GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE مــركـــز جنيـــف لحـــــقوق الإنســــان والـــــحوار الــــــعالــــــمى

CENTRE DE GENÈVE POUR LA PROMOTION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET LE DIALOGUE GLOBAL

Reports on the 45th session of the UN Human Rights Council

General debate on agenda Item 4 (25 and 28 September 2020)

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Ms Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights:	Venezuela (Country Concerned)
Presentation of oral update on the human rights situation in Venezuela	
 This oral update covers the period from the 2nd of July to 25 September 2020. Acknowledged through the Item 2 report the positive developments by the government of Venezuela concerning the pardon of certain persons, release of 40 people and greater cooperation with the OHCHR. The Office will continue providing technical assistance to the government. There are still cases of repression of peaceful protesters in the state of emergency, including the people protesting against the low wages, the lack of public services and the lack of fuel. Two protesters died. Restrictions on freedom of expression, this includes the application of the anti-hatred legislation. The work has been done concerning the returnees to the country, however the OHCHR is concerned by the stigmatizing speech that some authorities use to voice their fears that they will re-introduce the COVID-9 to the country. 	 The oral update was mandated by the Resolution 42/25 and was promoted by a small group of States. Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Paraguay and Canada should watch human rights situations in their own respective countries. Firm rejection of imposing resolutions against sovereign countries. These hostile initiatives are designed to artificially maximize the challenges that any country faces, while distorting the truth about what is happening on the ground. The work of the Council should ensure universality, objectivity and non-selectivity and eradicate any politicization or double-standards. Take note of the concerns expressed by the High Commissioner and will respond to all of them in due course. The Oral Presentation lacked – once again – the necessary balance. There
 Detention centres: need to improve the access to water, food and medicines, as well as continuous communication with the lawyers and families. 	are clear methodological shortcomings and biased information that fuels the media campaign against Venezuela.
- 33% of COVID-related deaths have affected health staff, this is due to the lack of personal protection equipment and water.	- Remain open for constructive exchange of information with the High Commissioner and her Office. Need to preserve dialogue and cooperation.
- Food emergency: the percentage of child malnutrition has reached 15%.	OHCHR team in Venezuela receives full support of all relevant state bodies.
 Limiting exports can further exacerbate the lack of fuel and exacerbate humanitarian situation and the lack of basic goods. Call on easing of economic sanctions so as to facilitate assistance during the pandemic. There are marginalised areas with lack of security. More than 100 deaths were 	 Currently facing a multifaceted aggression by the government of the USA. This aggression involves the imposition of universal coercive measures that have an adverse impact on the enjoyment of human rights by the Venezuelan people, including the right to development.
registered in July-August, or more than 1000 deaths since January 2020.	- Venezuela had to fight off several armed terrorist actions against its
 Concerned about restrictions placed against members of certain political parties and the National Electoral Commission, as well as the modification of the selection mechanism of the indigenous representatives to the National Assembly. 	democratic institutions which have been planned and financed from abroad.
 mechanism of the indigenous representatives to the National Assembly. It is essential to ensure that in the upcoming months civic and democratic processes are protected, the people who have been unfairly elected are released. Need to foster development of credible free, inclusive and fair processes. 	 Reaffirms its commitment to continued cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, and with the Office of the High Commissioner.



General Debate:

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	Interventions made on behalf of Groups of States
	ean Union), Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) on behalf of a Group of Countries, Germany (on), Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Non-aligned Movement), Peru (on behalf of a Group of Countries).
Germany on behalf of the European Union ¹	 <u>Myanmar, South Sudan, Syria and Burundi</u>: EU refers to the statement during the respective interactive dialogues. <u>Belarus</u>: condemns the violence against peaceful protesters.
	 <u>Russian Federation</u>: assassination attempt of Alexei Navalny. <u>China</u>: systemic restrictions of the freedom of religion and belief of Uighurs and other ethnic minorities in Xinjiang. Concerned
	about National Security Legislation for Hong Kong.
	 <u>Philippines</u>: harassment and killing of human right defenders, lawyers, religious leaders. <u>Occupied Palestinian Territories</u>: condemns any form of violence, including settler-relater incidents and incitements of all sides.
	 <u>Egypt</u>: respect for freedom of expression, media, peaceful assembly and association, need to stop long pre-trial detentions and any reprisals.
	- <u>Libya</u> : violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.
	 <u>Venezuela</u>: human rights violations, torture, extrajudicial killings, shrinking space for civil society, the lack of independence of the judiciary, the abuse of exploitation of children.
	 Yemen: need to ensure accountability for all violations. <u>Turkey</u>: freedom of expression, violence against women and girls, arrests of human right defenders and journalists.

¹ The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Liechtenstein align themselves with this statement.

