

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 55th SESSION

### **Item 4<sup>1</sup>: General debate**

(20-21 March 2024)

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**This is a Summary Records report of the General Debate under Item 4** that took place on 20 March at the 55th session of the UN Human Rights Council. The report includes the statements made by the Member States of the Human Rights Councils, Observer States, and other Observers. The statements are presented in the order of speaking and are not exhaustive.

The report considers the

. Please refer to the **recordings of the General Debates on the UN WebTV** for full statements:

- 20 March: [UN WEB TV](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Human rights bodies and mechanisms.

Main Points Raised (thematic issues, country and/or territorial concerns)	
Member States: Joint Statements	
1. <b>Gambia</b> on behalf of the African Group	Recalled <b>General Assembly Resolution 60/251</b> stating that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aim at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations. Expressed regret about the politicization of the Council and called on States to promote greater international solidarity and cooperation and focus on supporting states to fulfill their <b>obligations to technical assistance and capacity building</b> and to avoid selectivity and double standards
2. <b>European Union</b> , Also aligned with statement: North Macedonia, Montenegro and Liechtenstein	Stated the death of Mr. <b>Alexei Navalny</b> is a sign of systematic repression in Russia. Condemned in the strongest terms Russia's aggression against <b>Ukraine</b> . Condemned the persecution against all segments of society in Belarus. Stated that latest election did not meet standards for genuine democratic elections. Supported unconditional release of Israeli all hostages and the temporary cease fire in <b>Gaza</b> . Expects China to implement the recommendations of the <b>OHCHR report on Xinjiang</b> . Also expressed concern for the human rights situation in Turkey, Mali, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Nicaragua, Sudan, Hong Kong, the DPRK, Afghanistan.
3. <b>Pakistan</b> on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation	Distressed by the inability of the UN system to protect the rights of <b>Palestinians</b> . Underlines the need for implementation of International Court of Justice's provisional measures in this regard. Concerned over the increasing anti-Muslim hatred, violence and Islamophobia. Welcomes the <b>UNGA resolution on measures to combat Islamophobia</b> . Urged the Council's attention to its systematic and persistent human rights violations in situations of foreign occupation.
4. <b>Venezuela</b> on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the UN Charter <sup>1</sup>	Stressed the principles of impartiality, objectivity, transparency, non-selectivity, non-politicization and non-confrontation in the promotion of human rights. Also stressed the principle of sovereignty and non-interference on matters within domestic jurisdiction and expressed concern over mechanisms and procedures parallel to the presentation of reports which lack due consent from the States under review and are based on biased sources. Emphasized that <b>unilateral coercive measures</b> lead to massive violations of human rights
5. <b>Egypt</b> on behalf of the Arab Group	Expressed concern over increased polarization and politicization in the Council. Stressed the principles of universality, impartiality and objectivity and rejected double standards targeting certain countries under item 4. Regretted the double standards applied regarding the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities in the <b>OPT</b> which reflects the lack of credibility in addressing human rights issues in the Council.
6. <b>Uganda</b> on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement	Reaffirmed interdependency of <b>democracy, development, and human rights</b> . Expresses its deep concern over the proliferation of selective adoption of country-specific resolutions in the Council which is a tool that exploits human rights for political purposes. Encouraged the Council in the discussion of human rights to give adequate attention to the issues of poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, climate change, digital divide, instability, foreign occupation, illegal settlements, damage the cultural heritage of countries in situations of armed conflict and foreign

<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bolivia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Zimbabwe

