

# 6th Legal

*Advanced  
GA*



**TOPICS:** Regulating Multinational Corporations,  
Surveillance Privacy Laws

**CHAIRS:** Dean Staso, Sadie Lee

LAIMUN XXIX

*December 2-3*

# ☛ LAIMUN XXIX ☛

Letter from the Secretariat	3
Introduction to the USG	4
Introduction to the Dais	5
Committee Description	7
Topic A: Regulating Multinational Corporations	9
Topic B: Surveillance Privacy Laws	23

## Letter from the Secretaries-General

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of our entire staff, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Session XXIX of the Los Angeles Invitational Model United Nations (LAIMUN) conference. LAIMUN XXIX will take place on Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 of 2023 at the Mira Costa High School (MCHS) campus.

Our staff, composed of over 120 MCHS students, has been working tirelessly to make your debate experience the best it can be. You will find your dais members to be knowledgeable about the issues being debated and MUN procedure. We pride ourselves in hosting a conference that is educational and engaging, and we hope you take advantage of that as you prepare and debate.

At LAIMUN, we value thorough research and preparation. We ask that delegates write position papers following [these directions](#). The deadline to submit position papers to be considered for Committee and Research Awards is Friday, November 24 at 11:59 PM PT. The deadline to submit to be considered for Committee Awards is Thursday, November 30 at 11:59 PM PT.

We also encourage all delegates to read the [LAIMUN Rules of Procedure](#) for conference-specific information and as a reminder of points and motions that can be made during committee.

Feel free to reach out to our staff with any questions or concerns you may have. Delegates can find their chairs' contact information next to their committee profile and the Secretariat's email addresses on the staff page. Any member of the LAIMUN staff will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to seeing you in December!

Sincerely,

Akash Mishra and Lily Stern  
Secretaries-General, LAIMUN XXIX  
[secretarygeneral@mchsmun.org](mailto:secretarygeneral@mchsmun.org)



## Introduction to the USG

Welcome, Delegates, to LAIMUN XXIX!

My name is Naomi Kim, and I am so excited to conclude my fourth and final year at Mira Costa Model UN by being the Under-Secretaries General of the General Assembly!

Every year, we select the GA committee topics to reflect the diversity of issues present in our rapidly modernizing world, and this year is no exception. I am excited to hear the novel, creative, and detailed solutions each of you have to address these complex problems, and I hope that all of you can leave LAIMUN not just having given an awesome speech and spectacular formal caucus sessions, but with an enriched and diversified outlook.

But in order to have another amazing LAIMUN, I want to remind you all of our strict no pre-written resolutions policy. Under no circumstances is pre-written resolutions acceptable; additionally, delegates are only allowed to work on resolutions during committee sessions, not during breaks. Your chairs will outline this policy in greater detail before the start of debate, and we urge you all to comply.

Our staff have worked incredibly hard to create an informed, professional environment, and we hope that you enjoy it. Come equipped with knowledge, strong solutions, and your sleek WBA, but do not forget—MUN is fun!

If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at the following address: [GA@mchsmun.org](mailto:GA@mchsmun.org). If not, I look forward to seeing you all in December!

Best Regards,

Lily Stern and Akash Mishra  
Secretaries-General

Naomi Kim  
Under-Secretary General

## Introduction to the Dias

Hey delegates!

My name is Dean Staso, and I will take up the role of head co-chair in the 6th Legal Advanced committee. I am currently a senior, and this is my fourth year as a MUN participant. I have taken part in numerous conferences nationwide, including NHSMUN 2022 in New York City. I chaired for LAIMUN last year, and I'm excited to chair again this December. I try to improve my MUN skills every chance I get, and I will do my best to be fair to everyone in our committee.

Besides being in MUN, I play wide receiver for the Mira Costa football team. I also helped build the first pickleball court at Costa, and co-founded the Pickleball Club last year. I'm part of many other clubs here at Costa, because I like to stay involved with my school most of the time. I work at a local store in Hermosa Beach as well. I also enjoy surfing when I have the time. Watching sports is another pastime of mine after I finish my homework. Another fun fact about me is that I'm the biggest Pittsburgh Steelers fan you'll ever meet!

What I'm looking for in committee is tailored solutions that pertain to the numerous subtopics of multinational corporations and surveillance laws. There are a lot of specific issues that all fall under the umbrella of these topics, and I want to see as many of them addressed as possible. Once again, I'm excited to be your chair for LAIMUN 2023, and I can't wait to see you in debate!

Best of luck,

Dean Staso

# ΦΨ LAIMUN XXIX ΦΨ

Hello Delegates!

My name is Sadie Lee and I will be your co-chair with Dean Staso for 6th Legal Advanced! I am so excited to see what solutions you will bring to this debate! I am a junior at Mira Costa and have been in the Model UN program since my freshman year. Since then, I have participated in many local and travel conferences including UCLA, UChicago, and UC Davis and chaired at the previous LAIMUN in African Union Novice debate.

Outside of MUN, I like to run when I have the time and previously played soccer and basketball. Over the summer, I worked scooping ice cream at Salt and Straw and since then, ice cream has been one of my favorite foods. I also enjoy painting and drawing in my free time. In addition to this, I volunteer at the Resin Art Gallery to help teach kids art. I love listening to music and going to concerts with my friends and some of my current favorite artists are the 1975, the Strokes, Boygenius, and Taylor Swift. I also love going to the movie theater with my friends and some of my favorite movies are La La Land and Superbad.

In 6th Legal, we tried to pick multifaceted topics that provided a diverse range of sub topics to consider. We would like to see thorough and creative proposals and solutions to the topics at hand that stay true to country policy. In addition to this, we would love to see a wide range of solutions that address multiple of the sub topics. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me or Dean. Best of luck delegates, and I look forward to seeing you debate!

Warm regards,

Sadie Lee

## Committee Description

The Sixth Legal, otherwise known as Sixth Committee, is the primary committee that focuses on legal questions of the General Assembly. This committee focuses on the international law itself and one should expect debate to be centered on legislation towards a certain cause. In addition, the Sixth Legal is often used to allow bodies to report to the United Nations, including the International Law Commission, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, and the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations. The Sixth Committee is essential for international law to prosper and treaties and regulations to be negotiated.