Pakistan on behalf ofOrganization of IslamicCooperation (OIC)	 Need for adherence to the principles of universality, objectivity, and non-selectivity. Global resurgence in Islamophobia. Prevalence of human rights violations in situations of foreign occupation, unresolved conflicts and simmering disputes.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) on behalf of the Like-Minded Group (LMG) ²	 Deep concern about discriminatory practice of selective adoption of country-specific resolutions. Violations of principles of universality, objectivity, and non-selectivity. Relevant practice of "naming and shaming". Growing politization of Item 4 by the Council. UPR is the essential mechanism of the UN when it comes to addressing country situations in all member states.
Germany on behalf of 47 countries	 <u>Persistent human rights violations in Iran</u>: Violation of the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, Concerning reports of arbitrary detentions, unfair trials, forced confessions and practices of torture and ill-treatment of detainees in the context of the recent protests. Continued use of the death penalty, including against juvenile offenders. Intimidation, prosecution and ill-treatment of human rights defenders.
Azerbaijan on behalf of the Non- Aligned Movement (NAM)	 Need for objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of states, with impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency as guiding principles. Deep concern on the proliferation of country-specific resolutions. Issues that should be given priority: poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, climate change, digital divide, instability, foreign occupation and illegal settlements. States have the primary responsibility to promote the durable solutions for the internally displaced persons in the situation of terrorism and armed conflicts.
Peru on behalf of the Lima Group ³	 <u>Crisis in Venezuela:</u> The rule of law has been systematically violated, the judiciary is co-opted. Certain groups of people are more affected: journalists, human rights defenders, civil society. Freedom of expression, freedom of the press, freedom of protests are severely restricted. The security forces commit extrajudicial executions, temporary enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture.

² China, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela
 ³ Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru

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Interventions made on behalf of Human Rights Council's Member States Germany, Netherlands, Brazil, India, Japan, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Australia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Uruquay, Spain, Peru, Philippines, Denmark, Chile 1. Germany Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Belarus: condemn violations of international human rights obligations. **Russian Federation:** Germany condemns an association attempt of Alexei Navalny. -Russia must guarantee the rule of law and fundamental civil and political rights, and remove disproportional restrictions of freedom of expression, religion and assembly. All Ukrainian citizens illegally detained by Russia must be released unconditionally. Human Rights situation in China: Concerned about situation of ethnic minorities: Uighurs in Xinjiang Autonomous region, and Tibetans in Tibet Autonomous region are experiencing systemic violation of their rights to freedom of religion or belief. National security legislation is SAR Hong Kong resulted in curtailment of civil liberties. Egypt: increasing use of death penalty is of a great concern. Syria: enforced disappearances, indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas and unlawful detentions. DRPK: disregard for human rights remains nearly total. Venezuela: call on a Maduro regime to restore transparent, inclusive, free and fair electoral process and to end humanitarian plight of Venezuelan people. 2. Netherlands Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Deeply concerned about the cycles of impunity for the most serious human rights violations around the world. Netherlands decided to hold Syria responsible under international law for gross violations of human rights and torture in particular. In its efforts to advance accountability, the Netherlands, together with Canada, expressed its intention to intervene in the case brought by the Gambia against Myanmar before the International Court of Justice. Advancing accountability is one of the Netherlands' top priorities. In 2019, the Netherlands earmarked 2 mln EUR to OHCHR to help expand its capacity and expertise in supporting the accountability mechanisms mandated by this Council. The sanctions imposed by the US against the prosecutor and a director in the office of the Prosecutor of the ICC are disturbing. 3. Brazil The political situation in Venezuela has deteriorated alarmingly Brazil calls upon the members of this Council to follow the recommendations of the Fact-Finding Mission's report, some of which have also been mentioned in the oral update of the High Commissioner. The renewal of the Fact-Finding Mission's mandate is a moral duty. Brazil calls for an urgent restoration of democracy in Venezuela, through free, fair, transparent and reliable presidential elections, with the presence of independent international observers. COVID-19 has caused a global health and economic crisis. 4. India



		- Terrorism poses a serious threat. Terrorists disseminate disinformation online, including through hate speech and fake news. Human Rights Council should play a key role in preventing radicalization, particularly of the young people.
5.	Japan	 Japan will state its views on the human rights situations of individual countries of special concern in the respective interactive dialogues and relative sessions. In the Asia-Pacific region, there remain challenges to democratization and protection of human rights.
		- Freedom of expression must be ensured, oppression of human rights defenders must be prevented. Human rights of minorities.
		 Grave concerns about the situation in <u>Hong Kong</u>. The issue of abduction of the Japanese citizens must be resolved.
6.	Czech Republic	Aligns itself with the EU Statement.
0.	czech Republic	- <u>Belarus</u> : harassment and persecution of the members of the Coordination Council and participants of peaceful protests.
		 <u>Belaids</u>. Initiassment and persecution of the members of the coordination council and participants of peaceful protests. <u>Russian Federation</u>: the space for civil society is closing. Murder attempt of Alexei Navalny should be investigated. Human rights
		violations in the illegally annexed Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
		 <u>China</u>: human rights violations in Xinjiang and Tibet, growing difficulties in access to information.
		Hong Kong: National Security Legislation is of a great concern.
		 Venezuela: gross violations of human rights continue.
		 <u>Iran</u>: widespread pattern of violations against those arrested in relation with protests in November 2019.
		 Iraq: recent reports of the live ammunition.
		 <u>Myanmar</u>: refers to the statement in the respective interactive dialogue.
7	Ukraina	
7. Ukraine - Concerned about the situations in Venezuela, Myanmar, South Sudan, Syria, Nicaragua, Belarus, Russian Fed - <u>Russian Federation</u> : civil, cultural and political rights of citizens are violated. Crimea is a zone of illegality and		
		who refuse to collaborate with Russian occupation administration.
0	Australia	- Ukraine is concerned about Russian Federation eventual steps in undermining political sovereignty of <u>Belarus</u> .
8.	Australia	- <u>DPRK</u> : systematic widespread violations, including the recent OHCHR accounts about violations against women in detention.
		- <u>Syria</u> : arbitrary detention, torture, sexual and gender-based violence, use of children in conflict.
		- <u>Venezuela</u> : systemic corrosion of democratic institutions.
		- <u>China</u> : repressive measures against Uighurs and other minorities in Xinjiang.
		- <u>Belarus</u> : use of violence against peaceful protesters and arbitrary detentions of protesters, journalists and opposition members.
9.	Pakistan	- Country situations should be considered with objectivity and in cooperation and dialogue with the concerned state.
		- Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir: recent violations, including detentions, torture, demolishment of properties, and executions,
-	100	require urgent Council's attention.
10.	Venezuela	 The Council should not be used as a stage for confrontation between developing countries. Item 4 should not be used to demonize sovereign states.
		- <u>China</u> : the reports on Xinjiang are unfunded. The government has tried to fight against terrorism to protect its citizens.
		In Hong Kong, th <mark>e efforts were made to</mark> contain the violence unleashed by radical groups.
		- Relation between states need to be based on the universal principles of respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the interna affairs of states.



