

General debate on Item 4 (24-28 September 2021) Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

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This is a Summary Records report of the General Debate under Item 4 that took place from **24 to 28 September 2021** at the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council. 10 joint statements were made by the Groups of States, 23 statements were delivered by the Member States in their national capacity, 39 statements were made by the Observers, and 103 statements were delivered by the non-governmental organizations. The report also includes the list of 23 rights of reply.

The statements provided by the speakers are presented in the order of speaking and are not exhaustive. Please refer to the **recordings of the General Debates on the UN WebTV** for full statements:

- [Part 1](#) (24 September 2021, 01:30:17),
- [Part 2](#) (27 September 2021, 03:17:02),
- [Part 3](#) (27 September 2021, 01:27:25),
- [Part 4](#) (28 September 2021, 19:38).

Oral update on the extent of conflict-related deaths in the Syrian Arab Republic
Statement by Ms. Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Resolution 46/22 requested OHCHR to resume its work on the **extent of civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic**, in cooperation with civil society. Ms. Bachelet acknowledged the tremendous commitment and courage of **all the individuals who have documented incidents of violence**.

In 2013 and 2014, OHCHR commissioned **three statistical analyses** of documented killings in Syria. However, the situation in Syria in 2014 grew more complex and dangerous, which affected the capacity to maintain the required standards of quality and verification, and led OHCHR to **suspend this work**. In OHCHR's last update in **August 2014**, the Office reported that **a total of 191,369 individuals had been killed**.

In 2019, the Office reinforced its capacity and resumed its statistical analysis. The new assessment has encompassed OHCHR's own data, records maintained by civil society organizations, many of them collecting raw data on the ground, and information from the Syrian government, which shared records covering part of the 10 years. The Office has followed a **strict methodology**. The numbers include only those people identifiable by full name, with an established date of death, and who died in an identified governorate. Exhaustive review was carried out to prevent duplicate records. On this basis, **a list of 350,209 identified individuals killed in the conflict in Syria between March 2011 to March 2021** has been compiled, including **26,727 women** and **27,126 children**. The **greatest number of documented killings was recorded in the Governorate of Aleppo**, with 51,731 named individuals killed. Other locations with very heavy death tolls were **Rural Damascus**, 47,483 deaths; **Homs**, 40,986 deaths; **Idlib**, 33,271 deaths; **Hama**, 31,993 deaths; and **Tartus**, 31,369 deaths. Behind each recorded death as a human being, born free and equal, in dignity and rights. OHCHR assesses this figure of 350,209 as statistically sound. But **it is not a**

complete number of conflict-related killings in Syria. It indicates a **minimum verifiable number**, and is certainly an under-count. The records with only partial information, excluded from the analysis, indicate the existence of a wider number of killings. There are also many other victims who left behind no witnesses or documentation.

OHCHR has begun **processing information on the actors** alleged to have caused a number of deaths, together with the civilian and non-civilian status of victims, as well as the **cause of death by types of weaponry**. Further analysis is essential, and more time and resources is required. OHCHR has also begun to apply **established statistical estimation techniques to account for missing data**, in order to provide a more complete picture. Documenting the identity of and circumstances in which people have died is key to the effective realization of a range of **fundamental human rights** – to know the truth, to seek accountability, and to pursue effective remedies. It can also facilitate survivors' access to education, health-care and property, and be complementary to **efforts to account for missing people**. In the context of Syria, OHCHR has been assisting families of missing people to effectively engage with international human rights mechanisms.

Ms. Bachelet restated her call for the **creation of an independent mechanism**, to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing people; identify human remains; and provide support to relatives. Today, the daily lives of the Syrian people remain scarred by unimaginable suffering. There is still no end to the violence they endure: just last month, **civilians in and around Daraa** were exposed to intense fighting and indiscriminate shelling by Government forces and armed opposition groups. It is incumbent upon us all to listen to the voices of Syria's survivors and victims, and to the stories of those who have now fallen silent for ever.

Main Points Raised (thematic issues, country and/or territorial concerns)	
Member States: Joint Statements	
France (on behalf of 26 member states of the European Union)	<p>Afghanistan: The perpetrators of human rights abuses must be held accountable. The provisional government appointed by the Taliban should respect international human rights law and human rights standards, including the rights of women and girls.</p> <p>Belarus: EU firmly condemns the oppressive campaign against civil society and human rights defenders.</p> <p>Tigray region in Ethiopia and neighbouring regions in the north: extremely concerned by the deterioration of the situation.</p> <p>Russia: firmly condemns the attempt of assassination through poisoning of political opponent Alexey Navalny.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian Territory / Israel: concerned about the repeated cycles of violence.</p> <p>China: EU encourages the High Commissioner to focus on the situation in the autonomous region of Xinjiang. In Hong Kong, EU is gravely concerned about the modifications brought to the electoral regime, and the repressive nature of the Law on National Security.</p> <p>Myanmar: gravely concerned about the violations of human rights on a major scale, after the <i>coup d'état</i>.</p> <p>Egypt: EU acknowledges the key role played by Egypt for ensuring international security, stability and migrations; and calls upon the government to combat terrorism in full respect of international human rights law.</p> <p>Philippines: EU reasserts its concerns about enforced disappearances and a number of deaths linked to anti-drug-trafficking campaign.</p> <p>Venezuela: highly concerned about the ongoing violations of human rights,</p> <p>Turkey: highly concerned about the degradation of the rule of law and respect of human rights.</p>
Egypt (on behalf of the Group of Arab States – Arab Group)	<p>The Arab Group expresses its condemnation of all violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and stresses the right of everyone to enjoy human rights without discrimination of any kind. The Council should commit to the principles of universality, impartiality and objectivity, and to avoid selectivity, politicization and double standards. The human rights situation in all countries should be considered on an equal footing, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of states. The group stresses its refusal to target specific countries in a selective manner and in a double-standard manner under the fourth item or other items on the agenda. It calls on Member States, the OHCHR and the mandate holders to address human rights issues within a framework of constructive international dialogue and cooperation, with a view to promoting the promotion and protection of all civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.</p>
Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation – OIC)	<p>The Council's work under agenda item 4 should be carried out in full compliance with the principles of universality, objectivity, and impartiality. The Council should foster genuine dialogue and constructive engagement with the concerned country. All basic rights should be treated on the same footing with same emphasis. The OIC shares concerns over the increasing politicization of the Council's work and interference into the internal affairs of sovereign States. The OIC urges the Council to ensure protection of the rights, freedoms and dignity of Muslims minorities vis-à-vis the rising tide of State-sponsored Islamophobia, and reiterates its strong condemnation of the widely documented organized violence against Muslims. The OIC calls upon the Council to actively monitor and report on the human rights conditions in situations of foreign occupation, disputes and protracted conflicts.</p>

<p>Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement – NAM)</p>	<p>Human rights issues must be addressed in a constructive, non-confrontational, non-politicized approach, in a fair and equal manner, with objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs. NAM expresses its deep concern over the practice of selective adoption of country-specific resolutions. The Council should give adequate attention to the issues of poverty, underdevelopment, marginalisation, climate change, digital divide, instability, foreign occupation and illegal settlements, damage of the cultural heritage. States have the primary responsibility to promote durable solutions for IDPs in situations of terrorism and armed conflicts. NAM recognizes the importance of post-conflict rehabilitation, reconstruction and reintegration efforts to sustain peace, foster economic development; and highlights the importance of effective mine action.</p>
<p>Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (on behalf of the Like-Minded Group – LMG¹)</p>	<p>The LMG opposes the politically-motivated country-specific resolutions. This practice violates the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization and constitutes double standards in addressing human rights issues. The proliferation of “naming and shaming” practice aims to interfere in States’ internal affairs. Emphasized the importance of the UPR as the fundamental mechanism of the UN to address all human rights issues based on cooperation and constructive dialogue. The Human Rights Council is the forum for debating human rights issues; the latter should not be debated in the Security Council.</p>
<p>Pakistan (on behalf of a 55 countries)</p>	<p>Respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States represent basic norms governing international relations. Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet are China’s internal affairs. The group supports China’s implementation of “One country, two systems” in Hong Kong SAR. All parties should abide by the principles of the UN Charter. All states should uphold multilateralism, solidarity and collaboration. The group firmly opposes the politicization of human rights and double standards, as well as unfounded allegations against China out of political motivation and based on disinformation, and the interference in China’s internal affairs under the pretext of human rights.</p>
<p>China (on behalf of the Like-Minded Countries)</p>	<p>Interfering into other countries’ internal affairs and imposing one’s own values on other countries seriously violates sovereignty and territorial integrity. All parties should adhere to the UN Charter. Dialogue and cooperation should be upheld. Human rights should not be used as a tool to suppress to punish others and serve one’s own political agenda. All human rights should be treated on an equal footing. The realization of the right to development in the developing countries must be taken seriously.</p>
<p>Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Cross-Regional group of countries)</p>	<p>The landmines continue to pose significant threat to human lives, security and humanitarian efforts. These weapons do not distinguish between civilians and combatants, and violate people’s fundamental right to life, while breaching social, economic and cultural rights for years. Vulnerable groups are among those suffering the most, while children constitute almost half of the victims. Victims assistance is a core component of the mine action. Environmental impact of mine action is worrisome. Enhancing regional and international cooperation and greater interagency coherence within the UN system is urgent. All stakeholders should support mine-affected states, upon their request, by providing assistance to them in accordance with the international law as soon as possible.</p>
<p>China (on behalf of a group of countries)</p>	<p>United Kingdom: systemic racism and racial discrimination are deep-rooted. Hate speech, xenophobia and relevant violence are increasingly exacerbated. The living conditions continue to deteriorate. The UK has serious poverty, with 1/3 of families with children under the age of 5 living in poverty. The UK has frequently conducted military interventions in other countries causing numerous casualties of civilians and undermining the socio-and economic development. The British military personnel committed serious crimes. The UK imposes UCMs arbitrarily, severely impeding the human rights of people in the countries concerned.</p>

¹ Here and later – unless otherwise specified – the full list of co-sponsor States was not available on the Extranet as of 30 September 2021.