Creating comprehensive solutions regarding the treatment of prisoners must be a top priority for the international community. Around the world, prisoners are consistently denied their basic human rights both in developed and developing countries. Furthermore, women and persecuted groups often face worse punishment and treatment than majority groups in prison, and there are few effective pieces of legislation to protect prisoners around the world. In this committee delegates must be able to not only understand the issues on the surface, but be able to identify and account for their underlying reasons when drafting resolutions.

With phones, tablets, and other electronic devices seeing an exponential growth in the last few decades, the possible over-surveillance by governments has been a hotly debated topic. One side argues that they act as a defense mechanism against dangerous persons while others retort that they're an infringement upon our personal privacy. However, there have been cases of countries abusing their surveillance technologies and government authority, resulting in

accusations of human rights violations. Therefore, the existing international guidelines and potential updates/new legal frameworks are elements to be deliberated by the delegates of Sixth Legal.



## Topic A: Regulating Multinational Corporations

### I. Background

Multinational corporations are corporations that operate in select countries and have facilities and warehouses in multiple. At the moment, of the 100 richest entities in the world, 69 are corporations.<sup>1</sup>As a result of increased globalization, there has been an increase in companies and corporations outsourcing labor to foreign countries. Because these corporations are large and so widespread, implementing regulations and enforcing restrictions can become a problem, especially when these corporations do not follow labor and human rights. Corporations are also a major contributor to environmental problems, producing large amounts of carbon emissions while participating in harmful environmental practices such as deforestation and fracking.

The issue of regulating multinational corporations first appeared in the 1990s, when some industries, most notably industries that rely on natural resources, started to expand into developing countries. Many of the countries in which they expanded to were in a state of political disruption and conflict, and companies began exploiting workers and violating human rights as well as labor rights. These inhumane working conditions became very common across multinational corporations as outsource labor became more common. It has been extremely difficult to monitor and prevent violation of labor rights because these corporations are so widespread in different countries. The working conditions have also caused women, especially young women, to become extremely vulnerable to sexual and domestic abuse. There have also

---

<sup>1</sup><https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/files/reports-and-materials/Ruggie-protect-respect-remedy-framework.pdf>

been reports of discrimination, especially against migrant workers. Additionally, many fashion companies outsource their labor to factories in foreign countries and take advantage of looser worker laws, employing children as young as five years old and paying them next to nothing for 10-16 hours of work a day.<sup>2</sup> For example, the Ivory Coast, which produces 60% of the world's cocoa, also has one of the highest levels of child labor with an estimated 1.5 million children working in the cocoa fields.<sup>3</sup> This cocoa is then sent to multinational corporations, where it is purchased by several international corporations.

Many people are pushed into working these jobs because they have no other options and are forced to rely on these jobs for a steady source of income. Even with the extreme violations of human rights, some of these countries are still reluctant to introduce labor laws because they align with the interests of these corporations. This alignment leads to failed regulation of worker laws and, in some cases, the eradication of all labor laws. In some smaller and less developed countries, multinational corporations can cause a state to lose control over their own economy, allowing the company to create monopolies over their economy and jobs. This control over smaller countries by large corporations can then lead to forms of neo-colonialism and soft power over smaller countries. Soft power can lead to destruction of native culture and inhibited development. Additionally, the lack of job diversity often makes the economy dependent on multinational corporations. The companies introduce neo-colonial power in these states, dominating by use of international capitalism. By making an economically-developing nation

---

<sup>2</sup><https://www.thewoodgroveoutlander.com/news/2020/10/29/infamous-companies-exploit-child-labor-for-their-own-benefit/#>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.aa.com.tr/en/world/child-labor-in-cocoa-production-akin-to-slavery/2753639#:~:text=The%20think%200 tank%20 said%20 Sunday,extreme%20 poverty%20land%20of%20%242.15.>

completely reliant on a massive corporation, it greatly hinders economic growth. Because the economy of the country the corporation is located in is dependent on that corporation and is still developing, the country's economic growth is limited, as self-reliant economics is not an option. It also allows multinational corporations to exploit the natural resources of a country. However, in recent years, there has been an increase of international recognition of the need to regulate these corporations, with progressive steps being taken in some countries across the world. For example, in France, the Netherlands, Australia, and the United Kingdom have all passed laws addressing the treatment and labor laws of multinational corporations and other countries are also considering harsher laws on the way workers are treated by the corporations.

In addition to human rights and worker laws, multinational corporations also present significant environmental consequences. At the moment, they make up almost a fifth of carbon emissions around the world. An example of the scale of these corporations' significant environmental effect is Coca-Cola, which produces about the same CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as China's entire food sector.<sup>4</sup> The carbon dioxide that these countries are responsible for emitting is the main greenhouse gas that is causing global warming. Many international corporations also rely on fracking. Fracking is a process of extracting oil and gas from the ground and it has extreme environmental consequences. The fracking process releases harmful gasses, such as the greenhouse gas methane and toxic air pollutants, while creating large amounts of waste water. Because many of the largest multinational companies, such as Exxon, Chevron, and

---

<sup>4</sup><https://www.reuters.com/article/us-climatechange-companies-emissions-trf/multinational-companies-account-for-nearly-a-fifth-of-global-co2-emissions-researchers-say-idUSKBN25Z1W6>

ConocoPhillips are companies that rely on oil and natural gas, fracking is a popular method used by companies to extract natural gas and oil. Multinational corporations are also responsible for deforestation. This is because major corporations that produce palm oil, rubber, timber, and soy need the trees and lumber for the raw resources they produce. Food companies also partake in deforestation in order to clear land for cattle grazing and other livestock. This cattle ranching is one of the main reasons the Amazon is being cut down, responsible for 80% of the deforestation that takes place there.

Another issue with multinational corporations is the way in which they are taxed. Many companies are able to find loopholes and avoid paying taxes by shifting profits. Shifting profits occurs when multinational corporations want to avoid heavy taxation by moving their profits to low-tax countries as opposed to high-tax countries. This creates a tax haven for massive corporations that allows the companies to avoid paying their taxes.

