effect on the growth of the Sinaloa Cartel. The cartel benefited from

leaders who had experience, strategic thinking, and strong networks. Strong leadership also helped the cartel adapt to pressure from the government and other criminal organizations. The leaders could change routes, methods, and strategies when needed. This ability to adapt helped the cartel survive during bad times. Finally, effective leadership helped permanent alliances and discipline inside the organization. By managing relationships and keeping control, the leaders reduced possible conflicts and supported long-term growth.

The collapse of the Guadalajara Cartel also played a key role. During the 1980s, this cartel controlled most of the drug trade in Mexico. When its leader, Miguel Ángel Félix Gallardo, was arrested in 1989, the organization broke into smaller groups. This created a power vacuum, and former members began to build their own networks. The Sinaloa Cartel emerged from this situation and slowly became independent and stronger. The Guadalajara Cartel played a role as a training ground for future cartel leaders. Many people who later created their own groups, including members who had become part of the Sinaloa Cartel, learned how to manage drug routes and organize large trafficking networks while working under Guadalajara's control. When Félix Gallardo was arrested in 1989, the Guadalajara Cartel collapsed. This caused a power wave in the Mexican drug trade. The single, centralized organization was replaced by several smaller regional groups. One of these groups was based in the Sinaloa region and later became known as the Sinaloa Cartel.

2. IMPORTANT PEOPLE

In order to understand the cartel's history we have to get information about important figures in the history of the Sinaloa Cartel. There are lots of important people throughout the cartel's history, but some of them are crucial. One of them started everything, some of them ruled the organization for years, and some of them sealed the cartel's fate.

Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was born in Sinaloa and raised in a poor farming family. During his childhood, he endured much physical abuse from his father, which caused him to become involved in drug commerce. With few opportunities for employment in his hometown, he turned to the cultivation of opium poppy, a common practice among local residents. During harvest season, Guzmán and his

brothers hiked the hills of Badiraguato to cut the buds of the poppy. Once the plant was stacked in kilos, his father sold the harvest to other suppliers in Culiacan and Guamuchil. Guzmán cultivated his own marijuana plantation at age 15 with cousins and he supported his family with his marijuana production. Guzmán left his hometown in search of greater opportunities through his uncle, one of the pioneers of Mexican drug trafficking. He left Badiraguato in his twenties and joined organized crime.

Another important figure in the history of the Sinaloa Cartel is Ismael “El Mayo” Zambada. He was born in Sinaloa, Mexico and became one of the founders of the cartel. Unlike El Chapo, El Mayo stayed away from media attention and tried to keep a low profile. However, he played a major role in the cartel’s drug trafficking operations and business network. He managed important smuggling routes between Mexico and the United States and helped the cartel grow internationally. Many experts believe that El Mayo was one of the main reasons why the cartel stayed powerful for many years. Even when many cartel leaders were arrested, he continued to control large parts of the organization.

