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CTC: Topic #2 - Terrorist Safe Havens

YUNMUN XXXIV

Physical safe havens maintained by terrorist organizations continue to influence the global terrorist threat by extending the groups' longevity and increasing the threat they pose. Consequently, eradicating terrorist safe havens has been a key component of CTC's counterterrorism strategy.

A terrorist haven refers to a relatively secure area exploited by terrorists to indoctrinate, recruit, coalesce, train, and regroup, as well as prepare and support their operations. These physical safe havens are often located in under-governed territories or crossing international boundaries. They provide security for senior terrorist leaders, allowing them to plan and inspire acts of terrorism around the world. Importantly, the presence of terrorist safe havens in a nation or region is not always linked to state sponsorship of terrorism. In certain cases, despite government efforts to prevent these havens, different communities form and serve as terrorist infrastructure. Denying the ability for terrorists to create infrastructure and homes will be a step in the fight towards eliminating terrorism forever. UN Security Council Resolution 1373, passed shortly after the 9/11 attack in New York City, specifically targets terrorists' ability to cross international borders, find safe havens, secure funds, and acquire weapons. It also calls on states lacking laws criminalizing terrorist activity and support to enact such laws.

These safe havens and terrorist communities often thriP AMCID 8BDC q012 062 792 reW*nBT/F 12 Tf1 01 72.eW

CTC faces the difficult task of preventing terrorists from finding safe havens, necessitating an international approach relying on collaborative action among partner governments. Together, they must work together to help identify and destroy terrorist infrastructures.