## **II. United Nations Involvement**

For the last 40 years, the United Nations has been struggling to hold multinational corporations accountable. The UN first created the Draft Code of Conduct on Transnational Corporations on May 28th, 1987 and the draft was not passed because of disagreement between countries.<sup>5</sup> However, on August 13th, 2003, a UN sub-commission for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights passed a resolution of a “draft Norms on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with Regard to Human Rights”.<sup>6</sup> This

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/156251?ln=en>

<sup>6</sup> <https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/files/reports-and-materials/Ruggie-protect-respect-remedy-framework.pdf>

draft outlined the responsibilities required of multinational corporations in accordance with topics such as labor rights, human rights, and boundaries for operations in countries in conflict. It also established that the state had the primary responsibility and the corporations had the secondary responsibility in supporting human rights and worker rights. Businesses were heavily opposed to this draft while many human rights organizations were in favor of it. This draft was also turned down as countries disagreed and as the Human Rights Council turned it down. The Human Rights Council then appointed John Ruggie, a Harvard professor, as a Special Representative who wrote ‘Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework for Business and Human Rights’ in 2008 and in 2011, he presented the guiding principles along with the framework to help implementation.<sup>7</sup> This framework has three main points and urges countries to put in place strong regulations on multinational corporations in relation to human rights. The first point was to protect human rights from abuse from corporations and other third parties, through the use of proper regulations and policy. The second is that corporations must take care to not infringe on human and labor rights and are actively responsible to maintain and protect human rights. The third and final point is that anyone whose rights are violated by corporations should have easy access to effective remedies in the form of legal and non-legal justice. This framework was unanimously passed by the Human Rights Council and is currently referred to as the UN Framework. This framework currently has made it much harder for major multinational companies to feign ignorance regarding the violation of human rights and it has been successful in requiring the government to support human rights in the labor force in the public eye. The UN

---

<sup>7</sup><https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/files/reports-and-materials/Ruggie-protect-respect-remedy-framework.pdf>

Framework however, is not very effective in preventing the violation of human rights because it is very dependent on states creating harsher labor and human rights laws and it is dependent on the countries to enforce these laws. Not all countries are willing to implement and create stricter worker laws, especially if they are going through periods of political disruption, conflict, or corruption, which makes countries tend to favor the companies that are making them money over the people and labor laws. Corporations also continue to violate the framework put in place, with little to no repercussions causing the same inhumane conditions to continue. Overall, the main problem with the UN Framework is that it is not enforceable.

### **III. Topics to Consider**

#### **a. Exploitation**

One of the problems that the expansion of multinational corporations poses is the exploitation of resources and developing countries. One way that corporations do this is by extracting resources from developing countries that are rich in material but have poor legislative restrictions. According to a study published in *The Lancet* journal of Planetary Health, the highest-income countries use over 74% of the world's resources while only representing 16% of the population.<sup>8</sup> This is due to multinational corporations based in developed countries

---

<sup>8</sup><https://impact.economist.com/sustainability/ecosystems-resources/data-point-ending-exploitation-of-earths-resources>

withdrawing valuable resources from developing countries and selling it for a higher profit in more advanced markets. This is a significant issue because developing countries do not have the legislative prowess to defend themselves against this onslaught of exploitation.

Another way that corporations manipulate developing countries is by outsourcing certain parts of the production process to other, less-developed countries. This is done through the creation of factories in countries that tax considerably less for manufacturing than in more developed economies. An example of this is India, who has been ranked #1 in the world for cheapest manufacturing cost by the US-based World Report.<sup>9</sup> This creates numerous problems in the economic and environmental community, and overall gives multinational corporations more power than entire countries. MNCs may be beneficial to a wide variety of consumers, but their utilization of exploiting tactics poses a huge threat to modern economics.

## b. Environmental Hazards

The lack of regulation of multinational corporations can also lead to environmental destruction. Production of goods in developing countries is often intertwined with excess emissions of greenhouse gasses that are harmful to the environment. Factories set up in developing countries face few governmental restrictions, leading to water and air pollution. In fact, the top 100 MNCs have caused more than 70% of global carbon dioxide emissions 1988.<sup>10</sup> The severity of this problem is often overlooked because many environmental activist organizations focus on changing legislation in developed countries in order to reduce

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-countries/rankings/cheap-manufacturing-costs>

<sup>10</sup> <https://healtheplanet.com/100-ways-to-heal-the-planet/multinational-corporations/>

environmental damage. However, most greenhouse gas emissions come from outsourcing production to developing countries from globalized companies due to the fragility of their governments.

Another issue that multinational corporations cause is a concept known as tragedy of the commons. Tragedy of the commons occurs when a public resource is overharvested by private entities and the resource is driven to extinction in that area. This is not only an unsustainable practice, but it is also notably destructive to local ecosystems and communities. This can be seen with the overharvesting of the Pacific bluefin tuna by corporations such as Nutreco, Marubeni, and Mitsubishi, where the population has dwindled down to 3% of its original number in recent years.<sup>11</sup> Not only has this hurt local ecosystems and their ability to thrive and reproduce, but it has also diminished the economic power of local businesses. Multinational corporations continue to take advantage of weak legislation in developing countries in order to increase profit at the expense of the environment.

### c. Labor Rights

Multinational corporations also exploit foreign workers to maximize profits. People living in developing countries are more likely to take jobs that offer very little pay because there is little economic opportunity available to them. Factory workers in developing countries make less than \$150 USD a month, which tend to be run by globalized companies.<sup>12</sup> By reducing the amount spent on labor, conglomerate corporations can allot more money and resources to areas

---

<sup>11</sup> <https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/tragedy-of-the-commons-impact-on-sustainability-issues>  
<https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2020/09/28/western-banks-finance-companies-responsible-for-overfishing-tuna/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://take-profit.org/en/statistics/wages/india/>



such as marketing and production, growing their company even more. The low wages previously described also work to keep citizens of developing countries under the poverty line, which allows for MNCs to continue the cycle of exploiting laborers and outsourced production.

