**DELEGATE: Çağan Aras İncel**

**COUNTRY: Islamic Republic of Iran**

**COMMITTEE:GA1 Disarmament and International Security(DISEC)**

**ISSUE: Impact of Private Military Security Contractors on Global Security**

Private Military and Security Contractors (PMSCs) have had a significant impact on global security. Therefore, many nations are growing concerned. Their emergence as influential actors in military and security operations has reshaped the traditional landscape of state-centric security. The background of the PMSC issue can be traced back to the end of the Cold War (1), when the geopolitical features were remade. The decline of conventional interstate conflicts and the rise of non-state actors led to a demand for alternative security providers. Simultaneously, governments sought to reduce military costs by outsourcing certain functions, giving rise to the privatization of military and security services. This created an environment where PMSCs could thrive and play a role in various conflict zones around the world. Several causes have contributed to the increase in both the operation area and the number of PMSCs. The increasing complexity of modern conflicts, characterized by asymmetric warfare and non-state actors, has created a demand for specialized and flexible security services. The lack of adequate state capacities in conflict-affected regions has further fueled the demand for PMSCs, as they offer a quick and readily available source of expertise and manpower. Major countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and Russia have been at the forefront of utilizing and deploying PMSCs,(2) shaping the trajectory of global security dynamics. The United States, in particular, has been a significant player, engaging PMSCs extensively in conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan.(3) PMSCs have played diverse roles, ranging from providing logistical support and security services to participating in combat operations. Russia has also used PMSCs in Russo-Ukranian War. These PMSCs used on the battlefield have breached the Geneva Conventions and committed multiple war crimes.(4) As the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we recognize the implications of PMSCs on regional stability and sovereignty. Iran, located in a volatile region with ongoing conflicts and security challenges, has had direct experiences with the presence and activities of PMSCs.(5) We have witnessed how their involvement can potentially undermine state institutions, exacerbate tensions, and contribute to human rights violations. Iran encourages all countries to regulate the activities of PMSCs and find an answer to the question of how and by which management these PMSCs will be established or to be established should also be fixed on the basis and necessary controls should be developed by taking into account the legal limitations and overflows.

The impact of Private Military and Security Contractors (PMSCs) on global security has garnered the attention and involvement of international society, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the United Nations (UN), and regional entities like the European Union (EU). Recognizing the potential risks and challenges posed by PMSCs, these actors have taken significant actions to address the issue. The UN has adopted resolutions calling for greater regulation and oversight of PMSC activities, such as the Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers. Conferences and conventions, such as the International Conference on the Regulation, Monitoring, and Oversight of PMSCs, have provided platforms for international dialogue and cooperation. NGOs have played a vital role in raising awareness, conducting research, and advocating for responsible practices and accountability. These collective efforts reflect the commitment of international society to address the impact of PMSCs on global security and promote greater transparency, accountability, and adherence to international standards in their operations.

Because of the geopolitical features of our country, the Islamic Republic of Iran has experienced the effects of the PMSCs firsthand. As the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, our country has been actively engaged in addressing the impact of Private Military and Security Contractors (PMSCs) on global security. Recognizing the significance of this issue, Iran has taken several notable actions to contribute to the international discourse and promote responsible practices. We have sponsored resolutions at the United Nations, emphasizing the need for effective regulation and oversight of PMSC activities to prevent abuses, ensure accountability, and protect human rights.(6) Iran has also actively participated in conferences and forums, such as the International Conference on the Regulation, Monitoring, and Oversight of PMSCs, where we have shared our experiences and collaborated with other nations to develop comprehensive approaches. Furthermore, Iran has adopted robust policies and frameworks at the national level to regulate the presence and activities of PMSCs within our borders, emphasizing transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights. These actions demonstrate Iran's commitment to addressing the challenges posed by PMSCs and promoting a more secure and just global security environment.

As the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we would like to reiterate our country's steadfast standpoint on the impact of Private Military and Security Contractors (PMSCs) on global security. Iran firmly believes in the urgent need for effective regulation and oversight of PMSC activities to address the potential risks and challenges they pose. Our viewpoint aligns with the United Nations' past and present actions on this topic. We appreciate the UN's efforts in adopting resolutions, such as the Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers, which emphasize the importance of transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights in the operations of PMSCs. Building on these actions, Iran proposes the establishment of an international regulatory mechanism that ensures comprehensive oversight, enhanced cooperation among member states, and the promotion of responsible practices in PMSC operations. Additionally, we advocate for the development of standardized guidelines for the contracting and procurement processes, promoting fair competition, and adherence to ethical standards. By strengthening international cooperation and implementing robust regulatory frameworks, we can collectively mitigate the negative impacts of PMSCs on global security.

**REFERENCES**

**1 Sanders, B. (2014) Private military and security companies (PMCSs), obo. Available at: https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/display/document/obo-9780199743292/obo-9780199743292-0209.xml (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**

**2 Swed, O. (2020) The global expansion of pmscs: Trends, opportunities, and risks, The Global Expansion of PMSCs: Trends, Opportunities, and Risks. Available at: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Mercenaries/WG/ImmigrationAndBorder/swed-burland-submission.pdf (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**

**3 Isenberg, D. (2012) PMSCs in Afghanistan/Pakistan. Available at: https://archive.globalpolicy.org/pmscs/50109-afghanistanpakistan.html (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**

**4 Cameron, L. and Chetail, V. (2013) The legal means through which pmscs are bound by IHL (Chapter 3) - privatizing war, Cambridge Core. Available at: https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/abs/privatizing-war/legalmeans-through-which-pmscs-are-bound-by-ihl/354084FB7E95BBBE85DFC2742C013CA3 (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**

**5 (2015) Draft General Statement of I.R. Iran. Available at: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/HRC\_booklet\_Sp.pdf (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**

**6 (2021) HRC/WG on the regulation of pmscs · INDICO, United Nations. Available at: https://indico.un.org/category/879/ (Accessed: 24 May 2023).**