Statements made by Member States

<p>1. Germany</p>	<p>Afghanistan: the Taliban appointed caretaker cabinet should respect human rights, including women's and girls'.</p> <p>Belarus: violence and repression must stop; justice must be served. Democratic reforms and new, free and fair elections must be realized. Condemns the political instrumentalisation of migrants and refugees.</p> <p>China: Gravely concerned about human rights violations against ethnic minorities in Xinjiang and Tibet, and the application of the National Security Law in SAR Hong Kong. The High Commissioner must be granted access to Xinjiang.</p> <p>Egypt: condemns the continued application of the death penalty. Civil society must be able to work independently. The implementation of the new National Human Rights Strategy is key.</p> <p>Iran: violations of women's rights, the rights to freedom of expression and assembly persist. Condemns detention conditions and Iran's continued use of the death penalty, including against juvenile offenders.</p> <p>Myanmar: calls for the immediate release of those arbitrarily detained.</p> <p>Russia: the tightened NGO legislation and extremism charges are misused to outlaw opposition and defenders. Calls for the release of political prisoners and those arrested for religious beliefs. In the illegally-annexed Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as well as in eastern Ukraine, Russia should immediately stop systematic human rights violations.</p>
<p>2. Armenia</p>	<p>Armenia: violations of the human rights of the population living in close vicinity to the international border with Azerbaijan. Azerbaijani armed forces periodically open sporadic and indiscriminate fire in the direction of Armenian border towns and villages, resort to the cattle thief and employ other ways of intimidation, thus preventing the population from the right to freely use their pastures. Another serious source of concern are the repeated cases of arson by the Azerbaijani armed forces. The right of free movement of the civilian population, including access to food and medical services, is also violated. The extensive use of anti-Armenian hate speech, open threats to use force, and incitement of territorial claims against regularly take place.</p>
<p>3. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</p>	<p>Venezuela has brought to the UN agencies on multiple occasions the complaint of the ferocious attacks unleashed by the elites that have governed the United States, in complicity with allies from the region and satellites in Europe. They use Item 4 of the Agenda to attack sovereign States, claiming to offer lessons in human rights, when they have dreadful histories of violations of the same rights. Some hegemonic countries and their allies unleash negative media campaigns to undermine the great efforts of developing countries to uphold human rights. The baseless accusations against China about Xinjiang is one such example, when the government has made efforts to combat terrorism to protect its citizens; in Hong Kong it countered the violence unleashed by radical factors, always acting in strict accordance with its legal system and "one country, two systems". Relations between States must be based on the universal principles of respect for sovereignty, self-determination of peoples; and non-interference in the domestic affairs of States. Venezuela will continue to promote political dialogue with all Venezuelan political sectors in order to guarantee the peace and well-being of its people, as informed by President Nicolás Maduro in his recent intervention in the UN General Assembly.</p>
<p>4. Japan</p>	<p>Afghanistan: Japan is closely watching the actual actions of the Taliban; and urges all parties to ensure the safe movement of those who wish to leave; protect the lives and property of all Afghans; restore the social order; protect and enhance basic human rights, especially the rights of women. Urges all parties to ensure inclusive political process that includes diverse ethnic and sectarian groups.</p>

	<p>Myanmar, since the coup, Japan has consistently and strongly urged the national military to immediately stop the violence, release the detainees, and restore the democratic government.</p> <p>China: seriously concerned about the recent situation in Xinjiang and Hong Kong.</p> <p>DPRK: as the families of the victims of abductions are now advanced in age, there is no time to lose in resolving this issue.</p>
5. Republic of Korea	<p>Syria: concerned over the recent escalation in armed hostilities in the northwest region and the siege-like situation in Dara’<i>a</i> al-Balad. Alarmed by the indiscriminate shelling and airstrikes. All parties should end violence immediately and comply with their obligations under international human rights law and IHL. Safe and unhindered humanitarian access must be granted to all affected areas.</p> <p>Burundi: while recognizing the positive steps taken by the Burundian government, the reports indicate that serious human rights violations continue to be committed, notably targeted killing, enforced disappearance, and torture. Burundi should hold those responsible accountable, and re-engage with the UN human rights mechanisms, including by reopening the OHCHR country office.</p> <p>Belarus: increased crackdowns on civil society, raids and detention against human rights activists as well as the shutdown of multiple civil society organizations, must be stopped and civic space must be protected.</p>
6. Indonesia	<p>The Council must show itself as a credible and enabling platform for constructive dialogue and cooperation. The principles of universality, objectivity, and impartiality, and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States should be observed. All basic civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights, especially the right to development, should be treated equally. Indonesia notes with concern a number of worrying trends that requires the Council’s attention, including: vaccine nationalism; racism, xenophobia, and intolerance; hate speech and incitement under the guise of freedom of expression; and the denial of human rights in many places in the world, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Building back better should be at the top of the Council’s priorities. The Council must promote greater solidarity and political commitment towards guaranteeing the right to health for all, including by ensuring equitable access to vaccines; and promote greater protection of people disproportionately affected by COVID-19.</p>
7. Austria	<p><i>Austria fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by France on behalf of the EU.</i></p> <p>Regarding the situation in Belarus and in Myanmar, Austria refers to its statement under the respective Interactive Dialogues.</p> <p>Afghanistan: retaliations against those who have supported the building of a democratic Afghanistan is unacceptable. Particularly concerned about Afghan women and girls, their respective rights to education, work, freedom of movement and protection from violence. Stresses the need for transparent and prompt investigations into reports of human rights violations and abuses.</p> <p>Burundi: welcomes the increased willingness of Burundi to engage in international dialogue. Human rights violations have persisted in a climate of growing insecurity. Authorities have doubled down repression against human rights defenders and journalists who are perceived to be critical of the government. Burundi should reopen civic space by creating a safe and enabling environment.</p> <p>Syria: tens of thousands of people, including many children, remain missing or arbitrarily detained, often subjected to sexual violence or other forms of torture. The perpetrators need to be held to account. The Security Council should refer the situation in Syria to the ICC. All parties to the conflict should cease indiscriminate airstrikes and shelling, and to pursue a long-lasting, nationwide ceasefire.</p> <p>Venezuela: the systematic human rights violations include arbitrary detentions, extrajudicial killings, torture, sexual violence. Fully supports the mandate of the FFM to document these violations. Encouraged by the beginning of Venezuelan-led negotiations in Mexico City, but the only way out of this crisis is the holding of credible, inclusive and transparent elections.</p>
8. Netherlands	<p><i>Netherlands aligns itself with the statement delivered by France on behalf of 26 countries, member states of the EU.</i></p>

	<p>China: seriously concerned about the human rights situation in <i>Xinjiang</i> and <i>Tibet</i>, and the restrictions on press freedom and the freedom of religion and belief. Regrets the lack of progress in access to the OHCHR to Xinjiang, looks forward to her assessment of the situation. Remain concerned about the implementation of the national security law in <i>Hong Kong</i>.</p> <p>Russia: deep concerns about measures constraining the work of NGOs, independent media and individuals, including legislation on “foreign agents”. Russian should thoroughly investigate reports of grave human rights violations and persecution of LGBTI persons, including in <i>Chechnya</i>.</p> <p>Eritrea: Eritrean civilians are detained without trial, press freedom is absent, and the mandatory national service continues to be enforced. Condemns the presence of Eritrean troops in <i>Northern Ethiopia</i>, and the alleged human rights violations that they commit.</p> <p>Cuba: after the 11 July protests, repression by the Cuban authorities intensified, with dozens of arbitrarily detained. The Cuban government should release them, and respect human rights of its citizens.</p> <p>Recalls its plea for a formal candidate pledging event for future Human Rights Council candidates in the UNGA, alongside the existing and valuable NGO-led event.</p>
9. Cuba	<p>Rejects the comments made previously about Cuba. Cuba will continue to denounce the use of human rights as an interventionist weapon, and the use of this Council as a stage for political confrontation. The harmful practice of some countries of undermining dialogue and cooperation, and promoting double standards, manipulation, punitive approach and selectivity in dealing with human rights must end. Those who impose UCMs, threats and aggressions against sovereign States are not condemned. Some talk of civic freedoms as they face demonstrations with sophisticated means of repression and police violence. They talk about freedom of opinion, but allow transnational cooperations to profit from the personal data of their users, and openly promote terrorism, violence, hate speech and fake news for political purposes on social networks. They meddle in the political processes of sovereign countries, while keeping silent in the face of drone attacks against civilians. They discriminate and segregate ethnic minorities, allow the forced exploitation of refugees and asylum seekers, hunt down defenseless migrants, selectively imprison people based on racial profiling, jail innocent children, murder or imprison activists and social leaders, but they speak shamelessly of civil and political rights. It is imperative to restore the key goals of the Council which are cooperation and dialogue.</p>
10. Russian Federation	<p>Western states are unwilling to refrain from their policy of double standards in the human rights field. Human rights bodies and monitoring mechanisms continue to note an increase in cases of violations of the rights both in “old” and “new” democracies. A number of “young” democracies divide society along national and linguistic lines. Banning one’s own native language, as early as in kindergarten, can be regarded as openly racist policies which lead racism, xenophobia, aggressive nationalism and other forms of racial intolerance. Following political and economic interests, the leaderships of such countries, deprive their own citizens of development and involvement in the global economy of the future. The persistent resistance to the use of vaccines produced outside Western countries against COVID-19 is regrettable, as well as the discriminatory attitudes towards those vaccinated with vaccines produced in the so-called undemocratic states. The Council and the OHCHR should investigate these new forms of discrimination and determine the legality of these actions of Western countries in light with their international obligations.</p>
11. India	<p>The Council has been envisaged as a platform for providing impetus to international cooperation and collaboration for realization of the goal of global promotion and protection of all human rights for all. It has not been successful in achieving this goal in full measure. Enjoyment of human rights by people globally has faced challenges such as terrorism and violent extremism, climate change, lack of</p>

	<p>sustainable development, and COVID-19 pandemic. There is a lack of commitment to building consensus and the Council has adopted resolutions with support of less than 50% of its members States. Concern at the perpetuation and proliferation of country specific mandates under agenda item 4, focusing selectively at human rights situation in a few countries. Enhancement of State's capacity through technical assistance and capacity building, in consultation with and with the consent of the States concerned, is the best way towards improving the human rights situation. The priority should be accorded to implementation of accepted UPR recommendations.</p>
12. China	<p>Today, a few countries once again spread false information and made unfounded accusations against China, which China categorically rejects. These countries interfere in the internal affairs of other countries under the pretext of human rights. Instead, they should seriously address their own serious human rights issues such as racial discrimination, violations of rights of refugees, migrants and indigenous people. They should stop illegal military intervention and occupation, and end illegal UCMs. China adheres to the people-centred development philosophy, has historically solved the problem of poverty, and built modern and prosperous society. A joint statement was delivered to support China on Xinjiang-, Hong Kong-, and Tibet-related issues, while other countries expressed their support in their national statements and joint letters. All countries should adhere to true multilateralism and cooperation. If other countries continue to ignore the people's pursuit of win-win cooperation, equity and justice, and continue to obsess over imposing their own values and institutional models on others, interfering in other countries' internal affairs, and continuing to create divisions and confrontations for political self-interest, they are bound to meet opposition of people, and their attempts are doomed to failure.</p>
13. Czech Republic	<p><i>The Czech Republic aligns itself with the EU statement.</i></p> <p>Belarus: The regime continues to escalate its attacks against members of the opposition, human rights defenders, independent journalists and activists. More than 650 political prisoners are being detained arbitrarily on unfounded charges and suffer from serious ill-treatment including torture; they should be immediately released. Violations must be transparently and independently investigated.</p> <p>Russia: civil society organisations, human rights defenders and independent media are targeted and their work is being curtailed by recent legislation. Aleksei Navalny should be released. Russia should comply with the ruling of the ECHR. Due to limitations imposed by the Russian authorities, the OSCE was not able to observe the elections to the Duma. These were neither free nor fair.</p> <p>Venezuela: condemns the persecution of members of the opposition and attacks against media freedom and civil society actors. The humanitarian situation is concerning. Holding of free and inclusive presidential, parliamentary and regional elections is essential.</p> <p>Afghanistan: recent violence includes summary and extrajudicial executions. It is critical to ensure accountability. Particularly concerned about the Afghan women and girls, whose rights must be safeguarded.</p> <p>Myanmar: condemns the widespread attacks by the military junta, acts amounting to crimes against humanity. The junta should immediately stop the violence against peaceful protesters and cease the persecution of independent journalists, lawyers and human rights defenders. Those arbitrarily detained must be released.</p> <p>Tigray and northern Ethiopia: all parties to the ongoing conflict should immediately end the violence, ensure a safe and unimpeded humanitarian access and enter a process of peaceful dialogue and reconciliation.</p> <p>Syria: continue to be concerned about the dire situation and its impact on the civilian population.</p> <p>DPRK: strongly condemns the unparalleled, systemic, widespread and gross human rights violations, including crimes against humanity.</p>
14. Pakistan	<p>Dialogue and constructive engagement with the country concerned provides the preferred tools to address human rights concerns. The Council should pay special attention to the human rights conditions in the UN-recognized situations of foreign occupation. The</p>