	occupation and those affected by terrorist acts that engender social and economic exclusion.
<b>7. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b> on behalf of the troika for Sudan <sup>2</sup>	Stated the Sudanese Armed Forces' <b>withdrawal of permission for aid deliveries</b> through the major crossing points from Chad into Darfur is indefensible. Welcome the upcoming <b>humanitarian conference for Sudan and neighboring countries</b> set in Paris. Called on all parties to the conflict to accept a <b>Ramadan ceasefire</b> in line with <b>UNSC Resolution 27/24</b> . Call on the Sudanese Armed Forces and all parties to uphold fully their commitments to facilitate cross-line operations, reopen fully the vital crossing point and refrain from any measures that prevent life-saving aid reaching those in need.
<b>8. Venezuela</b> on behalf of a link-minded group of friends <sup>3</sup>	Condemned the violation of all human rights including the <b>right to development</b> and fundamental freedoms. Rejects <b>politically motivated country-specific resolutions</b> as they violate the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization and constitutes double standards. Opposes the debates on human rights issues in the <b>United Nations Security Council</b> , particularly in specific countries.
<b>9. China</b> on behalf of the Group of Friends on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Through Dialogue and Cooperation	Concerned with politicization and polarization in the Council, in contradiction with principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-politicization and non-selectivity. Stated that the proliferation of parallel mechanisms consume a great deal of <b>financial resources and human resources</b> without tangible outcome. Stated <b>unilateral coercive measures</b> are against international law and should be lifted immediately.
<b>Statements made by Member States</b>	
<b>1. Germany</b>	Aligned with EU statement. Condemned the massive human rights violations perpetrated by Russia and Ukraine. Concerned about the systematic track down on civil society in Russia itself and call for an independent and <b>transparent international investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Navalny's death</b> as well as for the release of all other <b>political prisoners</b> . Stated that Hamas must unconditionally and immediately release all Israeli hostages and that Israeli, in exercising a right to defend itself has the obligation to minimize the impact of the hostilities on civilians and to allow sufficient humanitarian aid to reach people in need. State the <b>fact finding mission on Iran</b> should continue its work and called on the council to extend the mandate. Called on <b>Venezuela</b> to re-engage with the OHCHR. Also mentioned human rights situation in the Xinjiang and Tibet, in Egypt, in Nicaragua, and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.
<b>2. Luxembourg</b>	Aligned with EU statement. Stated the human rights situation in Ethiopia is missing from the agenda of this session. government of <b>Ethiopia</b> should implement the recommendations made by the <b>group of experts</b> . Recommended the Council reopens discussions on the situation in <b>Yemen</b> . Welcomes <b>Gambia's initiative for a resolution on human rights and the culture of peace</b> but is concerned with the recent parliamentary initiative to abrogate the <b>prohibition of genital mutilation</b> . Regrets that the principles of <b>transparent and democratic elections</b> were not respected in Russia and Azerbaijan. Concerned by the repression faced by <b>human rights defenders</b> that cooperate with the UN.
<b>3. Lithuania</b>	Aligned with EU statement. Raised concerns about <b>gender-based violence</b> being used as a weapon of war against Ukraine, as well as the illegal deportation of Ukrainian children to <b>Russia and Belarus</b> . Stated that in Belarus the scale of brutal repression against its own population may already amount to <b>crimes against humanity</b> . Strongly condemn

<sup>2</sup> United States of America, Norway and the United Kingdom

<sup>3</sup> China, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Iran, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela

