

**Cleveland Council on
WORLD AFFAIRS**



**Position Paper Compilation
for the
United Nations Human Rights Council**

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Delegation from: the Federal Republic of Austria

Represented by: Lakewood High School

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

The issues before the United Nations Human Rights Council today are: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises; and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. As a nation that is dedicated to the promotion of human rights in all situations, the Republic of Austria is deeply committed to making progress towards solutions that address these topics to their fullest extent.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

After World War Two, with its gross violations of human rights including genocide and mistreatment of prisoners of war, the need for accountability for human rights violations was realized. Out of this realization, important trials such as Nuremberg were held, and important documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were formed. Emergencies provide a unique climate for human rights, as it is a time where states may assume more power than normal, which is necessary in some situations but can also be incredibly dangerous, and often emergency measures can last a lot longer than was originally intended. It is therefore important to make sure that all emergency measures that violate human rights be immediately repealed, and that those who violate human rights with those policies be immediately prosecuted and punished.

The Republic of Austria has been part of the UNHRC since 2011 and has strongly supported and agreed with the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights since it was created in 1994. Austria has also been a party to the International Criminal Court since signing the Rome Statute on 7 October 1999, which ensures that not only will Austria be held responsible if they ever commit a human rights violation, but Austria will also help prosecute other countries that may make one of those violations. Austria also has human rights written into the foundation documents of their country, as seen in Article 7 paragraph 1 of Austria's constitution. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Austria continued to maintain human rights by suspending evictions, protecting small business' rights, developing hotlines for people to use, and by recognizing the inequalities that lead to worse effects of the coronavirus in communities. Austria's policies during the pandemic fulfill the human right to health as seen in Article 25 paragraph 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and although at one point did restrict freedom of movement as seen in Article 13 paragraph one of the Declaration, as soon as it was seen as safe to take away this restriction, it was done, and proper safety measures continued to stay in place.

If the Human Rights Committee wishes to hold those accountable who violate human rights during crises, they should look at how countries responded to the COVID-19 pandemic and how their policies reflect the rights stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Austria firmly believes that human rights should be protected in all situations, and that not only those who actively violate human rights, but also those who authorize such violations should be prosecuted to the extent of the law, and the international community should make sure those

whose human rights have been violated receive justice. Violators of human rights should be immediately stripped of any power that would allow them to make those violations ever again, and there should be no discrimination as to who gets punished and who doesn't. Austria recognizes the worrying imbalance between the prosecution that richer, developed nations get for violating human rights by actions such as the ongoing Patriot Act, and the prosecution that poorer, less developed nations get for violating human rights, to the point where they are constantly being attacked and bombed for their actions, and recognizes that it is something that needs to be resolved immediately so that all countries will be held equally responsible for their human rights violations during crises. Any resolution worked on during committee should include both provisions on prosecuting nations equally and determining which emergency policies should be considered human rights violations and when.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

As the world keeps changing, migration and movement of global citizens is becoming more common, especially with the rise of new conflicts and problems at home. These movements bring people into new countries, providing a new economic frontier to domestic employers and the employees they seek to recruit. But as conflicts and crises evolve on the homefront, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, protecting the rights of these people becomes a very serious issue, of international importance. Too often, workers are exploited, especially those who are in a new world. Austria has put in place measures to protect people during the pandemic, especially workers, providing multilingual guides to the major cities, relating to public infrastructure and municipal entities. This committee must find ways to work together to protect the rights of migrant workers.

Austria hosts a foreign population of nearly 1.5 million people, almost 16 percent of the population. Migrant workers play a key role, not only in the Austrian economy, but in many other economies around the world. Being able to address and resolve human rights violations among migrant workers is a high priority of the Republic of Austria. The Republic of Austria also sees great opportunity in discussing the protection of the rights of migrant workers as the Covid-19 pandemic puts caretakers, and many others at risk. Protecting their rights to education, labor, and transportation are critical. The Republic of Austria strongly believes that responsibility and domestic resolution are critical, and while this is an international issue, that it's own national issues are also to be addressed with the highest priority, especially in sectors where distrust and broken relations have flared since the start of the pandemic.

In order for this committee to come to reasonable, agreeable solutions to this issue, the Republic of Austria stresses that even the nations seemingly uninvolved play a part as well. The world is moving towards connectedness, and all economies mesh together like clockwork. Protecting the very people who turn those gears is quintessential to protecting the global economy. One of the most important things that this committee must consider is to protect the rights of those whose voices are not loud enough to be heard above the power of their governments and the companies who employ them. Migrant workers deserve the same rights as citizens and their domestic counterparts. The resolutions presented in this committee should be about strategies to protect these rights in an intersectional and unbiased way.

Country: *Federative Republic of Brazil*

School: *Fuchs Mizrachi School*

Committee: **Human Rights Council**

I. Human Rights Violations

Brazil recognizes that it is in a politically difficult situation.

Prior to the presidency of Jair Bolsorano, human rights in Brazil were horrible. It is unclear how much the situation has improved. It is for this reason that Brazil calls for the adoption of human rights laws that will protect both its own citizens and people across the world.

Brazil has the second highest death rate in the world because of Covid-19. President Bolsonaro made a speech to the United Nations General Assembly in which he depicted a nation free from corruption. Sadly, this is a work in progress.

Brazil is facing a human rights crisis. Fourteen million people in Brazil are unemployed. Most of the population faces food insecurity, and have little or no access to social assistance. Nineteen million people in Brazil go hungry everyday which leads to the men having to work in pretty bad working conditions and women having to take care of their family without assistance from the federal government.

In 2020 there was emergency financial aid but that was interrupted for three months and only resumed at a reduced capacity. Civil society organizations have been set up to distribute food and provide legal assistance to Indigenous people and help support their human rights.

Since the onset of Covid-19 in 2020 there have been more than 600,000 deaths in Brazil. The policies of President Bolsonaro in response to the pandemic (anti-vaccine and recommendation non-traditional treatment) have not been effective. Brazil has few hospitals and healthcare facilities.

Attorney General Augusto Aras was asked to investigate the human rights violations and a search in the senate has been conducted. Brazil's parliament has not done acted strongly indicating that parliament either agrees with Bolsonaro or cannot do anything against him. If the parliament cannot do anything against him.

Brazil calls upon the Human Rights Council of the United Nations for help. We encourage proper human rights, health care, economic stability and open dialogue.

II. Migrant Workers

Since the days of Adam and Eve's eviction from the Garden of Eden mankind has wandered the earth, and since the days of Greece and the metics there have been immigrant rights issues.

Although many nations have relied upon immigration to grow and thrive, often immigrants are not treated fairly or equally. Along with the United States, Canada, and Argentina -- Brazil has one of the largest immigrant populations in the Western Hemisphere totaling 736,000 as of 2017. While there have been solutions proposed in the past to help protect the rights of immigrants, there is no single set of immigration laws for the entire world leaving many unprotected.