In many cases, multinational corporations also violate international agreements regarding labor rights. Since the sponsors of the resolutions passed are countries, companies are not subject to certain aspects of certain agreements. One example of this is the Robert Bosch multinational firm based in Germany. In the particular case, the firm threatened to sever the contracts of hundreds of workers at their New Richmond factory in Wisconsin.<sup>13</sup> This directly contrasted the guidelines set by the International Labor Organization (ILO) in 2005 regarding workers' rights. The poor treatment of the workers mentioned contributed to an increased allocation of money to company expansion, allowing the Robert Bosch firm to take root in over 60 countries worldwide. Multinational corporations often find loopholes in international resolutions so that they can maximize their profits through exploitation, a common theme when discussing overall regulation of MNCs.

#### **IV. Case Study: JBS and the Cold Meat Scandal**

Deforestation is an extremely harmful practice to the environment and has been considered to be one of the leading causes of global warming. This is not only because the cutting and burning of trees releases large amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, but also because deforestation eliminates natural sinks for carbon. On top of this, the production of

---

<sup>13</sup><https://www.hrw.org/report/2010/09/03/strange-case/violations-workers-freedom-association-united-states-europea>  
n

the machinery used to cut down trees also emits carbon dioxide. Multinational corporations have been utilizing deforestation for a variety of reasons, one of which being to clear land for agricultural purposes. The company JBS, named after its founder José Batista Sobrinho, is one of the world's largest meatpacking corporations, and has contributed heavily to the deforestation of the Amazon.<sup>14</sup>

The Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest and arguably the largest ecosystem in the world, and has been ransacked of its land to raise cattle by several companies, including JBS. The Brazilian-based company JBS started out as a small business that was simply meant to put food on the table for Batista's family, but has grown to provide 22% of the United States beef supply as of 2011.<sup>15</sup> However, JBS did not reach this height without abusing their power as a multinational corporation.

JBS did not directly contribute to deforestation, as that would have stained their reputation as a leading meat producer. In fact, the owners of JBS signed the 2009 Cattle Moratorium agreement, which promised to drop all economic ties to companies who raised cattle derived from deforested land.<sup>16</sup> This ensured that government regulations and environmental activist groups would steer clear. However, in the years following the 2009 agreement, JBS was found to be laundering cattle from deforested areas, known as the Cold Meat Scandal.

---

<sup>14</sup> <https://stories.mightyearth.org/amazonfires/index.html>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kerenblankfeld/2011/04/21/jbs-the-story-behind-the-worlds-biggest-meat-producer/?sh=36ca5ab37e82>

<sup>16</sup> <https://news.mongabay.com/2009/10/brazilian-beef-giants-agree-to-moratorium-on-amazon-deforestation/>

The Cold Meat Scandal of 2017 occurred when Brazilian officials found undeniable evidence of JBS sourcing cattle from previously deforested areas. This was not only a violation of the Cattle Moratorium agreement, but was also a violation of government policy. Brazilian reports claim that over 59,000 cows were purchased from nearly 200 square miles of illegally deforested land.<sup>17</sup> This demonstrates the power of multinational corporations, as they were able to conduct these scandals for years before the Brazilian government took action. The said action taken was in large part due to the efforts of Greenpeace, the environmental organization that raised awareness about the illicit activity before and after its discovery.

As a result, the two brothers who co-owned JBS at the time of the Cold Meat Scandal were arrested, imprisoned, and forced to pay a \$3.2 billion USD fine for their actions.<sup>18</sup> It can be seen that governmental action can bring corrupt companies to justice, however the original legislation in place was not strong enough to stop MNCs like JBS from exploiting resources. Evidence from the JBS facilities revealed that JBS had bribed nearly 2,000 Brazilian politicians for over a decade to keep their operations under wraps. Regulating multinational corporations starts with fortifying developing countries to combat the loopholes that MNCs find in weaker, developing legislation.

## **V. Guiding Questions**

### *1. How can developing countries' legislation be strengthened?*

---

<sup>17</sup><https://news.mongabay.com/2017/04/rotten-beef-and-illegal-deforestation-brazils-largest-meatpacker-rocked-by-scandals/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.euomeatnews.com/Article-CEO-of-JBS-arrested-by-Brazil-police/185>

2. *What are some ways to reduce the environmental damage being caused?*
3. *How can exploitation of resources be reduced?*
4. *How can multinational corporations be regulated on an international level?*
5. *What are the legal loopholes that can be closed?*
6. *How can workers be protected from globalized economies?*

## Work Cited

- “#85 Multinational Corporations.” Heal the Planet, 26 Nov. 2019,  
[healtheplanet.com/100-ways-to-heal-the-planet/multinational-corporations/](https://healtheplanet.com/100-ways-to-heal-the-planet/multinational-corporations/).
- “A Strange Case.” Human Rights Watch, 2 Sept. 2010,  
[www.hrw.org/report/2010/09/03/strange-case/violations-workers-freedom-association-untied-states-european](https://www.hrw.org/report/2010/09/03/strange-case/violations-workers-freedom-association-untied-states-european). Accessed 17 June 2023.
- “Child Labor in Cocoa Production “Akin to Slavery.”” Wwww.aa.com.tr,  
[www.aa.com.tr/en/world/child-labor-in-cocoa-production-akin-to-slavery/2753639#:~:text=The%20think%20tank%20said%20Sunday](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/world/child-labor-in-cocoa-production-akin-to-slavery/2753639#:~:text=The%20think%20tank%20said%20Sunday).
- Council (1987, UN Economic and Social, and 1st sess : New York). “Code of Conduct on Transnational Corporations.” Digitallibrary.un.org, 10 June 1987,  
[digitallibrary.un.org/record/156251?ln=en](https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/156251?ln=en).
- “Data Point: Ending Exploitation of Earth’s Resources.” Impact.economist.com,  
[impact.economist.com/sustainability/ecosystems-resources/data-point-ending-exploitation-of-earths-resources](https://impact.economist.com/sustainability/ecosystems-resources/data-point-ending-exploitation-of-earths-resources).
- “India Wages 2022 | Minimum & Average | Take-Profit.org.” Take-Profit,  
[take-profit.org/en/statistics/wages/india/](https://take-profit.org/en/statistics/wages/india/).
- Lynch, Lainey. “Infamous Companies Exploit Child Labor for Their Own Benefit.” The Woodgrove Outlander,  
[www.thewoodgroveoutlander.com/news/2020/10/29/infamous-companies-exploit-child-labor-for-their-own-benefit/#](https://www.thewoodgroveoutlander.com/news/2020/10/29/infamous-companies-exploit-child-labor-for-their-own-benefit/#). Accessed 17 June 2023.