11. Uruguay	- <u>Venezuela</u> : arbitrary detentions, forced disappearances, torture, and cruel treatment and inhuman and summary executions.
	 Support for the draft resolution submitted by a group of countries under this Item 4, which renews the mandate of the Independer Fact-Finding Mission.
12. Spain	Aligns itself with the EU Statement.
-	- <u>Venezuela</u> : arbitrary detentions , torture and extrajudicial executions, violations of economic, social and cultural rights.
	- Myanmar: need to put an end to the grave human rights violations, specifically, those committed against persons belonging to
	minorities. Spain insists on the need to prosecute those responsible by the International Criminal Court.
	- Syria: need to put an end to acts of torture in places of detention.
	- Yemen: need to guarantee safe humanitarian access to and within Yemen. The recruitment of child soldiers should be prohibited.
	- Occupied Palestinian Territories: condemns all attacks, incitements and violent acts against the civilian population.
13. Peru	- Venezuela: Peru regrets the lack of collaboration from Venezuela. OHCHR presence in Venezuela is welcome but insufficient.
14. Philippines	- The Council should never be used for the weaponization and politicization of human rights. Instead it should be a platform for
	constructive cooperation and dialogue with practical impact of human rights on the ground.
	- States have sovereign prerogatives to undertake measures to address terrorism.
15. Denmark	Aligns itself with the EU Statement.
	- <u>Belarus</u> : violence aggressions, use of torture, enforced disappearances and arbitrary detention. Need to ensure freedom of opinior expression, freedom of peaceful assembly.
	- Hong Kong: extensive erosion of rights and freedoms following the newly adopted National Security Law.
	- Occupied Palestinian Territories: oppose Israel's continued expansion of territories.
	- Iran: the conditions for the prisoners should be reviewed.
	- Saudi Arabia: continued persecution of civil society activists.
	- Condemn use of torture and the death penalty in the <u>Saudi Arabia</u> and <u>Iran</u> .
	- DRPK: condemn the grave violations.
	- Bahrain: call for release all arbitrary detained.
16. Chile	- <u>Venezuela</u> : forced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, torture. The upcoming parliamentary elections do not meet necessary
	conditions for holding independent and transparent elections. Need for restoring democracy through the peaceful processes.

Interventions made on behalf of Observer States

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Israel, Finland, France, Slovenia, Canada, Belgium, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, Sweden, China, Paraguay, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Russian Federation, Ireland, Syrian Arab Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Cambodia, Colombia, Georgia, Madagascar, Cyprus, Estonia, Myanmar, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Belarus, Azerbaijan, Norway, Iceland, South Africa.

1.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	 <u>China</u>: pressure on media freedom. <u>Hong Kong</u>: Beijing's imposition of the National Security Law is a serious breach of the legally binding Sino-British joint declaration. In <u>Xinjiang</u> there is a compelling evidence of systematic human rights violation. Culture and religion are severely restricted, there are credible reports of forced labour and forced birth control. Up to 1.8 million people have been detained without trial.
2.	Israel	 <u>Lebanon</u>: Iran's proxy Hezbollah continue to hold the entire state hostage to its radical and destructive agenda, using local population as human shields. <u>Iran</u>: dire human rights situation, with women, youth, journalists, NGOs, LGBTI people, members of minority groups and members of the opposition all seeing their rights systematically violated.
3.	Finland	 Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Shrinking civic space and silencing of pluralist voices in a number of countries. <u>Russian Federation</u>: poisoning of Alexei Navalny should be investigated. <u>Belarus</u>: violence against peaceful demonstrators, torture of ordinary citizens in the aftermath of elections which were not free nor fair. <u>China</u>: the human rights situation in Xinjiang and the Hong Kong, the situation of human rights defenders. <u>Saudi Arabia</u>: pro-longed detentions of human rights defenders, persistent traditions of discrimination against women and girls. <u>Egypt</u>: military trials of civilians, enforced disappearances of human rights defenders.
4.	France	 Syria: situation remains intolerable, those responsible for the crimes shall be punished. Yemen: the protection of civilians and respect for international law must become the priority. <u>China</u>: crackdown on the Uighurs, call for the closure of the internment camps in Xinjiang. <u>Venezuela</u> and North Korea: reports of the special procedures are alarming. <u>Myanmar</u>: all measures must be taken to prevent human rights violations and fight against impunity. Death penalty: <u>China, Iran</u> and <u>Saudi Arabia</u> should abolish death penalty or follow a moratorium.
5.	Slovenia	Aligns itself with the EU Statement. - Yemen: arbitrary deprivation of life, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, sexual and gender violence and torture. - Syria: justice and accountability must remain a priority. - Myanmar: ongoing violations against Rohingyas and other minorities. - Burundi: government should protect its population crimes against humanity. - Sudan: the situation in Darfur remains preoccupying – intercommunal violence and militia attacks on civilian population.