In 1990, the United Nations established an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Convention was applicable to any immigrant regardless of sex, race, language, religion, nationality, age, economic status, marital status, or other status. In Article 8, the Convention states: "Migrant workers and members of their families shall be free to leave any State, including their State of origin." This is just one of the many statements that were made to protect immigrant rights. This was also when the creation of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

Brazil also has adopted policies to protect the rights of immigrants. Under the New Migration Law in 2017, an immigrant in Brazil can apply for a residence permit if they have a job offer. In addition, a foreign national can apply for a work visa if they have a university degree. Additionally, during the Covid-19 shutdown in March 2020, there was a list of groups of immigrants that were treated like ordinary Brazilian citizens in regard to leaving and entering the country.

Position Paper for Human Rights

The issues before the Human Rights Committee are: *Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises* and *Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers*. The delegation of China is dedicated to work towards a resolution on these issues.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Human rights violations have become more common throughout the years but have seriously increased in China in recent years. Some major violations include: the lack of child labor laws, human trafficking, the pandemic, systematic torture, illegal imprisonment, forced labor, organ harvesting, and more. This is a crucial issue in China and across the globe. While China has failed to keep their 1.4 billion people safe, there are certain measures that need to be taken to keep everyone safe during these difficult times.

In recent months China has been the epicenter of a major crisis that has affected the whole world. With the first outbreak of COVID-19 being reported in Wuhan, China, the country went into lockdown. This caused hundreds of thousands of people to lack basic necessities needed to survive. At the beginning of 2020 in Wuhan, police arrested lawyers and journalists for researching and reporting on the pandemic. This violates not only the rights of citizens in China but also those living in other countries because the new reports should be coming from the location of the first outbreak. The government failed to provide access to basic necessities for Chinese citizens. According to China's 2020 human rights report authorities demanded citizens to consume traditional chinese medicine, block their apartment doors with bars made out of iron, and tie any citizens to metal posts if they did not comply with these laws. China arrested citizens for spreading rumors about the current global pandemic. With all of this being said, China is willing to attempt to make changes throughout the country in order to decrease violations, not only during crises but always.

Hopefully, the human rights committee can work together as a delegation to take accountability for Human Rights Violations During crisis as this problem is emergent. China hopes to seek action throughout working with other countries to solve this worldwide issue. With the help of many, China can strive to protect their beloved economy and population throughout these troubling times. We urge leaders to take action for the Human Rights crisis all over the world seeing as it is a huge concern worldwide. As the delegation of China, we urge the United Nations to side with us and seek a solution. China plans to start out by reaching out to those in need and helping where necessary. We are looking forward to the collaboration of many to work hard to create a safer, more connected world.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

The rights of migrant workers have diminished in the past years. With the pandemic striking in early 2020 hundreds of thousands were left without a job, without rights, and without money to survive. The rights of the migrant workers and their families require attention from a higher authority. Every working person should be granted their right no matter their sex, race, color, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth or other status.

Many migrant workers sought out work in the recent months but struggled with unemployment. Migrant workers and their families were all affected by the loss of employment. With the unemployment pay being at a higher rate than minimum wage being \$2.06 (in China) causing many employees not to return to work. Due to the current pandemic laid off migrant workers will potentially be in danger to lose their home and have to return to the countryside “In February by the National Bureau of Statistics of China, 280 million individuals lived outside the jurisdiction of their household registration. “With 277.5 million of those workers being migrant workers. Workers that have children made it difficult to pay for education. With the families being poorer it creates tough challenges for the children to get a good education. Coordinated efforts by governments at the central, provincial, and local levels, including censorship, surveillance, harassment, detention, and the imposition of travel restrictions on labor rights defenders and restrictions on funding sources for NGOs, disrupted labor rights advocacy. For example, on March 26, a labor activist published photographs of hundreds of sanitation workers in Henan protesting wage arrears on a popular social media site but was pressured by local authorities to delete the contents less than 24 hours later.” The activists have worked profoundly to protect the rights of the migrant workers. This is a very serious issue worldwide that needs to be acknowledged before it's too late for the migrant workers and their family.

China is very confident in the ability we have to help migrant workers get the rights they deserve. We will strive to reach out for help from other developing countries to help the deceleration of the lack of rights. “They need help from expanded social programs to sustain their livelihoods. Without that assistance, their weak condition will drag China’s recovery.” A potential way to help Chinese migrant workers get back on their feet is by having the government provide temporary cash subsidies. “In the first quarter, the government gave out a one-time only subsidy of RMB410 million (US\$57.8 million) to 67,000 migrant workers, which translates into RMB2,040 (US\$288) per person per month.” This simple act of gratitude could save millions of lives in China, let alone across the globe.

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Delegation From: Côte D'Ivoire

Represented By: Mayfield High School

Position Paper for the Human Right Council

As a body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights throughout the world, the United Nations Human Rights Council has been commissioned with addressing not only the accountability of human rights during crises but also with the human rights protections to be granted, migrant workers. As a fundamental representative of the African Union, Côte D'Ivoire endeavors to support and sustain the human rights of all individuals affected by these indispensable issues with the help of other countries, to build a better future for everyone.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Côte D'Ivoire regards all Human Rights Violations with disgust and actively pursues all possible routes of action and accountability towards those committing those violations. As a central leader with key economic power within the African Union, Côte D'Ivoire hopes to create new legislation regarding accountability during world and national crises within the WHRC, whether it is global pandemics or even national tensions created by wars and natural disasters, as the human rights of all individuals need to be maintained regardless of any situation.

Recently, we have seen numerous Human Rights violations during Covid and its subsequent economic crises, wars in the Arab world, and broadening counterterrorism laws, all of which have led to the decline in the quality of life of the affected individuals. For instance, we have seen human rights abuses in contravening individuals' free expression and right to physical and mental health. During Covid, numerous countries often enforced lockdown restrictions to avert the spread of Covid-19 as a protection to the health of their citizens (right to mobility and assembly), but in turn also repudiated numerous individuals of the ability to connect with others, particularly with countries across the world going into recessions and having an outrageous declining quality of social services for their citizens. For instance, nations have denied their right to hold certain opinions and listen to unbiased news, whether negative or positive, regarding Covid. As a result, due to the violation of these freedoms, individuals across the globe have declining mental health (oftentimes due to stigmatization, in the case of Asian nationals), such that it has become a central issue to prevent the disproportionate loss of life, particularly among children, the elderly, and the refugees. Finally, we have witnessed civil unrest across the globe due to human rights violations regarding the right to presumption of innocence and equality before the law to even freedom from torture and right to a fair trial.

