

# CIA

Central Intelligence Agency



LASALLECUNMUN  
2026

“Counterintelligence against  
foreign spies infiltrating the US”

BACKGROUND GUIDE





Dear delegates,

Welcome to LASALLECUNMUN 2026! My name is Mario Navarro Izquierdo, and I am so glad that you've joined this committee. This model, I have the honor to be part of the Central Intelligence Agency as its President along with my companions Diego Castillo Guadarrama as its Moderator and Maximo Navarro Izquierdo as its Conference Officer. This is my first time participating as chair in a model, so this is a new experience to me too.

I am currently 16 years old and I am in my third semester of high school at Universidad La Salle Cancun, at the end of last school year I was very undecided which area to get into, and currently I still have not defined what career I want to study so I was very worried, I have many skills but where I excel the most without a doubt are mathematics and science, so with the help of a friend, in the end I decided to get into the health field because It makes me curious and I feel that I can use mathematics to help people. Outside of academics, I am a person who likes to learn and have new experiences throughout my life. Thanks to God and my parents, I've played many sports and traveled a lot. Currently, I want to pick up tennis again so I can play against my brother and father. I have a sister who I love and admire very much. She currently lives and works in the field she loves. Some of the things I've learned from her, my father, and especially my mother are discipline, punctuality, respect, never staying silent and work for what I want.

Finally, for me, MUN is not only one of the best ways to improve your public speaking and information-seeking skills, but also a pleasant community where you make many friends. One of the reasons I entered MUN was because of the excitement I received from my former teachers, Hanna and Monica, and my former president, Andy, who are now pursuing the career they love. So I don't want you to be nervous; I want you to dare to have new experiences and not be afraid of making mistakes, since that is the best way to learn. "What we do in life, echoes in eternity"

Your sincerely,

**Mario Navarro Izquierdo**

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## **COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION**

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is responsible for collecting and analyzing foreign intelligence, conducting covert operations, and developing innovative technology. U.S. policymakers, including the president, make decisions based on the information it provides. It works with its partners in the Intelligence Community, the Department of Defense, and law enforcement on numerous complex issues, from counterintelligence to counterterrorism.

*Topic: “Counterintelligence against foreign spies infiltrating the US.”*

## **INTRODUCTION**

The United States is one of the most globalized and digitized countries; its information has become one of the most valuable assets for the United States.

This has caused it to be the main target of foreign intelligence services, criminal organizations, terrorist groups and some foreign spies infiltrated in the United States who have lived for decades under false identities, even participating in community activities and educating their children like any ordinary citizen, while carrying out espionage operations for their countries of origin, such as Aldrich Ames, who spied within the CIA for the KGB (Committee of State Security), which was the main security agency of the Soviet Union, responsible for intelligence and national security, this lasted almost 10 years until he was captured in 1994. All of this to steal technology, military information, and national security information.

Counterintelligence emerges as an essential tool with a set of techniques, methods, and strategies aimed at detecting, neutralizing, and preventing infiltrations, espionage, and internal threats that jeopardize a country's security. Some agencies, such as the CIA and the FBI, are tasked with putting this into practice, implementing espionage methods such as surveillance and monitoring of suspicious individuals, detecting espionage attempts, and secret missions with spies or agents with double identities. In the case of internal counterintelligence, surveillance is also carried out within the agency to detect potential infiltrators or traitors. Therefore, at the beginning of recruiting a new agent, they undergo a loyalty test.

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

During World War II, the United States lacked a unified intelligence structure. Intelligence agencies such as the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) were then created in 1942 to monitor espionage and counterespionage operations against the powers and competitors of the time.

When the war ended, the National Security Act of 1947 established the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which had the same functions as the OSS: obtaining information from abroad and protecting the country from internal threats. With the beginning of the Cold War, espionage reached a very important level in the collection of information about the Soviet Union. At that time, the Soviet KGB deployed spies and infiltration networks within American agencies, laboratories, and companies to obtain classified information about nuclear weapons, technology, and military strategies. Prominent cases include Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were executed in 1951 for providing atomic secrets to the USSR, and Aldrich Ames and Robert Hanssen, who betrayed the country by leaking identities and operations to the Soviets.

