

***The Evolution of Warfare:
The Respect of International Humanitarian Law
and International Human Rights Law by Private
Military & Security Companies***

Prof. Raymond Saner

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Increasing use of PMSCs



*In **Saudi Arabia**, US-based PMSCs play a key role in protecting the monarchy from unrest. Until recently BDM, parent of Vinnell, provided logistics, intelligence and maintenance services to the Saudi air force.*

Vinnell itself trains the Saudi national guard, while Booz Allen Hamilton runs the military staff college. SAIC supports the navy and air defences, and O Gara protects the Saudi royal family and trains local security forces.

- *In **East Timor**, Australian forces leading the UN Transitional Administration peacekeeping force in 1999 depended on logistics outsourced to PMSCs, while the UN employed private intelligence and security firms to assist. (Mathieu and Dearden 2006).*

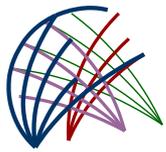
Private military industry actors



Private Military Company (PMC)

- Is a private company providing armed combat or security services such as guarding military bases or disposing of explosive ordinance. If involved in offensive combat, considered unlawful combatants (Geneva Convention)
- Private Security Company (PSC)
 - Is a private company which provides armed and unarmed security services and expertise to private and public clients mostly deals with security consulting and investigative services
- => **Lines between PMCs and PSCs are not always clear cut**, since both types of companies at times offer services in the two subfields -

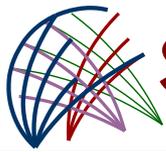
PMSC Industry - Data



Diplomacy
Dialogue



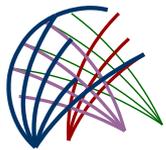
- Information is **scarce** & difficult to find
- Data alternating between being publically available & **highly confidential**
- Companies may be headquartered in one country while holding a **branch or representative office** in another
- Industry's worth at **USD 400 billion / millions of employees and 6500 companies worldwide.**



Services offered by the Ten largest PMSCs



Company (N=10)	Categories/Segments of Services						
PMSC	Advising/ Consulting	Armed Protection	Technical Support	Military Training	Surveillance Intelligence	Cyber Security	Logistical Support
Academi	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
Aegis Def. Services	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
Dyn Corp.Int.	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
G4S	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
L-3 MPRI Inc.	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
Vinnell Corpo.	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
Booz Allan Hamilton	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Garda World Security Co.	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Prosegur	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Kellog, Brown, Roor KBR	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
Number of companies engaged in the service segment	9	9	7	6	4	3	10
% of companies participate in the service segments	90%	90%	70%	60%	40%	30%	100%



Conclusion



- There is **no single ideal regulatory avenue for policy-makers**. While contemporary debates surrounding solutions to this problem are based on whether national or international law is the best method, **PMCs and their contracting parties are able to cherry-pick which guidelines and legislation to follow**.
- The question remains **how to regulate PMSCs** and ensure the continuous **implementation of the existing regulatory framework** while also securing that governments themselves are monitored and held accountable to their duties as signatories of the Geneva Conventions, IHL, and international human rights.

Source

- **Saner, R. (2015), *Private Military and Security Companies: Industry-Led Self-Regulatory Initiatives versus State-Led Containment Strategies*, The Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, CCDP Working Paper 11, Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva**

Thank you