Due to all of these prominent human rights violations, the Human Rights Council must find a way to hold both nations and individual violators of human rights accountable for their actions. The UN should also have the power to investigate the matter thoroughly without any state interfering in its investigative process. If the international investigators find that governments are being uncooperative and perverse, the UN should have the permission to use military force against the officious state. Under the ICCPR and the ICESCR, if the HRC understands for one of the states to comply with certain human rights violations, they can potentially be removed from the HRC council as a whole, with the political power within the United Nations itself weakened or revoked, with the power to send and establish peacekeeping missions within the violating country. However, this problem has worsened in recent times due to the veto power of countries including Russia and China within the Security Council, whose approval must be met to send extensive peacekeeping missions into countries violating human rights, often due to the nationalistic nature of the decisions made by both of these countries. This often leads to civilian peacekeepers (as well as a few "blue hats") being sent to these countries, not allowing for these violations to be addressed. For countries as a whole to ensure that they are not incidentally causing human rights violations, they need to make internal commissions that check for any local government violations of human rights, as well as to ensure individuals are not denied these rights due to any racial or socioeconomic standards. This can be through implementing measures that fill in the knowledge gaps to citizens regarding what rights they should have, as well as the civic responsibility individuals should know

their government holds to protect them. Once the WHRC can teach individuals their rights, citizens must be responsible in part for spreading the truth about human rights violations across the board, as well as promoting accountability under the law and preventing impurities from happening. In some cases, this will require building the global infrastructure for implementing punishments to the violators, which will be building fair judicial systems and training special groups such as the police to detect human rights violations to protect the dignity of all individuals. Moreover, new international policy should be put in place that establishes universal legislation of punishments for every type of violation, substantial or insubstantial, for there to be no excuses for violating the human rights of individuals, with nations leading by example of what happens when government officials or private citizens, are punished for their actions.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Côte D'Ivoire's labor force consists of millions of migrant workers from neighboring countries, including Burkina Faso and Mali. Part of the proud African Union, Côte D'Ivoire strives to protect the rights of migrant workers and pledges to treat the migrant workers with dignity and equality. It also recognizes that there is no difference in quality or labor performance between its local citizens and its migrant workers. Côte D'Ivoire also takes into account the troubled history of migrant workers' rights violations that occurred throughout its history due to political instability. As we have moved towards a more democratic government institution, Côte D'Ivoire promises to improve the rights and safety of migrant workers residing within our borders.

Migration of workers from developing, third-world countries to more developed countries has been a common occurrence since the industrial revolution.. Although morals and ethics should condemn countries to protect the rights of migrant workers, many countries and their government institutions fail to do so, migrant workers have continually been treated inequitably based on their religion, race, or their nationality. Prejudice against the Islamic faith is a common example. For instance, Executive order 13769 issued under the Trump legislation, banned workers from seven Islamic countries which have notably even prevented Syrian refugees from entering the country. This executive order is an exemplary example of western countries and their legislation exploiting the rights of migrant workers. Along with the United States, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt are also known for their salient immigration policies and their erratic treatment of migrant workers, whether it be preventing migrants from joining labor unions to identity checks completed on migrant workers. All-in-all, migrant workers are treated erratically in the labor force as well, as employers hierarchize safeguarding the jobs of domestic workers; selectively during the economic downturn caused by the global pandemic, millions of migrant workers have lost their jobs, as the jobs of migrant workers are not hierarchized those of domestic workers.

Under the majority of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers, nations throughout the world should make the effort to create procedures to create cordial living conditions for workers whether it's with providing safe and sustainable housing, fair and equal wages, fair immigration hearings, to even providing equal healthcare to migrants as to what they provide to their citizens. By providing for more equitable living conditions for migrants, state sovereignty can be strengthened by helping states to better address organized crime or corruption by providing immigrants with the mental and physical support they need through sustainable methods, such that they won't become dependent on malefaction. For this to happen, countries should help to provide migrants with appropriate housing, as well as material, physical, and mental health services. This can also mean nations making the effort to indoctrinate migrants, marketable skills to fill gaps in the national labor. This prolificity that migrants can provide will also help to prevent the vulnerability of migrants and prevent the exploitation of labor due to being unskilled workers. Correspondingly, although it may seem otiose for states to provide healthcare to immigrants, inclusive health care can allow migrants to continue to be a cornucopian contribution to society, as well as obviate greater national healthcare care expenditures in the offing. However, many nations get out of allocating for these migrant workers due to the nationalistic tremor throughout many countries, causing the disrespect and abandonment for the care of migrant workers often driving the backbone of these nations but changes in the viewpoint of the value of migrant workers within countries along with stricter enforcement agencies across the globe that look for these violations need to be set in place to protect the rights of migrant workers.

Delegation from: The Republic of Cuba

Represented by: Mayfield High School

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

The issues before the Human Rights Council are: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. It is Cuba's position that human rights and migrant rights are insignificant and should be given up to an extent in order to maintain the socialist state.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

As a communist state, Cuba is motivated to give its citizens a good quality of life. For instance, all citizens receive free healthcare, social security, and education. Citizens also receive food, utilities, and rent at a very low cost. Because we give our people an affordable, sustainable, and sufficient way of life, our citizens recognize the importance of maintaining the government. They understand that, as a result of our giving nature, we must receive something in return.

This comes in the form of expression; Our citizens do not publicly criticize our government without a consequence. We rid dissent through various means in order to keep our living conditions high. People who violate the good of the public are held accountable in order to protect our other citizens. We signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to achieve that goal.

The rest of the world can and should learn from our example. Instead of concentrating on giving people "human rights," the Republic of Cuba focuses on the rights of our country and people as a whole. The Decree-Law 370/2018 is a great example of our commitment to preserving the rights of the public, instead of an ever-changing individual.

Thus, it is our stance that people who violate human rights deserve to be held accountable. The Human Rights Council should move away from a focus on the rights of individuals, and should instead look to better their country, and the world, as a whole.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Of all the countries in the Caribbean, Cuba has the lowest population of migrant workers. Although we do not have many migrant workers, we still value their contribution to our country. As a result, we give migrant workers the same rights as all other members of society. They enjoy the benefits of living in our country just like everyone else. Additionally, they are benefiting from our growing private sector of the economy.

Due to this, it is unnecessary to spend more time, money, or resources on migrant workers' rights. As the world continues to battle the Covid-19 pandemic, it is necessary for us to focus on more important matters.

Therefore, the rights of migrant workers should remain protected, but not of great attention, to the world at large.

Delegation of: France

Represented by: Chardon High School

Position Paper for the Human Rights Committee

The issues before the Human Rights Committee are: *Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises* and *Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers*. The delegation of France is committed to present a debate and contribute a resolution on the topic.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Human rights violations during crises, which can include a number of events such as wars, global pandemics, and natural disasters, have become more and more prevalent throughout the last couple of years. France has had minimal violations in this context, but is willing to help make change and implement it's practices in other countries.

In recent years, countries such as France have limited their rights due to COVID-19. Aware of this human rights decline, on March 16, 2020, Emmanuel Jean-Michel Frédéric Macron, the president of France, declared a national emergency. Citizens of France were ordered to stay home, limiting themselves to get necessities. In order to reinforce this mandate, the French government mobilized hundreds of thousands of police. 15%-20% of French children were falling behind in school due to this national crisis. France is also experiencing harassment attacks within citizens, such as rape, human trafficking, and domestic violence. These attacks are rooted from aggression against minority groups including race, ethnicity, and religion.

