



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 46th SESSION

General debate on Item 3 (9-10 March 2021)

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic,
social and cultural rights, including the right to development**



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Reports Discussed During the Session	
Thematic reports by the Secretary-General, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights or the High Commissioner under Item 3 ¹	
Report of the Secretary-General on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights (A/HRC/46/43)	Examines the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the realization of economic, social and cultural rights .
Report of the High Commissioner on the relationship between the realization of the right to work and the enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities (A/HRC/46/47).	Identifies the main barriers that persons with disabilities face in enjoying their rights to access and participate in the labour market .
Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and on obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of, harmonizing and reforming the treaty body system (A/HRC/46/25)	Provides an overview of relevant reports prepared by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General as well as related documentation regarding the effectiveness of the treaty body system .
Report on conclusions and recommendations of special procedures (A/HRC/46/24).	Comprehensive overview of the studies presented by mandate holders to the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the General Assembly over the past year. During the year, special procedures mandate holders presented 64 country visit reports with valuable recommendations for action at both the national and international level.
Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (A/HRC/46/41)	Describes the activities of the Fund in 2020, in particular to respond to the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on groups in vulnerable circumstances, including victims of torture . Generous contributions from 20 Member States amounting to over 10.4 million USD will enable 47,535 torture survivors in 79 countries to access to medical, psychological, social, legal and humanitarian services through 180 annual grants in 2021.
Report of the Secretary-General on Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/HRC/46/42)	Provides information about the 2020 Call for Applications . Twelve grants were awarded to projects in nine States (Argentina, Brazil, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Paraguay and Togo) for more than \$300,000.
Report of the High Commissioner on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities (A/HRC/46/44)	Provides a snapshot of the support that UN Human Rights has been providing at the country, regional and global levels to States and other relevant actors to respond to the needs of persons belonging to minorities . This also includes an overview of recent developments within United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms.

¹ Presented by Ms Peggy Hicks, Director of the Thematic Engagement Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR.



Report of the Secretary-General on missing persons A/HRC/46/45	Addresses international legal and institutional framework applicable to the issue of missing persons , identifies measures being taken to prevent people from going missing, and to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing persons, criminal investigation and prosecution in cases of missing persons, forensic recovery and identification of remains of missing persons, and the legal status of missing persons and support for families.
Report of the High Commissioner on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief A/HRC/46/67	Provides information on steps taken by States, UN Human Rights and human rights mechanisms to implement the plan of action outlined in Human Rights Council resolution 43/34 to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief .
Report on the third intersessional meeting on 2030 Agenda A/HRC/46/48	
<p>Oral statement given by H.E. Mr. Rongvudhi Virabutr, Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand to the UNOG, on behalf of Mr. Sek Wannamethee, the chairperson of the third intersessional meeting for dialogue and cooperation on human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The focus for this meeting was: 'Building back better: Integrating human rights in sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic'. It specifically focused on SDG 10 on reducing inequalities and SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and emphasized the importance of mainstreaming gender in these and all SDG implementation. - The thematic session comprised four panellists: Ms. Carolina Ferreira, Chief Advisor, Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation; Ms. Dominique Day, Chair of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent; Mr. Tauriq Jenkins and Ms. Francina Nkosi, C19 People's Coalition, South Africa; and Ms. Francoise Jacob, UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia. - The meeting underscored that States' commitment to their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights obligations is paramount to respond effectively to the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic, recover better and achieve the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda. Also, that COVID-19 represents a historic opportunity for States to build a 'new social contract', based on human rights and equal opportunities for all, departing from policies that exacerbate discrimination and inequalities. - Emphasis was made on the fact that recovery strategies must be gender responsive, non-discriminatory and seek to end all forms of violence against women and girls as they have shouldered the greatest burden of healthcare. - There was general agreement that a whole of society approach would be needed to build back better from the pandemic. - Lastly, that amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, States must use their limited resources in a targeted and tailored manner with a view to fulfilling their immediate human rights obligation to make available to all, with no discrimination, minimum essential levels of the right to health, food, water and sanitation, housing, and education 	
Report of Intergovernmental Working Group on Transnational Corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights A/HRC/46/73	
<p>Oral statement given by H.E. Mr. Emilio Rafael Izquierdo Miño, Chair Rapporteur of the Working Group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The report contains a summary of the discussions that took place during the meeting as well as the recommendations and the conclusions of the Working Group. - There's still some way to go in the process of defining the fundamental aspects that will lead to the adoption of a legally binding instrument but that there has been fruitful work, both in preparation for the sixth session of the Group and during the meeting itself. 	



- The purpose of the rapporteur presidency is to **prepare the Third Revised Version of the draft legally binding instrument**. To this end, he encouraged States, regional groups, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, and academia, **to maintain contacts at all levels**, particularly regional and national, with this objective. He also reiterated the disposition to organize, prior to the seventh session, **informal consultations with governments, regional groups, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and other relevant actors**. In the midst of the deep global crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we must observe this process as one of the greatest opportunities that we have to advance in the mechanisms for the **creation of binding norms on human rights**.
- The rapporteur highlighted the **close relationship that exists between the Working Group and the Group of Experts on Business and Human Rights**.
- In the report, the **WG acknowledged that the dialogue focused on the content of the second revised draft legally binding instrument**, as well as the participation and engagement of Governments, regional and political groups, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society and all other relevant stakeholders, and took note of the input they had provided. The **WG is looking forward to the third revised draft legally binding instrument, the informal consultations and the programme of work for its seventh session**.