Spiliakos, Alexandra. “Tragedy of the Commons’ Impact on Sustainability Issues.” Harvard Business School Online, 6 Feb. 2019, [online.hbs.edu/blog/post/tragedy-of-the-commons-impact-on-sustainability-issues](https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/tragedy-of-the-commons-impact-on-sustainability-issues).

“The Business of Fracking and Corporate Power | Marcellus Shale.” Marcellus.cas.lehigh.edu, [marcellus.cas.lehigh.edu/content/business-fracking-and-corporate-power](https://marcellus.cas.lehigh.edu/content/business-fracking-and-corporate-power). Accessed 17 June 2023.

The UN “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework for Business and Human Rights Background. 2010.

“Western Banks Provide Billions for Firms Fishing Tuna Species to Collapse.” Unearthed, 28 Sept. 2020, [unearthed.greenpeace.org/2020/09/28/western-banks-finance-companies-responsible-for-overfishing-tuna/](https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2020/09/28/western-banks-finance-companies-responsible-for-overfishing-tuna/).

Win, Thin Lei. “Multinational Companies Account for Nearly a Fifth of Global CO2 Emissions, Researchers Say.” Reuters, 8 Sept. 2020, [www.reuters.com/article/us-climatechange-companies-emissions-trf/multinational-companies-account-for-nearly-a-fifth-of-global-co2-emissions-researchers-say-idUSKBN25Z1W6](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-climatechange-companies-emissions-trf/multinational-companies-account-for-nearly-a-fifth-of-global-co2-emissions-researchers-say-idUSKBN25Z1W6).

## Topic B: Surveillance Privacy Laws

### I. Background

Surveillance technology is used to monitor and track individuals' actions and interactions. The first CCTV technology was created by Walter Brunch during World War II with the intention of monitoring weapons, unlike the current use of monitoring people. For a while, surveillance technology was used almost solely for military purposes, and it wasn't until 1949 that surveillance technology started to be sold commercially to the public for security purposes.<sup>19</sup> The use of AI in surveillance technology has increased in recent years, with now 75 out of 176 countries using it as a form of surveillance.<sup>20</sup> The addition of AI into surveillance technology has made many advancements in the technology but has also been a major contributor blurring of the line between what is surveillance and what is surveillance to the point of being an invasion of privacy. As the technology continued to develop and grow, facial recognition technology was developed in the 2000s, and in 2009, the technology started to be sold in law enforcement. Now, in addition to law enforcement, this technology is used in airport passenger screening as well as both housing security and employment background checks. This technology has made it much easier to track down and arrest criminals and has helped to catch any threats. Despite how facial recognition has helped law enforcement, it has some concerning problems. One of the problems is the consideration of whether this new form of technology is a violation of personal privacy. An

---

<sup>19</sup><https://www.surveillance-video.com/blog/a-history-of-cctv-technology-how-video-surveillance-technology-has-evolved.html/#:~:text=CCTV%20technology%20was%20invented%20by,launches%20from%20inside%20a%20bunker>

<sup>20</sup> <https://carnegieendowment.org/2019/09/17/global-expansion-of-ai-surveillance-pub-79847>

estimated half of American adults have their face in the facial network system whether they have consented or not and many have no knowledge that they are even part of this network. This can be traced back to many issues, but a major one is poor legislative oversight. Another very concerning issue is that facial recognition disproportionately affects communities of color. Facial recognition algorithms have a over 90% success rate however, the algorithm has very poor accuracy consistently with darker skinned people, especially black women.<sup>21</sup> In the recognition algorithm in comparison to white men, the rate in which black women are mistaken by the algorithm is 34% more.<sup>22</sup> These constant errors can exacerbate existing inequalities. The reason why this surveillance technology does this is because it has a coded bias due to the testing being done on mainly caucasian men.

Another major development in surveillance technology has been its use and role in mass monitoring. Many countries have been using this technology on a far more intensive level than typical such as China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia. This use of mass monitoring of civilians can be an infringement on the human right to privacy and can be dangerous. For example, concerns have risen regarding China's use of surveillance technology in Xinjiang to monitor and persecute Uyghur muslims. Cameras are put up to monitor the Uyghur population in Xinjiang and everything down to their facial and body expressions in addition to any 'suspicious' expressions, such as ones of fear and nervousness. At the detention camps that many Uyghurs are sent to, cameras are present in every room and monitor all behavior of the Uyghurs. This extreme of

---

<sup>21</sup> <https://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/>



surveillance is not only an infringement on privacy, but also a major violation of basic human rights.<sup>23</sup>

As surveillance technology continues to develop, the line between *safety* and *invasion of privacy* becomes less defined. In addition to facial recognition, new forms of technology are being developed that monitor everything down to the way someone walks, their heartbeat, their indoor movement, their microbial cells, and their scent. Many of these surveillance developments can be easily put into use without knowledge of the public and can lead to personal privacy being violated. This technology can become very invasive very quickly and because it is developing so fast, regulations are hard to pass and enforce. This can lead to the violation of privacy for many.

In the digital age, surveillance and data collection has become increasingly popular and commonly found in cell phones and other electronic devices. This surveillance is often without the user's knowledge, which has raised concerns about privacy in recent years. For example, many companies have taken advantage of the data gathered from cell phone users to make better profits for their own companies through more personalized ads and information. This cycle of collection and selling of data for profit has been largely covered up by big tech and social media companies for years, but in recent years, more information has been revealed to the public, causing more concern in the public of the amount of privacy they actually have on their cell phones. This data is also used by governments in some cases. For example, it was revealed that data was being sold and collected by the United States Department of Homeland Security. This

---

<sup>23</sup> <https://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/>

data was then being used to find the location of citizens and then monitor them. The department was gathering information from two major surveillance companies: Babel Street and Venntel. This information was used to track the location of over 336,000 people and that information was used by immigration enforcement to try to find illegal immigrants.<sup>24</sup>

In addition to the collection and selling of data, cookies have been a major topic surrounding surveillance and its relation to privacy. Cookies are used a lot on websites, and sometimes can be a major factor that allows the website to run smoothly, but they also can be used to help determine which advertisements to show a user. This use of cookies has been controversial because it collects and surveys what you do on a website, specifically what catches your eye and holds your attention. That information is then relayed to the cookie's owner, who then uses that information to decide how best to advertise to you based on the information gathered by the cookies on the website. This has caused controversy of whether this is a form of surveillance or an invasion of privacy. This has led to mandates and laws such as the Cookie Law being passed in the EU, which requires websites to inform users whether or not the website uses cookies and gives them the option to turn off the cookies.