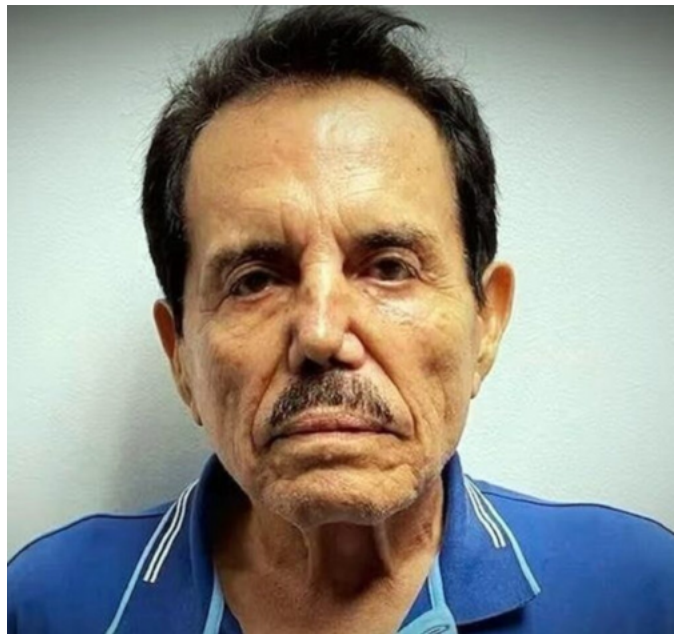
In the 1970s, Guzmán first worked for the drug lord Hector Palma by transporting drugs and overseeing their shipments from the Sierra Madre region to urban areas. He also favored a violent and serious approach when doing business; if any of his drug shipments were not on time, Guzmán would simply kill the smuggler himself by shooting him in the head. After a while, the smugglers around him learned that cheating him or working with other competitors—even if they offered better prices—was a bad idea. The leaders of the Guadalajara Cartel liked Guzmán's business style, and in the early 1980s introduced him to Félix Gallardo, one of the major drug lords in Mexico at that time. Guzmán worked as a chauffeur for Félix Gallardo, before being put in charge of logistics, where Guzmán coordinated drug shipments from Colombia to Mexico by land, air, and sea. After a while, Guzmán earned enough standing and began working for Félix Gallardo directly.

One DEA agent, Camarena, was working as an informant and grew close to many top drug barons, including Félix Gallardo. In November 1984, the Mexican military—acting on the intelligence information provided by Camarena—raided a large marijuana plantation owned by the Guadalajara Cartel. Angered by the suspected betrayal, Félix Gallardo and his men exacted revenge when they

kidnapped, tortured, and killed Camarena in February 1985. The death of [redacted], and Mexico responded by carrying out a [redacted] involved in the incident. Meanwhile, Guzman [redacted] within the cartel and take over more drug [redacted] ardo got arrested, the Sinaloa Cartel was [redacted] t time Guzmán was detected by U.S. authorities [redacted] crime was in 1987, when several protected [redacted] t that Guzmán was in fact heading the Sinaloa



Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán



Ismael "El Mayo" Mario Zambada

García

The night the cardinal was killed, Mexican President Carlos Salinas flew to Guadalajara and condemned the attack, stating it was "a criminal act" that targeted innocent civilians, but he did not give any indications of the involvement of organized crime. The death of the cardinal, a high-profile religious figure, outraged the Mexican public, the Catholic Church, and many politicians. The

government responded by carrying out a massive manhunt to arrest the people involved in the shootout. After that his face was all over the TV news. Due to that he planned to run away. But he got caught and sentenced to 20 years in prison. In 2001, he escaped from the prison by hiding in a laundry cart. Eventually he got arrested again in 2014 when he got hit with a raid by the Mexican government. Just after a year, Guzmán escaped through a tunnel from the prison.

3. COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

The Sinaloa Cartel established connections with illegal networks in various countries to continue its activities. The cartel's most important business relationships were with drug producers, transporters, and distributors. Drugs purchased from certain groups in South America were transported through Mexico to the United States. The cartel has generated money not only through drug trafficking but also through money laundering.

The money obtained has been put into the system through fake companies or businesses that appear to be legal. This has enabled the cartel to protect its financial power and continue its activities for a long time.

Arms trafficking has also been part of the cartel's commercial activities. Weapons obtained through illegal means have enabled the cartel to both increase its own power and make deals with other criminals.

The cartel also created strong smuggling routes through Central America and the Pacific Ocean. Drugs were usually transported from Colombia to Mexico and then moved into the United States through border regions such as Arizona, California, and Texas. Besides the United States, the cartel also expanded its activities to Europe and some Asian countries. In order to hide illegal profits, cartel members used fake companies, restaurants, hotels, and trade businesses for money laundering. These international trade networks helped the cartel become one of the richest criminal organizations in the world.

