

Country: Republic of Iraq

Committee: Disarmament and International Security Committee

Delegate: Beren GÜL

Agenda Item: Regulating the Use of Private Military and Security Companies

Private Military and Security Companies, that provide safety services, such as protecting convoys with guns, are companies with no conventions. Especially in the 21st century, the number of active PMSCs has increased due to overturned regimes, insufficient numbers of state owned security and military services, and strategy changes. Many countries use PMSCs because they are important for both the strategies and economics of the country. Despite the fact that they are important and may be needed, they also have so many problems. Those problems are generally caused because of the lack of a proper convention for PMSCs. Some of the contracting states use PMSCs for their own domination, making them hard to deal with for host states. Host states are generally weaker than the home states so that they cannot regulate the usage of them.

Some PMSCs may affect host states. For instance, the Nisour Square Massacre is an important example when it comes to the effects of them. In 2007, workers of a PMSC called Blackwater killed 17 Iraqi people while escorting a convoy of the United States. More than 20 people were also injured. Iraq didn’t have any rights to judge the workers because of an order named Order 17. That shows that there is both a lack of justice and inequalities of power between host states and home/contracting states.

Iraq is a country that has been affected by the PMSCs in a bad way. There was more than the Nisour Square Massacre. Iraq is trying to be more independent nowadays, trying to limit the PMSCs and encourage the state owned companies. Order 17 was a big obstacle for Iraq, that tries to be independent. After the massacre, Iraq and the USA made an agreement called the Status of Forces Agreement, limiting the privileges PMSCs have. In conclusion, Iraq’s policies are about having its own independence, by limiting the activities of PMSCs and trying to judge them.

The biggest solution Iraq defends is making a proper convention for PMSCs, cancelling their privileges and making them able to be judged. PMSCs should report every action to workers from the United Nations, and they should be controlled. Every PMSC should be able to be judged by the hosting states and follow their laws.