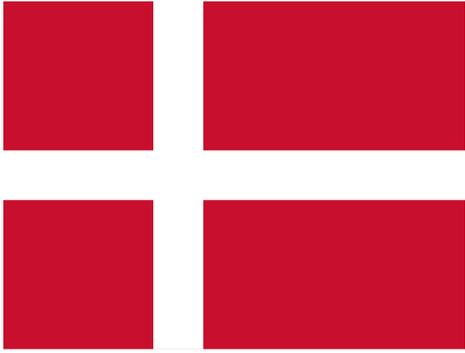


POSITION PAPER



Committee: Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

Country: Denmark

Agenda Item: Addressing Threats to Merchant Shipping: The Rise of Weaponized Drones and Terrorism at Sea

Denmark considers freedom and security of the sea lines vital for the maintenance of international peace and stability, and for trade and development. Now, 90% of world trade is carried out at sea, and shipping is a key that holds global economy together. But the development of weaponized drone technologies on recent years is posing a real threat for the future of this security. Due to their low cost, easy accessibility, and elusive nature, drones are becoming a new threat in the hands of non-state actors and terrorist organizations. This carries the potential to create instability not only in certain regions but across all international trade routes. Therefore, it is no longer a choice but an obligation for the international community to act within the framework of common principles and responsibilities against this new threat.

Denmark is a Scandinavian country in Northern Europe, covering an area of about 42,900 square kilometers and having a population of around 5.9 million people. With its coastlines on the North and Baltic Seas, Denmark is a country whose shape has been carved by maritime history, and it is naturally well positioned to take advantage of international maritime routes and trade. Denmark has also given Baltic maritime security high priority with a strong navy, and now it adds to the security of seaborne international commerce with some of the leading maritime transport companies. The fact that most of the world trade is carried out by sea, and that that sector has increasingly been the focus of attacks on merchant shipping, incidents of maritime terrorism is making Denmark put more focus on maritime security. The development of weaponized drones and the potential proliferation of the technology to non-states create new challenges for international trading routes and the security of crews and merchant vessels. Denmark's maritime experience, and long record of international cooperation, has led it to understand the importance of these threats, and to see that the maintenance of maritime security, therefore, must be seen as a key priority both nationally and internationally. In this context, Denmark's maritime tradition and interests in a productive economy offer a helpful vantage point on the gravity of the issue.

Denmark is taking a close look at the threat posed by militarized drones and maritime terrorism to commercial shipping and global security. The nation understands that such threats aren't confined to particular areas of the world, but that they might also impact global trade routes and the stability of

the international system. In that sense, Denmark advocates for multilateral cooperation through the international community, rulemaking within institutions such as the IMO and NATO, capacity-building in maritime surveillance and security, and countering the use of weaponized drones by non-state actors. Denmark maintains the view that the defence of the free and safe sea lanes is a vital duty, not just for national benefits, but for the peace and stability of the international community.