	<p>imperative of global accountability in such situations remains pressing. Pakistan invites the Council's urgent attention towards the grave situation in the occupied Jammu & Kashmir. During the last two years, India is pursuing with increasing intensity a colonization project, transforming the majority indigenous Kashmiris into a minority population, and depriving them of their inalienable right to self-determination. India continues to deny access to OHCHR, UN Special Procedures, civil society and international media for independent investigation of its systematic violations. This month, Pakistan has presented a dossier, containing concrete evidence regarding India's widespread human rights transgressions, graduating to crimes against humanity and war crimes. The Council should implement the recommendations, addressed to it in the two Kashmir Reports, and institute a Commissioner of Inquiry for investigating human rights crimes. The High Commissioner should continue monitoring and reporting on Jammu and Kashmir and ask India to give her Office access to the occupied territory.</p>
<p>15. Philippines</p>	<p>The Council should re-orient its approach, along the following lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognize the role of non-state actors in the dynamics of complex human rights situations in different settings. The Philippines has repeatedly mentioned the example of the CPP-NPA-NDF and the way its front organizations have obscured and misrepresented facts to escape accountability. - institute due diligence processes that enable coordination and dialogue between and among the Council, OHCHR and the state subject of our attention. The debates and processes must observe the highest standards of objectivity and be guided by methodologies that are transparent, inclusive and fair. - focus attention on measures that bring about positive, concrete and long-term change in subject communities, as opposed to an indiscriminate cycle of unilateral actions that tend to entrench divisions in the Council and squander the already-stretched resources of OHCHR. The Philippines launched the first-ever national-level UN joint programme on human rights, targeting specific areas for capacity building and technical cooperation.
<p>16. Denmark</p>	<p><i>Denmark refers to the statement delivered on behalf of 26 member states of the EU and its Nordic-Baltic statements under the interactive dialogues on Belarus, Ethiopia/Tigray, Myanmar, Syria, Libya, Ukraine, Yemen, Burundi and South Sudan.</i></p> <p>Afghanistan: recalls its concern as reflected in our statement under the item 2 general debate.</p> <p>China: deeply concerned about reports of human rights violations in Xinjiang and Tibet. Reiterates its call on China to allow meaningful access to Xinjiang for the High Commissioner and other independent observers.</p> <p>Iran: arrest, imprisonment and long-term detention of civil society activists and human rights defenders is of great concern. Calls for fair trials and proper conditions for prisoners.</p> <p>Saudi Arabia: implementation of the reform initiatives is key, and the persecution of civil society activists is deeply worrying.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian Territories: strongly opposes Israel's illegal expansion of settlements in the oPt, including evictions of Palestinians from their homes in East Jerusalem. Urges the Palestinian Authority to respect the right to freedom of expression and to peaceful association and assembly.</p> <p>Egypt: while recognizing the country's role in regional security and the fight against terrorism, continuously concerned by the human rights situation and in particular the shrinking space for civil society.</p> <p>Bahrain: reiterates the call for the release of arbitrarily detained persons, including the Danish-Bahraini citizen Mr. Al-Khawaja.</p>

<p>17. Sudan</p>	<p>Primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights lies with the states. The Council should continue working based on the principles according to which it was set up.</p> <p>South Sudan: Sudan encourages the Government to continue and intensify efforts to sustain peace and achieve stability, and calls on the Human Rights Council to assist South Sudan by providing the necessary technical assistance and capacity building.</p> <p>Burundi: welcomes the positive developments in Burundi, and encourages the authorities to increase the pace of their cooperation with the Human Rights Council and various human rights mechanisms.</p> <p>There is no alternative to dialogue, joint cooperation and positive engagement, especially in the issues raised under Agenda Item 4.</p>
<p>18. Ukraine</p>	<p>Expresses its deep concern regarding the situation of human rights in Venezuela, Burundi, Myanmar, DPRK, South Sudan, Syria, Nicaragua and Russia.</p> <p>Russia: the human rights situation is serious and deserves the Council's attention under Agenda Item 4. Civil, political and cultural space of Russian citizens is restricted, peaceful protests are brutally suppressed, leaders of opposition are arrested, the rights of ethnic, religious and other minorities are violated. Journalists are subject to intimidation for their reporting. The recent state Duma elections were marked by the government's interference. Organization and holding of the Russia's elections on the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine represents serious violation of Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and international law. The results of these elections will be null and void, and thus the Russian state Duma will be formed with violation of international law and its representatives will be considered illegitimate. UNGA resolution 75/192 condemns all attempts by Russia to legitimize or normalize its attempts of annexation of Crimea. Ukraine appeals to the Human Rights Council and the OHCHR to give proper assessment of the continuous serious violations of human rights and IHL by Russia in the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine.</p>
<p>19. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</p>	<p>China: UN experts must have immediate and unfettered access to Xinjiang. Shares the High Commissioner's regret that she has not been granted access to date, and welcomes her plans for an assessment of the available information later this year.</p> <p>Myanmar: condemns the military coup in Myanmar, calls on the military junta to return power to the democratically elected government, and end its serious human rights violations.</p> <p>South Sudan: The Commission on Human Rights remains a necessary mandate.</p> <p>Russia: measures to marginalise civil society, silence independent media, and prevent independent opposition candidates from participating in the State Duma elections undermine political plurality and disregard Russia's international commitments.</p> <p>Syria: horrific human rights violations continue. There must be accountability for victims and perpetrators must face justice.</p> <p>Egypt: the stark increase in executions is alarming, Egypt should cease use of the death penalty. Deeply concerned by terrorism charges against journalists and activists, and by asset freezes and travel bans on human rights defenders.</p> <p>Burundi: welcomes steps by the Government that demonstrate greater commitment to human rights. International monitoring of the situation should continue. Burundi should cooperate with all UN human rights mechanisms.</p> <p>The UK has raised its concerns about Afghanistan, Tigray, Venezuela and Belarus in other statements.</p>
<p>20. Uruguay</p>	<p>The Human Rights Council and its members should conduct themselves in an objective and non-politicized manner, in line with the principles and values established in the UN Charter, including the principles of sovereignty of states, respect for their territorial integrity and non-intervention in their internal affairs. The Council was created with the conviction that the protection of human rights</p>

	in the world should be carried out prioritizing dialogue and cooperation between states and not confrontation. The principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity should govern all activities and tasks.
21. Uzbekistan	In foreign policy and relationships with foreign states, Uzbekistan is guided by the provisions of its Constitution and the foreign policy, as well as the UN Charter. Respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity are the fundamental norms governing international relations. Uzbekistan has consistently and steadfastly supported the principle of " one China " and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states. Calls on all parties to comply with the goals and principles of the UN Charter, as well as the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity in the field of human rights, and respect the right of peoples to determine their own course of development in accordance with national conditions. Uzbekistan stands for solidarity and cooperation.
22. Côte d'Ivoire	Despite its efforts and the progress made, the human rights situation in the world remains worrying, exacerbated by the adverse effects of COVID-19 and climate change . Human rights, especially those of the most vulnerable, namely women, children, people with disabilities, refugees and migrants continue to be violated in a number of countries. Côte d'Ivoire urges all States to continue their efforts, by adopting the necessary measures in order to ensure the protection of human rights and the well-being of their populations. Encourages the High Commissioner to pursue her efforts for a constructive dialogue with all the countries concerned , in order to avoid polarization of debates on human rights issues. The Council should be faithful to principles of universality, objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization on the human rights situation in certain countries, particularly in China , with regard to the situation in Xinjiang and Tibet , and the security situation in Hong Kong , where the principle of "one country, two systems" should be respected.
23. France	Afghanistan: condemns all human rights violations, in particular concerning the rights of women and girls. Calls for preservation of humanitarian access. More needs to be done for the Afghan civilian population – the resolution presented by the EU at this session. Yemen: calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities. The protection of civilians, humanitarian access, the cessation of all human rights violations, in particular arbitrary detention, torture and sexual violence based on gender, must become the priority. Ethiopia: it is urgent to put a definitive end to the violence, to ensure the protection of civilian populations, to allow access to humanitarian aid and to engage in political dialogue. Central African Republic: the security situation is characterized by multiple violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, committed in particular by mercenaries from the private Russian company Wagner. China: the High Commissioner should be allowed unrestricted and independent access to Xinjiang . France deplores the continuing deterioration of the situation in Hong Kong and in Tibet . Belarus: France is concerned about the alarming number of arbitrary detentions and the reported cases of torture.

Statements made by Observer States

<p>1. Liechtenstein (on behalf of the Core Group on Casualty Recording)</p>	<p>The Group has consistently reiterated that casualty recording in situations of armed violence and conflict upholds fundamental human values by endeavoring to produce a comprehensive and detailed record of every person killed and the circumstances of their death. The war in Syria has been one of the deadliest conflicts. Casualty records recognize the value of every individual human life and the unique loss which each death represents, thus recognizing the inherent dignity of every person affected, their right to life, and family's or survivor's right to truth and accountability. The work of the OHCHR on conflict-related casualties in Syria is of crucial importance to show different levels of violence, conflict hotspots at different times, circumstances of deaths, actors involved, weapons used and further information that can be used for accountability, memorialization, remedies, and policy decisions.</p>
<p>2. Luxembourg</p>	<p><i>Endorses the statement made by France on behalf of 26 EU countries.</i></p> <p>Afghanistan: alarmed by the recent violence committed by the Taliban against protesters, journalists, human rights defenders and civil society actors. Deeply concerned that despite the Taliban's commitments, the rights of Afghan women are being reduced. Their access to all basic services, including education, and their active participation in all spheres of public and political life are essential.</p> <p>Ethiopia, Somalia and the Central African Republic: strongly condemns the sexual violence in these countries, which now amounts to "sexual atrocities". Such crimes cannot go unpunished and must be thoroughly investigated.</p> <p>Egypt, Venezuela and Belarus: deeply concerned about the reprisals and violence committed against human rights defenders.</p> <p>China and Myanmar: concerned about the persecution of minorities.</p>
<p>3. Israel</p>	<p>Iran: the widespread use of the death penalty is concerning. In 2020 alone, 267 people, including nine women, were executed, and today over 80 child offenders are on death row. The Iranian government frequently imposes these death sentences based on forced confessions extracted through torture. Last month, the world was alarmed to see leaked footage from Evin prison showing prisoners living in inhumane conditions. This prison is infamous for its human rights abuses. This Council must urgently address the human rights abuses committed both in Iran and by its proxies in the region.</p> <p>There will never be stability in Syria, prosperity in Lebanon, and peace in Yemen, if the world does not address Iran's malign activity in the Middle East and beyond.</p>
<p>4. Australia</p>	<p>Afghanistan: calls on the Taliban to allow safe passage for citizens and visa holders and to allow unimpeded access for all humanitarian workers. The Taliban should uphold human rights, cease violence and ensure terrorism does not find a home in Afghanistan.</p> <p>DPRK, Syria, Yemen and Ethiopia: alarmed by violations and abuses of human rights and violations of IHL.</p> <p>China: grave concerns about numerous and credible reports of human rights violations and abuses against Uighurs and other Muslim ethnic minorities in Xinjiang, including restrictions on freedom of religion, large-scale extrajudicial detention, mass surveillance, forced labour and forced birth control, including sterilisation. China should allow unfettered access to Xinjiang for the High Commissioner.</p> <p>Myanmar: condemns the horrific violence and high death toll; calls on the regime to refrain from further violence, and immediately implement its commitments under the ASEAN Five Point Consensus.</p> <p>Venezuela: welcomes the Venezuela-led negotiations in Mexico. Remain concerned by the political, economic and humanitarian situation. Participation from all stakeholders is essential for a peaceful solution to the crisis.</p>