Main Points Raised (thematic issues or country / territorial concerns – *non-exhaustive*)

Joint Statements made by States

Netherlands (on behalf of over 50 states) ²	<u>Thematic issues of concern</u> : Safety of journalists , independent and plural media as indispensable factors for building democratic societies, targeted killings against journalists and media workers, worldwide impunity over these crimes.
Maldives (on behalf of a group of countries) ³	<u>Thematic issues</u> : cross-sectoral links between human rights and the environment ; global consensus of the impact of environment on human life; aiming for a possible international recognition from all countries to a healthy, clean and safe environment.
Netherlands (on behalf of three Benelux countries) ⁴	<u>Thematic issues</u> : Gender equality - Worsened human right violations towards women and girls in marginalized situations . Rise in early marriages, gender-based violence, early pregnancies . Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, a growing pushback against their rights, including their sexual and reproductive rights .
Portugal (on behalf of the European Union) ⁵	Highlighted their commitment to achieve tangible progress on Business and Human Rights and to develop a legally binding instrument . <u>Thematic issues of concern</u> : Impact of the pandemic on economic, social and cultural rights; gender equality ; rights of persons with disabilities and their relationship with their right to work; hatred targeting persons belonging to minority communities .

² Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay

³ Costa Rica, Morocco, Slovenia, Switzerland and 55 other countries

⁴ Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg

⁵ The Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania, as well as the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Armenia align themselves with this statement. [The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process]



Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC))	Highlighted that selective approaches, double standards and politicization erode the credibility of global human rights agenda and undermine the legitimacy of the HRC. <u>Thematic issues:</u> xenophobia , intolerance, stigmatization and stereotyping, driven by prejudices of religion, race, sex and language; Islamophobia ; racial discrimination ; illegal occupation's destructive effects and the need for peaceful settlement of disputes; importance of the Right to Development to enable the realisation of basic human rights, the COVID has validated the salience of this right; right to health , specifically regarding the equitable and affordable availability of COVID-19 vaccines .
Chile (on behalf the Member State of the Initiative on the Convention Against Torture ⁶)	Aim for all States to ratify the Convention Against Torture by 2024 . Encourage efforts of States towards more professional police and law enforcement services .
Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM))	<u>Thematic issues:</u> provision of equal treatment by the HRC to both civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the right to development; the non-politicization of the human rights issue ; respect of national sovereignty ; non-interference in the internal affairs of States; ensuring that human right are not used for political purposes or as a pretext for interference in internal affairs; importance of affordable, unhindered and equitable access by all countries to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment .
Syrian Arab Republic (on behalf of a group of States ⁷)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> the negative impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures - proved to be deadly as they have prevented targeted countries from adequately responding to the pandemic. Also, the extraterritorial effect of these laws and regulations that undermine States' sovereignty and the rule of law .
Mexico (on behalf of a group of countries) ⁸	<u>Thematic issues:</u> inequality, social exclusion and deprivation of vulnerable people amidst the COVID-19 pandemic; Migratory related issues amidst the COVID-19 – the exclusion of migrants from healthcare , the need for a re-examination of countries' migration governance and the importance of international cooperation in this matter.
Bahamas (on behalf of CARICOM Group in Geneva ⁹)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> inequitable access to vaccines for Small Island Developing States like those of CARICOM (thanked key partners such as the Governments of India, South Africa and the African Union for their supply of vaccination resulting from South-South cooperation and solidarity); the COVAX facility will not allow them to attain the regional herd immunity.
Bangladesh (on behalf of a group of countries) ¹⁰	<u>Thematic issues:</u> climate change and its direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights with a special focus on women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities ; The importance of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement in providing forward-looking roadmaps for building resilience to climate change impacts for achievement of SDGs; the need for effective global climate actions; support needed from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to face the devastating effects of climate change .

⁶ Denmark, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia and Morocco

⁷ Venezuela and Cuba

⁸ Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Haiti

⁹ Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

¹⁰ The Philippines, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Fiji, Malaysia, Eswatini, Bhutan, Ecuador, Albania, Nepal, Afghanistan, Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, Maldives, Niger, Palestine, Costa Rica, Mozambique, Panama, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Chile, Singapore, Haiti, Sudan, Tunisia, Barbados, Mauritania, Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, UAE, Yemen, El Salvador, Paraguay, Spain, Indonesia, The Bahamas, France, Luxembourg, Germany.



Australia (on behalf of more than 40 states ¹¹)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> rights to freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of religion or belief; freedom of peaceful assembly and association ; against the imposition the death penalty to people exercising their fundamental freedoms ; urge states to release individuals currently on death row or otherwise imprisoned for blasphemy or apostasy .
United Arab Emirates (in partnership with the United Kingdom)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> Right to education (with a special focus on girls): the crisis caused by the pandemic has created a risk of a lost generation of girls never returning to education . The need to ensure access to at least 12 years of quality education for all girls and boys by 2030. Urge all states to prevent school dropout among girls and to remove all the obstacles that may have a negative impact on the right of girls to education.
Georgia (on behalf of the Group of Friend of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture ¹²)	In 2021 assistance is planned to reach over 47,000 people in 79 countries in all regions of the world. Urged other countries to contribute to the fund and supporting the global efforts to assist victims of torture and their families. <u>Thematic issues:</u> The needs of torture survivors for rehabilitation and redress continues to outweigh the response.
Iraq (on behalf of a group of countries ¹³)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> Violent extremism, hate speech, racism , racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance may create an environment inductive to terrorism where development opportunities are squandered. The increasing use of new communication technologies by terrorists, violent extremists and their supporters to recruit, radicalise and incite others to commit acts of terrorism. Enhancing interfaith and intercultural understanding is of utmost importance to that end. The significant role of international sport events , such as the Olympic Games and other global fora, as public platforms to emphasize the universality of human rights and coexistence values.
Malaysia (in partnership with Azerbaijan and co-sponsored by 111 States)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> exacerbation of inequalities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic ; challenges resulting from the pandemic on States' public services; the need for a human right-based approach in COVID-19 response to the pandemic; Capacity-building, training of public servants in accordance with the World Programme for Human Rights Education.
Poland (in partnership with Qatar and co-sponsored by 151 States)	Highlighted the World Autism Awareness Day celebrated yearly on April 2. <u>Thematic issues:</u> equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities , including their active participation in all aspects of society; the rights of people with autism and cases of discrimination and stigmatization , especially amidst the COVID-19 pandemic where there has been a lack of access to needed services; people with disabilities in conflict and post conflict contexts.
Denmark (on behalf of the Core group for the resolution on human rights and	The 2030 Agenda is grounded in human rights. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals seek to realize the human rights of all, and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls ; Welcome the summary report of the third intersessional meeting for dialogue and cooperation on human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held in January this year; Urge States to continue to build on the interrelated and mutually reinforcing relationship between human rights and the 2030 Agenda .