France welcomes the European Court of Human Rights often in an attempt to fix these issues. France accepts petitions from citizens (through the ECHR), in order to fix the human rights issues across Europe. As being one of the biggest contributors of the peacemaking budget, France plans to fix this issue of human rights violations.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Protecting the rights of migrant workers is a predominant issue throughout the world. Migrant workers are those who flee their home country in order to find employment in a better country.

Due to some migrants coming into countries illegally, rights need to be protected. Some basic rights of migrant workers include: migrant workers and their families shall have the right to free thought; migrant workers and their families shall receive any medical care that is urgent to preserve their life; and providing assistance to migrant workers and their families in being aware of propaganda related to immigration and emigration. Migrant workers deserve to be treated equally no matter where they plan on going and where they have come from as long as they are entering legally.

France has approximately 6.5 million immigrants, making up around 9.7% of the total population. Although migrant workers rights in France have Labor Laws protecting them, their neighboring countries are not the same. European countries are discovering migrant workers being abused and treated poorly. In France, workplace inspections are being neglected and skimmed over. As well as underpaying and abusive management. Many workers explain checks not being carried out of the workplace and labor trafficking being witnessed.

Recognizing the issue at hand, France plans to make sure the FRA is up to date on inspections and health concerns. With the help of the FRA, France can then trust the workplace and the health issues being fixed. The delegation also plans to implement more background checks on both the management and staff, to protect the safety of the workplace (labor trafficking). As for the underpaying, France needs to enforce the minimum wage standards and follow up on businesses following that.

CCWA WINTER MUN 2021

Delegation from: Federal Republic of Germany

Represented by: St. Edward High School

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises.

Human rights violations are a considerable problem around the world, and global society still struggles to hold those who commit these acts accountable. In an age where many new human rights violations occur in conflict zones ring across the globe, it is an important role for the United Nations and all of its member states to do far more to hold groups and individuals accountable for these actions.

The Federal Republic of Germany has struggled with human rights violations in the past – such as the Nazi Holocaust of World War Two and the issues connected to the Berlin Wall, for example – and Germany has enforced investigations, the arrest of suspects and the due process of law in seeking convictions and appropriate sanctions in due course against those found guilty of such acts. Germany secured the passage of a domestic anti-discrimination law, outlawing “public authorities — including police — from discriminating against anyone based on background, skin color, gender, religion, disabilities, worldview, age, class, education and sexual identity” ([NPR - Berlin Passes Sweeping Anti-Discrimination Law](#)). This enforces the point that Germany is committed to avoiding the mistakes of the past by moving to hold its citizens and officials accountable. Germany’s government demonstrates respect for human rights by continuing to recognize its responsibilities in respect of the Holocaust – particularly to Israel - even decades after the fact. Germany is therefore in a good position to act as an arbiter of human rights protections and seeks a global commitment – led by the United Nations and supported by all member states – to cooperate in identifying suspected violaters of human rights (be they countries or individuals) and holding them to account.

Germany expects the Human Rights Council to further its existing efforts to pursue all avenues both to try and ensure and promote the prevention of human rights violations in the first instance through common commitments to the UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights – no matter the suspect and no matter the circumstances. Germany further believes in the need to follow the principles of the rule of law so as to ensure justice and that everyone is equal under the law accordingly.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers.

The Federal Republic of Germany firmly believes that every worker has the right to fair practices and of employment and equal remuneration for the same work without discrimination on the grounds of race, cultural background, social status, gender or language. Likewise, Germany believes that migrant workers – who are particularly vulnerable to and unequal practices – need special protections to ensure this. Recent conflicts, particularly in parts of Africa and the Middle East, have led to mass migrations of large numbers of people to Europe, where opportunities for exploitation and unequal treatment unfortunately abound.

Germany has experienced large numbers of immigrants settling in the country over the past decade and an increasingly large percentage of low income employment is now filled by migrant workers accordingly and the demand for such a labour workforce is increasing. In 2021, the Federal Labour Agency stated that Germany may need to bring in a minimum of 400,000 more migrant workers to ensure future economic growth, yet this also means that greater efforts need to be made to ensure that such migrant workers are better protected and not exploited. In 2020, Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Hubertus Heil made a statement saying that he would try to revisit the existing laws in this area and to seek better re-enforcement rather than merely creating new laws. Practical measures – such as ensuring better and more affordable facilities at truck stops, for example, would greatly enhance the rights of workers in the trucking industry, which has high numbers of migrant workers. Germany is also considering improving and standardizing minimum wage laws across all of the European Union and not just in Germany.

Germany accepts that this issue of exploitation of migrant workers is common in many areas of the world and that a global commitment – using the United Nations as the key driver for reform – is necessary from all member states. Migrant worker numbers are likely to increase and urgent action to ensure their protection is thus a global problem. Germany seeks to ask the Human Rights Council to approach this issue in a responsible way to particularly reinforce Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (“Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work”). Re-visiting and reinforcing this Article could be a huge step to having a solution to this problem that is affecting much of Germany.

Delegation from: Italy

Represented by: Beaumont School

Position Paper for the Human Rights council

The issues before the Human Rights Council are as follows: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises; Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. Italy is fully committed in discussing the above topics, and is prepared to finalize a resolution in agreement with other countries to improve the humanitarian issues stated before.

Topic A: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

During Crises such as Covid-19, Italy does their best to ensure the rights of all citizens. While having a vaccination rate of 72% as of late October, Italy has no problem with confronting harm done to the people and taking charge of it. Caring for the people is a main priority for Italy, and if a mistake is ever made in this department, Italy is quick to make it right. However, there is still about 28% of Italy that has not been vaccinated to protect themselves, and others against Covid-19. Therefore, there is still room for improvement to be made, and for more people to get the protection they need to resolve the conflict at hand for Covid-19.

During the prime time of the unification of Libyan institutions, Many United Nations representatives got caught in controversy of violating human rights. Italy stands with France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States on this topic. A joint statement from the United States on behalf of these countries states; “We applaud the Libyan people for their determination to restore unity to their country. We commend all Libyan actors for constructively participating in and facilitating this vote by a body representing the voices of the Libyan people.” This goes to show Italy’s compassion in situations regarding human rights and their desire to make it right in the eyes of the people. Italy has no issue taking accountability for its wrongs, and if needed will do so gracefully while making a plan to improve the situation. Free and Fair elections and decisions are a priority to Italy, and will be treated as such.

As stated before, there is room to grow, and for improvement with how Italy is solving how to balance human rights, while also trying to protect their citizens. Italy feels that people should have the right to choose what they do, or put inside of their body, but Covid-19 is also causing many deaths and is also causing a lot of people to be very sick, when they don’t necessarily need to. Also, patients with Covid-19 fill up a great number of spaces in hospitals, which could lead to other people not getting the help that they need, because of lack of space in our hospitals. This is clearly a major issue. To try to lessen this issue, Italy believes that there should be a policy in place for workers in a company or schools where there are over 25 people in one space. This policy will mandate that workers and/or students will either have to be fully vaccinated, or get a negative Covid-19 test at least two times per week. This policy will be put in place to further ensure safety of all citizens in Italy.