<p>5. Finland</p>	<p><i>Finland aligns itself with the statement by France on behalf of 26 EU Member States.</i></p> <p>Afghanistan: women, girls, minorities and those in vulnerable situations need our continued support and attention. The international community must hold accountable those responsible for rights violations.</p> <p>Russia: legislation seriously limits the ability of political opposition and civil society to operate also in light of recent Duma Elections. Calls on Russia to release opposition politician Alexei Navalny.</p> <p>China, including Hong Kong: arbitrary detentions remain a concern. Calls on China to give the High Commissioner for Human Rights meaningful access to <i>Xinjiang</i> region.</p> <p>Venezuela: the Venezuelan-led comprehensive negotiations are welcome. Harassment, intimidation and arrest of members of the opposition and others must stop.</p> <p>Mali: The large amount of civilian killings in Mali is of great concern. Mali should commit to accountability for serious human rights violations and abuses.</p>
<p>6. Spain</p>	<p>Afghanistan: condemns the violence of the Taliban against the civilian population, human rights defenders and, especially, women and girls. There is a need for monitoring mechanism for this situation.</p> <p>Myanmar: human rights situation exacerbated after the February coup. The military authorities must collaborate with the mechanisms of this Council and restore democratic legitimacy.</p> <p>Venezuela: concerned about the cases of arbitrary detentions, torture and extrajudicial executions. In the current pre-electoral context, there is a need to put an end to violations of freedom of information and expression. Spain supports the work of the OHCHR, and welcomes progress in cooperation with the High Commissioner's mission in Venezuela.</p> <p>Syria: all responsible parties should comply with international humanitarian and human rights law and reiterates its support for a political solution based on Security Council resolution 2254.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian Territories: condemns Israel's policy of settlements and demolitions, as well as the attacks, incitements to violence and violent acts by all parties against the civilian population.</p>
<p>7. Switzerland</p>	<p>Afghanistan: all parties should respect IHL and human rights law, including the rights of women, girls and minorities. Calls for the establishment of an independent mechanism to investigate all violations and abuses and to monitor the situation on the ground.</p> <p>Mali: concerned about human rights abuses in a context of persistent impunity and calls on all parties to the conflicts to respect IHL.</p> <p>Northern Ethiopia: urges all parties to strictly respect IHL and to ensure rapid and unhindered humanitarian access.</p> <p>China: strongly condemns the continued arbitrary detention of Uighurs and other minorities in <i>Xinjiang</i>. Calls for their release as well as respect for the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, including in <i>Tibet</i>.</p> <p>Cuba: the authorities should respect the rights to a fair trial, freedom of expression and Internet access. Cuba should release those arbitrarily detained following the July protests and to start a real dialogue.</p>
<p>8. Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)</p>	<p>The deep-rooted racism and racial discrimination, islamophobia, xenophobia, white supremacy, hated crimes, resurgence of neo-Nazism, maltreatment of minorities or migrants and systematic discrimination, human trafficking and sexual violence are rampant in the <i>United States</i> and <i>western countries</i>. <i>Japan</i>, a world number one abductor state that committed unprecedented crimes against humanity in the past such as forced abduction and forced sexual slavery still refuses sincere reflection, apology and compensation for its wrong past. The tragic reality in the western countries stands clear testimony to the serious problems in their human rights systems</p>

	and standards. Strongly urges HRC and OHCHR to carry out comprehensive and impartial investigation into atrocities against humanity including unlawful killing and torture of civilians committed by military personnel of the U.S. and western countries, and hold all those responsible to account. DPRK firmly opposes the attempts to misuse human rights issue for political purpose and urges certain countries to refrain from using Xinjiang and Hong Kong related issues to interfere in China's internal affairs.
9. Lao People's Democratic Republic	UPR has proven to be the fundamental and suitable mechanism of the UN to promote and protect human rights in all the member states. The international community should constructively engage with each other through a constructive, non-confrontational, peaceful, non-politicized and non-selective manner. Commends the Chinese government's continued efforts in advancing socio-economic sustainable development, including promoting and protecting human rights in all its territory. Considers that Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet related issues are China's internal affairs that brook no interference by any external actors. Respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states and non-interference in internal affairs of sovereign states represent basic norms governing international relations.
10. United States of America	Gravely concerned regarding the human rights situations in Burma, DPRK, Iran, Syria, Yemen, Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Belarus . China: US strongly condemns China's abuse, including economic exploitation, systemic racism, and destruction of cultural heritage, directed toward members of ethnic and religious minority groups, including genocide and crimes against humanity in Xinjiang and extreme restrictions on human rights and on religious, linguistic, and cultural traditions in Tibet . Condemns Hong Kong authorities' detention of democratic activists simply for exercising their rights and freedoms and call for their immediate release. Cuba: stands in solidarity with all brave Cubans in their call for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Urges the Cuban regime to cease its repression of its people, including the unjust detentions of hundreds of protestors, journalists, and activists. Northern Ethiopia: concerned about gender-based violence and blocking of humanitarian access, urges all parties to immediately end hostilities without preconditions. Russia: deeply regrets the Russian government's targeted repression of the political opposition, independent media, and civil society in the lead-up to the parliamentary elections, and illegitimate elections in Russian-occupied Crimea and in eastern Ukraine .
Point of Order – China	The Statement by the US seriously interferes in the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the independence of China.
<i>President of the Human Rights Council, Ms. Nazhat Shameem Khan</i>	<i>The issue raised by the representative of China is of a substantial and not procedural nature, and should therefore be raised during the Right of Reply.</i>
11. Belarus	Belgium, Greece, Germany, Netherlands, and Switzerland: the Human Rights Council ignores the facts of regular violent crackdowns of participants in peaceful protests against discriminatory measures introduced by the authorities to combat COVID-19. Lithuania, Latvia and Poland: cruel and inhuman actions of the authorities of towards migrants seeking asylum in the EU member states. In some cases, the forcible removal of asylum seekers has resulted in deaths. Baltic countries: the 30-year policy of state discrimination against the Russian-speaking population remains unpunished. Invites to participate in the online side event on the 5 th of October. Canada: the authorities should immediately start credible investigations of the many disappearances of indigenous persons. United Kingdom: authorities must stop the arbitrary detention of journalist Julian Assange and provide him with due compensation.
12. Ireland	<i>Ireland aligns with the statement of France on behalf of Member States of the EU.</i>

	<p>Afghanistan: women and girls must not be denied their rights, including full and equal access to education; to healthcare; to freedom of movement; and to participate fully in public life. Strongly condemns violence and intimidation against civilians and civil society.</p> <p>Yemen: dire human rights and humanitarian situation on the ground. All parties should refrain from using hunger as a weapon of war.</p> <p>Tigray and neighbouring regions of Ethiopia: horrifying reports of gross human rights violations and abuses, including systematic sexual and gender based violence. Those responsible for these violations and abuses must be held accountable.</p> <p>Belarus: ongoing human rights violations, including restrictions on freedom of expression and the media, and on civil society.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian Territory: ongoing settlement activities, demolitions, and evictions in, in contravention of international law. The humanitarian situation in Gaza is deeply worrying. Concerned by continued pressure on Israeli and Palestinian civil society.</p> <p>Myanmar: reports of killings, sexual assaults, arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, torture since the military seized power.</p>
13. Norway	<p>In many countries, freedom of expression and media freedom are under severe pressure. Gravely concerned about the extensive use of surveillance technology to monitor and control individuals, and to censor expressions online and offline.</p> <p>DPRK, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea: disregard for free expression, punishment for those who try to exercise their rights is unacceptable.</p> <p>Belarus, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan should release all persons that are imprisoned because of their opinions or expressions.</p> <p>Bahrain, Iran, Saudi Arabia should respect human rights, protect human right defenders and take measures towards more transparency and independence of the judiciary.</p> <p>China should respect the freedom of expression of all citizens, and to allow UN-mandated observers unrestricted access to Xinjiang.</p>
14. Cyprus	<p><i>Cyprus aligns with the statement of France on behalf of Member States of the EU, and draws attention to its statements during the interactive dialogues on Syria and Libya.</i></p> <p>Turkey: alarmed by recent pronouncements by the Turkish President on Varosha. The withdrawal of Turkey from the Istanbul Convention marked a terrible backlash against women's rights. As an EU candidate and Council of Europe member, Turkey must fully implement all ECHR judgments, as well as Venice Commission recommendations.</p> <p>Afghanistan: access to humanitarian assistance of those most in need, especially women and girls, cannot be compromised. The Council should establish a mandate to ensure human rights obligations are upheld.</p>
15. Malta	<p>Afghanistan: remains committed to peace and stability and calls for accountability for all human rights abuses. The Taliban appointed caretaker cabinet should respect the international legal framework on human rights, including the rights of women and girls.</p> <p>Belarus: the authorities to fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur to look into all reported violations, including by allowing her access to the country.</p> <p>Tigray and Northern Ethiopia: calls for unimpeded humanitarian access and full respect of international human rights law and IHL. All parties to the conflict should immediately end the violence and to negotiate a ceasefire.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian territory and Israel: reiterates support to a Two-State Solution. Calls for all relevant authorities to investigate human rights violations, ensure unimpeded humanitarian access, and allow the work of civil society to continue unhindered.</p>
16. Syrian Arab Republic	<p>The Council's work to protect and promote human rights based on the principles of universality, objectivity and impartiality, contradicts the politicization and selectivity that characterizes agenda item 4 and its resolutions. The absence of an agreed code of conduct for the investigative bodies established under item 4, confirms its politicized nature. The human rights situation in all countries must be</p>

	addressed on an equal footing and far from selectivity and double standards. Western countries should stop their interference and pay attention to the human rights record in their countries, especially with the rising of post-colonial, racism and hatred and racist policies. The grave violations of human rights caused by Western interventionist policies, UCMs and aggressive wars by the United States and its allies, under the pretext of democracy and human rights, are using human rights to achieve their goals. The Council's duty is to deal with these violations credibly and responsibly.
17. Turkmenistan	All human rights, in particular the right to development are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and must be addressed through a constructive, non-confrontational, non-politicized manner and avoiding the practices of "naming and shaming" , with respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of States. Human Rights Council should not be used as a political sphere for country specific situations. Cooperation and genuine dialogue with concerned States should define the parameters of the Council's actions in country-specific situations. Human Rights Council is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly responsible for consideration of human rights situations in all countries in the context of the Universal Periodic Review based on cooperation and constructive dialogue.
18. Estonia	The human rights situation in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Tigray region of Ethiopia, Burundi, Syria, Central African Republic, Belarus and Russia remains of grave concern. Myanmar: the HRC must keep developments in Myanmar high on the agenda and maintain international pressure on the military regime. Attacks by the security forces against medical personnel and facilities are unacceptable. Afghanistan: the Taliban's interim government should immediately fulfil the promises it has made regarding the composition of the government and the unrestricted access to education for woman and girls. Belarus: domestic crises has begun to turn into regional instability. Ryanair's passenger planes' forced landing was followed by the instrumentalisation of migrants and refugees. Russia: the recent general elections results were based on the scenario prescribed by the authorities. The abandonment and ridicule of the principles of democracy and human rights by the Russian authorities must be the focus of the international community.
19. Georgia	Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan: extremely concerned with dire developments. Nicaragua: condemns the continued systematic repression and arbitrary detention of all opposed to the regime. Russia occupied regions of Georgia: local population endures human rights violations, ethnic discrimination and humanitarian challenges. The intensified so-called "borderization", continuous kidnappings and illegal detentions, ongoing closure of the occupation line in Tskhinvali region and restriction of freedom of movement, prove to be unbearable burden for people in both occupied regions. Illegally occupied territories of Ukraine: deeply concerned with the deterioration of human rights situation and continued attempts by Russia to undermine Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Russia should ensure unfettered access of the OHCHR and other human rights monitoring mechanisms to both regions of Georgia as well as to the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine .
20. Afghanistan	The Council has a central role in taking immediate country-specific action to prevent and ensure accountability for serious human rights violations. Such action is essential for strengthening the Council's credibility and impact. Since the fall of Kabul, the situation of human rights in Afghanistan has gravely deteriorated. The Taliban's promises to allow women and girls to fully exercise their rights, to leave human rights defenders and journalists unharmed, have not been respected. The Taliban must demonstrate, through their actions,