Surveillance technology is a very useful tool, but it can also cause violation of personal privacy. The rate at which surveillance technology is growing is astronomical and because of that, effective mandates and regulations are hard to come by and produce at the rate the technology is developing. This is why the issue of surveillance technology in relation to privacy is such a major issue that is yet to be resolved.

---

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.wired.com/story/dhs-surveillance-phone-tracking-data/>

## II. UN Involvement

The UN Human Rights Office has recently put out a report in 2022 on new developments in surveillance technology that looks at three main factors: the abuse of spyware by State governments, methods to protect human rights online, and the effect of mass monitoring both online and offline.<sup>25</sup> The report investigates and writes on the effect of surveillance technology devices as well as spyware. According to the report, the UN is concerned with the use of spyware in relation to how it is being used to silence and stop opposing views and journalists. In order to help combat the harmful use of spyware, the UN suggests the implementation of moratorium, which would prohibit the use of specific surveillance and spyware, until solid safeguards could be established to prevent the use of harmful spyware and in order to protect human rights online. The UN called for a global moratorium on August 12, 2021 on the sale and collection of data by surveillance technology until sufficient regulations were put in place.<sup>26</sup> A similar proposition to the global moratorium, proposed by the Freedom of Opinion and Expression, was rejected in 2019; however, when widespread surveillance was revealed by Forbidden Stories and Amnesty International in July 18, 2021 in hundreds of journalists' electronic devices, another call was made for a moratorium out of fear that the surveillance technology was specifically monitoring journalists in order to silence them and their writing.<sup>27</sup>

---

<sup>25</sup><https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/09/spyware-and-surveillance-threats-privacy-and-human-rights-growing-un-report>

<sup>26</sup><https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/08/spyware-scandal-un-experts-call-moratorium-sale-life-threatening>

<sup>27</sup><https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/08/spyware-scandal-un-experts-call-moratorium-sale-life-threatening>

A key factor in protecting human rights online and ensuring privacy is encryption. This is another main point of the report, as it calls for States to protect encryption and not to pass anything that could potentially weaken it. The UN also mentions in this report that public surveillance online and offline by the government can easily become an issue of privacy of citizens. This is the reason why the UN implored governments to limit surveillance in public to what is strictly necessary and in addition, only record and keep the data collected from surveillance that is necessary and for only as long as necessary. The UN also called for the immediate restriction and withdrawal of biometric recognition systems in public. Biometric recognition systems are systems that monitor and collect information ranging from your face to your fingerprints. It then stores that data in a database, but a major issue and concern is what will happen if that information or data is leaked. The UN also suggests that states should run human rights impact assessments to ensure that the surveillance technology they are implementing is not violating citizens' human rights. However, the exploitation of privacy through surveillance technology is still rampant due to the extremely fast pace this technology advances at, which makes it even more difficult to monitor and regulate.

### **III. Topics to Consider**

#### **a. Evolving Surveillance Technology**

Laws regarding surveillance and privacy have shifted over time, primarily due to evolving technology. The industry of surveillance uses a wide range of technologies, from basic security cameras to facial recognition. Many different companies and governments use this technology, and there are different laws regarding both entities' boundaries on surveillance. For

example, under Article 17 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), data collected from companies about consumers must be erased immediately upon request of the consumer.<sup>28</sup>

The GDPR is a set of laws that governs the entire European Union, and pertains to the surveillance limits of companies as well as privacy rights for citizens. This ties into the evolution of technology because data can be collected easier than ever with internet databases. In fact, many users are unaware when data is being collected from them, even through basic functions, such as internet searches.

One of the most prominent technological advancements that intensifies the debate over surveillance is artificial intelligence. It has been seen countless times in recent years that artificial intelligence has the ability to gather data from an individual effortlessly. One example of this is facial recognition used by Chinese surveillance footage. Artificial intelligence is used to identify certain individuals and keep tabs on over 11 million Uigher Muslims living in China.<sup>29</sup> This leads to a clear invasion of privacy and therefore violates the international human rights set by the United Nations. The evolution of technology can benefit humanity in many ways, but must be used with caution when dealing with surveillance and privacy.

## b. International and State Legislation

Each country has their own laws regarding privacy and boundaries of surveillance, and there are also international guidelines set by passed resolutions in the UN. They are important to consider because they can differ at times, and not all countries are required to agree with or sign

---

<sup>28</sup> <https://gdpr-info.eu/art-17-gdpr/>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/14/technology/china-surveillance-artificial-intelligence-racial-profiling.html>

international resolutions passed. According to Resolution A/34 of the Human Rights Council created in 2017, states are urged to use data encryption for citizens in order to protect their privacy.<sup>30</sup> However, this particular resolution is only sponsored by 66 countries. This proves that while many states agree to protect the privacy of their inhabitants, some, if not most, challenge the need for international guidelines. This causes rifts between privacy standards and can cause unwanted surveillance issues in different parts of the world. On top of this, less developed countries that do not have the same technology as more developed countries may be indifferent towards international surveillance laws.

More rural areas tend to have relaxed privacy laws because internet access is very limited. This can spark issues because it allows for a lack of surveillance regulation. In fact, only 57% of Asian countries currently have legislation in place to maintain data privacy.<sup>31</sup> The majority of these countries have large chunks of rural areas, which tends to influence priorities of the government. The right to privacy is often ignored due to the assumption that internet access is the only way to abuse surveillance. This, however, is untrue because satellites play a huge role in governmental surveillance. Satellites under governmental control can take pictures of private property due to the lack of privacy laws in certain areas, which can cause international conflict.