Topic B: Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

The protection of migrant workers' rights has been an ongoing issue for a very long time. This has become a larger problem recently, especially in the past couple of years because of the pandemic that has been going on. The pandemic has led to businesses shutting down, therefore causing migrant workers to lose their jobs, due to having low job security. Migration of people to different countries is essential to a lot of businesses too, to keep their company running. A lot of these workers are faced with a lack of social and economic freedom though, because they accept any terms of a job, due to them desperately needing a job. Also, these migrant workers are paid at an incredibly low rate. With the recent loss of employment, the rates of pay have been decreasing from a low amount of money, to even lower, and the same goes with their job security. There have been many passed laws and acts that have been made and passed to try to protect these migrant workers, but lots of them have been ineffective or proved to only work a small amount.

In Italy, there is about 690,000 undocumented immigrants, and in just July of 2020, this number was increased by 37,400. In 2018, Italy abolished the residency permit for humanitarian reasons, which made the rate of undocumented migrants increase immensely. These undocumented immigrants are greatly vulnerable to violations of any fundamental rights that they have. These fundamental rights include; healthcare, low income to buy housing, exploitation at work, etc. Many migrant workers are agricultural workers, which is a seasonal job, so they are paid at an even lower income, and can't really work in the off seasons. So far, certain Italian organizations have provided service to registered migrant workers, to help them overcome some of these issues at hand. Also, The Regularization Program has been put in place during the pandemic, to provide protection and help migrant workers with healthcare. This is one of the few programs that has been passed since 1982 to help and provide protection to migrant workers. However, this program came with faults. Tens of thousands of people were denied access to be a part of this program, which caused many undocumented migrant workers to keep their status. These people's rights are still in danger, because they are working for businesses, even when they aren't supposed to be, due to being undocumented. The government has released a short guide recently, on what rights and expectations migrant workers have as well.

To address this topic, and create a much needed resolution, Italy would like to create a new plan, to make a program or a law, that provides migrant workers security, and healthcare access. This program or law would also include access for the migrant workers to know their rights, to stand up for themselves and their rights. Job security would be included in this as well. However, funding will be needed to go through with this action, and we would need to find possible ways to raise money. The protection of everyone's rights is fully reasonable, but especially for migrant workers, because they are in the most danger of having their rights violated. Some possibilities to fund this program would be to; raise taxes, find as many donations as possible, find room in the governmental budget to make cuts to other policies or programs to extend funding for this program, etc. We are open and willing to any possible suggestions or ideas to resolve this ongoing issue.

Delegation from: Japan

Represented by Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Human Rights Council

The issues presented before the United Nations Human Rights Council are Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. Human Rights are a top priority of Japan and is hopeful the United Nations can improve upon the issues at hand.

Issue I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

In crises, citizens are especially vulnerable to human rights violations. During said crises, those in power claim more power than they are normally entitled to. While this can prove beneficial, it may lead to an abuse of power. Many rulers have used this power for good, such as Franklin Delano Roosevelt, while many others have committed horrible atrocities, such as Adolf Hitler. While COVID-19 began to spread, xenophobia became extremely prevalent. The fear of COVID-19 led to unwarranted violence against innocent Asians worldwide. In times of crises, human rights are often overlooked. The United Nations believes in the equality of man and basic human rights.

The nation of Japan strongly believes in the upholding of human rights, and has signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In the Constitution of Japan, Chapter III 'Rights and Duties of the People', Japan fully backs individual rights and freedoms including religion and petition. The Japanese Constitution is very Western in nature, protecting the rights of man just as the United State Constitution does. Article 15 ensures a democratic government, stating "The people have the inalienable right to choose their public officials and dismiss them". While Japan still retains an Emperor, he serves as a figurehead outline in Chapter I of the Constitution. Chapter IV of the Constitution outlines the governing body, the Diet. The Constitution prevents the lack of corruption and discrimination within the Diet to maintain an effective and powerful government chosen by the people. The issues facing the council today are not uncommon by any stretch, and have been dealt with time and time again. It is inexcusable for there to be such heinous acts inflicted upon another human being. While the nation of Japan recognizes her own flaws, it is not opposed to working towards fixing said flaws and a brighter future for all nations.

The United Nations is committed to ending human rights violations of any nature, whether be genocide or unjust discrimination. Article VII of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, "All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law". The issues of inequality and ridding of human right violations are no small order, to support in this process Japan proposes a clear set of punishments for offenders of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in order to end the lack of continuity in punishments.

Issue II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Due to many pull factors of the Japanese economy and government, migrant workers have been particularly drawn to Japan starting mostly in the 1970's-1980's. However, much of this success perceived by the migrant workers has left their grasp as Japan moves toward more of a white collar economy. Thus, the Japanese Economy was largely unsuited for the influx of migrant workers which sought refuge in recent decades.

Japan previously prevented the long-term detention of asylum seekers as evidenced in their Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act. This stance is based on the idea that many people prefer to use Japan as a home to enjoy economic prosperity for a time then leave due to high inheritance taxes. Thus, Japan did not benefit from investing in many immigrants which means this is a costly process which degrades their economy and inhibits their ability to help those most in need. In April 2019, the government decided to accept lower-skilled foreign workers under a specified skills visa program to help combat labor shortages in Japan. Now, these workers are able to contribute to the economy and help offer a gateway to safety and freedom for their family members.

The goals of the Japanese Human rights council are now that immigration should be encouraged as a means of increasing the population and building the economy. Thus, immigrants are given a safe, prosperous environment in exchange for their hard work and support of the economic system.

Delegation of: Libya

Represented by: Chardon High School

Position Paper for Human Rights

The issues before the Human Rights Committee are: *Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises* and *Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers*. The delegation of Libya is committed to finding and creating solutions to help produce solutions to the problems of Libya.

Topic A: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

The human rights violation definition is; A country's failure to act against abuses by private individuals, such as domestic violence. A human right violation can also be the disallowance of the freedom of thought, speech, and movement to which all humans legally have a right. And for 42 years, while Libya had been under the strict rule of Mu'ammarr al-Gaddafi, people had been hiding in fear of vicious militias and other armed forces. The militias violated human rights without impunity by abducting and torturing citizens and committing numerous war crimes.

In Libya, the most significant human rights issues included: arbitrary and unlawful killings by various armed groups, some of these pushed forward by Government of National Accord (GNA) and the Libyan National Army (LNA); arbitrary arrest and detention; killing of civilians and the worst forms of child labor, such as the recruitment or use of children in conflict. In early June, the LNA had retreated out of Tripoli, a major city in Libya packed with residential areas. The UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) had determined that mercenaries planted landmines, booby traps, and explosive devices around Tripoli. The UNSMIL stated these devices were responsible for 43 civilian casualties, and over 40 injuries. Armed groups in Tripoli linked to the GNA used machine guns to disperse a peaceful anti-corruption protest between August 23 and August 29. Between January and November, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) documented the deaths of 175 civilians, and the injury of 326 others due to Armed groups in Tripoli linked to the GNA. Libya's new government is working hard to correct these issues. They recently created a Government of National Unity (GNU) to break the cycle of impunity and re-establish rule of law. However, the GNU has been struggling to take command after years of militias and armed groups.