	not only promises, that the rights of all Afghans are protected. The Council members, in line with the Council's mandate, should adopt a resolution in its current session, establishing a dedicated and effective mechanism to monitor the situation in Afghanistan.
21. Azerbaijan	<p>Today, marks a year of the beginning of Patriotic War, during which Azerbaijan has put an end to three decades long military aggression and occupation of Azerbaijani territories by Armenia, restored its territorial integrity and sovereignty within the internationally recognized borders as well as the fundamental human rights of nearly one million of Azerbaijani displaced population by compelling Armenia to sign act of capitulation. Armenia still remains under the heavy influence of its crushing defeat, while it should grasp new realities emerged in the region, give up its anti-Azerbaijani hatred and stop unfounded claims with regard to the delimitation of state borders between two countries. Azerbaijan's proposal to engage in border delimitation process has not yet received the positive reaction. Armenia should respect the Trilateral Statements and establish a good neighborly relations with Azerbaijan.</p> <p>Issues brought to the attention of the Council, including those related to China, must be approached in full conformity with the principles of territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs of states that are enshrined in the UN Charter.</p>
22. Cambodia	<p>The COVID-19 vaccines, recognized by WHO, are discriminated against types and sources. Vaccines hoarding indicates the solidarity is missing. A surge of hate speech, disinformation and incitement disguised under the freedom of expression is polarizing people and paralyzing societies. Certain human rights are inflated over the others, rejecting the national particularities and priorities of each country. Some developing countries become a target of UCMs for the imperfection of a nation-building process. The Council should adhere to the principles of non-selectivity, non-politicization, non-confrontation and no double standards. The human rights shortcomings should be met with de-politicized technical assistance and capacity building rather than naming and shaming. Any legislation to safeguard national security is a sovereign right of independent states. Hong Kong should enjoy peace and stability under "one country, two systems". China's achievement in lifting population out of poverty, including in Xinjiang, should be recognized.</p>
23. South Sudan	<p>Reiterates its full commitment to the implementation of the peace agreement, upholds the rule of law, and guarantees the promotion and protection of human rights. Continues to reject the imposed resolution of item 4, because it does not support the Government's spirit towards committing to the implementation of the peace agreement, nor does it serve the purpose of cooperation in the field of human rights. Rather, it is a total distraction to the cause of progress and cooperation. Does not support country specific mandates as it does not serve the spiration on the country concerned. The HRC should refrain from bias reporting against certain nations.</p>
24. Vanuatu	<p>Supports the need for issues brought to the attention of the Human Rights Council to be accorded proper national treatment, especially, to ascertain the extent of state responsibility, level of progress and remedial action. Acknowledges important progress achieved by the People's Republic of China, including enacting legislation to safeguard the national security, as well as the social and economic progress. China should continue upholding the rights of its people in accordance with international obligations. All states should uphold multilateralism, solidarity and collaboration, and promote human rights through constructive dialogue and cooperation.</p>
25. Ghana	<p>Supports the principle of the sovereign equality of all UN members and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State. Paragraph 4 of Article 2 enjoins all Member States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of political independence of any State. Ghana supports the call for respect for the sovereign rights, independence and territorial integrity of China. All States should uphold multilateralism, solidarity and collaboration and promote and protect human rights through constructive dialogue and cooperation. Politicization of human rights or the use of pretexts, including</p>

	inconsistent application of human rights standards in order to selectively interfere in the internal affairs of any nation, undermines the human rights agenda. International cooperation and universal solidarity in a spirit of partnership, are crucial.
26. Madagascar	Madagascar reaffirms its support for the efforts by each States to promote human rights and the implementation of international commitments. Madagascar encourages the Government of China in the efforts undertaken in terms of economic, social and cultural rights, throughout its territory. Madagascar rejects any suggestion of instrumentalisation for political ends of issues dealt with within the framework of the work of the Council. Madagascar invites States and multilateral bodies to demonstrate impartiality and to respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States in the assessment of the human rights situation in each of our country.
27. Cabo Verde	Cabo Verde values the work of OHCHR and encourages the need to strengthen the technical cooperation and assistance aiming at boosting capacity building of countries on the implementation of international legal instruments related to human rights. The government of Cabo Verde further emphasizes the importance of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund with a view of the participation of SIDS in the work of the Council. While emergency measures are critical to respond to the negative impact of the pandemic, they must be implemented in accordance with the State's obligations under international human rights law. Those obligations should be conducted in such a way as to reconcile the principle of respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of States and non-interference in internal affairs of sovereign states. All parties should abide by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter of which universality and impartiality are of great importance. All states should uphold multilateralism, solidarity and collaboration.
28. Sweden	<p><i>Sweden aligns itself with the statement delivered by France on behalf of 26 EU Member States.</i></p> <p>Afghanistan: the unfolding situation is deeply alarming, notably for women and girls. Violations and abuses must be investigated.</p> <p>Tigray and northern Ethiopia: calls for accountability for human rights violations and abuses.</p> <p>Russia: Russia should ensure freedom of expression and assembly, also for civil society, independent media and political opposition.</p> <p>Myanmar: strong condemnation of the military coup, and of the use of deadly violence against peaceful protestors. Election results must be respected and those detained released.</p> <p>China: human rights situation is concerning in Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet. Violations target persons belonging to minorities, human rights defenders, lawyers and media workers. The continued arbitrary detention of Swedish and EU citizen Gui Minhai must end.</p> <p>Egypt and Saudi Arabia: the use of counter-terrorism legislation remains deeply worrying. Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran should ensure freedom of expression and assembly for all, including human rights defenders.</p> <p>Belarus: human rights situation is grave, with arbitrary arrests of opposition members, silencing of independent media and civil society.</p> <p>Occupied Palestinian Territories: settle violence is concerning. The Palestinian government needs to ensure respect for human rights in areas under its control. In Gaza, serious human rights violations continue to affect the population.</p>
29. South Africa	South Africa's engagement with the Council is always guided by this commitment to human rights. South Africa reiterates that abuse of the agenda of the Council for political gains, in a selective manner and with double-standards runs counter to the founding principles of the Council. The Council should have a victim-centered approach to human rights that way the Council would remain true to the letter and spirit of its founding principles. The Council should not suffer the same fate as its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights. The community of nations should be guided by the International Bill of Rights and the principles of the UN Charter, including respect for the sovereignty of nations and non-interference in the domestic affairs. South Africa reiterates the One China policy.
30. Jordan	<i>Jordan supports the statements of the regional groups to which it belongs.</i>

	<p>The promotion and respect of human rights arises from constructive international dialogue and cooperation within the framework of the contents of the UN Charter, and international instruments recognized by all. These principles recognize the need to protect minorities, cooperate on the basis of factual data, and to guarantee all states the right to self-defence and combat terrorism, as they protect their sovereignty and territorial integrity. With reference to some of the issues that were discussed in regards of China, the Council should abide to principles of objectivity, impartiality, and non-selectivity.</p>
31. Chad	<p>Chad welcomes the multifaceted support of the OHCHR to many countries to strengthen human rights and promote the rule of law. The best way to strengthen promotion and protection of human rights is through true cooperation, dialogue, and the full respect of principles of sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-interference in the domestic affairs. Chad shares the feeling expressed by the People's Republic of China that the promotion of development and human rights needs respect of all parties. Welcomes the efforts made by China to cooperate with the Council. Chad is willing to cooperate with the Council and its mechanisms to promote and protect human rights in order to comply with its international obligations.</p>
32. Viet Nam	<p>Viet Nam's consistent policy is to protect and promote human rights, including basic rights to freedom specifically stipulated in the Constitution of 2013 and other legal documents. Reiterates the importance of the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity and the elimination of double standards and politicization. The best way to enhance human rights on the ground is through genuine dialogue and cooperation, with full respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of states. Viet Nam encourages the Council to take the discussion on country-specific situations on the basis of the diverse social and economic conditions of countries and the achievement of SDGs.</p>
33. Sri Lanka	<p>Concerned regarding the continuous practice regarding the country-specific resolutions. In the absence of the collaboration of the country concerned, these initiatives only serve to polarize societies and minimize chances of genuine dialogue. Note with concern the increasing number of resolutions involving the OHCHR functions and excessive funds requested for such resolutions. Respect for sovereignty and non-interference must guide the work of this body. Hong Kong and Xinjiang-related issues are China's internal affairs. Supports China's "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong SAR.</p>
34. Egypt	<p>Expresses continuous support to the mandate and operation of the HRC. Importance of the principles of objectivity, impartiality and not having the policy of double standards or the attempts to politicize this Council. Rejects the current method adopted in the consideration of issues under Agenda Item 4. All states should cooperate to ensure that the Council can work effectively, in a united fashion, and respecting the rights of all peoples in the world.</p>
35. Belgium	<p><i>Belgium aligns itself with the statement delivered by France on behalf of the EU.</i></p> <p>Afghanistan: alarmed by the rapid regression of the human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan and urges the authorities to respect their international obligations, in particular under the CEDAW. Deep concern about the human rights situation of minorities, journalists and human rights defenders. Belgium supports the creation of a mandate of special rapporteur.</p> <p>Nicaragua: deeply concerned about the continued violation of fundamental democratic principles. In view of the upcoming elections, the government should end the repression and immediately release all political prisoners.</p> <p>Venezuela: ongoing human rights violations include extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances and systematic detentions. Welcomes the discussions to re-launch the democratic process.</p>

<p>36. Kenya</p>	<p>The principles of the UN Charter and the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity and non-interference in the internal affairs should always be respected. The Council should ensure the utmost transparency. All states should promote and protect human rights through constructive dialogue and cooperation. Firmly opposes the politicization of human rights and double standards.</p>
<p>37. Mali</p>	<p>It is essential that the promotion and protection of human rights be based on the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity. Mali reaffirms its firm attachment to the principles set out in the UN Charter. Supports the principle of sovereign equality of States and respect of their independence, territorial integrity and choice as to how to manage their internal affairs. Renews its solidarity with the People's Republic of China, encourages it to maintain the principle of “one country two systems” in the Hong Kong SAR, and provide lasting solutions in accordance with the imperatives of peace, stability and socio-economic development.</p>
<p>38. Rwanda</p>	<p>Inclusive and sustainable development is essential to the realization and enjoyment of human rights. The respect of sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity of states and non-interference in internal affairs should be the basic norm governing international relations. This Council’s agenda items should not be used to advance political motivations. Rwanda strongly supports China’s “one country, two systems” policy applicable to Hong Kong SAR. Rejects interference in China’s handling of political, social and economic affairs on all its territory.</p>
<p>39. Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>The tumultuous events of the past two years have inextricably woven the filament of COVID-19 into the fabric of global existence. Great care must be exercised in ensuring that the rights of individuals are not unnecessarily overridden in the pursuit of the greater good. The effects of COVID-19 are increasing at an alarming pace, deepening inequalities between countries, social strata and gender distinctions. These inequalities include access to health care and vaccinations, education and social services, shelter and food. While we act collectively to prevent any and all abuse of human rights wherever and by whomever committed, the sovereignty of individual states must remain sacrosanct. It is incumbent on us to observe the indelible delineation between commitments to International Human Rights Instruments and those Conventions which uphold the independence and right of self-governance of all states.</p>