6. Canada	 <u>China</u>: <u>Hong Kong</u> – intimidation and prosecution of human rights defenders continue. In <u>Xinjiang</u>, mass detentions and separation of children from their parents, repressive surveillance, reports of forced labour and forced sterilization affecting Uighurs and other minorities. <u>Venezuela</u>: human rights defenders are targeted. Torture and other violations are committed systemically.
	 <u>Belarus</u>: a pattern of reprisals and judicial harassment of human rights defenders following the presidential elections. Human rights defenders and civil society should be able to act freely.
7. Belgium	 Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Credible proof of minorities in <u>China</u>, particularly in <u>Tibet</u> and <u>Xinjiang</u>: systematic surveillance, restrictions on freedom of religion and faith, forced labour and mass detentions. <u>Turkey</u>: need to end arrests, persecutions of political opposition members, journalists and human rights defenders under the pretext of the fight against terrorism. <u>Russian Federation</u>: restrictions on fundamental freedoms and ongoing aggression against civil society, human rights defenders and independent voices.
8. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	 False and fabricated information used to undermine the situation in certain states. Islamophobia, xenophobia, maltreatment of the minorities and migrants, extreme racial discrimination is rampant in Western countries. The issues of Xinjiang and Hong Kong should not be used to interfere in China's internal affairs.
9. Cuba	 Human rights should not be used as a political weapon. Item 4 reached the highest level of shamelessness and hypocrisy. Cooperation and dialogue must govern the Council.
10. Sweden	 Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Belarus: seriousness of the human rights situation. Myanmar: Sweden refers to its earlier statement. China: arbitrary detention, widespread surveillance and restrictions, particularly targeting Uighurs and other minorities in Xinjiang. Concerned about the imposition of National Security Legislation in Hong Kong. Russian Federation: freedom of expression and assembly should be guaranteed for all, including for human rights defenders and opposition figures. Condemn the attack on Alexei Navalny. Egypt: counterterrorism legislation should not be used to restrict human rights. Iran and Saudi Arabia: to ensure freedom of expression, assembly and association for all, including human rights defenders. Philippines: need to investigate all extrajudicial executions.
11. China	 Accusations against China are baseless. Human Rights Council is used to stigmatize developing countries and interfere in their interna affairs. Happy life of people is the most important human right. 1.4 billion Chinese people share the benefit of development and lead happy and peaceful life. This year China will eliminate the extreme poverty for the first time. The countries that attack China have piles of human rights problems themselves with increasing racism, xenophobia, violations of rights of migrants and refugees and deep-rooted poverty and social injustice, aggravated by COVID-19.



12. Paraguay	- <u>Venezuela</u> : illegitimate regime and its political and institutional agents are responsible individually and collectively for the crimes of
	arbitra <mark>ry detention, violations of due processes, enforced disappearances, torture, sexual and</mark> gender based violence, killings. Suppo
	to Venezuelan people in peaceful restoration of democracy and rule of law.
13. Switzerland	 Respect for human rights is at the heart of preventing the electoral violence.
	 <u>Belarus</u>: human rights violation in relation to elections.
	 Hong Kong: concerned about the arbitrary arrests.
	- Elections are upcoming in a number of countries, the risk of violations in Bolivia, Cote d'Ivoire, New Guinea, CAR, Venezuela <>
14. Luxembourg	Aligns itself with the EU Statement.
	- Libya: violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.
	- Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt: reprisals against human rights defenders.
	- Somalia, South Sudan, Venezuela: ongoing sexual violence.
	- To support the work of the Office at these difficult times, Luxembourg would like to increase its voluntary contributions for 2020.
15. Russian	- The Human Rights Council is used for manipulating the electoral theme. Meddling into state's affairs is a gross violation of the UN
Federation	Charter. The Council's mandate is not that of a monitoring of the electoral processes.
16. Ireland	Aligns itself with the EU Statement.
	- <u>Belarus</u> : continuing violations of human rights including mass detentions and treatment of those detained.
	- Yemen: dire humanitarian situation continues with violations of human rights under the international humanitarian law.
	- Welcomes the suspension of Israel's annexation plans which should be permanently withdrawn.
	- Occupied Palestinian Territories: the situation in Gaza is particularly worrying, notably the restrictions on medical access.
	- China, Xinjiang: treatment of ethnic Uighurs and other minorities.
	- Egypt: respect for freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and the work of human rights defenders.
	- Iran: use of the death penalty, restrictions on the freedom of expression and the media and treatment of religious minorities.
	- <u>Venezuela</u> : worsening humanitarian crisis, human rights violations and shrinking democratic and civic space.
17. Syrian Arab	- Rejects the practice of targeting certain countries and interference in their internal affairs under the pretext of human rights.
Republic	- Taken into account the current liquidity crises, calls for a review of a huge imbalance of the distribution of resources.
	- Issues of concern: human rights violations resulting from Israeli occupation of the Occupied Arab Territories, unilateral coercive
	measures, terrorism, serious human rights violations in the EU countries and the USA resulting from the rise of racism, incitement to
	hatred against the displaced and the refugees, as well as their economic exploitation.
18. Lao People's	Aligns itself with the LMG and NAM Statements.
Democratic	- Importance of the UPR as a fundamental mechanism to address human rights violations in all states based on cooperation and
Republic	constructive dialogue.
	- Human Rights Council's discussions should be more focused on the issue of poverty.
	 Commend the <u>China's</u> efforts in promoting socioeconomic and sustainable development, including the promoting and protecting of
	human rights in all its territories, including the Xinjiang's region.
	 Recognizes <u>Hong Kong SAR</u> as an alienable part of <u>China</u>.