¹¹ Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

¹² Argentina, Austria, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Switzerland, United States of America.

¹³ Bangladesh, China, Qatar, and Tunisia



implementation of the 2030 agenda ¹⁴)	
Canada (on behalf of a group of countries ¹⁵)	<u>Country situations:</u> Iran – Ukraine’s plane crash in 2020. Urges Iran to answer to the right to life of 176 people that were on that airplane and to respond to the family of the victims; further called on Iran to reply to the letter sent by the Special Rapporteur with regards to the crash, to conduct impartial investigations on the matter and to provide justice to the victims.
Egypt (on behalf of a group of countries ¹⁶)	<u>Thematic issues:</u> Water pollution, water scarcity and water related disasters as essential problems to be addressed in order to protect the health of vulnerable populations, promote development and end poverty; the importance of climate change with regards to this issue.
Statements made by Member States	
1. France	<u>Thematic issues:</u> attacks against women’s and girl’s rights and the restriction of their sexual and reproductive amidst the pandemic; child marriage; female genital mutilation.
2. Armenia	<u>Thematic issues:</u> preservation of peace and justice amidst the COVID-19 pandemic <u>Country issues:</u> Azerbaijan does not provide information about Armenian missing civilians and combatants; numerous killings and cases of torture of Armenians in Azerbaijan which can amount to crimes against humanity.
3. Venezuela	<i>Aligns itself with the statement by the NAM, China, and Syria:</i> <u>Thematic issues:</u> support of a legally binding instruments for TNCs to ensure accountability; free determination of peoples; more equal societies to eradicate poverty; fair and equal response based on cooperation to reduce inequality between developed countries and countries of the Global South; unequal access to vaccines by developing countries; the grave consequences of unilateral coercive measures. Politization of the HRC.
4. Indonesia	<u>Thematic issues:</u> Reject attempts to push for certain specific rights as all rights should be treated equally, including the right to development; committed to the agenda 2030 “Build Back Better” and promoting effective environmental and gender policies.
5. Russian Federation	<u>Thematic issues:</u> the alarming situation which affects the right to secrecy; established democracies used the pandemic crisis to further their politic and economic goals through disingenuous activation of media; censorship by IT companies and dissemination of hate speech in social networks and media. <u>Country issues:</u> The authorities in European countries are carrying out political censorship, state level propaganda of intolerance towards alternative views amidst the COVID-19 crisis. The political leadership in Ukraine and the Baltic States are prohibiting broadcasts by opposition TV channels and expelling opposition journalists from their countries.
6. Japan	<u>National efforts:</u> In order to contain this pandemic, international cooperation and solidarity are of critical importance. Japan will ensure equitable access to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines through the ACT-Accelerator, its COVAX Facility and other

¹⁴ Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Luxembourg, Por-tugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay

¹⁵ Sweden, Ukraine, UK

¹⁶ Ecuador, Fiji, Hungary, Jordan, Egypt and 36 other countries



	<p>mechanisms in cooperation with other countries and stakeholders. Japan is hosting the Kyoto Congress, the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice from March 7 to 12 aiming at advancing the rule of law globally through this event.</p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> inequalities faced by women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic; education as a key driver to empower individuals; protection of the right to freedom of expression, of peaceful assembly and association without fear of reprisal.</p>
7. Namibia	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group and the NAM</i></p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> With regards to the report of the TNCs and the need to exercise due diligence by business entities - Namibia suggests that transnational corporations and other business entities should adopt review mechanisms in the countries where they operate.</p>
8. Pakistan	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Right to self-determination</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> the denied right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir by India along with the deprivation of their economic, social and cultural rights.</p>
9. India	<p><u>National efforts:</u> Highlighted that India' vaccines have been delivered to 58 countries around the world to date.</p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> equal value of economic, social and cultural and civil and political rights; importance of the HRC's respect of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs and national sovereignty.</p>
10. Cameroon	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> terrorism and extremism affecting the country's stability, especially the socio-political crisis in the North West and South West of the country where this extremism is exacerbated.</p>
11. Nepal	<p><u>National efforts:</u> Highlighted its progress in poverty reduction, increased employment levels, quality health services, massive awareness programs to control gender-based violence and punish of human trafficking.</p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> SDGs achievement being threatened by the COVID-19 pandemic; the need for greater solidarity and cooperation in the fight against the pandemic.</p>
12. China	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Exacerbated inequalities as a result of the pandemic; the right to life and health; sustainable development; improving social protection systems; xenophobia, racism and hate speech; reducing social inequalities; unequitable access of developing countries to vaccines as they are being stocked by developed countries.</p> <p><i>China supports the group statement made by Syria on unilateral coercive measures as they are conducive to the violation of human rights in the affected countries.</i></p>
13. Bolivia	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> The legally binding instrument for TNCs should remain a high priority in order to put an end to impunity and effectively address the needs of TNCs victims; It urges all States to contribute to this process and the drafting of the third version.</p>
14. Fiji	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Bringing the issue of climate change to the forefront of the human rights discourse, especially the negative consequences it has had for SIDSs; abolition of the death penalty and of unilateral coercive measures.</p>
15. Sudan	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Right to life is the most important right; cooperation and complementarity is imperative; supplying vaccines fairly to all countries in the world; right to education especially for those living in poverty.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> Sudan has guaranteed civil and political rights to their population, acceded to the Convention Against Torture and Convention on Enforced Disappearances, made amendments to its national legislation and abolished laws that restrict human rights. Nevertheless, economic sanctions have hindered its capability to pursue its national economic and social reforms.</p>