	the use of death penalty and systematic repression in Belarus. Also mentioned Israeli hostages in Gaza, the human rights situation in Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet, and Afghanistan.
4. Netherlands	Aligned with EU statement regarding Israel and Palestine and urged the parties directly involved to respect the ICJ's ruling on provisional measures. Urged China to implement all recommendations of the <b>UPR</b> , the <b>High Commissioner's Xinjiang report</b> and the <b>CEDAW and CESCR</b> reviews on coercive boarding school system imposed on Tibetan children. Urged Russia to end its deliberate and systematic actions, in light of the <b>findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine</b> , and we call for accountability and justice Also mentioned human rights situation in Hong Kong, and Sudan.
5. France	Deplored the situation of <b>political prisoners detained in Russia</b> including Vladimir Kara-Murza. Paid homage to Alexei Navalny, stating that Russia was entirely responsible for his death. Stated the Russian presidential election took place in a climate of intense repression. Called for an immediate and sustained <b>cease-fire in Gaza</b> and safe passage for massive humanitarian aid. Condemned the attacks of October 7 <sup>th</sup> and called for the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. Expressed support for a <b>two-State solution</b> . The <b>humanitarian conference for Sudan and neighboring countries</b> in Paris will aim to provide the necessary financial support for humanitarian assistance in Sudan. Call for the respect of women's right in Afghanistan, Iran and Yemen.
6. United States of America	Condemns Russia's actions in Ukraine including the <b>deportation of children</b> . Concerned with mounting repression in Russia. Call for accountability and immediate release of 1400 detained <b>political prisoners in Belarus</b> . Condemned the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity in <b>Xinjiang</b> . Urge the international community to take action to <b>hold the military accountable in Myanmar</b> . Called on Cuba and Venezuela to release unjustly <b>detained political prisoners</b> . Also mentioned human rights violations in Tibe, Hong Kong, inner Mongolia and China, DPRK, Afghanistan, Iran, Syria, Venezuela.
7. Georgia	Concurred with the independent <b>International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine</b> on the importance of accountability regarding human rights violations. Stressed the need for international human rights mechanisms to have unhindered access in the Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions for prevention of further deterioration of human rights.
8. Cuba	Described mandate holders and <b>investigative mechanisms on against developing countries</b> without the consent of countries concerned as ineffective, punitive and bringing no contribution to human rights. Expressed concern about <b>labor laws in the United States of America</b> allowing child labor.
9. Indonesia	Echoed the OIC Statement on the politicization of the Council. Denounced the double standard by certain countries regarding Palestine. Expressed concern over the continued <b>duplication of mechanism focusing on specific countries</b> .
10. Belgium	Expressed concern regarding the <b>sexual violence and crimes against children committed by Russia</b> and called for accountability for these violations. Condemned the 7 <sup>th</sup> of October attacks in Israel. Urged Israel to put an end to the blockade of Gaza and guarantee urgently an <b>immediate and full access for humanitarian assistance</b> . Exhorted all parties in <b>Sudan</b> to implement the obligations put an end to the atrocities that are being committed. Also mentioned human rights situation in Haiti.
11. Finland	Aligned with EU statement. Recalled <b>that Israel must comply with the orders of the ICJ</b> . Call for immediate release of Israeli hostages. Concerned with the human rights violations of Russia in Ukraine and the <b>persecution of those who speak for democracy</b> . Echoed the High Commissioner's recommendations regarding China in <b>Xinjian and Tibet</b> . Urged all parties to the conflict in Sudan to engage in an <i>inclusive political process</i> for a democratic transition.

12. China	On Hong Kong's new national security law <b>Article 23</b> , argued sovereign States have a right to enact laws to safeguard their national security, stating that many others have such laws. Stated the legislation fully aligns with the principles of international laws and practices.
13. Algeria	Encouraged a non-confrontational, non-politicized and non-selective dialogue-based process. Stated that <b>country specific resolutions under item 4</b> are counterproductive resolutions as they are not subject to the support of national authorities. Condemned the <b>double standards regarding Palestine</b> . Asserted that <b>accountability and reparation</b> for these violations must be guaranteed.
14. Japan	Called on Russia to immediately cease its violations of the Un Charter and Human Rights. Urged the <b>Myanmar military</b> to immediately refrain from violence and to take concrete actions for the <b>release of detainees and the restoration of the democratic political system</b> . Stated the actions of the DPRK critically affects Japan's sovereignty and the lives and security of the Japanese people. Strongly urged the DPRK to let the victims return home immediately and appreciates the continued support of the international community to this end. Also mentioned were human rights issues in Gaza and China.
15. Eritrea	Stated that there is no country that does not face human rights challenges and problems and human rights should not be <b>exploited for political motives</b> . Concerned by attempts to alter the working methods of the council without adequate consultations through appropriate channels. Stated that decisions on those methods should remain within the competence of the <b>UN General Assembly</b> with this Council is a subsidiary body of.
16. South Africa	Denounced the continued occupation of <b>Western Sahara</b> and recalled <b>UNSC resolution 690</b> which provides for a referendum for the Sahrawi to determine their destiny. Recalled the recent <b>judgment of the African Court on Human and People's Rights</b> <sup>4</sup> found that the occupying power has no sovereignty over Western Sahara and that States should, therefore, abstain from doing anything that would give recognition to such occupation. Requested the office of the High Commissioner to indicate when it intends to undertake a mission to investigate reports of human rights violations in Western Sahara.
17. India	Expressed the view that the continued proliferation of <b>country-specific mandates</b> , the deliberations of the Council under item 4 have not been conducive to the realization of its intended goals. Instead, priority should be accorded to <b>implementation of accepted UPR recommendations</b> .
18. Burundi	Endorsed the African Group statement. Note that this item 4 rather serves the geopolitical vested interest of certain States which are emboldened by their economic power and do not lead to progress in human rights. Stated that Burundi has chosen to <b>develop economic and social rights and support good governance above all</b> through the protection of its territorial integrity. Reiterate support for China and <b>one-China principle</b> , Hong Kong, Tibet and Xinjiang.
19. Sudan	Aligned with the Arab Group, African Group, NAM and OIC statements. Affirmed the statement of the United Kingdom on behalf of the troika on the Sudanese Armed Forces withdrawal of permission for aid delivery from Chad was erroneous and that on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of March 2024 the <b>Sudanese governments took decisions to facilitate aid delivery across borders with Chad, South Sudan, and Egypt</b> and provided three airports for this purpose. Stated that the troika and all Un agencies in Geneva were informed of these decisions on the 6 <sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

