

**FORUM:** General Assembly 3rd Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)

**QUESTION OF:** Countering violence and discrimination through intercultural and interreligious dialogue

**SUBMITTED BY:** South Sudan

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** Sweden, Saudi Arabia, UN Women, Vietnam, Costa Rica, San Marino, Mongolia, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Azerbaijan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, Hungary, Slovakia, Palau, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, Iceland, Kyrgyzstan

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*Defining* Anti-Semitism as an Ideology where individuals prejudice or discriminate those practicing Judaism,

*Noting with deep concern* the Anti-Semitism in Europe dating back to Ancient Rome leading up to the 20th century, where antisemitism quickly spread across the German population due to national misinformation and censorship imposed by the dictator Adolf Hitler and his anti-Semitic party, and the complete segregation between Aryans (a designation of a German with "ideal blood", imposed by the Nuremberg Laws) and non-Aryans (Jews and other ethnic groups) up to the organised national crime of planned exploitation and extermination of minorities in society,

*Remembering* that slavery in America has existed since the 16th century where the lives of coloured people were dominated by their American oppressors,

*Taking note* of Al-Qaeda, a militant Islamist organization founded by Osama Bin Laden, and their military confrontation between them and the United States leading to numerous attacks such as the September 11 attack,

*Deeply alarmed* by organizations endangering freedom and peace by discriminating ethnic minorities or religious groups,

*Addressing* the persecution and constant discrimination towards the Rohingya people, being a separate stateless Muslim ethnic minority, having been denied citizenship by the government of Myanmar, being given only the basic survival measures by, amongst others, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), but nevertheless living under inhumane conditions in the refugee camps, still vulnerable to external factors such as monsoons and being highly dependent on aid,

*Aware of* Hong Kong's protests, that first began June 2019 with peaceful mass marches, but rapidly turned into a drastic political crisis due to the rising anger and violence on both pro and anti-government sides, effecting and including worldwide companies and politicians,

*Viewing with appreciation* the establishment of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in 2005, which fashioned its plans and activities around Youth, Education, Migration, and Media, and looks to address and explore the 'roots of polarization' between societies and cultures today and recommends a programme of action to resolve said issue,

*Welcomes* the aim of the KAICIID International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID), which is comprised of representatives from all major religions, to facilitate dialogue between people of different faiths and cultural backgrounds,

*Reaffirms* the principles defined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by General Assembly Resolution 2200A (XXI) on 16 December 1966,

*Bearing in mind* the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief of the General Assembly Resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981

emphasizing the freedom of religion and belief and the Resolution A/RES/72/184 of Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,

*Underlines* the fact that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in enabling peace, intercultural and interreligious dialogue and promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity,

*Addressing* the establishment of democratic institutions in Iraq (2003-2011) and Afghanistan (2001-2014), that were constantly threatened by rebel insurgent groups, showing that stabilization missions of UN peacekeepers do not assure gaining actual internal stability,

1. Encourages leading members of all nations and religions to participate in regular conferences with an emphasis on cultural and religious dialogue (preferably held in a neutral nation) facilitated by the UN, with topics of discussion such as:
  - a) methods of alleviating violence and discrimination among nations and groups through increased dialogue on the topic
  - b) current violent and discriminative events generated by religious intolerance such as but not limited to:
    - i. the refugee crisis in Myanmar and the discrimination against the Rohingya people
    - ii. the rise of anti-Semitism
    - iii. the violence of Islamist groups
    - iv. the harassment of religious groups in some member nations
  - c) reducing ambiguities and quelling any and all rivalries within their respective regions (arising due to cultural and religious conflicts);
2. Invites nations and organisations to participate in, contribute funds toward, and promulgate the World Nomad Games, which would grant benefits such as, but not limited to:
  - a) promoting intercultural and interreligious interaction among members of differing nations
  - b) promoting cultural and religious tolerance
  - c) allowing opportunities for programmes that raise awareness about the importance of cultural and religious acceptance;
3. Urges the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions to address the dilemma between the conflicting ideas of security within the UN, the idea to protect the individual but also to protect the state even at the expense of individual, represented by the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA),
4. Strongly recommends the UN to continue the prosecution of offenders amongst the UN peacekeepers, since the UN has long been marred by sexual abuse scandals in cases such as:
  - a) a 1996 UN study showing that children become victims of prostitution at a higher rate when UN peacekeepers arrive
  - b) in countries like the Congo and Kosovo, where UN peacekeepers take advantage of post-conflict regions to either use prostitutes, or even rape and torture unsuspecting victims;
5. Encourages the International Criminal Tribunal (ICC) to keep working as reliable international support to enforce justice internationally, having, amongst others, prosecuted individuals who committed genocide in Myanmar, representing the importance of obtaining peace through justice;
6. Suggests the establishment of the PPAV (Preventive Procedures Against Violence) and define emergency procedures for when violent acts of war are imminent through ways such as but not limited to:
  - a) extending temporary security guarantees from the P-5s to concerned member states under

high tension of a crisis for the purpose of:

- b) de-incentivizing nations from activating their arsenals by communicating that an assault on the member nation will be seen as an offense to the P-5 Nations
  - c) preventing nations from initiating warfare as a bargaining chip to negotiate strategic advantages such as the lifting of tariffs, or the transfer of advanced technology in trade for acts of peace within a certain time frame
  - d) urging states to aid nations to implement new defense systems by providing financial provisions, and encouraging nations to share national defense technologies which will help defend other countries' civilians from possible conflict;
7. Asks for the establishment of an educational system for children aged 6-18 consisting of:
- a) subjects promoting cultural and religious tolerance and understanding
  - b) instructors certified by the UN for the respective courses
  - c) incentives for nations to adopt the program, such as the lifting of sanctions and/or trade restrictions possibly given that UN observers are permitted to periodically oversee the progress and efficacy of the course and reform the curriculum based on its progress;
8. Requests nations to further penalize offenses (from individuals) of discrimination or violence based on religion or culture, through ways such as, but not limited to increasing fines or sentences for hate crimes committed with motivations based on religion, belief, culture, or customs;
9. Calls for all complying member states and the UN to support national and international initiatives and ratify previously proposed treaties and conventions such as the UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the Convention on Religious Intolerance due to national benefits such as but not limited to:
- a) reducing global tensions which arise due to religious and cultural intolerance
  - b) encouraging the preservation and protection of humanity
  - c) intensifying or diminishing economic sanctions depending on the state's compliance or ratification of the treaties
  - d) transparency between Nations to devise suitable plans to effectively communicate on the topic of religious and cultural discrimination and violence.