16. Cuba	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Inequality; hunger and discrimination; unilateral coercive measures; the HRC being used by some countries as a political weapon and openly promoting regime change and destabilization in others through meddling initiatives; focus should be put on the development pillar; Cuba wants the HRC to avoid a legitimacy crisis.</p> <p><u>Country issues:</u> The adverse impact of the economic embargo against Cuba by the US, especially hardening during the Trump administration.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> Cuba has effectively guaranteed all Cubans' right to health amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
17. Philippines	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Inclusion of the rights and welfare of migrants in the pandemic response and recovery strategies; Indiscriminate unilateral measures and self-serving interests complicating the distribution and supply of medical technologies, including vaccines; equitable access to safe, affordable and quality vaccines.</p>
Statements made by the Observer States	
18. Greece	<p><i>Greece aligns with the statement made by the European Union.</i></p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> the response to COVID-19 should also include a cultural rights perspective; the importance of creating a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities; commitment to the right to work, youth and human rights and the safety of journalists.</p>
19. Ecuador	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> comprehensive respect of social, economic and cultural rights; ensure universal access to vaccinations without discrimination; respect for sovereignty and non- interference in States.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> Internal issues in China should be dealt by that country alone with no interference from other countries.</p>
20. Sweden	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> democratic principles are under threat as democratic spaces shrink; Impact of COVID-19 on individuals who are already at risk of being discriminated, such as women and girls and LGBTIQ persons; human rights defenders; trade unionists; right to freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association; decent work and women's equal access to the labour market; the pandemic as an excuse by countries to limit or violate human rights; cooperation and solidarity are imperative; strong financial and political support for the multilateral system.</p>
21. Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Achieving a balance between economic, social and cultural right and civil and political rights; the importance of the right to development and to improve the welfare of citizens; constructive dialogue between countries as the best approach to protect human rights in the Council.</p>
22. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p><u>National efforts:</u> the people-centred socialist State of the DPRK allows genuine enjoyment of human rights. Rights to existence and development are firmly guaranteed as well as elections, labour, education and public health. In spite of the most hostile measures ever taken in history against the country, the lives of people have been guaranteed amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> high value to cooperation and dialogue; human rights as a tool for international politics.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> US reliability on stereotyped methods to defame the countries that are disobedient to it for the purpose of effecting regime change and bringing down DPRK's social system. This overthrow goes against the dignity of the DPRK people as they have chosen the social system, they live in.</p>
23. South Africa	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> inequality; fair access to vaccines and other health products for all; call for the support of a temporary waiver of certain WTO TRIPS obligations as a means to broaden access to COVID medical tools; importance of the right to development so that no one is left behind.</p>



	<p><u>National efforts:</u> progress in eradicating poverty and narrowing inequality.</p>
24. Iran	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> worsening of inequalities and economic crisis resulting from the pandemic; unilateral coercive measures cause massive violation of human rights in countries; Islamophobia; terrorism (In this regard, Iran requested to States to stop using terrorism as a pejorative label to antagonize their adversaries and violate human rights of others)</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> negative impacts of arms sales by Canada; States that are flooding their weapons to conflict areas, must be held accountable for the dire consequences of their irresponsible deadly trade in Yemen, Palestine, Syria and elsewhere; increased racial discrimination in the US and Islamophobia and hatred in certain European countries.</p>
25. Algeria	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> the suffering of people leaving under occupation and the denial of their right to development.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> Adoption of an ideal development policy since its independence and effective development programmes in the rural areas.</p>
26. Azerbaijan	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> International legally binding instrument to protect victims of TNCs in conflict and post conflict contexts and to increase accountability of crimes committed by TNCs and OBEs.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> They have managed to liberate themselves from Armenian occupation but the scale of destruction after the liberation is unprecedented; TNCs domiciled in European countries and North American countries have engaged in illegal excavations of gold mines and other natural resources during their occupation. Azerbaijan is currently investigating and tracing these illegal engagements.</p>
27. Montenegro	<p><i>Montenegro aligns with the EU statement.</i></p> <p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Exacerbation of inequalities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic as well as pressures over the health and social protection system. COVID-19 has also challenged the social cohesion in the country.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> Investment in green infrastructure project and environmentally sustainable technology as well as investments in health, education and science. Thankful for the UN's Socio-Economic Response Plan to COVID-19 for Montenegro, which outlines priority actions to support Montenegro to mitigate the current impact of the crisis.</p>
28. Sovereign Order of Malta	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Access to water and sanitation services as without this, other human rights cannot be exercised.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> In Haiti, the country provided prevention measures and distributed soap, water treatment tabs to disinfect contaminated water to fight against the spread of cholera. Malteser International is implementing WASH projects in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam in order to implement rehabilitation measures and to facilitate the link between emergency relief and sustainable development. In the DRC, Malta protects the health of people by improving the standard of water, sanitation, and hygiene in 21 villages.</p>
29. Ethiopia	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> A legally binding instrument for TNCs but underlining the sovereign right of States to regulate businesses in their territory while realizing national development.</p>
30. Nigeria	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Right to development achieved only through international cooperation and commitment of other States in the promotion of this right.</p>