<sup>4</sup> *Mornah V. Republic Of Benin*, application N° 028/2018 (African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights, 22 September 2022)

20. Ghana	Aligned with the African Group and NAM statements. Stated the Council should continue taking measures to effectively address every <b>conflict-related human rights violation</b> . The Council should also pay attention to the protection of the rights of <b>vulnerable groups</b> including women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and migrants. Expressed the view that the Council should place more emphasis on the provision of the necessary <b>technical assistance and capacity building opportunities</b> .
21. Honduras	Rejected the pressure violating the political and economic sovereignty or territorial integrity of peoples and concerned about mechanisms that are not acting in favor of constructive dialogue. Emphasized the positive attitude of <b>Venezuela</b> to get actively involved in dialogue in the area for the benefits of the Venezuelan people. Recognizes the one-China principle and respect for its territorial integrity. Expressed concern regarding the serious situation in the <b>Gaza Strip</b> called for an immediate cease fire and the respect of ICJ decision.
Statements made by the Observers	
1. Czechia	Denounced the <b>illegal deportation of Ukrainian children and civilians</b> to Russia and Belarus. Condemned the escalating <b>systematic repressions</b> including crackdowns on political opposition, civil society organizations and independent media in both Russia and Belarus. Stated Cina must implement the recommendations of High Commissioner's report, release all human rights defenders and <b>grant access to UN mandate holders to Tibet</b> . Concerned with <b>Hong Kong's national security law</b> . Encouraged <b>Cuba</b> to effectively address key human rights challenges which were identified.
2. Israel	Denounced Hezbollah strikes and Houthis' threat on global shipping. Stated approximately 60,000 Israelis remain displaced
3. Switzerland	Called on <b>Azerbaijan</b> to guarantee the <b>rights to freedom of information and expression</b> . Expressed concern about <b>workforce transfer programs and professional training in the Tibetan regions</b> and the massive <b>detention of the Uyghurs</b> and other ethnic minorities and religious minorities in Xinjiang. Concerned about ethnic and gender-based violence in <b>Sudan</b> , as well as the situation of IDPs and migrants, arbitrary detentions and forced disappearances, and the humanitarian aid restrictions.
4. Austria	Aligned with the EU statement. Denounced <b>Russia's</b> persecution of individuals opposing the government and demanded immediate release of persons detained for political reasons. Called for the end of <b>deportation of Ukrainian children</b> . Urged the repel of <b>Article 23 in Hong Kong</b> . Alarmed by <b>sexual violence</b> and <b>recruitment of child soldiers</b> in Sudan and called for an immediate ceasefire and the return to political dialogue. Reaffirmed commitment to the <b>abolishment of the death penalty</b> everywhere.
5. Sweden	Strongly condemn the <b>Belarusian support of the Russian aggression</b> against Ukraine and the unprecedented level of repression. Called for an immediate humanitarian <b>ceasefire in Gaza</b> and the release of Israeli hostages. Urged all parties in <b>Sudan</b> to stop targeting of civilians and the recruitment of children. Also mentioned were human rights situations in Iran and China.
6. Armenia	Stated that recent declarations from the president of Azerbaijan in <b>Nagorno-Karabakh</b> presented serious danger for human rights given the displacement of Armenians from the region and given the recognition by 40 States that the current situation stemmed from Azerbaijan's military operation and previous blockade of the region.