	 Collaboration of all states while bearing the particularities of each country. Peace and security are essential for sustainable development. <u>Hong Kong</u> should enjoy peace, stability, harmony, prosperity and be free from foreign interference. Terrorism and extremism are common threats to humanity. <u>Xinjiang</u>'s efforts to combat these threats should be respected. 	
20. Colombia	- <u>Venezuela</u> : the lack of reliable information on the real effect of COVID-19. Civic space has been threated. Political prisoners should be freed. The upcoming elections should have international verification.	
21. Georgia	 <u>Venezuela</u>: need for investigations and accountability. <u>Ukraine</u>: reiterate its support for sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. <u>Russian occupied Georgia's Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions:</u> restriction of freedom of movement, local population deprived of basic rights. 	
22. Madagascar	 Transparency and impartiality should be put in the centre of all human rights efforts. Each state must show integrity, transparency and impartiality in addressing specific situations. <u>SAR Hong Kong</u>: the matter of new National Security Law should be addressed with non-interference into domestic affairs of states. The dialogue in relation to the situation in <u>Xinjiang</u> should be promoted to avoid any non-grounded accusations. 	
23. Cyprus	Aligns itself with the EU Statement. - Turkey: severe restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly. No punishment and no retroactivity for past crimes. - Syria: social and democratic engineering. Destruction of cultural heritage. - Libya: foreign merceries and foreign military forces should be withdrawn. - Yemen: humanitarian crisis continue.	
24. Estonia	 Aligns itself with the EU Statement. Belarus: escalation of violations in the aftermath of the elections. Violence and brutality against the protesters. Arbitrary detentions, systemic torture, attacks against civil society and opposition leaders. Restrictions on access to internet. 	
25. Myanmar	 Aligns itself with NAM and LMG Statements. Oppose to double-standards and selectivity practised in the Council. Double standards and politicization undermines counterterrorism efforts in Xinjiang, restoration of stability in Hong Kong, China, and efforts by governments of Venezuela, Belarus and Nicaragua to address challenges in their respective countries. 	
26. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	26. Iran (Islamic - It is regrettable that certain countries from the North do not adhere to the principles of non-selectivity, objectivity and impartiality	
27. Belarus	 Note with concern the further politicization of the Council's work. Some countries and their groups now promote their own agenda which is based on selective examination of country situations. Attempts to solve problems in the field of human rights through criticism, pressure, country initiatives and the manipulation of human rights mechanisms is ineffective. 	



	- In what regards the situation of human rights in Belarus, states should show restraint and circumspection especially in regards of the assessment related to the electoral matters.
28. Azerbaijan	 <u>Armenia</u>: continues denying of the fundamental rights of the Azerbaijani displaced population, forcibly expelled from the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region.
29. Norway	 Egypt, Russia, Djibouti: to protect media workers and human rights defenders allowing them freedom of expression and assembly. Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan: to release those detained because of exercising their freedom of expression and journalistic activity. Zimbabwe, Cote d'Ivoire: to allow peaceful protests, protect the right to freedom of expression. DPRK: lack of civil and political rights. Belarus: the courage of peaceful protesters is impressive. Minorities are often disproportionally affected by the shrinking civic space. China should uphold the democratic rights and fundamental freedoms of people in Hong Kong and allow an unrestricted access to Xinjiang.
30. Iceland	 <u>Venezuela</u>: security-services are engaged in a pattern of systematic violence since 2014. The conclusions of the Fact-Finding Missions amount to crimes against humanity. <u>Iran</u>: Condemn the recent summary executions, and the ill-treatment of the human rights defenders. Calls for the immediate release of prisoners.
31. South Africa	- <u>Venezuela</u> : negative impact of the universal coercive measures.
	Interventions made on behalf of the National Human Rights Institutions
Greek National Commission for Human Rights	 Devastating fire at the Moria camp, in the island of Lesvos in <u>Greece</u>. Moria should not be seen as an isolated case, but as an opportunity for a new human-right-based and sustainable European asylum migration policy.