	<p><u>National efforts:</u> Implementation of policies and strategies geared towards addressing the country's economic challenges to further enhance the socio-economic wellbeing of the population, especially the youth population. Important ideals Nigeria is committed to: global peace, security, respect of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.</p>
31. Georgia	<p><u>National efforts:</u> Particular attention to the rights and needs of the vulnerable groups of society, through the Government Anti-Crisis Plan, which provided support, including financial one, to various vulnerable groups in order to ease the impact of the pandemic. Georgia has been providing the Universal Health Care Program to its citizens since 2013.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> Russia's destructive occupation of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia continue to prevent the efforts of the Government to assist its population living on the other side of the occupation line even during the Covid-19. The occupation regime has been denying even the emergency medical evacuations that have resulted in fatal cases. There is urgent need for access of the international human rights monitoring mechanisms to the Russia-occupied regions.</p>
32. Croatia	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Migration issues.</p> <p><u>National efforts:</u> Offer regular migrants and asylum seekers same rights as Croatian citizens in terms of income, education for children, as well as social and health security.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> Case of a few individuals from the European Parliament, who, while on a private visit, attempted to deliberately cross our border irregularly, putting themselves and others in danger due to near-by mine fields. This act was neither organized nor approved by the European Parliament.</p>
33. United States of America	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> citizens' equal opportunity to participate in political processes through the exercise of the freedoms of peaceful assembly, association, and expression, as well as periodic and genuine elections, and a robust civil society; concerns over non-peaceful transitions of power as well as countries where the basis of government authority is not rooted in the will of the people.</p>
34. Chad	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> The exacerbation of inequalities due to the COVID-19 pandemic; the creation of a "new social contract" amidst the crisis; international solidarity as a key element for the countries to exercise their right to development; international technical assistance adapted to each country's context.</p>
35. Niger	<p><u>Country efforts:</u> Implementation of several development policies; reinforcement of its institutions through the improvement of the judicial system and the quality of judicial services; reinforced security measures against terrorism and criminality; develop a multisectoral plan to manage the sanitary crisis caused by the pandemic.</p>
36. Rwanda	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development; equitable access to vaccines; respect for the principle of non-interference in countries' internal affairs support China's statement on this matter.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> Trust in China in handling its internal affairs as the Council must not interfere in the country.</p>
37. Tunisia	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> the right to development is imperative for the fulfilment of all the other rights; several economic and social issues in the country resulting from the COVID-19 crisis; importance of dialogue in discussing international policies; enhancing multilateral work and humanitarian cooperation.</p>
38. Egypt	<p><u>Thematic issues:</u> Concern of inequality and violations of economic, social and cultural rights around the world.</p> <p><u>Country situations:</u> Italy – high unemployment rates for women and persons with disabilities; decline in collective spending and basic services; great economic disparities between Italian regions; inability to provide its population of healthcare services; Increase</p>



	concern over the spread of sexual violence against women and sexual abuse against children; discrimination and lack of equality for migrants , including Egyptians .
Statements made on behalf of the United Nations Organizations	
UNEP (On behalf of 15 UN entities)	UNEP urged States to globally recognize and implement the right to a healthy environment ensuring safety for women, girls and indigenous people.
UNFPA	UNFPA supports greater synergies between the roles of the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council in reviewing the 2030 agenda. The COVID-19 crisis exposed human rights challenges in our societies including poverty, gender-based violence, harmful practices and preventable maternal deaths, especially for women and girls, young people, older persons, minority groups, migrants and Afro-descendants . UNFPA promotes greater data disaggregation to visualize marginalised groups , including in the 2020 demographic census round. UNFPA programmes priorities include: Integrating sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as gender-based violence prevention and protection as ‘essential services’ in national COVID 19 response plans, zero maternal deaths , zero unmet need for family planning by 2030.
UN Women	Progress on gender equality and towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals has been set back years during the pandemic. Generation Equality Forum in Mexico: Together with Governments, corporations, civil society organizations, activists, youth and change makers, we are calling for transformative and bold commitments to realize the rights of women and girls at scale. Urged countries to redouble their efforts to protect women and girls’ rights, especially amidst this crisis.
Statements Made on Behalf of NHRIs	
National Human Rights Commission of India	Responded to thousands of complaints despite the COVID-19 pandemic; The migrant crisis has become a core issue amidst the pandemic; A committee to assess the impact of COVID-19 on human rights has been created.
Statements made on behalf of Civil Society Organizations	
1. Defensoria del Pueblo de la Nacion of Argentina	Countries use of the pandemic to stop the progress towards achieving the SDGs and guaranteeing the right to development of the most vulnerable including children, minorities, ethnic groups, women and those historically marginalized (like the LGBTI+ community).
2. China Foundation for Human Rights Development	Unequal distribution of vaccines ; China has provided extensive humanitarian and vaccine assistance to 70 countries; call for States to abandon “vaccine nationalism” .
3. Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development	Violence against human rights defenders in Asia including killings and threats, specifically violence against pacific protesters and defenders in Thailand, India, Philippines, Myanmar .
4. Federation for Women and Family Planning	Women and girls in Poland getting ripped off their right to bodily autonomy and control over their reproductive choices and sexuality . Need for access to abortion care and other reproductive health services in Poland .
5. Edmund Rice International Limited	Gender based violation in South Africa .



