HMDC Presents...

Key Words: Legal Committee

Cyberwarfare Case Studies

These words appear again and again in this committee's report, videos and debates. Knowing them helps you understand other delegates quickly and speak with confidence. Read each meaning, then write a short note or example of your own in the last column.

Word	Meaning (Oxford Learner's Dictionaries)	My note
cyberwarfare	the use of computer technology to attack the information systems of a state or organization, preventing them from carrying out important activities	
cyberattack	an act of trying to damage or destroy a computer network, computer system or website by secretly changing information on it without permission	
hacker	a person who uses computers to get access to data in somebody else's computer or phone system without permission	
ransomware	software that is used to demand money from an individual or organization by blocking access to applications or files on a computer system until a sum of money is paid	
malware	software such as a virus specifically designed to damage or gain access to a computer system without the user knowing	
attribution	the act of saying or believing that somebody is responsible for doing something, especially for saying, writing or painting something	
sovereignty	complete power to govern a country	
proportionality	the principle that an action, a punishment, etc. should not be more severe than is necessary	
retaliation	action that a person takes against somebody who has harmed them in some way	
infrastructure	the basic systems and services that are necessary for a country or an organization to run smoothly, for example buildings, transport and water and power supplies	
espionage	the activity of secretly getting important political or military information about another country or of finding out another company’s secrets by using spies	
encryption	the act of putting information into a special code, especially in order to prevent people from looking at it without authority	

Meanings: Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com, Last Accessed: November 7, 2026.