1.		- Human rights situation in <u>Philippines</u> .
1.	behalf of 35 organisations)	 Developments since that report indicate further deterioration, with ongoing incitement to kill by the President, the promotion of an architect of the anti-drug strategy to police chief, the passing of an overbroad anti-terror law, the conviction of journalist Maria Ressa and shutdown of media network ABS-CBN, the murder of activists and a journalist and a new spike in police killings.
2.	Human Rights Watch (Joint Statement supported by more than 300 NGOs from over 60 countries, from Azerbaijan to Zambia)	 Human rights situation in <u>China</u>: mass human rights violations in Hong Kong, Tibet, and Xinjiang, suppression of information in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, and attacks on rights defenders, journalists, lawyers and critics. China has used its seat on the UN's NGO Committee to baselessly deny accreditation to NGOs, while accrediting government-organized NGOs (GoNGOs). It has sought to deny access to human rights defenders to UN premises, denounced speakers on NGO side events as "terrorists," and threatened delegates to deter them from attending UN side events on rights violations, including abuses in Xinjiang.
3.	European Coordination for Association and Individues for the Freedom of Conscience (Joint Statement)	- Accountability for the crimes committed by the <u>Indian</u> authorities in 1995.
4.	European Union of Jewish Students	- Atrocities committed against the Uighur people in <u>China</u> .
5.	Baha'i International Community	- Rights of Baha'i people in <u>Iran</u> .
6.	East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project	 Systemic violations in the <u>Cameroon</u>. Human rights situation in <u>Egypt</u>. <u>Zimbabwe</u>: increasing arbitrary arrests.
7.	Minority Rights Group	- Egypt: crackdown on the human rights movement.
8.	International Federation for Human Rights Leagues	 <u>Belarus</u>: call for the end of human rights abuses against peaceful protesters, human rights defenders, journalists and media workers. FIDH and its member organisations are concerned over the political dynamics relating to situations in <u>China</u>, <u>Philippines</u>, <u>Egypt</u>, <u>Gaza</u>. <u>China</u>: ongoing systematic rights restrictions and abuses in Hong Kong, Tibet and Xinjiang.
9.	Dominicans for Justice and Peace - Order of Preachers (Joint Statement)	- Importance of creating a new mandate on climate change and human rights.
10.	The World Evangelical Alliance (Joint Statement)	- <u>Pakistan</u> : forced marriages of the abducted underaged girls.
11.	Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development	 Human rights crisis in <u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>. <u>Sri Lanka</u>: backtracking on its commitments to the Council on reconciliation and accountability.



		-	Situation in <u>Thailand</u> : several human rights defenders and youth activists arrested or face criminal charges amid the ongoing student-led peaceful protests.
12.	Society for Threatened Peoples	-	Human rights violations of Tibetans by <u>China</u> .
	Society for Threatened Peoples Amnesty International		 <u>India</u>: the ongoing crackdown on civic space and freedom of expression; the use of draconian laws to target activists and peaceful protestors, and their ongoing arbitra detention in overcrowded prisons as COVID-19 cases surge. The actions of the police during the Delhi riots in February have not been formally investigated. <u>Iran</u>: the widespread use of torture since last November. <u>Egypt</u>: the government has targeted women social media influencers and survivors, witnesses and activists speaking out against rape and other sexual violence. Amnesty supports the statement delivered by Human Rights Watch on behalf of the global coalition calling for urgent UN action on <u>China</u>. Amnesty is alarmed by the detention of 12 Hongkongers who are being held incommunicado.
		-	Amnesty supports the joint statement delivered by OMCT on the <u>Philippines</u> .
	Baptist World Alliance (Joint Statement)	-	Freedom of religion and belief in <u>Nepal</u> .
	International Muslim Women's Union	-	Human rights of people in Indian-occupied Kashmir.
-	OCAPROCE Internationale	-	Sri Lanka: violations of the Tamil people in the north-east region of the country.
	Alsalam Foundation	-	Death penalty in <u>Bahrain</u> .
	Arab NGO Network for Development	-	Lack of accountability for the victims of explosion in Lebanon.
	United Schools International	-	Pakistan military using the youth from Jammu and Kashmir.
20.	World Jewish Congress	-	Death penalty in <u>Iran</u> .
21.	Pan African Union for Science and Technology	-	Violations by <u>Pakistan</u> army against civilians.
22.	Europe - Third World Centre (Joint Statement)	-	Human rights situation in <u>Bolivia</u> . No accountability for the killings in 2019.
23.	Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality	-	Sexual reproductive rights, including for the LGBTI youth, in <u>Congo</u> -Kinshasa.
24.	Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches		Human rights situation in the <u>Philippines:</u> assassination of Zara Alvarez.
25.	Jubilee Campaign		<u>China</u> : violations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, regarding the religious freedom.
26.	France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand	-	Systemic human rights violations in the Western Sahara.
27.	International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium- Sized Enterprises	•	Human rights of people in <u>Gilgit Baltistan</u> .
28.	Foundation for the Improvement of Life, Culture and Society	-	The Church of Scientology in <u>Germany</u> .
	American Association of Jurists		Human rights of the Mapuche people in Chile.
30.	Réseau International des Droits Humains (RIDH)	-	Human rights situation in <u>Colombia</u> .
	African Regional Agricultural Credit Association	_	Human rights situation in Baluchistan.