Statements made on behalf of Civil Society Organizations	
1. Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund (<i>joint statement on behalf of 61 organizations</i>)	Guatemala: the political and economic instability is extremely worrying. The Council should urge Guatemala to respect and protect human rights defenders, repeal the NGO Law, adopt, implement a comprehensive Public Protection Policy to prevent further attacks against them, and to guarantee the independence and impartiality of judges and magistrates.
2. International Federation for Human Rights Leagues	Afghanistan: the lack of a robust response by the international community. Kashmir: the death of Kashmiri leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani triggered a new wave of serious human rights violations by Indian government authorities. The Council must establish independent investigative mechanisms to monitor human rights violations and promote accountability in Afghanistan and Kashmir.
3. Baha'i International Community	The situation of the Bahá'ís in Qatar: the situation has worsened. The international community should guarantee the rights of all those living in Qatar to freely practice the religion of their choice, both alone and in community with others.
4. Alliance Defending Freedom	Afghanistan: the Human Rights Council should establish without delay a dedicated mechanism tasked with monitoring the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, focusing particularly on the human rights of vulnerable persons, including those belonging to religious minorities.
5. Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie	Refugee camps in Tindouf, Algeria: it is our duty as NGOs and officials to keep stressing the responsibility of Algeria in violating human rights in Refugee Camps in Tindouf.
6. East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project	Cameroon: last May, a group of 62 NGOs released a letter addressing Cameroon's human rights situation and urging collective action in this regard. States should formulate benchmarks for progress, which, if fulfilled, will constitute a path for Cameroon to improve its situation. If these benchmarks remain unfulfilled and the situation fails to improve, more formal Council action should follow, including a resolution establishing an investigative and accountability mechanism.
7. China Foundation for Human Rights Development	United States, United Kingdom, Australia announced the establishment of a trilateral security partnership to carry out nuclear submarine cooperation, export highly sensitive nuclear submarine technology to Australia, the move that is undoubtedly a violation and trampling of the spirit of the NPT.
8. Minority Rights Group	Afghanistan: the situation of ethnic and religious or belief minorities is concerning. The HRC should create a robust international accountability mechanism to monitor and report on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, including the situation of its ethnic and religious minorities at risk of persecution.
9. International Humanist and Ethical Union	Ghana: Next month, the 'Proper Human Sexual and Ghanaian Family Values Bill' will be considered for adoption by Ghana's Parliament. If adopted, the Bill would impose a penalty of up to five years imprisonment for being LGBTI+ and a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment for anyone engaging in advocacy for LGBTI+ equality. The Council should support UN Special Procedures in calling on Ghana "to take all measures necessary to withdraw the proposed Bill from consideration".
10. Article 19 - International Centre Against Censorship (<i>joint statement on behalf of</i>	Cuba: all States should vocally condemn human rights violations in Cuba, and call on the Council to establish a monitoring mechanism to further accountability for the human rights crisis. The Cuban authorities should unconditionally release all

<p>ARTICLE 19, CIVICUS, and Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights)</p>	<p>those arbitrarily detained in connection with the July protests, including political leaders, journalists and media workers, human rights defenders, and artists.</p>
<p>11. World Evangelical Alliance (<i>joint statement on behalf of the World Evangelical Alliance, the World Council of Churches and the Baptist World Alliance</i>)</p>	<p>Algeria: increasing violations of the right to freedom of religion or belief in Algeria in the course of 2021. The government of Algeria should bring its legal framework, in particular Ordinance 06-03, in line with Article 18 of the ICCPR, to allow re-opening of all Protestant churches, and overturn convictions of individual Christians.</p>
<p>12. International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic & Other Minorities (<i>joint statement</i>)</p>	<p>Western Sahara: the core issue for resolving the situation in Western Sahara is the implementation of the UN Security Council's decision to hold a referendum in Western Sahara for the people to decide in accordance with international law and the principles of the UN.</p>
<p>13. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies</p>	<p>Egypt: the Council must take urgent action to demand that the Egyptian government amend Law No. 149 of 2019, close Case 173 of 2011 and end its widespread and systematic attacks against human rights defenders and organizations.</p>
<p>14. Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW)</p>	<p>Nigeria: the government should address every source of violence decisively and impartially, protect vulnerable communities regardless of creed or ethnicity, and respect civic space. Member States should support local and regional stability, and assist all IDPs and with the rebuilding institutional resilience.</p> <p>Pakistan: CSW is gravely concerned by state-sanctioned violations against the Ahmadiyya community. Pakistan should ensure the rights of all religious and belief communities are respected in law and practice, and to prosecute without delay all those responsible for violent attacks against religious minority communities.</p>
<p>15. Iraqi Development Organization</p>	<p>Bahrain: The Council should hold Bahrain to its international commitment and pressure the government to unconditionally release all political prisoners and allow for the Special Rapporteur on Torture to visit the country.</p>
<p>16. Promotion du Développement Economique et Social</p>	<p>Tindouf camps in Algeria: Algeria should assume their full legal responsibility to protect the refugees in the Tindouf camps and to fulfill their obligations to ratify the Refugee Convention and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.</p>
<p>17. "Coup de Pousse" Chaîne de l'Espoir Nord-Sud</p>	<p>Pakistan: the HRC should take note of violations and ask Pakistan to stop activities of extremists and radical groups in so-called Azad Kashmir who are glorifying Taliban capture of Afghanistan. Islamabad must stop promoting these groups and should stop its medieval practices in disputed areas of the former State Jammu & Kashmir.</p>
<p>18. United Nations Association of China</p>	<p><i>A testimony from the owner of a cafe chained-store in Hong Kong:</i> the Hong Kong National Security Law is the key element for its long-term stability as well as prosperity.</p>
<p>19. Human Rights Watch</p>	<p>Egypt: the Egyptian government has continued its widespread human rights violations and stifling of all forms of dissent and peaceful expression in a climate of total impunity. The Council should act decisively to secure UN monitoring and reporting of the Egyptian government's pervasive abuses and ensure the government does not continue to evade scrutiny amidst its increasingly brutal and systematic repression.</p>
<p>20. Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience</p>	<p>Pakistan: arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances of Baloch political activists, leaders, students, doctors, intellectuals, writers, and human rights defenders. The Council should press upon Pakistan to stop such grave violations</p>

	of human rights and disregard of international laws; and send a fact-finding mission to Balochistan to investigate, identify and make accountable those responsible for their crimes.
21. Centre pour les Droits Civils et Politiques - Centre CCPR (joint statement)	Haiti: as a result of the pandemic, climate change, the earthquake, as well as the severe political crisis, the situation today is alarming and urgently requires the sustained attention of the Council and its mechanisms.
22. European Centre for Law and Justice	Afghanistan: the ECLJ respectfully calls upon this Council to take whatever action is necessary to protect Christians, religious minorities, and women in Afghanistan and to stave off any impending human rights abuses and bloodshed.
23. British Humanist Association	Afghanistan: what steps can be taken to ensure that the Taliban maintains international commitments to the Universal Declaration and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights? Can the Council consider creating a Special Mandate role-holder on political and social participation of women and minorities? The Council should ensure that all resettlement programs are inclusive, and to call on States to establish a moratorium on return of refugees to Afghanistan.
24. The Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development	Afghanistan: in view of the destructive role that Pakistan has historically played in the region, the people of Jammu & Kashmir fear that the country will persist with its strategy of engendering terrorism and will resume its policy of pushing terrorists into Kashmir to keep dangerous veterans of the Afghan campaigns from destabilizing Pakistan itself.
25. Villages Unis (United Villages)	Article 28 of the UN convention of the right of children states that every child has a right to a formal education . However, this right is often one of the first to suffer during the times of disaster or war. The Council should persuade conflicting parties to follow these laws in letter and spirit to secure the right to education of future generations in conflict zones- especially in Indian Administered Jammu & Kashmir .
26. Fundacion para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad	Hungary: the HRC should open an investigation into the abusive practices of the Hungarian government against a religious minority of Scientology and Scientologists and its parishioners.
27. Peace Brigades International	Guatemala: the Council should urge Guatemala to respect and protect human rights defenders, to adopt and apply a comprehensive Public Protection Policy, and to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judicial system.
28. VIVAT International	South Sudan: this year reached the 10th anniversary of its independence. There were no special celebrations because “there was not much to celebrate”, as the South Sudan Council of Churches stated in their message. The Council should assist more closely the efforts of the government of South Sudan in protecting and promoting of all human rights.
29. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) (joint statement)	Climate change affects every aspect of our life, threatens the livelihoods of millions and hinders a safe future. The Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action acknowledges the heightened impact of climate change on children rights, and the urgent need for children-centered climate action. The Council must act to protect the rights of young people, children, and communities and establish a Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change.
30. Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work	Sri Lanka: the Government is misusing of ICCPR act in Sri Lanka for suppressing freedom of expression.
31. International Lesbian and Gay Association (joint statement)	Ghana: the recent Anti-LGBTI draft bill being discussed in the country, as expressed jointly by eleven Special Procedures of this Council, is “a recipe for violence”. Not only it attempts to criminalize same-sex conduct, but also promotes harmful practices such as unnecessary medical interventions on intersex children and so-called conversion therapies. The Ghanaian Government should take all measures to protect LGBTI persons from violence and discrimination and refrain from adopting

	any legislation that will violate the human rights of this community and those who defend their rights. The Council, UN Member States, the High Commissioner, and all relevant stakeholders should remain seized of this matter.
32. Amnesty International (AI)	<p>Iran: the Council should establish an independent and impartial mechanism to collect, preserve and analyse evidence of the most serious crimes under international law committed in Iran to facilitate fair and independent criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Egypt: impunity prevails for extrajudicial executions and other unlawful killings, mass arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances and torture. AI reiterates its calls for the Council to establish a monitoring and reporting mechanism.</p> <p>Saudi Arabia: the authorities intensified their persecution of human rights defenders and dissidents, and stepped up executions. The establishment of a monitoring mechanism is merited.</p> <p>China: AI regrets that there has been no progress on the High Commissioner's efforts to conduct a meaningful visit to Xinjiang. AI is pleased to hear that the Office is finalising its assessment of the available information on allegations of serious human rights violations in that region, with a view to making it public.</p>
33. Women's Human Rights International Association	Iran: the Council must hold Iran to its international commitments and responsibilities. The Islamic Republic of Iran must prevent the death of inmates and release all political prisoners.
34. International Service for Human Rights (joint statement)	<p>While many of the WHRDs mentioned in previous joint statements at the Council have been released from detention, they remain subject to severe restrictions, including travel bans, work bans, or the making of public statements</p> <p>Saudi Arabia: the number of executions in 2021 is already more than double the total figure for 2020. The Council should establish a monitoring and reporting mechanism on the human rights situation in Saudi Arabia.</p>
35. Prahar	India should be exempted from all refuge burden, create a mechanism to stop illegal migrants on Indian soil and save the indigenous Populations.
36. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health (GIWEH)	GIWEH is concerned about the results of the Pegasus spyware report and the link relation with the United Arab Emirates . GIWEH considers that the Participation in international events in the UAE has a high risk of privacy without addressing human rights concerns and visitors should be aware of the draconian cyber-security laws in the UAE.
37. Edmund Rice International Limited	United Kingdom: UK's proposed change to immigration laws will have a devastating effect on migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. The proposals are inhumane and contravene the Refugee Convention and its Protocol to which the UK is a party. Edmund Rice International strongly urges the UK government to abandon these proposed legal reforms.
38. United Nations Watch	We mark the 15th anniversary of this Human Rights Council which promised to ensure "universality, objectivity and non-selectivity" and to eliminate double standards. In the special session on Afghanistan , this Council refused to create any commission of inquiry; refused to condemn any Taliban abuses. And while the council is doing nothing for millions of Afghan victims, it is instead busy forming a massive commission of inquiry, unprecedented in scope and duration, targeting democratic Israel . Where is the promised "universality, objectivity and non-selectivity"?
39. Society for Threatened Peoples	China: The Council should heed the call by over 50 UN experts to set-up an independent mechanism to monitor, assess and analyze the human rights violation by China, and call upon China to stop its persecution of Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongolians and Hong Kongers.