### c. Right to Privacy in Conflict Zones

---

<sup>30</sup><https://www.article19.org/resources/un-resolution-affirms-surveillance-that-is-not-necessary-or-proportionate-is-against-the-right-to-privacy/#:~:text=Reset-,UN%20resolution%20affirms%20surveillance%20that%20is%20not%20necessary%20or,against%20the%20right%20to%20privacy&text=ARTICLE%2019%20welcomes%20the%20adoption,privacy%20in%20the%20digital%20age.>

<sup>31</sup> <https://unctad.org/page/data-protection-and-privacy-legislation-worldwide>

Along with many other basic human rights, the right to privacy is often infringed upon in times of conflict or war. It is often infringed upon by governments who are looking to maintain domestic security. One example of this is in the United States when the Patriot Act was passed. In the weeks after the September 11th, 2001 tragedy, the United States issued an act known as the Patriot Act that increased the capabilities of the government to obtain personal banking information, emails, and cellular history.<sup>32</sup> Initially, this was thought to be supportive of the counterattack that the United States was to launch on the extremist group, al-Qaeda. However, the Patriot Act only worked to create more suspects because of supposed “suspicious activity” of everyday Americans. This is a classic case of unchecked surveillance, and can be evaluated on an international scale when discussing privacy laws. Conflict allows for several intrusions of privacy in many places around the world mainly due to the assumed justification of increasing surveillance for security purposes.

Another potential obstruction of the right to privacy that regards conflict is the Chinese device known as the “spy balloon” that has been seen flying over multiple countries. According to Taiwanese officials, there were multiple sightings of a Chinese balloon from March through September of 2021, as well as in the United States in February of the same year.<sup>33</sup> Though the purpose of these balloons are disputed, such technology still poses a serious threat to not only civilian privacy, but military privacy as well. Threatening military privacy in this day and age is a serious offense to many and has the potential to start a war, which is exactly what bodies such

---

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/issues/national-security/privacy-and-surveillance/surveillance-under-patriot-act>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/spy-balloon-china-taiwan-japan-bbc-shoot-down-3591326>

as the UN are trying to prevent. Additionally, less developed countries can be caught in the crossfire of surveillance conflicts between multiple powerful militaries. Reaching an agreement on an international level is the only way to ensure that surveillance is kept in check and privacy is upheld.

#### **IV. Case Study: Afghanistan Privacy Under Taliban Rule**

The takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban in 2021 left the world shocked and human rights continue to be suppressed in certain regions. One of the main issues discussed about the Taliban's takeover is the lack of education for girls and minorities, however there are many more that go relatively unnoticed. One such issue is the Taliban's abuse of technology to essentially spy on Afghan people through personal data. This allows the Taliban to remain in power because they can target those that are deemed dangerous due to access to personal information.

When the United States withdrew their forces from Afghanistan in August of 2021, the Taliban took control of the entire country. A tactical error that the United States and other Western countries made was leaving valuable resources and equipment behind. One of the biggest reasons that the Taliban is able to oversee the actions of the public is that Western countries who once had a presence in Afghanistan deserted their control systems, which contained sensitive biometric data of Afghan citizens.<sup>34</sup> According to the Human Rights Watch, these control systems had access to “iris scans, fingerprints, photographs, occupation, home addresses, and names of relatives.” One of these systems is known as the Afghan Automated Biometric Identification System (AABIS), which can identify criminals as well as former police

---

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/03/30/new-evidence-biometric-data-systems-imperil-afghans>



and military personnel. This creates an extremely feasible way to track down those who might oppose the Taliban, as well as those who might support them. Not only is this a clear violation of basic privacy rights, but it also makes the Taliban more powerful and influential over the Afghan population.

The gathering of this information by the Taliban is deeply concerning primarily because they can use it to target individuals who are believed to be staging a resistance. This leads to a suppression of free speech and an overall downward spiral of human rights being violated. Something else to be noted is the 97% poverty rate in Afghanistan observed in 2021 that resulted directly after the Taliban's takeover.<sup>35</sup> Increased breaches of privacy were completely unnecessary for the Taliban, as most citizens were simply trying to get by rather than focusing on formulating an entire new government. However, by maintaining strict surveillance over Afghan citizens, the Taliban consequently keep them in the cycle of poverty. In this way, unchecked surveillance acts as a double edged sword when it comes to the violation of human rights.

Additionally, Afghanistan currently holds no law regarding data protection or privacy.<sup>36</sup> This lack of official legislation is what allows the Taliban to continue to abuse the deserted control systems as a means of keeping power. In fact, 47 former members of the Afghan National Security Forces were killed or reported missing in a span of 3 months due to Taliban targeting. As long as Afghanistan has no data protection law, this unwarranted abuse of power and information will continue to ravage Afghan society. The United Nations has spoken out about

---

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/south-asia/afghanistan/report-afghanistan/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.dataguidance.com/jurisdiction/afghanistan>

this issue, referencing the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to affirm the rights of privacy for Afghan people. However, the countries who left their control systems behind believe it would be too much of a risk to take them away from the Taliban. The United Nations continues to raise awareness about this issue, however responsibility must be taken in order for the people of Afghanistan to live without the fear of having their personal data used against them.

## **V. Guiding Questions**

- 1. How can international cooperation be fostered to limit breaches of privacy?*
- 2. What draws the line between justified surveillance and the right to privacy?*
- 3. How can new technology be used beneficially and not harmfully?*
- 4. How can mass monitoring and crowdsourcing be regulated?*
- 5. In what ways can the United Nations help citizens in underdeveloped countries and still maintain their sovereignty?*
- 6. How can privacy be maintained in conflict zones and in times of war?*

## Work Cited

“Afghanistan.” *DataGuidance*, [www.dataguidance.com/jurisdiction/afghanistan](http://www.dataguidance.com/jurisdiction/afghanistan). Accessed 30 June 2023.

American Civil Liberties Union. “Surveillance under the Patriot Act.” *American Civil Liberties Union*, 2011, [www.aclu.org/issues/national-security/privacy-and-surveillance/surveillance-under-patriot-act](http://www.aclu.org/issues/national-security/privacy-and-surveillance/surveillance-under-patriot-act).

Amnesty International. “Everything You Need to Know about Human Rights in Afghanistan 2020.” *Amnesty International*, Amnesty International, 2022, [www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/south-asia/afghanistan/report-afghanistan/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/south-asia/afghanistan/report-afghanistan/).