Libya wants to evaluate members of militias or armed groups that were suspected of violating human rights. This will be a long and rigorous process of vetting each and every member to ensure they are removed from positions of power. The process will end in an investigation for pending criminal prosecutions. The GNU has also scheduled a presidential and parliamentary election for Dec. 24, 2021. This outcome will give equal rights to Libyans. Now they can participate freely in political and public life, and are able to have the rights to freedom of expression, and peaceful assembly. We want to create a new life, protected from violence, and free from intimidation for the groups that have suffered and endured discrimination. Libya would also like to Cooperate with UN mechanisms such as the Fact-Finding Mission to investigate human rights violations to further help the citizens that have been affected by repressive rule.

Topic B: Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Migrant workers are those who move from one region to another for the purpose of finding work. As of 2019, there were 169 million migrant workers globally. Migrant workers are more vulnerable to human rights abuses than average citizens due to their situation. This includes, but is not limited to: lack of resources, violence, and discrimination. Libya is looking, with the cooperation of other members of the human rights council, to better protect the rights of migrant workers within our country.

In October of 2020, there was a count of 574,146 migrants within Libya, this number is equivalent to 8% of Libya's total population. Libya is a major port for migrants, especially those from other African countries who are looking to migrate to Italy and other neighboring European countries. Migrant workers coming into Libya face many of the problems that come with poverty, as well as violence, discrimination, and severe human rights abuses at the hands of officials, militias, and other civilians. 69% of migrants polled in a recent DMT study did not have access to health care, and 25% did not have access to consistent drinking water. There is currently an extreme lack of safe and sufficient points of entry into and out of Libya. This has led to migration facilitators, those who con migrants, tricking them into paying them for an unsafe voyage. Many migrants turn to migration facilitators as a last resort, either into or out of Libya. In recent years, Italy and other EU countries have created policies to limit the amount of Libyan migrants looking to immigrate to their countries. This includes immense support of the Libyan Coast Guard. This has caused more interceptions by the LCG, where after the migrants are disembarked to Libya's detention centers, often indefinitely subjected to the inhumane conditions there. A report from Amnesty International states: "Amnesty International found that officials, members of militias, armed groups, and traffickers systematically subjected refugees and migrants to inhumane conditions of detention, torture and other illtreatment, forced labour and other acts of violence...Former detainees told Amnesty International that DCIM guards would regularly beat them for complaining about their conditions, "talking back" or sometimes for no apparent reason at all." Xenophobia, exploitation by employers, and fear of arbitrary detention and arrest are also major issues working against Libyan migrants.

Libya wishes to accomplish better conditions for migrant workers within our country as well as those outside our borders. This includes improved housing conditions, an end to migration facilitators, safer and more organized points of entry, and an end to the corruption within the Libyan migration system. By the mending of the aforementioned issues, Libya has the goal of restoring the rights of migrant workers and moving them towards a successful future in Libya.

Country: *Mexico*
School: *Fuchs Mizrachi School*
Committee: **Human Rights Council**

I. Accountability for Human Rights During a Time of Crisis

Sadly, Mexico has experience with significant crises and human rights issues related to sex, ethnicity, nationality, political status, and economic status. An estimated 26,000 people go missing every year and there are inadequate efforts to locate them. In Mexico 98% of all crimes are either dismissed or left unsolved; citizens have so little faith and trust in the government that many crime victims do not even report. Underground drug rings are rampant. Thousands of women and children are sold into human trafficking. Journalists are routinely harassed and threatened. Despite laws and programs protecting the rights of people with disabilities, there are serious gaps such as access to justice. The result has been an outbreak of human rights violations including wrongful imprisonments.

There have been multiple attempts by the Mexican government to try to address human rights issue. President Felipe Calderon deployed Mexican military forces in an effort to combat extensive drug trafficking and related organized crime. All police officers must take ethics training. The government has provided compensation for people who have suffered human rights violations. Efforts are being made to protect journalists. Laws have been created for same sex marriage, and right to live independently and be included in the community for people with disabilities.

With every issue there are always solutions. Some possible solutions to are to encourage all member nations to make human rights one of the main issues the government focuses on. Another way to make sure that all people are treated fairly is to have amazing lawyers working for the government to make sure that cases do not get left unsolved, and assist all crime victims so that their matters go to a hearing. Finally, it would help address human rights issues if we can reverse deeply instilled misperceptions of government. These are all great starting possibilities, but nothing will change if no one puts in the time and effort.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Mexico has faced issues with the Human Rights Council several times involving IDP's (internal displaced persons) and immigrants. The country's issues escalated during the pandemic resulting in fifteen percent more migrant workers entering into countries like the United States.

Migrant workers often leave Mexico for jobs causing other countries to worry about the spread of the pandemic or paying regular wages. Since many migrants leave Mexico illegally, returnees may face the risks of kidnapping, disappearance, sexual assault, trafficking, and other grave harms.

Former President Trump closed off the United States border and deported potential migrants from Mexico. More recently, deportation has been used to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and to discourage the employment of foreign workers. However, regardless of the reason for deportation, returnees face significant personal issues and Mexican authorities are challenged to address family separations. Further, Mexican migrant workers who alternate between living with their families in Mexico and working in the United States have difficulties getting citizenship in the United States and often have to shuttle back and forth.

In 1990 the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families was adopted. Co-signers to this resolution recognize the status of migrant workers and offer protection to their families.

To prevent the spread of coronavirus Mexico has limited non-essential travel from Mexico to the United States. As a result, many Mexican citizens work remotely without a visa. Even immigrants who successfully cross into the United States area are often left without health care; may face detention or deportation; and may be treated poorly even upon return to their native country.

An international migrant is someone who leaves their country of usual residence often seeking employment. The general international consensus is that migrant workers should be protected. Countries need more to make sure that migrants are paid their regular wages, that migrants are not unduly separated from their families, and that migrants are not inappropriately blamed for the spread of Covid-19.

Mexico's experience with migrant workers over many decades provides strong insight into the issues facing this Human Rights committee. One solution for these problems maybe the expansion of trade. Another solution may be the provision of temporary work visas. By working cooperatively, trading partners can save families from poverty by giving them jobs and help boost their own economies.

Consideration should also be given to programs that waive visa requirements and allow international employees to work remotely. Such programs would prevent the spread of the diseases and give citizens legal employment.

Overall, protecting the rights of migrant workers is important whether the worker is there legally or illegally. Fairness should apply to countries and immigrants who respect borders and international law. In this way we can assure peace and protection for workers.