32. Article 19 - International Centre Against Censorship	- <u>Brazil</u> : intimidation of journalists from public officials serves to legitimise and facilitate a
	climate of violence.
	- <u>Mexico</u> : indigenous journalists face disproportionate or unique threats to their safety.
	- <u>Bangladesh</u> : violence against journalists is too often met with impunity.
	- <u>Cambodia</u> : retaliatory prosecution of journalists is on the rise.
33. International Commission of Jurists	- <u>Egypt</u> : deteriorating situation of human rights and the rule of law.
	 New report by ICJ and the Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy (TIMEP): "<u>Targeting the</u> last line of defenses Empty attacks against lawyorr".
24 Contex for Environmental and Management Studies	last line of defense: Egypt's attacks against lawyers".
34. Center for Environmental and Management Studies	<u>Pakistan</u> : negative impacts of blasphemy law.
35. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies	- Egypt: persecution of civil society and human rights defenders.
36. World Muslim Congress	- Violence by Indian forces in the Occupied Kashmir.
37. International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights	- Attacks and torture in <u>Yemen</u> .
38. Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association	- Situation in <u>Yemen</u> should be referred to the ICC.
39. International Yazidis Foundation for the Prevention of	- Violations still continue in <u>Iraq</u> which hinders the return of refugees to their country.
Genocide	- The situation of ethnic minorities in <u>Syria</u> is also concerning, especially in the north-
	western area.
40. Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work	- Situation in Assam India: the effect of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).
41. International Institute for Rights and Development Geneva	- Restrictions on the enjoyment of human rights in <u>Saudi Arabia</u> .
42. Chinese Association for International Understanding	- Development, poverty eradication in <u>China</u> . Protection of ethnic minorities.
43. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health	- Lebanon: crisis in banking sector.
44. Global Welfare Association	 Human rights situation of ethnic and religious minorities in <u>India</u>: the use of mercenaries.
45. China NGO Network for International Exchanges	- Enjoyment of all human rights by Tibetans in <u>China</u> .
46. Partners For Transparency	- Continued deterioration of human rights situation in <u>Yemen</u> .
47. Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group	- Witch hunting and other superstitious practices in Assam, India.
48. International Human Rights Association of American Minorities	- Right of self-determination: <u>Indian</u> -occupied Kashmir, <u>Alaska</u> , <u>Hawaii</u> and other cases.
49. Liberation	- Deteriorating human rights situation of Dalits and indigenous peoples in India.
50. Association for Integration and sustainable Development in	- The Armed Forces Special Power Act in the north-eastern states of India, which
Burundi	empowers army personnel to the extent of extrajudicial killings.
51. Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme	- Equatorial Guinea: kidnapping of one of RADDHO's associates.
	- <u>Guinea Conakry</u> and <u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> : potential violence during the forthcoming elections
	risk embroiling these two countries into the same situation as Mali.
	- <u>Cameroon</u> : crackdown on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, and the right to
	freedom of expression.
52. World Environment and Resources Council (WERC)	- Indigenous peoples' rights: land grabbing in <u>Pakistan</u> .



53. United Towns Agency for North-	South Cooperation		Human rights situation in Lebanon: explosion in Beirut.
54. Demonstration For All		-	Reproductive exploitation of women and girls.
55. Organization for Defending Viction	ms of Violence	-	Iran, Syria and Venezuela: negative impact of the universal coercive measures.
56. Right Livelihood Award Foundat	ion	-	Rights of Muslims in India.
57. International Service for Human	Rights (Joint Statement)	-	Saudi Arabia: arbitrary detention of woman's rights defenders, journalists, activists and their families. The killing of Jamal Khashoggi should be investigated.
58. Peace Brigades International Sw	itzerland (Joint Statement)	-	Attacks against human rights defenders in Guatemala.
59. Villages Unis (United Villages)			Deteriorating situation of human rights in <u>Yemen</u> .
60. Association Ma'onah for Human	Rights and Immigration	-	Dire human rights situation in <u>Yemen</u> .
61. International-lawyers.org		-	Systematic and widespread human rights violations in <u>Iraq</u> . Need to establish an International Independent Commission of Inquiry to investigate the violations since 2003.
62. Solidarity Switzerland-Guinea		-	Houthis prisons for women in <u>Yemen</u> .
63. International Lesbian and Gay A	ssociation	-	Situation of LGBTI people and activists in <u>Poland</u> , the <u>Philippines</u> , <u>Indonesia</u> , <u>Tunisia</u> , and the countries of <u>Latin America</u> .
64. Guinea Medical Mutual Associat	ion	-	Yemen: the worst humanitarian situation in the world due to the practices of Houthis militias.
65. Ingenieurs du Monde		-	Human Rights Council pledges by <u>Russia</u> , <u>China</u> and <u>Cuba</u> vs human rights violations in these countries.
66. Americans for Democracy & Hur	nan Rights in Bahrain	-	Human rights violations in <u>Bahrain</u> .
	Bahrain: Point of Order		"What is being said by the NGO is out of context
67. CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citi	zen Participation	- - - - -	<u>Cambodia</u> : ongoing assault on civic freedoms has escalated in the last three months. <u>India</u> : use of restrictive laws - including national security and counter terrorism legislation - to arrest and imprison human rights defenders and peaceful protesters. <u>Colombia</u> , attacks and killings of human rights defenders have escalated. <u>USA</u> : attacks on Black Lives Matter protests and broader police violence. <u>Zimbabwe</u> : civic space violations precipitated a wider human rights crisis. <u>Philippines</u> : reiterating calls heard earlier for the Council to adopt a strong resolution on the as outlined in the joint statement delivered by OMCT. <u>China</u> : support for the statement calling for urgent UN action delivered by HRW. Saudi Arabia: more scrutiny peoded
		-	Saudi Arabia: more scrutiny needed.
68. United Nations Watch		-	Iran: death penalty, arbitrary arrests, persecution of religious and ethnic groups.
69. iuventum e.V.		-	COVID-19 is an added threat for the vulnerable.
70. Community Human Rights and A		-	Rights of the people in the <u>Indian</u> -occupied Kashmir.
71. Helsinki Foundation for Human	Rights	- 2	Concern about the strategic objective expressed by <u>China</u> during the 7 th Work Forum of Tibet held at the end of August to "sinisize" the Tibetan Buddhism.