4. RELATIONSHIPS WITH NEIGHBORING CARTELS

The Sinaloa Cartel has sometimes cooperated and clashed with other criminal organizations in Mexico. While temporary agreements were made to share drug routes in some areas, violent struggles for control occurred in others. The desire of different cartels to use the same smuggling routes has been the main cause of conflicts. These conflicts have negatively affected not just cartel members, but also the civilian population. At times, competition between cartels has led to increased security problems in certain areas.

Despite this, the Sinaloa Cartel has attempted to maintain its power by forming temporary coalitions with other gangs. These relationships have generally been based on personal interests and have not lasted long. This flexible approach has played a significant role in the cartel's survival over the years.

The Sinaloa Cartel was involved in many violent conflicts with rival groups such as the Tijuana Cartel, Juárez Cartel, and Los Zetas. These conflicts were mostly about controlling smuggling routes and border regions. In some periods, the cartel made temporary alliances with smaller criminal groups in order to become stronger against rivals. However, these alliances usually did not last long because of power struggles and competition. The cartel wars caused thousands of deaths in Mexico and created serious security problems in many cities.

4.4 Timeline

1923 Establishment of INTERPOL

The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) was established to facilitate cooperation between police forces in different countries in the fight against international crime. It isn't a direct law enforcement agency, but rather a platform for data sharing and coordinated action.

1960s – 1970s

In the state of Sinaloa, the production of opium poppy and marijuana becomes widespread, especially in rural and mountainous areas. The poverty in the region, limited government presence, and the increasing demand for drugs in the U.S. create a favorable environment for illicit production and trade. This

period is the process in which the foundations of the structures that would turn into the Sinaloa Cartel in the future were laid.

1980s Sinaloa Cartel Emerges

The 1980s saw the emergence of the Sinaloa Cartel as the Guadalajara Cartel broke up and new syndicates popped up. One of these, based in the state of Sinaloa, evolved into the Sinaloa Cartel. This cartel was led by several key figures.

1989

The cartel disintegrated with the arrest of Guadalajara Cartel leader Miguel Ángel Félix Gallardo. This event created a huge power vacuum in the Mexican drug market. The Sinaloa based group begins to act independently in this process and stands out as the Sinaloa Cartel.

1990s

The Sinaloa Cartel becomes a major actor in drug shipments to the United States. The cartel is not limited to drug trafficking, but also focuses on activities such as money laundering, arms trafficking and human trafficking. The expansion of its fields of activity attracts the attention of international law enforcement agencies.

1994

During the half of 1990s, violent conflicts between different Mexican cartels became more common. The Sinaloa Cartel and rival groups fought for control of important drug trafficking routes near the United States border. These conflicts increased violence and instability in several regions of Mexico

2000s

The cartel's operations extend beyond North America to Europe, Asia, and Latin America. In this process, information sharing and efforts to combat cross-border crimes through international organizations such as INTERPOL increase. Cartel leaders and senior members begin to appear on the search lists of different countries.

2014

Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán was captured in Mexico. This event led to the cartel's global recognition and increased international cooperation. It is more clearly

seen that the cartel's activities are not only domestic, but they can also pose an international security problem.

2015

El Chapo's escape from a high-security prison has sparked debates about the Mexican state's capacity and international security mechanisms. This development raised the need for stronger international coordination in the fight against cross border crime like Mexico Cartels.

2016-2017

El Chapo is recaptured and later extradited to the United States. This process is an important example of the importance of judicial cooperation and information sharing between countries.