7. Norway	Emphasized that <b>unprecedented number of journalists have been killed in Gaza since the 7<sup>th</sup> October</b> and that their safety must be protected. Called on Russia to release all journalists that are imprisoned because of their work, including in all the territories it occupies. Also expressed concern for the situation of journalists in Belarus, Myanmar, China including Hong Kong.
8. Malta	Allegations of <b>sexual and gender based violence</b> on persons deprived of their liberty by state authorities in Iran should be <b>fully investigated</b> . Supports the continued work of the <b>commission of inquiry on Ukraine</b> and calls for accountability for human rights violations. Concern about the situation in <b>DPRK</b> .
9. Iran	Recalled principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity. Stated that <b>unilateral coercive measures</b> will debilitate the capacity of the States to fulfill their of human rights obligations. Questioned the fact that increasing levels of Islamophobia in some European countries, racial discrimination in United States, anti-migrant policies in United Kingdom and the support in Palestine by Germany have never been the subject of the special monitoring of this Council.
10. Bahrain	Issues under item 4 should be discussed in a neutral manner avoiding double standards and politization. Stated that in order the Council should work on the basis of dialogue, cooperation and technical assistance on the request of countries concerned in line with their priorities and needs.
11. Pakistan	Emphasized the importance of a balanced and impartial approach to all human rights including <b>the right to development</b> . Commended the efforts of the High Commissioner to bring <b>economic social and cultural rights</b> on par. Stated the proliferation on <b>country-specific mandates without the consent of the States concerned</b> is unhelpful. Brought attention to the lack of resources, unfunded projects and unfulfilled pledges and called on the Council to live up to UNGA resolution 60/251 and the IB package. Stated the Council should address the situation in the OPT.
12. Ireland	Called for an <b>independent international investigation</b> into the death of Alexei Navalny and the immediate and unconditional <b>release of political prisoners</b> . Condemned Russia aggression in <b>Ukraine</b> and urgently called for an immediate cease fire in <b>Gaza</b> . Called on Chian to implement the recommendations from the High Commissioner's report on <b>Xinjiang</b> and concerned about labor transfer an training programs in <b>Tibet</b> . Also concerned about the <b>national security law in Hong Kong</b> . Concerned about the denial of <b>humanitarian access in Sudan</b> and urged and immediate ceasefire.
13. Russian Federation	Stated that censorship and repression against journalists and activist and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church has intensified in Ukraine. Stated that Western countries are responsible for the escalation of the crisis and called on the High Commissioner to prevent the crisis of double standards.
14. Belarus	Expressed the view that distortions related to the assessment of human rights situations has affected the entire Human Rights Council agenda and disfavors developing countries. Brought attention to <b>restrictions of freedoms of speech and racial discrimination</b> in the Baltic countries. Deplored inflated accusations against Belarus, Venezuela, Iran, Russia, Nicaragua, the DPRK and the attempt to put pressure on the basis of speculation on China.
15. Venezuela	Stated item 4 is used to attack sovereign States. Rejected the attacks against China and that no intervention should be allowed regarding Hong Kong. Affirmed support for the one-China principle.
16. Ukraine	Stated that <b>Russia's restrictions on freedom of expression, suppression of civil society and promotion of disinformation</b> enabled the perpetration of war crimes in Ukraine. Reiterated call to Iran and the DPRK to stops supplying weapons to Russia and for Belarus to stop aiding Russia's attacks and <b>the deportation of Ukrainian children</b> .