After the fall of the Soviet Union, espionage didn't disappear; it simply changed its form. In the 1990s, countries such as China, Iran, and North Korea focused on obtaining information in the technological and industrial spheres.

A very important event was the attack of September 11, 2001. The US government adopted a more aggressive security policy, creating the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and expanding surveillance powers through the Patriot Act. Although the priority was the fight against terrorism, the focus on domestic counterintelligence strengthened. Since that event, surveillance and security within US agencies have increased, developing programs to detect internal threats. One example would be that of Edward Snowden, who in 2013 leaked highly classified information from the National Security Agency (NSA), revealing a new type of threat: insider threats, which are all individuals with access to critical information.

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

Currently, the United States of America is one of the countries facing a growing threat from foreign intelligence agencies seeking to infiltrate its territory and obtain classified information. In recent years, countries such as China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea have increased their espionage activities to obtain classified information, steal advanced technology, and weaken U.S. national security. This is due to constant economic, technological, and military rivalry, as well as the various wars in the world today. These actions are primarily carried out within the United States and have increased since 2020. However, espionage is no longer limited to traditional secret agents; thanks to technological advancements, it now includes cyber espionage, data theft, disinformation campaigns, the recruitment of high-ranking officials within the country, and access to sensitive information in government institutions and key agencies.

From the United Nations' perspective, there is currently no resolution on the infiltration of foreign spies into the United States, but there are five strategies and methods of foreign

counterintelligence:

Surveillance and detection of infiltrators: States implement rigorous controls to verify the loyalty of officials and military personnel, from trust tests to background checks.

Covert operations: In this area, double agents are deployed, and deception operations are carried out to identify infiltrated spies and learn their methods and identities. Cyber defense and cyber intelligence: This area consists of protecting networks, critical systems, and sensitive databases. To achieve this, digital counterintelligence teams are a priority and therefore must work in conjunction with other national cybersecurity agencies. Behavioral analysis: In this area, the behavioral patterns of individuals with access to important information are studied to detect any indication of suspected manipulation or corruption. International Cooperation: Given the global nature of the threats, counterintelligence requires alliances with other countries and international organizations such as NATO, Interpol, and Europol.

The UN has expressed its concern about the impact of espionage and cyberattacks on the sovereignty of states and international stability. It has also recommended that countries strengthen their national security without violating human rights or civil liberties by promoting international cooperation, information sharing, and the creation of regulations governing the use of cyberspace, emphasizing that the lack of clear rules can lead to greater conflicts between countries.

In recent years, several events have confirmed the seriousness of the situation. US authorities have arrested individuals accused of acting as foreign agents or collaborating with adversary governments to obtain sensitive information. Furthermore, cyberattacks targeting federal agencies, technology sectors, and research centers have been detected, some linked to foreign governments. These events have had significant consequences, including increased mistrust between countries, the imposition of diplomatic sanctions, the expulsion of diplomats, and the strengthening of national security laws. Other countries have reacted by denying the accusations or accusing the United States of engaging in similar practices, which has generated diplomatic tensions and a climate of international confrontation.

The potential consequences of this conflict are significant. Counterintelligence can have various positive and negative effects. It contributes to and helps protect national security by preventing espionage and safeguarding classified information, allowing for the detection of internal and external threats before they occur, thus improving state security. On the other hand, its excessive use without adequate controls can lead to a loss of privacy and constant surveillance of society, creating insecurity and social distrust, and potentially having a psychological impact on the country's population.

## **DIRECTORS BOX**

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## **GUIDE QUESTIONS**

- I. What is your country's position on espionage and the infiltration of foreign agents internationally?
- II. What actions has your country taken to prevent, detect, or respond to espionage and counterintelligence activities, both within its territory and in cooperation with other states?
- III. What consequences has your country suffered due to foreign espionage or the counterintelligence measures implemented (political, economic, technological, or diplomatic)?
- IV. What solutions does your country propose to strengthen counterintelligence without violating human rights or civil liberties?
- V. How can international cooperation contribute to reducing spy infiltration and improving global stability and security?

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