

REDEFINING THE PRESENT AND DEFINING THE FUTURE

# UNHRC

PROTECTING REFUGEES FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING WITH
SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PREVENTING INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT
 PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF
MINORITIES WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS UPON UYGHUR MUSLIMS IN CHINA.









A Premier Girls' Boarding School





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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### **Greetings Delegates!**

We are pleased to welcome you to the intellectual simulation of the United Nations

Human Rights Council (UNHRC) of the IPSC MSMUN'22.

We hope to inspire delegates from all over the country, to foster powerful discussions that result in solutions, solutions that are borne out of a steel-like determination and perseverance to lead each debate to its rightful conclusion, and to ensure that delegates can navigate the diplomatic complexities that come with representing the agendas and resolutions they have crafted.

New ideas are by their very nature disruptive, but far less disruptive than a world set against the backdrop of stereotypes and regional instability due to which reform is essential in policy making and conflict resolution. Thus, we welcome fresh perspectives for intelligent management of human capital which shall shape the direction of this world.

Delegates are expected to research, collate, list down possible points of discussions, questions and plausible responses and be prepared to enjoy the intellectual energy in the group. At the same time it is not only about speaking and presenting, but very importantly it is also about the ability to listen, understand view points and learn from each one's perspectives. Wishing all of you a great learning experience. Looking forward to having you all with us.

Regards

Executive Board (UNHRC)

#### GUIDELINES FOR THE POSITION PAPER

A position paper is an introductory document which reflects your research and the position of your country about the agenda at hand. At a glance, it should make clear the urgency of the matter and a wholehearted effort to resolve the same. The format of the Position Paper should be as follows:

I	the urgency of the matter and a wholehearted effort to resolve the same.		
	of the Position Paper should be as follows:		
	Name:		
	Committee:		

#### Country:

Agenda:

The position paper begins after the above details and should not exceed 2 pages in Times New Roman, 12 font, line spacing 1.5.

The Deadline to submit your position paper stands at 11:59 PM, 25th October, 2022.

Please mail all the position papers to:

#### unhrcipscmsmun@gmail.com

Submission of the position paper is compulsory.

## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC)

The Human Rights Council is an intergovernmental body of the United Nations, through which States discuss the condition of rights in the UN Member States. The Council's mandate is to promote "universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all" and "address situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations, and make recommendations thereon." The Human Rights Council was established in 2006 by Resolution 60/251 as a subsidiary body to the UN General Assembly. It replaced the former Commission on Human Rights, which operated from 1946 to 2006.

#### **COMPOSITION**

The Council is composed of 47 Member States elected from the UN General Assembly to staggered three-year terms, with a specified number of seats going to each major geographic region. General Assembly Resolution 60/251 provides that the Member States should be elected considering "the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights" and "members elected to the Council shall uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights." In practice, these standards are open to interpretation and the human rights records of States seeking election to the Council have been the subject of significant controversy.

During the roll call, the country names are called out in alphabetic order and the delegate can answer by saying either Present or Present and Voting.

- 1. Present: When the delegate answers in a present, he can say Yes, No or Abstain during voting for a resolution.
- 2. Present and voting: When a delegate answers the roll call in a Present and voting,

he has to vote decisively on a resolution and has the option of only saying a Yes or a No to the resolution during voting. He cannot abstain.

If once a delegate answers "Present and voting" he or she can't change it back to "Present". However, the vice- versa doesn't take place.

#### **FUNCTIONS**

The Council serves as a forum for dialogue among States, with input from other stakeholders. As a result of its discussions, the Council may issue resolutions calling on States to take specific actions or uphold certain principles, or it may create mechanisms to investigate or monitor questions of concern.

The Human Rights Council has created or renewed the mandates of various "special procedures." The special procedures are experts appointed to monitor human rights around priority themes or in specific countries with serious human rights problems. The special procedures may be individual experts ("special rapporteurs" or "independent experts") or working groups. The Council also manages the Universal Periodic Review, a process through which each UN Member State's overall human rights record is reviewed.