“Art. 17 GDPR – Right to Erasure (“Right to Be Forgotten”) | General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).” *General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*, 2013, [gdpr-info.eu/art-17-gdpr/](http://gdpr-info.eu/art-17-gdpr/).

Bhuiyan, Johana. ““There’s Cameras Everywhere”: Testimonies Detail Far-Reaching Surveillance of Uyghurs in China.” *The Guardian*, 30 Sept. 2021, [www.theguardian.com/world/2021/sep/30/uyghur-tribunal-testimony-surveillance-china](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/sep/30/uyghur-tribunal-testimony-surveillance-china).

Bradford, Lowell. “A History of CCTV Technology: How Surveillance Technology Has Evolved.” *Surveillance-Video.com*, 27 Aug. 2019, [www.surveillance-video.com/blog/a-history-of-cctv-technology-how-video-surveillance-t](http://www.surveillance-video.com/blog/a-history-of-cctv-technology-how-video-surveillance-t)

technology-has-evolved.html/#:~:text=CCTV%20technology%20was%20invented%20by.

Accessed 30 June 2023.

“China’s Buildup of the Surveillance State — “Intelligence Matters.”” *Www.cbsnews.com*, 4 Jan. 2023,

[www.cbsnews.com/news/chinas-buildup-of-the-surveillance-state-intelligence-matters/](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/chinas-buildup-of-the-surveillance-state-intelligence-matters/).

Feldstein, Steven. “The Global Expansion of AI Surveillance.” *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, 17 Sept. 2019,

[carnegieendowment.org/2019/09/17/global-expansion-of-ai-surveillance-pub-79847](http://carnegieendowment.org/2019/09/17/global-expansion-of-ai-surveillance-pub-79847).

Geary, Joanna. “Tracking the Trackers: Introduction to Cookies and Web Tracking.” *The Guardian*, The Guardian, 27 Apr. 2012,

[www.theguardian.com/technology/2012/apr/23/cookies-and-web-tracking-intro](http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2012/apr/23/cookies-and-web-tracking-intro).

Mozur, Paul. “One Month, 500,000 Face Scans: How China Is Using A.I. To Profile a Minority.” *The New York Times*, 14 Apr. 2019,

[www.nytimes.com/2019/04/14/technology/china-surveillance-artificial-intelligence-racial-profiling.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/14/technology/china-surveillance-artificial-intelligence-racial-profiling.html).

Najibi, Alex. “Racial Discrimination in Face Recognition Technology.” *Science in the News*, Harvard University, 24 Oct. 2020,

[sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/](http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/).

“New Evidence That Biometric Data Systems Imperil Afghans.” *Human Rights Watch*, 30 Mar. 2022,

[www.hrw.org/news/2022/03/30/new-evidence-biometric-data-systems-imperil-afghans](http://www.hrw.org/news/2022/03/30/new-evidence-biometric-data-systems-imperil-afghans).

“Police Surveillance and Facial Recognition: Why Data Privacy Is Imperative for Communities of Color.” *Brookings*,

[www.brookings.edu/articles/police-surveillance-and-facial-recognition-why-data-privacy-is-an-imperative-for-communities-of-color/](http://www.brookings.edu/articles/police-surveillance-and-facial-recognition-why-data-privacy-is-an-imperative-for-communities-of-color/).

“Spyware and Surveillance: Threats to Privacy and Human Rights Growing, UN Report Warns.” *OHCHR*, 16 Sept. 2022,

[www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/09/spyware-and-surveillance-threats-privacy-and-human-rights-growing-un-report](http://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/09/spyware-and-surveillance-threats-privacy-and-human-rights-growing-un-report).

“Spyware Scandal: UN Experts Call for Moratorium on Sale of “Life Threatening” Surveillance Tech.” *OHCHR*,

[www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/08/spyware-scandal-un-experts-call-moratorium-sale-life-threatening](http://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/08/spyware-scandal-un-experts-call-moratorium-sale-life-threatening).

“Taiwan to “Shoot down and Destroy” Mainland Chinese Balloons If They Pose a Risk.” *CNA*, [www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/spy-balloon-china-taiwan-japan-bbc-shoot-down-35913](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/spy-balloon-china-taiwan-japan-bbc-shoot-down-35913) 26. Accessed 30 June 2023.

Technica, Ashley Belanger, Ars. “The DHS Bought a “Shocking Amount” of Phone-Tracking Data.” *Wired*, [www.wired.com/story/dhs-surveillance-phone-tracking-data/](http://www.wired.com/story/dhs-surveillance-phone-tracking-data/).

“The Wild West of Smartphone Data and Surveillance.” *Council on Foreign Relations*, [www.cfr.org/blog/wild-west-smartphone-data-and-surveillance](http://www.cfr.org/blog/wild-west-smartphone-data-and-surveillance). Accessed 30 June 2023.

Thomas, Elise. “New Surveillance Tech Means You’ll Never Be Anonymous Again.” *Wired UK*, 16 Sept. 2019, [www.wired.co.uk/article/surveillance-technology-biometrics](http://www.wired.co.uk/article/surveillance-technology-biometrics).

“UN Resolution Affirms Surveillance That Is Not Necessary or Proportionate Is against the Right to Privacy.” *ARTICLE 19*, 23 Mar. 2017,

[www.article19.org/resources/un-resolution-affirms-surveillance-that-is-not-necessary-or-proportionate-is-against-the-right-to-privacy/#:~:text=Reset-](http://www.article19.org/resources/un-resolution-affirms-surveillance-that-is-not-necessary-or-proportionate-is-against-the-right-to-privacy/#:~:text=Reset-). Accessed 30 June 2023.

UNCTAD. “Data Protection and Privacy Legislation Worldwide | UNCTAD.” *Unctad.org*, 2021, [unctad.org/page/data-protection-and-privacy-legislation-worldwide](http://unctad.org/page/data-protection-and-privacy-legislation-worldwide).

“What Is Biometrics and How Secure Is Biometric Data?” *What Is Biometrics and How Secure Is Biometric Data?*,

[www.avast.com/c-what-is-biometric-data/#:~:text=be%20far%20behind.-](http://www.avast.com/c-what-is-biometric-data/#:~:text=be%20far%20behind.-).