

**Committee:** Human Rights Council

**Topic:** Creating guidelines for the fair treatment and rights of political prisoners

**Main submitter:** United States of America

**Co-submitters:** United Kingdom, State of Israel, Federative Republic of Brazil

**Signatories:** Norway, Republic of South Africa, Republic of Indonesia, Kingdom of Sweden, Federal Republic of Germany, French Republic

The Human Rights Council is,

*Alarmed by* the unfair treatment of political prisoners in many parts of the world,

*Recognizing* past attempts for trying to find a solution to this issue,

*Viewing* the issue of fair treatment and the rights of political prisoners as a central aspect in the pursuit of international justice and human rights,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to all rights and freedoms,

*Taking note of* the countries current policies regarding the correctional service,


*Expressing its appreciation* for the works of NGOs on this matter,

*Recognizing* the need for a fair due process for political prisoners that guarantees fair legal procedure that provides a chance to defend themselves,

*Desiring for* states to be held responsible and accountable for the illegal detention of political prisoners,

*In order to protect the rights of citizens, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the HRC:*

1. Calls upon the increased transparency of member states' court proceedings by creating :
  - a. a committee of unbiased jury members from said country overseeing the trials and their fairness
  - b. a website with necessary information regarding political cases certifying impartial court proceedings;
2. Endorses the release of political prisoners imprisoned for their political beliefs and their reintegration into society through programmes such as:
  - a. Friends of returning citizens (FORC)
  - b. Safer Foundation;

3. Emphasizes the need for states to be held responsible and accountable while creating positive incentives for the halt of illegal detention of political prisoners by:
    - a. Exerting pressure on countries holding political prisoners
    - b. Sanctions;
  4. Supports adapting the definition of a political prisoner stated in “Resolution 1900 (2012) Final version” by the Council of Europe;
  5. Further invites member states to endorse the work of certified NGOs such as the Amnesty International who prove the innocence of political prisoners and fight for their freedom by:
    - a. Financially supporting their activity on the country’s territory
    - b. Providing training programmes to increase the qualifications of NGO workers
    - c. Providing NGOs with access to necessary resources
    - d. Promoting awareness campaigns for human rights that run through all member states and attract attention;
  6. Draws the attention to the importance of impartial court proceedings by implementing the:
    - a. principle of presumption of innocence
    - b. the right to adequate defense by providing each detained individual with access to qualified lawyers,
  7. Further requests the halt of imprisoning political prisoners detained on the base of soft evidence;
  8. Authorizes the development of international guidelines to ensure that detentions occur only based on clearly defined laws and that these laws align with internationally recognized human rights standards;
  9. Encourages member states to apply the international agreements for the treatment of political prisoners:
    - a. The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (The Nelson Mandela Rules)
    - b. Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners;
  10. Calls for the limitation of violence on imprisoned individuals, with a particular emphasis on people detained for their political beliefs such as:
    - a. Physical force
    - b. Physical restraint
    - c. Emotional abuse;
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11. Further proclaims that mechanisms to monitor the human rights situation of political prisoners are put in places to stop:

- a. the conducting of trials in secret from the public eye
- b. Corruption in court settings

12. Requests that good behavior of prisoners is rewarded by one or more of the following:

- a. A possible earlier release on parole depending on the specifics of their original custody;
- b. a watch session of wide Putin
- c. a free tattoo of Putin and/or Lukashenko and/or Biden
- d. christening to the orthodox church
- e. a ten-hour video of Rwandan gorillas
- f. a free Turkish kebab and a 5-hour playing of the Turkish anthem

13. Remains actively seized on the matter.