<p>40. Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism</p>	<p>United States: the argument of former US Attorney General in the hearing of the Federal Court on the fact that the information on Saudi Arabia's involvement in the 9/11 is a state secret is a great heresy on the issue of global justice which contradicts with the duties of the US Attorney General and apparently violates human rights of the victims of 9/11. The officials of the United States should be more transparent in removing the barriers of informing 9/11 victims about realities of the tragedy and take measure to inform the public opinion about the secrecy of terrorism.</p>
<p>41. Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme</p>	<p>Kashmir: the OHCHR released two reports in 2018 and 2019 highlighting grave human rights violations in Kashmir and called for the formation of a commission of inquiry into the allegations. The UN chief in June 2021 urged the government to immediately end the detention of children including their arrest during night raids, internment at army camps, torture in detention and detention without charge or due process.</p>
<p>42. Alsalam Foundation</p>	<p>Bahrain: impunity amongst Bahraini officials is yet to be combatted and is only exacerbated by the King of Bahrain and through the support of its two allies in the United States and United Kingdom.</p>
<p>43. Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture</p>	<p>Indian Occupied Kashmir: the civil society and global media have widely documented India's systematic and grave rights violations in the occupied territory. The EU's reluctance to call India out for its atrocities in Kashmir undermines its credibility.</p>
<p>44. Centre Europe - tiers monde</p>	<p>The negative humanitarian effects of unilateral sanctions have worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic and affect the economic apparatus of the targeted countries. This is particularly true for countries like Cuba, Venezuela, Iran and Syria.</p>
<p>45. Africa Culture Internationale</p>	<p>Situation in the Tindouf camps: the practice of the Polisario resorted with impunity to the military enlistment of children from the Tindouf camps and forcibly sent them to military training centers. The international community, particularly the United Nations, should intervene to put an end to this despicable practice in the Tindouf camps.</p>
<p>46. Synergie Feminine Pour La Paix Et Le Developpement Durable</p>	<p>Yemen: a few days ago, 9 Yemenis were publicly executed by the Houthi militia. The council, the Special Rapporteur and the member states should condemn this execution, ensure that the perpetrators of this crime do not go unpunished.</p>
<p>47. American Association of Jurists (joint statement on behalf of 300 organisations (www.genevaforwesternsahara.org); including the Sahrawi National Commission of Human Rights)</p>	<p>Morocco: the 300 undersigning organisations call upon the Human Rights Council to create a mandate of Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in the Occupied Non Self-Governing Territory of Western Sahara.</p>
<p>48. Solidarité Suisse-Guinée</p>	<p>Yemen: the Council should stop dealing with the Houthi militia in the humanitarian field and to find direct mechanisms to ensure that aid reaches those who deserve it.</p>
<p>49. Right Livelihood Award Foundation</p>	<p>Situation of two Right Livelihood Laureates and women human rights defenders in Egypt and Iran. Egypt: Mozn Hassan has been striving for years to advance gender equality and women's rights. As a reprisal for her activism, she is being prosecuted in case 173/2011 and is currently under travel ban and asset freeze. Iran: Nasrin Soutoudeh is currently serving a sentence of 38 years and 148 lashes on charges including "encouraging corruption and prostitution", for having defended women arrested for peacefully protesting the compulsory hijab laws.</p>

	The Council should maintain a closer scrutiny on Egypt and Iran until these concerns are fully addressed and they comply with their international human rights obligations.
50. World Vision International (<i>joint statement by World Vision International and Save the Children International</i>)	Syria: grave concern over the conflict's impact on children and the high number of child casualties in recent months. June and July 2021 have been the deadliest months for Syrian children. This comes on top of the estimated 55,000 children killed since the start of the conflict. Human Rights Council Members should leverage their influence over the warring parties to end the fighting; advocate for civilians to have full and free access to humanitarian aid and basic services; follow up on the work and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry; continue to provide victim assistance and explosive ordnance risk education, protecting and empowering vulnerable populations.
51. Comité International pour le Respect et l'Application de la Charte Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples	Azad Kashmir and Gilgit- Baltistan areas illegally held by Pakistan: the Council should take serious note and send a fact-finding mission into these areas. HRC should ask Pakistan to stop occupying and grabbing the land, stop human rights violations and repeal all discriminatory laws and stop imposing new draconian laws.
52. World Muslim Congress	Occupied Jammu and Kashmir: credible international media outlets, human rights organizations, UN Special Procedures have been reporting on the reprisals- including killings, torture, intimidation and judicial harassment against activists and journalists, and other mass human rights violation. The Council should establish a Commission of Inquiry in line with the recommendations of OHCHR to investigate past and ongoing human rights violations in Indian occupied Kashmir .
53. Franciscans International (<i>joint statement</i>)	West Papua, Indonesia: the Indonesian government should allow national and international humanitarian access to the regencies Nduga, Puncak, Intan Jaya, Jayawijaya, Mimika and Maybrat to ensure that the rights of IDPs in the central highlands are respected, protected and fulfilled in line with international human rights and humanitarian law.
54. The Next Century Foundation	Lebanon: the international community should stand in solidarity and support the political reforms in Lebanon.
55. Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples	Morocco: the Human Rights Council should create the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the occupied Non-Self-Governing Territory of Western Sahara .
56. Association d'Entraide Médicale Guinée	Yemen: The Council should put an end to suffering of Yemeni children.
57. Partners For Transparency	Tigray, Ethiopia: the Ethiopian government must protect aid workers during armed conflicts, and all parties to the conflict in northern Ethiopia must act in strict compliance with international humanitarian law and ensure the protection of civilians. The Eritrean forces must immediately withdrawal from the troubled regions.
58. Sikh Human Rights Group	While trade liberalization is believed to foster sustainable growth, the WTO stringent rules on market price support do not always fit for purpose to transform our agri-food systems and contribute to the Four Betters: Better nutrition, better production, better environment and a better life. The Council should push WTO to recognize the primacy of human rights in all trade agreements and urge WTO to be more cognizant of human rights of ordinary people.
59. CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Afghanistan: the Council previously failed to take swift action to establish a monitoring and accountability mechanism. It should remedy this missed opportunity now. Belarus: the Council should ensure that arbitrarily detained human rights defenders are released, and perpetrators of violations are held to account.

	Nicaragua: the Council should escalate its international scrutiny of Nicaragua to further accountability and justice for crimes under international law.
60. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Iraq: Iraqi law does not explicitly criminalize enforced disappearances, nor does it provide for specific procedures for the search or investigation of disappeared persons. The UN should put forth all efforts to end these human rights abuses.
61. Organization for Defending Victims of Violence	The international community should hold sanctioning States accountable for the serious cases of violation of the right to life and the right to health by preventing the timely and equal access to medicine, vaccine and medical care in the target countries due to the unilateral coercive measures .
62. International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development	Kashmir: school shutdowns have a detrimental effect on the right of education in, especially in view of the inaccessibility of 4G Internet. The right to education should be protected.
63. Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association (Maat)	Yemen: the Council should quickly refer the Houthi crimes against women and children in Yemen to the International Criminal Court as war crimes and the continuation of the ongoing national and international investigation into the matter. Maat also demands the disclosure of the places of detention of detained and forcibly disappeared women, their immediate release, and the cessation of all practices of gender-based violence against women.
64. International Commission of Jurists	Afghanistan: the ICJ calls on all States to provide assistance and where necessary, asylum or similar protective measures, to the Afghan judges and other officers of the courts. The six-month renewal of UNAMA's mandate by the Security Council is important for ensuring continued humanitarian assistance to people in Afghanistan. This mission must be augmented by an independent mechanism that can credibly gather and report on the full range of human rights in Afghanistan as soon as possible, in order to inform further actions by the international community and to deter further violations.
65. Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	People's Republic of China: the Chinese government continues to implement policies of "sinicization" in Tibet , which have a tremendously negative impact on Tibetan culture and on the rights of Tibetans. The Council needs to take concerted efforts to address the policies implemented by China, and must pay attention to the worsening situation in Tibet. Concerned about the apparent lack of support for the unprecedented June 2020 call by Special Procedures for the creation of a special independent mechanism to monitor and investigate human rights violations by the Chinese government.
66. Elizka Relief Foundation	Tigray region, Ethiopia: the rights of the Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia, have been extremely violated, especially those rights related to the right to security and adequate housing. Refugees also continue to face dire conditions, and basic services such as health care, especially clean drinking water, are still not available. The Ethiopian government should try to contain the crisis, respect the principles of IHL, which recognizes the need to protect civilians in conflicts.
67. Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada	Afghanistan: the Council should establish a mechanism adequately staffed and resourced: to conduct sustained investigation, monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation; and to collect, secure, and prepare evidence of serious violations for use in fair and independent prosecutions.
68. Human Rights House Foundation (joint statement on behalf of HRHF, AI, HRW, and the FIDH)	Russia: Special Procedures and the High Commissioner have repeatedly expressed their dismay at the measures taken to silence and intimidate people in Russia. Members of this Council should press the Russian authorities to reverse the course of the unprecedented human rights crackdown, and take steps to bring Russia more formally onto the Council's agenda.

