HMDC Presents...

Bloc Map: Legal Committee (Sixth Committee)

Topic: Cyberwarfare Case Studies

Cyber attacks can shut down hospitals, banks and power stations. In December 2024 the UN General Assembly adopted a new convention against cybercrime after five years of negotiation. Countries still disagree about how the laws of war apply to cyber attacks.

THE MAIN GROUPS (BLOCS)

A bloc is a group of countries that often vote together. Rows that start with "Check:" mean our sources do not name the members, so research them yourself.

Group	Who is in it	What they want	Source
Cybercrime convention supporters	The General Assembly adopted the UN Convention against Cybercrime without a vote on December 24, 2024.	Stronger international cooperation and help for countries to fight cybercrime.	President of the UN General Assembly
Developing countries that need capacity	Check: which countries in your committee lack cyber experts.	Training, tools and assistance, which the convention promises.	President of the UN General Assembly
Countries focused on state behavior in cyberspace	Members of the UN Open-ended Working Group on information and communication technologies (2021).	Rules for how governments behave online in times of peace and conflict.	UN Office for Disarmament Affairs
Human-rights-first countries	Check: which countries in your committee raise privacy and free-speech worries about cyber laws.	Cyber laws that do not hurt journalists, activists or ordinary users.	President of the UN General Assembly

FINDING YOUR ALLIES

1.	If your country needs cyber training, team up with other countries that want assistance under the convention.
2.	If your country cares most about rules for governments, look for active members of the UN working group.
3.	Use the convention as common ground, because it was adopted without a vote.

THREE COMPROMISE IDEAS

A compromise gives each side something it wants. Try one of these in an unmoderated caucus.

1.	Agree that hospitals, water and power systems must never be attacked online.
2.	Create a shared warning system so countries can report attacks quickly.
3.	Pair cybercrime cooperation with clear protections for privacy and free speech.

YOUR NOTES

My country's bloc: _____ My first ally: _____

SOURCES

According to President of the UN General Assembly, "UN General Assembly adopts landmark convention on cybercrime", December 24, 2024. https://www.un.org/pga/79/2024/12/24/press-release-un-general-assembly-adopts-landmark-convention-on-cybercrime

According to UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, "Open-ended Working Group on information and communication technologies (2021)", Last Accessed: November 2026. https://meetings.unoda.org/open-ended-working-group-on-information-and-communication-technologies-2021

Positions change. Before the conference, read your own country's newest statement on this topic.