6. European Centre for Law and Justice	Violence at the hands of armed militant groups who target children in Nigeria .
7. Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation	Helping orphaned children in Iraq amidst the crisis caused by the pandemic.
8. Asociacion HazteOir.org	Against the legalization of abortion . States should respect and protect life from conception to natural death.
9. Al Baraem Association For Charitable Work	Children living under conflict in more than 55 countries including Palestine, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, and Sudan .
10. China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture (CAPDTC)	Preservation of Tibetan cultural heritage .
11. Africa Culture Internationale	The liberation of political prisoners amidst the repression and “dictatorship” of Macky Sall in Senegal .
12. British Humanist Association	Unprecedented hostility towards the non-religious amidst the pandemic in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Iran .
13. International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) ¹⁷	Urge the Government of Japan and TEPCO to stop the release of more than 1.2 million tons of radioactive water into the sea and change their policy toward long-term storage.
14. Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC)	India’s human rights violations in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir .
15. Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement	Releasing human rights defenders’ detainees and ending the Human Rights violations in the United Arab Emirates .
16. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health	Repression and arbitrary detentions of human rights defenders in the United Arab Emirates .
17. Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism	Children and families affected by terrorism .
18. Partners for Transparency	Violations of human rights of civilians (journalists and peaceful protesters) by the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen and Armenia .
19. Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges	State’s free education and health policies that alleviate poverty in Beijing .
20. Geo expertise international	Child recruitment in armed conflicts and violence and sexual abuse against them in Sudan and Yemen .
21. Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparency	Torture related deaths of Tibetan monks and peaceful protestors . Persecution of Tibetan human rights defenders.
22. Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme	Harassment and intimidation towards journalists in Occupied Kashmir .

¹⁷ Joint Statement with Greenpeace Japan and Greenpeace Korea



23. Women's Human Rights International Association	Torture of prisoners in Iran.
24. Earthjustice	The right to an environmentally healthy environment.
25. Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association	Arbitrary detentions in Qatar.
26. Zéro Pauvre A	Use of children in armed conflicts in Yemen.
27. International Human Rights Association of American Minorities (IHRAAM)	Right to self-determination , against foreign occupation and colonialism, including the occupied territories of the Kashmir people. Accuse the USA of interfering in the orthodox church and internationally.
28. FIAN international	Regarding the TNCs and OBEs legally binding instrument , they call States to ensure to include the related concerns and proposals that civil society have expressed during this process, including the need to ensure that prevention is not limited to due diligence and for legal liability to be determined independently from due diligence .
29. International-Lawyers.Org	The impact of water scarcity on vulnerable populations with a focus on women and refugees , who are disproportionately affected by it.
30. The Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development	Pakistan : terrorism is patronized when strategically useful but opposed when it targets Pakistani interests .
31. World Muslim Congress	Self-determination of people of Jammu and Kashmir .
32. Association D'Entraide Médicale Guinée	Recruitment of child soldiers in Yemen .
33. World Federation of United Nations Associations (On behalf of 20 NGOs)	Right to education for children in vulnerable situations, human rights education should not be paused amidst the pandemic.
34. International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development	When governments are violating human rights either directly or indirectly, civil society and the HRC should hold them accountable and speak out. The international community also has an obligation to monitor governments and their track records with human rights.
35. Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros	Systematic violence acts against trans people and women human rights defenders in Brazil .
36. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Accountability for unlawful use of force and other violations of international human rights law, specifically towards Palestinian prisoners authorized by the Israeli Ministry of Defence.
37. Institute for Policy Studies	Inequality exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; States should follow the agreements and regional engagements that protect human rights internationally.
38. Right Livelihood Award Foundation	Reprisal-intentioned policies targeted and affecting Egyptian women advocating for gender equality .
39. Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries	China is the only country which puts people before the Republic and this is how it has been able to lift one fifth of the world's population out of poverty .



40. World Jewish Congress	Hate speech ; Also, several antisemitic incidents of Holocaust denial and/or trivialization have been recently recorded at demonstrations against pandemic prevention measures.
41. Action Canada for Population and Development ¹⁸	Inequality as a result of the pandemic; Also, unequal distribution of vaccines : As organizations based in the Global North, we are ashamed of our governments' hoarding of COVID-19 vaccines .
42. Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience	The Ahmadiyya Muslims: victims of state-sponsored persecution in Pakistan .
43. Centre Europe - Tiers Monde	End impunity for TNCs violations of human rights , the report doesn't respond to the changes of activities by TNCs.
44. VILLAGES UNIS (UNITED VILLAGES)	Prosecution and torture of human rights defenders , including women that exercise social and political activism. This violations occur under militia controlled areas in Yemen .
45. Franciscans International ¹⁹	Killings of the peace agreement's signatories and of human rights defenders in Colombia .
46. Christian Solidarity Worldwide	Urges the Council to fully support transitional justice rooted in accountability and redress for victims. <u>Country situations</u> : Myanmar military's crimes against humanity and genocide against the country's ethnic nationalities, including the Rohingya, Kachin, Shan, Chin, Karen and Ta'ang .
47. Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture	Kuwait after the 2020 UPR hasn't implemented the recommendations. There has been an increased prison sentencing against political activists, prisoners of opinion and cases of severe restriction of freedom of speech in the country.
48. Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII	COVID-19 has further exacerbated existing problems such as widespread corruption, inequalities, lack of access to health services, and endemic violence . Urgent measures should be taken to reduce inequalities such as debt cancellation for the least developed countries, ending unilateral coercive measures and countering tax havens and corruption. Also, States should address the unequal access to vaccines by developing countries .
49. Il Cenacolo	Violence against human rights defenders and violation of freedoms against journalists and bloggers in Algeria .
50. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)	Urge UN Member States to recognize the right of all to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment .
51. VIVAT International	Securing quality education for children in South Africa and the exacerbation of education inequalities in the country amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹⁸ Statement on behalf of the Sexual Rights Initiative and 15 organizations from the following countries: Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and France.