Delegation from: Netherlands

Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

The issues presented to the Human Rights Council include Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. The Netherlands is ready to hold other countries accountable and ensure these violations do not happen, alongside the United Nations.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Human Rights Violations have occurred all universally during crises. In the middle of an emergency, governments can get a hold of more power than they normally would. This can be beneficial for the crises but it can also deplete the rights of people. For example, a government can limit a person's freedom of movement to prevent the spread of an infectious disease. Although this is a way to keep people safe, when the government restricts all movement or forces someone to quarantine themselves, this is when violations take place. It is important for these governments not to abuse the power they hold and that any violators of Human Rights accountable for their actions.

The Netherlands have been very responsible when it comes to ensuring that there are no human rights violations during crises. The Netherlands will not tolerate racism and discrimination of any form and will continue to do so. The Netherlands have signed many agreements that promote human rights such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The Netherlands have the fundamental human rights laid out in their constitution and even have an Equal Treatment Act. The Netherlands also have their own National Action Plan on Human Rights as well as a Human Rights Ambassador for the country since 1999.

The Netherlands have taken many preventative measures to make sure violations of human rights are uncommon. The Netherlands would like to put rules in place that prevent human rights violations in other countries as well as make them liable when violations take place. The Netherlands could cut foreign aid and increase trade restrictions as a way to hold other countries accountable for their neglectance towards human rights. The Netherlands would also like other countries to acknowledge their wrongs in the past and use it as a way to learn from their previous violations.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Universally, there are over one hundred sixty million migrant workers, or an individual who migrates within their home country or to a foreign nation in pursuit of work, the Netherlands being home to almost five hundred thousand. As these workers travel in search of work, they are vulnerable to threats such as trafficking, exploitation, and work conditions comparable to slavery. After the Second World War ended, the Netherlands faced three waves of immigration into its borders. An influx of families and individuals from Indonesia, Surinam, the Netherlands Antilles, and many other developing nations flooded into the nation.

As more workers migrated to the country, they were employed in laborious, unskilled jobs, such as coal miners, textile workers, and shipbuilders. By the early 1970s, many individuals joined their families in the Netherlands, leading to increased numbers of migrant workers, building tension within the Dutch population. Beginning in 1972, violence broke out in Afrikaanderwijk, Rotterdam, when Dutch citizens attempted to throw their migrant neighbors out of boarding houses. Since then, the Netherlands has worked to integrate migrant workers into Dutch society more equally. The country of the Netherlands has taken many steps to promote equal treatment for migrant workers and their families following the conflict of the late twentieth century. First, the Dutch government has implemented antidiscrimination bureaus for all citizens, but especially migrant workers, which are assigned to every region and serve to answer questions, act as mediators for discrimination disputes, allow citizens to file anonymous reports to the bureau in their neighborhood, and help migrant workers file complaints to law enforcement and the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights. Next, the government has established the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights which supervises human rights for all people in the Netherlands, Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba, and fields questions and complaints. Third, the Legal Aid and Advice Centre gives free legal assistance to workers on issues such as work or income. The Social Affairs and Employment Inspectorate observers in companies are in accordance with employment regulation and investigates misconduct claims. Finally, the New in the Netherlands brochure provides migrants information on life in the Netherlands, and is available in several languages.

During debate, the Dutch delegation strives to implement similar measures in hopes to provide all migrant workers with equal rights and opportunities. Furthermore the delegation from the Netherlands hopes not only to prevent further violations of the rights of migrant workers, but also to educate other nations on the realities faced by migrants universally. In regards to rules and regulations, the delegation supports measures that protect migrants and their families, as well as programs aimed at promoting safety, equality, and workplace equality.

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

The issues before the Human Rights Committee are: *Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises* and *Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers*. The delegation of Pakistan is committed to a productive debate that comes to a resolution reasonable to all countries involved.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crisis

The Country of Pakistan is very concerned with the accountability for human rights violations during crisis. Responsibility for crimes and violations, under the criminal law and individually is key to trust in justice and security institutes and peace. Pakistan is in need of accountability and trust in the government for the population of 226,578,084 people.

The Country of Pakistan has recently gone through a lot regarding responsibility in crisis situations. They have had lack of investigation of and accountability for violence against women. Government interference with the rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association. Within the last year the Pakistan government has harassed and persecuted human rights defenders, lawyers, and journalists for criticizing government officials and policies.

The Country of Pakistan has been promised for over seven decades for accountability by the government. The government of Pakistan needs to hold accountable those who are a corruption to the country. They need to help those who are in need and cannot afford everyday necessities. The government can recover the money from corrupt elites and use the money for general welfare for the people, and reduce poverty. Trading can be done with allied countries. Applying accountability to the Country of Pakistan can ensure a corruption free society in the future and a healthier environment.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

The Country of Pakistan believes protecting the rights of migrant workers should be prioritized. Being one of the largest labor exporting countries in the nation, the protection and wellbeing of those citizens is important. The country lacks regulation of these policies and needs to be mandated for their millions of immigrants.

Many of the migrant workers now in Pakistan entered the country after the Soviet invasion in 1979. Another wave came, joining them after the US invasion in 2001. The country strongly believes that the living conditions of these immigrants should be bettered. However only about 1.4 million of these people are registered with substantial amounts unregistered. Because of this, sustaining their needs becomes difficult when they cannot be accounted for.

The Pakistani government has prosecuted its human rights defenders for their rebellion against executive policies. Though overpopulation has been a concern in the past, individuals living statuses shouldn't suffer from conditions out of their control. Better control of registration should be put into place to account for those unknown. Laws need to be withheld and reinforced on both sides of the spectrum. The government believes we are unprepared for an influx of migrant workers though there have been increasing amounts since the 1980s. These citizens undergo security threats, lacking livelihoods, decreasing access to food, shelter, medical care, along with other substantial concerns. It is vital to the Country of Pakistan that protection for those crossing and across and who have crossed the border to be supported and not ridiculed to make better living situations accessible to them.

Delegation from: Poland

Represented by: St Joseph Academy

Position Paper for the Human Rights Council

The issues being presented before the Human Rights Council are as follows: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. Poland is extremely dedicated to ensuring that these human rights issues be fixed and is prepared to create solutions with fellow members of the United Nations.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Human rights violations during crises is an issue that has come to the attention of Poland, especially during the current crisis that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought upon the globe. COVID-19 has had detrimental effects on many things within Poland, but a big issue at hand is access to asylum. Due to the pandemic, there has been restricted access to asylum as the country has turned asylum seekers away from entering the country. While there have been reports of mistreatment at the border and instances where the Office for Foreigners suspended direct customer services to those in need, this does not reflect our country in entirety. While Poland recognizes these struggles and sympathizes with those affected, it is in the best interest of the country to not become involved. Poland wishes to form a resolution with minimal government involvement with members of the UN, as well as shift responsibility onto the countries at the root of this issue.

Position Paper for Human Rights Committee

The issues before the Human Rights Committee are: *accountability for human rights violations during crises* and *protecting the rights of migrant workers*. Senegal has had a long history of migration and hopes to better protect the rights of its migrant workers in the future.