17. Republic of Korea	Appalled by the reports of the <b>international commission of inquiry on Ukraine</b> and assured that supporting its mandate in its renewal is imperative. Called for a cessation of violence and the restoration of democracy in Myanmar, noting that the Republic of Korea participates in international efforts by providing <b>humanitarian aid to Myanmar</b> . Called for immediate action regarding <b>abductees, detainees and prisoners of war in the DPRK</b> .
18. Spain	Reaffirmed full support for the independent <b>sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine</b> and emphasized the importance of <b>accountability</b> . Urged an immediate cease fire, provision of humanitarian assistance, freedom of hostages in <b>Gaza</b> and full respect to the Palestinian refugees. Expressed support for the <b>two-state solution</b> and for an <b>international peace conference</b> as soon as possible. Spoke in favor of the <b>abolition of the death penalty</b> . Also concerned with the human rights situation in Nicaragua and Afghanistan
19. Estonia	Aligned with EU statement. Welcomed the recent <b>ICC decision to issue arrest warrants</b> for two Russian commanders allegedly responsible for war crimes. <sup>5</sup> Denounced ongoing human rights violations in Russia. In <b>Belarus</b> , concerned about levels of <b>repression and reprisal against political dissidents</b> and other violations which may amount to crimes against humanity. Regarding Palestine, condemned terrorism but remains concerned over high numbers of civilian casualties in <b>Gaza</b> . Emphasized <b>accountability</b> and collective commitment for a <b>political solution</b> .
20. Iceland	Concerned over <b>mounting evidence of war crimes committed by Russia</b> in Ukraine including systematic use of torture, rape and willful killing. Concerned over unprecedented violations in Belarus and restrictions to political participation resulting in <b>failure to meet conditions for fair and legitimate elections</b> . Regarding Gaza, concerned about <b>imminent famine</b> , called for cease fire and the release of hostages. Reiterated call for two-state solution. Regarding the situations for women and girls in Afghanistan, the situation merits a discussion about the <b>application of gender to the definition of apartheid</b> . Also concerned about <b>violations against ethnic and religious minorities</b> in China.
21. Afghanistan	Stated that, as human rights violations in Afghanistan have never been so grave, called for justice and accountability and to closely monitor the human rights situation with the focus on prevention by <b>establishing a fully resourceful independent investigative mechanism</b> .
22. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Spoke against Russian <b>elections held in occupied regions of Ukraine</b> as illegitimate. Also spoke against the <b>deportation of Ukrainian children</b> and the torture of detainees. Also echoed the High Commissioner view that the new national security law in Hong Kong may be <b>incompatible with international law</b> . Also mentioned the human rights situation of the Uyghurs and Tibetans, the situation in Gaza, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Syria.
23. Denmark	Aligned with EU statement. Condemned the <b>Russian aggression on Ukraine</b> and the increasing levels of repression in <b>Belarus</b> . Concerned over the situation in <b>Gaza</b> and the attacks of the 7 <sup>th</sup> of October and reiterated Israel's obligation to ensure the protection of civilians. Also concerned over the escalation of violence and <b>illegal settlement plans in the West Bank</b> . Called on <b>China</b> to accept Denmark's recent UPR recommendation on Xinjiang, Tibet and Hong Kong. Called for the <b>release of arbitrarily detained persons in Bahrain</b> including Mr. Al-Khawaja. Strongly condemned the military actions in <b>Myanmar</b> . Also mentioned human rights situation in Mali and Burkina Faso, Iran, Afghanistan

<sup>5</sup> See International Criminal Court "Situation in Ukraine: ICC judges issue arrest warrants against Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash and Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov", 05 March 2024, <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/situation-ukraine-icc-judges-issue-arrest-warrants-against-sergei-ivanovich-kobylash-and#:~:text=Today%2C%205%20March%202024%2C%20Pre,Kobylash%20and%20Mr%20Viktor%20Nikolayevich>