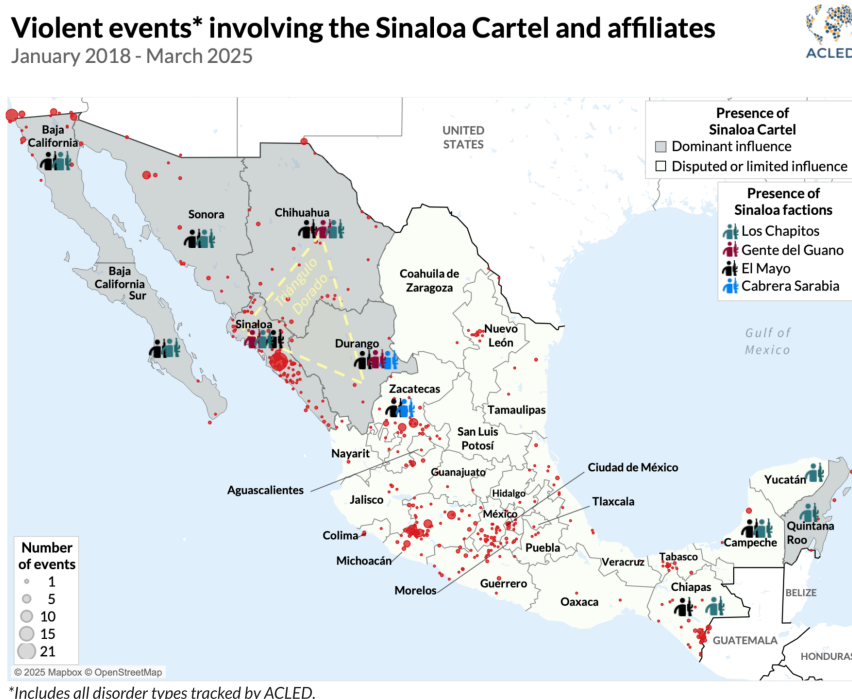
2020's

The Sinaloa Cartel continues to operate despite leadership changes. The new generation of leaders of the cartel continues to take an active role in the international drug trade. During this period, INTERPOL played a supportive role in the fields of intelligence sharing, criminal tracking and border security among member countries. The global fight against organised crime still sees cartels as a major threat.

4.5 Current Situation

In these times, the Sinaloa Cartel exists as an international organized crime network whose activities affect many countries, although it is based in Mexico. Despite the capture of powerful leading figures in the past, the cartel did not completely dissolve, but rather changed its structure and continued its activities. This shows that the cartel is not only based on individuals but also on a broader and more flexible system. The current structure of the Sinaloa Cartel consists of interconnected but semi-independent groups, rather than a rigid hierarchy managed from a single center. This structure makes the cartel more resilient to security operations. The weakening of a group or the capture of its leader does not prevent other groups from continuing their activities.

Today, the cartel's fields of activity are not limited to drug trafficking. Crimes such as money laundering, illegal arms trade, human trafficking, and controlling through threats cause the cartel to make its influence felt in different regions. Since many of these crimes involve more than one country, the problem goes beyond national borders. At this point, INTERPOL plays a supportive role in the fight against cartels. INTERPOL does not conduct direct arrests but facilitates cooperation among member states through information sharing, criminal tracking, and international search notifications. The fact that people affiliated with the Sinaloa Cartel operate in different countries increases the importance of this type of international coordination. However, the current system also has some limitations. INTERPOL's powers depend on the cooperation of member states, and not every country has the same legal capacity or enforcement power. This may cause cartel members to move more easily in some regions. In addition, incompatibilities in border security, data sharing and judicial processes are among the factors that complicate the struggle.



As a result, the Sinaloa Cartel still poses an effective threat on a global scale today. The transboundary nature of the cartel increases the importance of international mechanisms such as INTERPOL; it also raises the question of the extent to which these mechanisms are adequate. In this context, delegates are

expected to evaluate existing cooperation tools and develop proposals to strengthen the international struggle. In addition, it has been determined that security-focused approaches alone are not sufficient to combat the Sinaloa Cartel. As long as problems like economic inequality, corruption, and limited state capacity, which helped the cartel rise to power, continue, it seems likely that similar organisations will appear again. It is clear from the current situation that the fight against organised crime must be supported not only by arrests and operations, but also by long-term preventive policies.

4.6 Guiding Questions

1. How can border inspections be improved to prevent cartel-related trafficking activities?
2. How can INTERPOL strengthen international information sharing against cartels?
3. What can be done to protect civilians from the impacts of cartel violence?
4. How can national laws be improved to better combat transnational cartels?

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