72. European Centre for Law and Justice	- Situation of Christians in <u>Nigeria</u> . Need to prevent the genocide.
73. Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture	- Human rights situation in <u>Bahrain</u> , especially during the COVID-19.
74. Zero Poor in Africa	 Deteriorating human rights situation in <u>Yemen</u> due to the violations of IHL.
75. Female Synergy for peace and sustainable development	- Dire situation in <u>Yemen</u> : targeting the civilians. Situation of the detainees.
76. Iraqi Development Organization	 <u>Saudi Arabia</u>: culture of impunity. Detention of women human rights defenders. Killing of Jamal Khashoggi.
77. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists	 <u>Germany</u>: antisemitism – attack on the synagogue in Halle in 2019.
78. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations	 Occupation of <u>Western Sahara: aggravating situation</u> of human rights situation.
79. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	- Human rights situation in Iraq: arbitrary detention of thousands of people.
80. "Coup de Pousse" Chaîne de l'Espoir Nord-Sud	- Human rights situation of <u>Kashmiri</u> people: construction of mega dams.
81. Women's Human Rights International Association	- Risk of summary executions arrested in <u>Iran</u> in the past years.
82. Association of world citizens	- Escalation of the conflict in <u>Cameroon</u> .
83. Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment	- Rights of the <u>Baluchi</u> people.
84. Association Thendral	- Environmental rights of the <u>Tamil</u> people.
85. Society for Development and Community Empowerment	 Human rights violations in the <u>Occupied Palestinian Territories</u>, <u>Indian-</u> and <u>Pakistan-</u> administrated Kashmir, Hong Kong SAR, and Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous regions in <u>China</u>, Rohingya state. Human rights of Tamils in <u>Sri Lanka</u>.
86. Tamil Uzhagam	- Human rights of Tamils.
87. Reprieve	- Saudi Arabia: death penalty against children.
88. Presse Embleme Campagne	- Rights of the journalists, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
89. Africa Culture International (Human Rights)	- Situation in <u>Western Sahara</u> .
90. Ensemble contre la Peine de Mort	- <u>Iran</u> : enforced disappearances and secret executions of Kurdish political prisoners.
91. Center for Organisation Research and Education	- India: the Armed Forces Special Power Act in the north-east of the country.
92. Prahar	- India: rights of the indigenous peoples in Assam. The impact of the CAA.
93. International Career Support Association	- Comfort women in <u>Japan</u> .
94. International Educational Development	- Iran: brutality against the Kurdish prisoners.
Iran: Point of Order, followed by another Point of Order	"This is not the platform for disseminating false information against the government
95. International Catholic Migration Commission	- Human rights of the migrants at the Moria camp, Lesvos in <u>Greece</u> .
96. African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters	- <u>Kashmir</u> : educational rights of children and youth.
97. CIRAC	- Situation in <u>Gilgit-Baltistan</u> .
98. Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy	- Freedom of expression in the <u>Occupied Kashmir</u> .
99. Justiça Global	- Environmental and human rights situation in <u>Brazil</u> .



Rights of Reply:

- Venezuela (in reply to statements made by a number of governments, including the European Union and Lima Group of countries),
- China (in reply to the statement by a number of countries and NGOs on Xinjiang and Hong Kong),
- India (in reply to the statement made by Pakistan),
- Saudi Arabia (in reply to the statement made by Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Luxembourg),
- Lebanon ("in response to the Occupying Power"),
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea, DPRK (in reply to the statement made by a number of countries, including Australia, Germany and Japan),
- Syrian Arab Republic (in reply to the statement made by a number of countries, including Germany and Australia),
- Turkey (in reply to the statement made by the European Union and some other countries),
- Armenia (in reply to the statement made by Azerbaijan),
- Russian Federation (in reply to the references made by several delegations regarding Alexei Navalny; also in reply to the statement made by Ukraine),
- **Egypt** (in reply to the statement made by the European Union and a number of other countries; also refers to Germany, Finland, Luxembourg, Sweden, Ireland, Norway),
- Japan (in reply to the statement made by DPRK),
- Cameroon (in reply to the statement made by the NGO "East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project"),
- Thailand (in reply to the statement made by one NGO on the recent protests),
- Brazil (in reply to the statements made during the General Debate on Item 4),
- Islamic Republic of Iran (in reply to the statement made by Germany "allegedly by a number of countries", and repeated by a number of European states),
- Cuba (in reply to the statement made by the NGO "Ingenieurs du Monde"),
- Cambodia (in reply to the statement made by some NGOs),
- Pakistan (in reference to India, and Jammu and Kashmir),
- Azerbaijan (in reply to the statement made by Armenia),
- Ukraine (in reply to the statement made by the Russian Federation),
- Georgia (in reply to the statement made by the Russian Federation),
- Germany (in reply to the reply made by the Russian Federation in relation to Alexei Navalny),
- Bolivia (in reply to the statement made by Switzerland and the NGO "Europe Third World Centre"),
- Armenia (in relation to Azerbaijan),
- Azerbaijan (in reply to the last statement made by Armenia),
- Djibouti (in reply to the statement made by Norway),
- **Turkey** (in reply to the last statement made by Armenia).

Full recording of the General Debate on Item 4 is available on the UN WebTV: Part 1 (25 September 2020, 2:15:50), Part 2 (25 September 2020, 1:51:36),

Part 3 (28 September 2020, 1:31:36), Part 3 (28 September 2020, 1:36:32).