24. Azerbaijan	Asserted that the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh moved voluntarily and referred to UNHCR office in Armenia, ICRC and the inter-agency mission which visited the region thrice.
25. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Rejected any report and debates based on resolution against the DPRK as is the case in Japan. Opposed to any attempt to use the Council as a tool for interference in internal affairs such as in Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong in China as well as in Belarus, Iran, Nicaragua, Russia, Syria and Venezuela.
26. Cyprus	Aligned with EU statement. Reiterated support for <b>Ukraine's</b> independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and called for accountability. Called on <b>Turkey</b> to implement all European Court of Human Rights judgment and brought attention to restrictions on the activities of journalists, and on any critical voice which has a negative effect on the exercise of their freedoms. Also mentioned human rights situation in Gaza, Afghanistan, Iran and the DPRK.
27. Canada	Opposed Russia's persecution of its opposition and the increased <b>risk of violations against LGBTIQI+ persons</b> . Called for the release of political prisoners in Belarus and stated the recent election were not free. In Sudan, stated parties must comply with international humanitarian law and allow <b>unimpeded humanitarian assistance</b> , and civilians must be included in mediation efforts. Called on <b>China to respond meaningfully to the OCHCR recommendations</b> . Stated that in Gaza, Hamas must release all hostages to view of ceasefire and humanitarian access should not be impeded.
28. Nicaragua	Criticized instrumentalization of human rights to interfere in the internal affairs of China, Russia, Syria, Venezuela, Belarus and the DPRK. Stated item 4 is used to politicize the work of the Council. Supported the <b>one-China principle</b> . Supported China's opposition to <b>unilateral cohesive measures</b> which are a violation of human rights.
29. Syrian Arab Republic	Maintained the Council was exploited by States that do not respect human rights or the rule of law. Commended the developments achieved by <b>China</b> in the field of human right.
30. Equatorial Guinea	Supports the one-China principle. Took due note of the recent participation of China in the UPR and congratulated the State for its progress in the protection of human rights.
31. Egypt	Stated the Council must respect the principles of universality, objectivity, non-selectivity and avoid double standards and polarization.
32. Bolivia	Reject all attempts to use the Council as a politicized instrument. Opposes <b>country-specific mandates</b> without the support of the State concerned in violation of the principles of integrity, sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs. Expressed support for the one-China principle. State <b>some mandate must be re-examined</b> due to the current liquidity crisis.
33. United Republic of Tanzania	Opposes the practice of politicization of human rights issues. Recommended to uphold the principle of non-selectivity and to maintain impartiality.
34. Saudi Arabia	Concerned about the situation of <b>persons with disabilities in Austria</b> including their ability to choose their places of residence. Spoke in favor of the UPR as an excellent mechanism for cooperation, giving an opportunity to examine human rights situations in different countries.
35. Türkiye	Stated the view that double standards and impunity are unraveling in the multilateral system. Stated the offense on Rafah, attacks on UNRWA, starvation in <b>Gaza</b> and <b>Islamophobia in the EU</b> must be in the agenda of the Council. Urgent steps must be taken in the Eu in this regard. Affirmed <b>oppression against the Turkish Cypriots</b> continues in different forms. In regard to the liquidity crisis, observed its toll on the UN system and stated that as the best guardian for international peace and security it require financial support to fulfill its task.

36. <b>Central African Republic</b>	Encourages China in its efforts to shoulder its international obligations in the sphere of human rights and greeted its participation in the UPR. Opposed to the political manipulation of human rights.
37. <b>South Sudan</b>	Noted the increased politicization of the Council at odds with the 2006 reform. Countries facing challenges should be provided with <b>technical assistance and capacity building</b> . Affirmed support for China and stated Hong Kong, Tibet and Xinjiang are inalienable parts of China.

### Right to reply

- **Thailand** in response to the statements made by some NGOs
- **Cuba** in response to the statement made by the USA
- **Lebanon** in response to the statement made by Israel
- **Russian Federation** in response to the statements made by a series of delegations
- **Japan** in response to the statement made by the DPRK
- **Lithuania** in response to the statement made by Belarus
- **Cyprus in response to the statement made by Türkiye**
- **Armenia in response to the statement by Azerbaijan**
- **Venezuela** in response to the statements made by the US, Germany, the UK, the EU, and other delegations
- **China** in response to the statements made by the US, the UK, Austria, Czechia, Lithuania, Japan, the EU, other delegations and some NGOs
- **Greece** in response to the statement made by Türkiye
- **Morocco** in response to the statement made by South Africa
- **Republic of Korea** in response to the statement made by the DPRK
- **Israel** in response to the reply by Lebanon
- **South Africa** in response to the reply by Morocco
- **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** in response to the statement made the US, the EU, Republic of Korea and Japan
- **Morocco (second)** in response to the reply by South Africa
- **Lebanon (second)** in response to the reply of the occupying power of Israel
- **Republic of Korea (second)** in response to the reply by the DPRK
- **Japan (second)** in response to the reply by the DPRK

