

FORUM: General Assembly First Committee

QUESTION OF: The use of national identity as a political tool

SUBMITTED BY: Jamaica

CO-SUBMITTERS: Fiji, United Arab Emirates, Australia, Egypt, South Sudan, Antigua & Barbuda, Ethiopia, Liberia, Brunei, Dominica, Cape Verde, Nepal, Mauritania, Chile, Finland, Rwanda, Libya, Iraq, Lithuania, Liberia, Ethiopia, Malawi, New Zealand, Senegal, Azerbaijan, Romania, Germany

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Emphasizing the need to intensify the struggle to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance around the globe,

Reaffirming its resolution 67/154 of the 20th of December, 2012, in which it condemns the glorification of the Nazi movement from the past and the neo-Nazi ideology in present,

Recalling its resolution 67/156 of the 20th of December, 2012, in which it continues to include a gender point of view in the reports to the Committee,

Having considered the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (2000) which recommends strategies to achieve full and effective equality, including international cooperation and enhancement of the United Nations,

Recognizing that the consent and support for national and populist parties has increased over the last few years worldwide, resulting in a rise of neo-Nationalism in Europe and reinforced acceptance of nationalism in the American society, as well as the alarming increase in the acceptance of Islamic fundamentalism,

Bearing in mind the recent casualties due to the mass shooting at a Mosque in New Zealand by a nationalist fanatic,

Alarmed by of the rise of racist incidents around the globe, targeting members of national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

1. Calls upon Member States to raise awareness about the issues involving violent nationalism by, but not limited to:
 - a) hosting educational workshops and events with the goal of discussing the positive and negative impacts of strong national identity
 - b) providing the issue wider coverage, for example, the use of print, audio-visual means, and the electronic media
 - c) boosting social media awareness and interaction in the community
 - d) introducing into the educational system material related to:
 - i. the concepts of nationalism, patriotism, religious fundamentalism and the practicing of different religions itself
 - ii. the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - iii. the history of the use of national identity as a political tool
 - iv. the cultures of all identity groups, including local minorities;
2. Invites Member States to separate indoctrination methods from government agencies and companies by, but not limited to reinforcing the social services workforce, supporting the justice and law enforcement areas, strengthening the evidence base;
3. Encourages the allowance of non-governmental organizations (ex. Amnesty International and Transparency International to name a few) to identify and address areas of tension among members of various religious groups, and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;

4. Suggests Member States to encourage patriotic pride and a strong sense of identity through but not limited to parades, holidays and traditions in order to promote tolerant patriotism, solidarity, commitment to the public welfare, unity beyond racial, ethnic, and religious boundaries;
5. Encourages UN members to implement preventive measures following the guidance of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, such as, but not limited to:
 - a) Effective surveillance of known terror organizations via the UNOCT,
 - b) Increased security of the import of weapons through an adequate body of the UN,
 - c) The introduction of anti-extremist seminaries for at-risk demographics to be supervised by an envoy of the OHCHR or alternatively UNITAR;
6. Invites all Member States to continue supporting and assisting civilians being forced to emigrate due to political, religious or ethnic persecution by, but not limited to:
 - a) providing socio-economic aid through raising funds and opening borders to Non Governmental Organizations willing to provide health and social care services
 - b) taking part with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in strengthening asylum systems, respecting the principle of non-refoulement and the right to seek and receive asylum
 - c) appealing to the Blue Helmets to help in protecting populations and contributing to a secure environment;
7. Further calls upon present and future governments and political entities to cooperate with the United Nations organizations by submitting reports at least once a year regarding their approach in relation with, but not limited to civil unrest, social, economic, and political programs, propaganda and use of mass media;