In addition, the Council receives complaints alleging patterns of human rights violations, which are considered by the Working Group on Communications and may be referred to as the Working Group on Situations. The Working Group on Situations reports substantiated claims of consistent patterns of gross violations to the Council and makes recommendations for action.

#### **SESSIONS**

The Council conducts its substantive work primarily in Regular Sessions and Special Sessions. Regular Sessions are held no fewer than three times a year, usually in March, June, and September. The agenda and program of work for each Session are established concerning any adopted Council resolutions and in consultation with the Member States. Regular Sessions include the presentation of human rights reports and interactive dialogues with Special Procedure mandate holders or the Member States, panel discussions and debates on a wide range of human rights issues, and consideration of Universal Periodic Review reports. Council Special Sessions address urgent human rights situations arising between Regular Sessions and may be called at the request of any Council Member State with the support of at least one-third of the Council membership. Having a more narrow remit than Regular Sessions, Special Sessions usually occupy a few days, with programs of work focused on the discussion of the urgent human rights situation raised and deliberations around the concluding resolution to be adopted by the Council.

#### CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

General Assembly Resolution 60/251 explicitly acknowledges that "non-governmental organisations" play an important role at the national, regional and international levels, in the promotion and protection of human rights" and further determines that the Council should work "in close cooperation in the field of human rights with governments, regional organisations, national human rights institutions and civil society.

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

#### Introduction

Human trafficking is a crime where a person is controlled and exploited for the benefit of someone else. It involves activities, such as recruiting people, moving them from one place to another, or keeping them in a secret place for the purpose of exploiting them. Traffickers use different tactics such as force, threats, manipulation, blackmailing, etc, to make victims/survivors do things against their will, such as provide their labour or sexual services, marry someone they don't want to marry, or remove their organs. A trafficker can be one individual or part of a larger criminal network.

Human trafficking is a global problem affecting people of all ages. It is estimated that approximately 1,000,000 people are trafficked each year globally. Human traffickers often create transnational routes for transporting migrants who are driven by unfavourable living conditions to seek the services of a smuggler. Recruiters seek migrants through various mediums such as the Internet employment agencies, the media, and local contacts. Middlemen who recruit from within the origin country commonly share the cultural background of those migrating. Migrants view the services of a smuggler as an opportunity to move from impoverished conditions in their home countries to more stable, developed environments.

Because such circumstances make it difficult for victims to obtain legitimate travel documents, smugglers supply migrants with fraudulent passports or visas and

advise them to avoid detection by border-control agents. Transporters, in turn, sustain the migration process through various modes of transportation: land, air, and sea. Although victims often leave their destination country voluntarily, the majority are unaware that they are being recruited for a trafficking scheme. Some may be kidnapped or coerced, but many are bribed by false job opportunities, passports, or visas. Transporters involved in trafficking victims from the origin country are compensated only after they have taken migrants to the responsible party in the destination country. Immigration documents, whether legitimate or fraudulent, are seized by the traffickers. After this, victims are often subjected to physical and sexual abuse, and many are forced into labour or the sex trade in order to pay off their migratory debts.

## Refugees and other displaced people at a risk of being trafficked

When people are forced to flee, they leave behind more than just their homes. Being away from their familiar surroundings, they often lose their community support networks and end up being socially and culturally isolated. They lack access to basic resources and livelihood opportunities. Depending on where they flee to, they may lack a regular status.

These and other factors contribute to making refugees and other forcibly displaced people an easy target for traffickers, who prey on the precariousness of their situation to exploit them.

Many persons fleeing conflict, violence or persecution are also compelled to move irregularly to seek protection. For this, they often resort to the services of

smugglers. In these circumstances, refugees are particularly vulnerable to being trafficked or to falling victim to serious crimes and human rights' violations.