## List of NGOs that took the floor

Jerusalem Institute Of Justice, Society For Threatened Peoples, East And Horn Of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Vsj Zmogaus Teisiu Apsauga, Physicians For Human Rights, Bachehaye Asemane Kamran Rehabilitation Institute, Justice For Iran Ltd, Alsalam Foundation, Japan Society For History Textbook, Cairo Institute For Human Rights Studies, Minority Rights Group, Arc, Commission Africaine Des Promoteurs De La Sante Et Des Droits De L Homme, International Federation For The Protection Of The Rights Of Ethnic Religious Linguistic And Other Minorities, Caritas Internationalis International Confederation Of Catholic Charities, Humanists International, International Commission Of Jurists, International-Lawyers.Org, Centre For Gender Justice And Women Empowerment, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Human Rights Research League, Civicus World Alliance For Citizen Participation, Public Organization Public Advocacy, Etudiants Pour Une Societe Durable Paris, Le Conseil International Pour Les Droits De L Homme, Human Rights Now, Presse Embleme Campagne, Conseil De Jeunesse Pluriculturelle Cojep, Human Rights Watch, Khiam Rehabilitation Center For Victims Of Torture, Beijing Ngo Association For International Exchanges, The International Humanitarian Society For Development Without Borders, United Nations Association Of China, African Green Foundation International, China Ethnic Minorities Association For External Exchanges, Tumuku Development And Cultural Union Tacudu, Centre Europe Tiers Monde, World Barua Organization Wbo, Baha I International Community, Association Pour L Integration Et Le Developpement Durable Au Burundi, Americans For Democracy And Human Rights In Bahrain Inc, Chunhui Children S Foundation, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, International Career Support Association, Organization For Defending Victims Of Violence, Christian Solidarity International Csi, Platform For Youth Integration And Volunteerism, Mother Of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, World Evangelical Alliance, Rahbord Peimayesh Research And Educational Services Cooperative, Peace Brigades International, Centre For Human Rights And Peace Advocacy, Unité Pour Le Développement De La Mauritanie, United For Human Rights, International Lesbian And Gay Association, International Lesbian And Gay Association, Association For Defending Victims Of Terrorism, Le Conseil Universel Des Droits De L'homme, Citoyens En Action Pour La Democratie Et Le Developpement, Asian Forum For Human Rights And Development, International Council Supporting Fair Trial And Human Rights, Fundacion De Ayuda Y Promocion De Las Culturas Indigenas Rosa Collelldevall, Global Srilankan Forum United Kingdom, International Muslim Women's Union, Family Health Association Of Iran, Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan, Amnesty International, Cirac, Integrated Youth Empowerment Common Initiative,, Iraqi Development Organization, Association Internationale Pour L Egalite Des Femmes, Arabeuropean Forum For Dialogue And Human Rights, Human Is Right, Vivat International, Edmund Rice International Limited, Rencontre Africaine Pour La Defense Des Droits De L'homme, Interfaith International, Centre Du Commerce International Pour Le Developpement, Conselho Indigenista Missionario Cimi, Abc Tamil Oli, Youth In Technology And Arts Network Yotan, Association Pour La Defense Des Droits De Developpement Durable Et Du Bien-Etre Familial Adbef, International Service For Human Rights, Lidskopravni Organizace Prava A Svobody Obcanucu Turkmenistanu Z.S., Rochun, Franciscans International, European Centre For Law And Justice The Centre Europeen Pour Le Droit Les Justice Et Les Droits De L Homme, Helsinki Foundation For Human Rights, Maat For Peace Development And Human Rights Association, Lawyers Rights Watch Canada, Shaik Taher Azzawi Charity Organization, Coordinating Board Of Jewish Organizations, Medical Support Association For Underprivileged Iranian Patients, Coordinating Board Of Jewish Organizations, B Nai B Rith, Commission Of The Churches On International Affairs Of The World Council Of Churches, Africa Culture Internationale, Al Baraem Association For Charitable Work, Jubilee Campaign, World Muslim Congress, Association Ma Onah For Human Rights And Immigration, Jeunesse Etudiante Tamoule, International Action For Peace And Sustainable, Institute For Human Rights Development, Promotion Du Developpement Economique Et Social, Community Human Rights And Advocacy Centre Chrac, Conscience And Peace Tax International Cpti, Institute For Reporters Freedom And Safety, Promotion Du Developpement Economique Et Social Pdes, Association Panafrica, International Human Rights Association Of American Minorities Ihraam, Guinee Humanitaire, Coordination Des Associations Et Des Particuliers Pour La Liberte De Conscience, British Humanist Association, Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute, Pratyek, The Institute For Protection Of Women S Rights Ipwr, Radheg, Institut International Pour Les Droits Et Le Developpement