¹⁹ Joint Statement with the Center for International Environmental Law and eight other organizations (Amnesty International, ATD Fourth World, Dominicans for Justice and Peace, FIAN International, Global Initiative for Economic Social and Cultural Rights, International Indian Treaty Council, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific, and Soka Gakkai International)



52. Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc	Repression against civil society organizations and human defenders in Bahrain especially under the directive of the newly appointed prime minister and crown prince Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa .
53. CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation	The CIVICUS Monitor continues to track restrictions in civic space across the globe and shows that only 3% of the world's population is able to effectively speak out, assemble and take action. Urges States to support, promote and protect civil society as communities should be empowered and those standing up for their rights should be protected.
54. United Nations Association of China	False and groundless accusations against the National Security Law in Hong Kong . The National Security Law never targets peaceful protesters and ordinary citizens .
55. Association Internationale pour l'égalité des femmes	Skyrocketing poverty rates and extrajudicial killings in Iran .
56. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd ²⁰	Significant increase in cases of sexual violence against children and an increase in the number of girls married off before the age of 18; Also, the issue of obstetric fistula is an issue as young pregnant girls , under the age of 18, are amongst the most at risk of this condition.
57. African Green Foundation International	The negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights, with a particular focus on economic, social and cultural rights, especially in Sri Lanka .
58. Center for justice and international law ²¹	Deep concern for situation of indigenous peoples and afro-descendants in the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua .
59. ESCR-Net - International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Inc.	Regarding the LCI for TNCs : Need for ensuring transparency in the treaty text and process to deter and overcome corporate capture of the State ; and remind States on international women's day that feminist visions and a non-binary gender-based approach must be at the centre of the Treaty process – and are key to ending corporate impunity .
60. Solidarité Suisse-Guinée	Terrorism in Yemen .
61. ABC Tamil Oli	Structural genocide against Eelam Tamils by the Sri Lankan unitary State .
62. Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme	Politicization of the COVID-19 crisis; unequal access to vaccines ; guaranteeing the right to education for girls amidst the pandemic to prevent pregnancies and school drop-out .
63. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists	The slaughtering of animals in a way that contradicts the Jewish and Islamic Law .
64. Synergie Feminine Pour La Paix Et Le Developpement Durable	Landmines by terrorists in Yemen .
65. Justiça Global	Protection of victims from TNCs and address impunity : victims should be prioritized in trade and investments matters.
66. Tamil Uzhagam	Occupation of the Tamil homeland in the North and East of Sri Lanka and the militarization of Eelam Tamils .

²⁰ Joint Statement with the World Council of Churches and Geneva for Human Rights

²¹ Joint Statement with the Right Livelihood Foundation



67. World Evangelical Alliance	Call on the United States' government and on the European Union remove sanctions that prevent the Syrian population from accessing basic needs and services , essential health supplies, including access to COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, and that inhibit the reconstruction of basic infrastructure destroyed by the ongoing conflict.
68. Peace Brigades International	Impact of extractive industries and hydro-power projects on water supply , quality and the wider environment. In particular, the plight of human rights defenders working to uphold environmental protections in Colombia, Indonesia, Honduras and Mexico that are being threatened and killed.
69. United Nations Watch	The great number of reports against Israel is very high compared to none referring to grave situations in: Somalia , where 95% of girls aged 4 to 11 face genital mutilation; Pakistan , which persecutes Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, Shias, and Ahmadis; Mauritania , which is the world's last bastion of actual slavery, with 500,000 black slaves; Saudi Arabia , which subjugates women and imprisons pro-democracy activists; Turkey , which purged thousands of academics, journalists and judges, and tramples its Kurdish population; Venezuela , where brutal oppression and state collapse have caused 5 million people to flee.
70. International Humanist and Ethical Union	Violations against humanist human rights defenders . They are persecuted and forced into exile for their views, especially in Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia .
71. Advocates for Human Rights	Human rights abuses of asylum seekers and survivors of torture and the importance of their advocacy and participation in UN mechanisms to prevent future abuses.
72. Human Rights Advocates Inc.	Issues regarding foreign debt and the right to food .
73. Alsalam Foundation	Poor conditions in Bahraini prisons , as well as ongoing religious discrimination, reprisals, impunity, and police brutality .
74. Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie	Embezzlement and instrumentalization of families sequestered in Algeria .
75. Institute for NGO Research	Concerns regarding the viability of a legally binding instrument as it is largely duplicative of what already exists in both domestic and international law.
76. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Threats and killings of human rights defenders and the prevalence of impunity for these crimes , especially in Latin America .
77. Amnesty International²²	Killings of human rights defenders in Colombia, Philippines, Honduras, Mexico, Guatemala, Afghanistan and Brazil .