<p>69. International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia: the conditions for a fair trial have worsened, the series of executions have escalated. The Council does not have the authority to compel member states to comply with human rights principles. We still hope, as activists and observers, that the day will come when the Council will be able to deal with states and NGOs on an equal footing, and that human rights, not membership and its privileges, will be the goal.</p>
<p>70. Zero Pauvre Afrique</p>	<p>Yemen: the HRC, all the organizations of the international community, the UN envoy, the UN Secretary-General and the OHCHR should take effective and urgent action to stop arbitrary rulings and in violation of international law issued by the Houthi militia without bearing responsibility, and to press for the release of all abducted and arbitrarily detained civilians.</p>
<p>71. International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas</p>	<p>The Naga people's struggle for self-determination is 75 years running. It remains unfulfilled because of India's opposition. Nagas are indigenous peoples, about 4 million, living in India and Myanmar. The Council should urge the Government of India to repeal the Armed Forces Special Power Act, end militarisation of the Naga homeland, and to constitute a team of UN human rights experts to monitor, support and investigate the ongoing Indo-Naga peace negotiations.</p>
<p>72. Human Rights Now</p>	<p>Hong Kong: the hostile environment particularly stems from arbitrary uses of the Sedition Law and National Security Law, to punish dissenting voices. Hong Kong authorities should end the harassment and arbitrary punishment of activists and CSOs, to respect and protect their civil and political rights, and to create a safe political environment where CSO activities can flourish and not be cowed into silence and disbandment by fears of government retribution.</p>
<p>73. Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group</p>	<p>On the 12 December 2019, a 17-year-old boy named was shot dead by Assam Police, in Hatigaon, Guwahati, Assam. The individuals who fired the bullet deserve censure and must be brought to justice.</p>
<p>74. Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy</p>	<p>Pakistan: millions of ethnic Mohajirs and the residents of urban Sindh are facing systematic persecution and denial of fundamental human rights in Pakistan's Sindh Province. Urban Sindh desperately needs an autonomous administrative status in Pakistan to resolve its long-standing grievances.</p>
<p>75. Tumuku Development and Cultural Union</p>	<p>Afghanistan: the cabinet was announced, the ministry of woman affairs was abolished and there was not one single woman in that cabinet. Whatever you are going to do, go right ahead and do it because whatever happens to the women of Afghanistan is really on you, the international community.</p>
<p>76. Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi</p>	<p>Manipur, India: the Council should communicate with the Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice and Reparation to make a country visit to India. India should Establish the Truth Commission in Assam, Manipur and Nagaland. AFSPA should be repealed from India.</p>
<p>77. Stichting Global Human Rights Defence (statement on behalf of Global Human Rights Defence)</p>	<p>China: the High Commissioner's upcoming report on the situation in the Uyghur Region is timely, as the situation in the region continues to deteriorate quickly. The Council is an important platform to raise urgent human rights issues, but it is meaningless if no concrete measures are followed to hold the perpetrators to account. The High Commissioner should hear from the victims of this crisis directly and engage with civil society on monitoring and reporting on the situation.</p>
<p>Point of Order – China</p>	<p>Questions the status of the representative of <i>Stichting Global Human Rights Defence</i>, as he is not what is listed on the list of NGOs, not a member of the NGO in question. He is a member of an anti-China separatist organization. Allowing him to proceed with the statement is against the Rules of Procedure of the Human Rights Council. Requests the President to stop the statement, and ask the Secretariat to verify his status.</p>

<i>President of the Human Rights Council, Ms. Nazhat Shameem Khan</i>	<i>The NGO concerned is duly accredited with ECOSOC. As far as the speaker concerned, it is a matter of the NGO to nominate the speaker. All concerns can be addressed to the NGO Committee.</i>
Second Point of Order – China	Reiterates its position. The speaker is anti-China, which is the serious violation of the rules of the Council concerning the participation of NGOs. The Secretariat should hold this incident accountable, the statement should be stopped.
<i>President of the Human Rights Council, Ms. Nazhat Shameem Khan</i>	<i>Reiterates her previous comment and lets the speaker proceed.</i>
78. Association PANAFRICA	Afghanistan: while supporting the people of Afghanistan, the international community should pressure Taliban to respect basic fundamental human rights, the rights of women and respect for democratic institutions as guaranteed by international law and UN conventions and treaties. Pakistan is supporting Afghan Taliban and other terrorists groups to destabilize the region. It will result in increased radicalization and ISIS activity in Indian Kashmir, Central Asia, and Chinese Xinyang Province . The international community should take steps towards sanctioning Pakistan for its open interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its negative role in this crisis, violating international law and treaties.
79. Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement.	Sudan: condemns the attempted coup; the authorities should engage in an inclusive dialogue to fight impunity in order to complete the transition peacefully. Guinea: the military junta should draw up a credible roadmap for the restoration of constitutional order and the organization of free and transparent elections as soon as possible. China remains the main trading partner of many African countries. The colossal Chinese investments have significantly contributed to reinforcing the corruption, the clientelism network as well as the bad governance of natural resources on the continent. China should respect the guiding principles relating to business and human rights.
80. Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment	Balochistan, Pakistan: extra-judicial abductions and enforced disappearances by shadowy military agencies have been a feature of life in Balochistan.
81. Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group	India: the large population of Indigenous communities of Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Meghalaya are under deep fear of losing the identity and from displacement. The Human Rights Council should communicate with India to stop all these projects and recognize the rights of the indigenous peoples and its land.
82. Global Welfare Association	India: the Council should urge India to recognize the human rights violations carried out in Northeast India in the name of draconian laws such as the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, and take immediate measures to repeal the same.
83. South Youth Organization	Iran: the international community should verify the fate of thousands of Iraqi prisoners, executed and imprisoned in Iran.
84. African Green Foundation International	Sri Lanka: protection of human rights in Sri Lanka can be achieved meaningfully only through promoting coexistence among different religious and ethnic communities. The Council should take into consideration the destiny of “geographical minorities” when making recommendations. Sri Lankan government's approach to reconciliation fosters coexistence. The Council should align with the Sri Lankan government's efforts to bring all communities together.
85. International-Lawyers.Org	Iraq: the Human Rights Council and UN must recognize the imperative need to take positive steps towards ensuring justice for victims of gross human rights violations in Iraq, and this can only be achieved by holding all perpetrators accountable.

86. World Barua Organization	Crimes against Dalits, India : the Council should take immediate cognisance of caste atrocities and especially caste based sexual atrocities faced by Dalit Women in India.
87. Liberation	Manipur, India : the case hearing of extrajudicial execution of 1528 cases is not listed for hearing by the Supreme Court of India since the December, 2018. The council should communicate with India to resume the court hearing.
88. Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee	Manipur, India : the Council should communicate with India to ensure the safety and security of Mr. Nobokishore, his staff and family to do his legitimate human rights work. OHCHR should give due attention to this case under the intimidation and reprisal procedure.
89. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists	Afghanistan : recent publications regarding the decision of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan to deny secondary education to girls over the age of 12 is concerning. The Council and the Member States should ask the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to take this matter into her hands and submit a report on the matter.
90. Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration	Yemen : the Council needs to address the suffering of Yemeni people, ensure a peaceful transfer of power and settlement of the conflict.
91. Japan Society for History Textbook	Regarding the "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution," which was inscribed to the World Heritage in 2015, UNESCO adopted a ruling that chastised the Japanese Government for its failure in taking adequate measures to remember victims. However, there was no failure on Japan 's part and UNESCO's decision is extremely unfair. The Council should use extreme caution in dealing with countries and civic groups that distort historical facts for their own political interest, and take adequate measures so that UNESCO overturns this extremely unjust decision.
92. Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network (the statement is made in collaboration with the International United Women Federation)	Sri Lanka : the UN should refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court for the genocide that was committed against Tamils by the Sri Lankan government. A permanent political solution should be found by getting the opinion of the Tamil people through an internationally conducted and monitored referendum.
93. Asian Legal Resource Centre	A serious undermining of the rule of law is happening in several countries of Asia such as the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, and Bangladesh that indicate the patterns similar to those mentioned by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in reports on Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Recommending the States to "investigate and prosecute the offenders of human rights" is an unrealisable demand so long as the whole criminal justice framework is undermined. The UN Human Rights System should pay greater attention to the realisation of Article 2 of the ICCPR and the Goal 16 of the SDG.
94. Reprieve	Adel Al Manthari's Testimony on the drone attack by the United States on the 29 March 2018, to which the US administration did not provide any answers.
95. L'Observatoire Mauritanien des Droits de l'Homme et de la Démocratie	Mauritania : the former President of Mauritania Mr. Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz was subjected to unlawful arrests and arbitrary abusive detention. The Council should issue him a recommendation and to intervene with the Mauritanian government in order to free Mr. Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz and all the members of his family.
96. Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul (the statement is delivered in partnership with Oakland Institute)	Sri Lanka : the Council should propose new resolutions on Sri Lanka, to refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court, and appoint a country-specific Rapporteur for Sri Lanka to monitor and report to the international community.

97. Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran - « ARC »	Iran: article 27 of the ICCPR and the CRC have not been implemented. Iran has rejected the Agenda 2030. 70% of ethnic children will not have access to a quality education in their native language, especially Azerbaijani Turks. The UN should oblige the country to respect the conventions it has ratified.
98. Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre	Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir: the Council should send fact finding missions to Occupied Kashmir and impress upon India to stop human rights violations.
99. Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP)	China: the Uighur genocide exists but continues to be denied by China. New crimes against humanity need to be prevented.
Point of Order – China	That NGO representative used abusive language. The statement is based on lies and seriously undermines China's sovereignty and goes against the UN Charter's purposes and principles. The President should stop this statement.
<i>President of the Human Rights Council, Ms. Ebyan Mahamed Salah</i>	<i>Calls for everyone to use the language appropriate for this human rights fora.</i>
100. Alliance Creative Community Project <i>(statement in collaboration with International United Women Federation)</i>	Sri Lanka: the UN should encourage the repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act; protect journalists rights; investigate the infringement of human rights of journalists and hold the state and perpetrators accountable.
101. Institut International de l'Écologie Industrielle et de l'Économie Verte	The Council should invite states to adopt both in the governance process and in the mining operating systems, technologies based on industrial ecology; and ensure that the governance in mining areas takes place in an inclusive and transparent manner while respecting the human rights of the populations concerned.
102. PRATYEK <i>(joint statement)</i>	Uruguay: the government of Uruguay should adopt policies of prevention, attention, prosecution of the crime of violence against children and reparation with their active participation; establish an integrated registration system for children and adolescents. adapt its internal regulations to international standards on children and adolescents.
103. ABC Tamil Oli	Sri Lanka, human rights of Tamils: the Council should Refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court; appoint a country-specific Rapporteur for Sri Lanka to monitor and report to the international community.

Rights of Reply

- **India** (in reply to the statement made by **Pakistan**).
- **Iran** (in reply to the statement made by **Israel**).
- **China** (in reply to the statements made by several countries and NGOs regarding Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet, including the statement made by the **United States**).
- **Latvia** (in reply to the statement made by **Belarus**).
- **Venezuela** (in reply to statements made by several states, including the **United States**. Referring to country situations **Brazil, Colombia, Canada, France, Switzerland, Australia, Czech Republic and United Kingdom, among others**).
- **Russia** (referring to country situations in **France, Sweden, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Finland, Georgia, United States, Netherlands, Ukraine among others**).
- **DPRK** (in reply to the statements made **United States, Czech Republic, Australia, Norway, Ukraine and Japan**).
- **Turkmenistan** (in reply to the statement made by **Norway**).
- **Lithuania** (in reply to the statement made by **Belarus**).
- **Belarus** (referring to country situations in **Malta, Republic of Korea, Estonia, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania**).
- **Lithuania** (in reply to the statement made by **the DPRK**).
- **Armenia** (on the actions of **Azerbaijan** in Nagorno-Karabakh).
- **Cuba** (referring to country situations in **Netherlands, Switzerland, United States, and one NGO**).
- **Algeria** (in reply to the statement made by **some NGOs**).
- **Poland** (in reply to the statement made by **Belarus**).
- **Indonesia** (in reply to the statement made by **the NGO Franciscans International**).
- **Iraq** (in reply to the statements made by **2 NGOs**).
- **Saudi Arabia** (in reply to the statements made by **Sweden, Norway and Denmark**).
- **Bahrain** (on the human rights situation within the country).
- **Pakistan** (in reply to the statement made by **India**).
- **Mauritania** (in reply to the statements made **an NGO**).
- **DPRK** (*second reply, to the statement made by **Japan***).
- **Japan** (*second reply, to the statement made by **the DPRK***).