## Causes of Human Trafficking

- Poverty
- Lack of Education
- Lack of Human Rights for vulnerable groups
- Social factors and cultural practices
- Political Unrest
- Armed conflicts

#### SUB- TOPICS TO RESEARCH UPON

- 1. GENDER INEQUALITY
- 2. RACISM
- 3. WAR OR ARMED CONFLICTS
- 4. CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT
- 5. POLITICAL INSTABILITY

## UYGHUR MUSLIMS IN CHINA

## Who are Uyghur Muslims?

The Uyghurs are a Muslim minority in China, living in Xinjiang province at a crossroads of culture and empire. The Uyghurs speak their own language, which is similar to Turkish, and see themselves as culturally and ethnically close to Central Asian nations. They have been practising Islam for centuries, tracing their religious influence to the Karakhanid, a Turkic fiefdom that ruled Central Asia from the 9th to the 13th century. In previous centuries, Uighurs followed other religions including Zoroastrianism and Buddhism.

They make up less than half of the Xinjiang population. There are about 12 million Uyghurs, mostly Muslim, living in Xinjiang, which is officially known as the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR). It's estimated that more than 1 million Uyghur people have been detained in camps, camps where they have been subjected to torture, forced labour, religious restrictions, even forced sterilization.

According to official Chinese records, there are 12 million Uighurs, representing almost half the population in Xinjiang. A recent report published in Xinhua news agency quoted China's top diplomat, Wang Yi, as saying that the population increased from 5.5 million to 12 million in the last 40 years. The 1953 Chinese census data from Xinjiang was incomplete, but it showed that 97 percent of the 1.5 million people in the city of Kashgar were Uighurs, while 99 percent of the 700,000 people in Hotan were Uighurs.

The World Uyghur Congress, a group of Uighur exiles advocating for human rights in their homeland, puts their number at about 20 million living inside and outside of China.

Uighurs disagree, saying that borders in the region have been drawn and redrawn for centuries, depending on the dominant power, including the Mongols and the Turkic Karakhanid. Overseas Uighurs also say that their religion, language and cultural practices clearly distinguish Xinjiang from the rest of China.

## China being accused for Genocide

China has been accused of committing crimes against humanity and possibly genocide against the Uyghur population and other mostly-Muslim ethnic groups in the north-western region of Xinjiang.

Human rights groups believe China has detained more than one million Uyghurs against their will over the past few years in a large network of what the state calls "re-education camps", and sentenced hundreds of thousands to prison terms.

A series of police files obtained by the BBC in 2022 has revealed details of China's use of these camps and described the routine use of armed officers and the existence of a shoot-to-kill policy for those trying to escape.

The US is among several countries to have previously accused China of committing genocide in Xinjiang. The leading human rights groups Amnesty and Human Rights Watch have published reports accusing China of crimes against humanity.

The declarations follow reports that, as well as interning Uyghurs in camps, China has been forcibly mass sterilising Uyghur women to suppress the population,

separating children from their families, and attempting to break the cultural traditions of the group.

The UK parliament declared in April 2021 that China was committing a genocide in Xinjiang.

A UN human rights committee in 2018 said it had credible reports that China was holding up to a million people in "counter-extremism centres" in Xinjiang.

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute found evidence in 2020 of more than 380 of these "re-education camps" in Xinjiang, an increase of 40% on previous estimates.

Analysis of data contained in the latest police documents, called the Xinjiang Police Files, showed that almost 23,000 residents - or more than 12% of the adult population of one county - were in a camp or prison in the years 2017 and 2018. If applied to Xinjiang as a whole, the figures would mean the detention of more than 1.2 million Uyghur and other Turkic minority adults.

#### SUB-TOPICS TO RESEARCH UPON

- 1. Situation of Uyghur Muslims
- 2. Effects of China's oppression and genocide
- 3. Displacements caused
- 4. Required financial support
- 5. Base & Camp for their temporary settlement
- 6. Accessibility to Basic needs for subsistence & resources

## DISCLAIMER

The background guide is a compilation of various sources and scholarly work of various authors available to us through doctrinal and non-doctrinal methods. The background is only a source of information to provide you all with basic guidelines to pursue your further research and is not a document in its absolute nature which covers up everything you need to know about the committee, kindly use this background guide as a premise to draw your future research. It is significant to note that this background guide does not reflect the personal ideology of the Executive board, Secretariat members, Mody School, IPSC or any authorities concerned with the conference the background guide is a document prepared in the best academic interest of the conference.