²² Joint Statement with a coalition of 10 organizations: ACI-Participa Honduras; Afghanistan Human Rights Defenders Committee (AHRDC); Amnesty International; Brazilian Committee of Human Rights Defenders; Comité Cerezo (Mexico); FIDH; Front Line Defenders; Global Witness; Human Rights Defenders' Alert – India; Karapatan (The Philippines); OMCT; Programa Somos Defensores (Colombia); Red TDT (Mexico); and UDEFEGUA (Guatemala).



78. iuventum e.V	Nuclear-power-related human rights violations.
79. Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi	Harassment of journalists and police abuse in India .
80. Promotion du Développement Economique et Social - PDES	Countries of the Arab Maghreb Union should follow the example of Morocco and cooperate in order to allow future generations to live together in a peaceful, sustainable manner and full respect for human rights.
81. Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group	Undernourished people in India which stands at 195 million.
82. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation	Ensuring the right to food for the disadvantaged amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
83. Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.)	Cases of custodial torture and cruelty committed by the security forces in the North Eastern states of India .
84. Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee	The government of India and Manipur have failed to respect the Guiding Principles of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as forest and hills have been destroyed due to the construction of a railway line.
85. Human Rights Information and Training Center	Importance of States' implementation of the 2030 agenda to reduce inequalities and fight against the shrinking of civic space.
86. Association Thendral	National eligibility entrance test (NEET) implementation in India causes Injustices to the students and discriminates against their life conditions.
87. Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul	Genocide of Tamils perpetrated by the successive governments of Sri Lanka with impunity. They urge the referral of Sri Lanka to the ICC .
88. Tourner La Page	Genocide of Tamils by Sri Lanka . Urge the HRC to establish a Special Rapporteur for Sri Lanka and establish an international accountability system for its crimes.
89. Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisation	Human rights violations in the occupied territories of Jammu and Kashmir by Pakistan .
90. Association Culturelle Des Tamouls en France	Urge the HRC to organize a special session on Sri Lanka as soon as possible, to refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court , to appoint a country-specific Rapporteur for Sri Lanka under Agenda 4 and to demilitarize and stop the colonization of North and East of Sri Lanka .
91. Action of Human Movement (AHM)	Recognition of self-determination right of Tamils by Sri Lanka ; urge the HRC to appoint a SR on Sri Lanka and to refer the case to the International Criminal Court .
92. Society for Development and Community Empowerment	Urge the HRC to refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court (ICC) , to establish an International Independent Investigative Mechanism or appoint a country specific Special Rapporteur for Sri Lanka , recommend an UN-monitored Referendum to determine the aspirations of the Tamil people in Sri Lanka, and the Tamils' right to self-determination .



93. Jeunesse Etudiante Tamoule	Human rights violations against Tamils in Sri Lanka .
94. International Disability Alliance	Need for active consultation with and the meaningful engagement of persons with disabilities , including children, through their representative organizations, in all decision making relating to climate change prevention and mitigation , for instance by considering the representation of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction structures both at the national and at lower levels.
95. World Barua Organization (WBO)	Harassment of Dalit human rights defenders and the protection of civil and political rights of Dalits and religious minorities in India .
96. Global Welfare Association	Human rights violations and torture cases committed in India .
97. Center for Organisation Research and Education	Human rights violations in Manipur, India .
98. Centre for Gender Justice and Women empowerment	Urge the HRC to find out the root causes of human rights abuses in Baluchistan and the Baloch - Islamabad conflict by sending a fact finding mission .
99. Corporate Accountability International	Corporate abuse : A treaty for human rights violations of TNCs and impunity for these crimes is imperative.
100. Sikh Human Rights Group	Censorship and interference in freedom of the press has increased and journalists have been charged with 'sedition' merely for being critical of the governments; also, concerned over the accelerating change in social, public and commercial fields being brought about by the use of Artificial Intelligence without any ethical codes or guidelines .
101. Alliance Creative Community Project	Private companies' violation of the human right of freedom of expression and freedom of the press .
102. Family Health Association of Iran	US sanctions' impact on health rights in Iran , especially during COVID-19.
103. European Union of Jewish Students	China: arbitrary detentions of Uyghurs and other Turkic people in internment camps.
104. International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (<i>on behalf of 55 organizations</i>)	Urge that the HRC takes a stance against the further proliferation of a neocolonial, neoliberal world order where profits are prioritized over people. Demand for States to uphold human rights , to support TRIPs waiver and ensure equitable distribution of vaccines in a manner conducive to the right to development for everyone.



Rights of Reply

- **Azerbaijan** (In reply to the “fabricated” statements of Armenia regarding political prisoners)
- **Iran** (In reply to the statements made by Canada’s accusations regarding the Ukraine aircraft’s crash)
- **Armenia** (In reply to the statements made by Azerbaijan)
- **Ukraine** (In reply to the statement made by the Russian Federation)
- **Brazil** (In reply to statements made with regards to LGBTI+ persons rights)
- **China** (In reply to statements regarding accusations of human rights violations of ethnic minorities in Tibet and Hong Kong)
- **Indonesia** (In reply to the statements by NGOs regarding the country’s development projects and access to water)
- **Azerbaijan** (In reply to last statement made by Armenia)
- **Armenia** (In reply to the last statement made by Azerbaijan regarding Armenia’s actions of “ethnic cleansing”)

*Full recording of the General Debate on Item 3 is available on the UN WebTV:
[Part 1](#) (9 March 2021, 2:45:05), [Part 2](#) (10 March 2021, 3:04:07).*