Topic A: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Since many of the most severe and widespread human rights violations occur during times of crisis and conflict, citizens need international safety and protection. During crises governments on both a national and local level often create measures during crises that can be considered immense human rights violations such as storing citizens' private information, digitally tracking, or creating criminal offenses regarding citizens' speech as well as other implementations.

There are countless human rights violations during crises in Senegal. According to Article 19, "On 23 March 2020, the Government proclaimed a state of emergency on all of Senegal's territory by the Decree No. 2020-830. The Decree did not specify how long the state of emergency would last but referred to provisions in the Constitution and existing laws. Article 69 of the Senegal Constitution provides that a state of emergency may be decreed by the President for a period of 12 days." On April 2, Senegal passed a new law allowing the president of Senegal to declare a state of emergency for up to three months. Senegal also has had many specific human rights incidents. For example, "On March 24, during the first night of a nationwide curfew related to COVID-19, videos showed police swinging nightsticks at fleeing persons." In addition, "On May 14, rapper and activist Abdou Karim Gueye received a three-month sentence for insulting the head of state, provoking an armed gathering, and insulting an officer. The activist had published a video denouncing the closure of mosques due to the COVID-19 pandemic and calling on all Muslims to break the state of emergency restrictions to pray in closed mosques. On July 8, after repeated requests for release, authorities provisionally released him."

Senegal and other similar countries need to work together to create policies that keep their citizens safe but also are still mindful of their rights while being noninvasive. Governments also need to take accountability for their policies as well as lack of policies. Protocols need to be as noninvasive as possible considering that there is no certainty of when the pandemic will be over. Encouraging universal support for institutions that can help make accountability possible such as the ICC (International Criminal Court) is also important as well as having countries work together to create consistency between considering human rights and protecting people. Governments need to improve clarity and consistency in emergencies to prevent officials from violating human rights.

Topic B: Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Due to their extreme vulnerabilities during travel and at work, migrant workers need international protection. It can be dangerous for workers to travel between countries that don't recognize them or risky places where crime and trafficking occur. Women and children are especially vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, and violence. In these countries they work in, they are prone to discrimination, poverty, and/ cultural differences.

Senegal ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in 1999. Senegal has also set up a National Taskforce against trafficking, mostly of women and children, and partnered with Mali to return trafficked persons to their country of origin. With these measures in place, there are still lots of human rights violations in Senegal. According to the 2020 Country Report on Human Rights Practices by the US State Department, Senegal has the following human rights issues, "unlawful or arbitrary killings including extrajudicial killings by or on behalf of the government; torture and cases of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by or on behalf of the government; harsh and potentially life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary arrest or detention; serious problems with the independence of the judiciary; serious restrictions on free expression, the press, and the internet, including criminal libel and slander laws; serious acts of corruption in the judiciary, police, and the executive branch; lack of investigation of and accountability for violence against women; trafficking in persons; crimes involving violence or threats of violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex persons; existence or use of laws criminalizing consensual same-sex sexual conduct between adults; and existence of the worst forms of child labor." This is partially due to the fleeing of refugees beginning in 2007 after seeing Senegalese troops and outbreaks of violence. Since measures are already in place legally for protecting the rights of migrant workers, the government just needs to enforce these treaties more.

In countries similar to Senegal where the foundations for protecting the rights of migrant workers are in place need to enforce their laws and signed treaties more closely. Senegal also has a history of corruption and non-independent judiciaries which makes the enforcement of laws difficult. Along with this, Senegal can pledge more money and time into collecting data about migrants to ensure they are doing all they can to protect the rights of all migrant workers. Senegal is one of the very devoted countries in Africa to protecting human rights and their progress shouldn't stop and be seen as a guide for other African countries.

Delegation from: Somalia
Represented by: Beaumont School
Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Position Paper for the United Nations Human Rights Council

The United Nations Human Rights Council will be addressing the following topics: Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crisis and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers. Somalia hopes to work with other countries productively to address these issues.

1. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crisis

A total of 117 United Nations members have served as Human Rights Council Members; this number demonstrates the diversity in opinion regarding human rights violations throughout history. The Human Rights Council recognizes the pertinence of humanitarian crises: any event, natural or man-made, that impedes on the freedom of any person. The United Nations' Human Rights Council aims to empower oppressed constituents to reclaim their rights while simultaneously demanding accountability for the advisories repressing these liberties; in their ongoing effort to reduce discrimination, protect victims from constant violations, initiate human rights commitments, distribute aid, and reform elaborate politicization, the Human Rights Council has successfully strengthened many countries in dire need.

Somalia is particularly familiar with the ongoing struggle of maintaining human rights during a time of elapsed crisis. With the surplus of clan militias, Al-Shabaab terrorists, and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) groups, impunity as well as unjust punishment have been enforced disproportionately throughout the nation. Somalia has an extensive history of restricting free speech, free media, and free expression, as in the past, Somalia has abused and harassed those who express their political biases. Even clan leaders from Somaliland and the federal member states were persecuted when exposing the central government of manipulating the only one-to-one vote in their history in 1969. Additionally, the engagement of the Somali National Army in every-day civil affairs greatly mars the importance of basic human freedoms. The Somali National Army works to protect civilians from the insurgent Al-Shabaab; however, their conservative manner of dealing with the Islamic group greatly affects citizens. In clouded doubt, it has been reported that the National Army has unlawfully killed civilians and children due to suspicion of being in participation with the unidentified assailants. Without even the opportunity to appear in court or appeal (many of these victims were actually innocent), many oblivious Somalians have been swept away, captured, tortured, and killed. These politically motivated arrests, detentions, and disappearances often ended in the victim being submitted to harsh prison conditions, interference with personal privacy, and violence. To ensure conformity, the Somali government has attempted to censor Al-Shabaab supporter magazines, site block, and enforce criminal libel laws. However, these intruding laws have caused more violent rage from clan militias and Al-Shabaab, causing them to rebel in the following forms: by restricting political participation (as seen in the 1969 elections), by recruiting adolescent soldiers, creating laws criminalizing same-sex conduct, and enacting forced labor among children and women. Somalia (rid of the UN's help) is notorious for executing innocent "suspected affiliates" on television, abusing children, forcing locals to attend public executions, keeping innocent people locked in jail- rotting- with no definite court date, pirating, bombing by terrorists, raping prisoners, and participating in honor killings and sub-clan fighting among resources. Therefore, Somalia notions that the UN and any other stable nation with the availability, should aid Somalia in cutting down on the preceding human rights violations.

The OHCHR, which began operating in Somalia in 2008, focused on monitoring human rights and subduing the many rebellion, pirate, and terrorist groups in the nation. The OHCHR was established by the Security Council Resolution 2102 and started operating in 2013. It mainly worked to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This committee published many reports while working in Somalia, one of the most influential being the 2016 mandate that ensured the right to freedom of expression. Another report in 2018 concluded that Somalia could achieve the protection of all human rights by implementing impartial governmental investigations which would eliminate human rights violations and freedom abuse. However, due to the increased violence and chaos associated with Somalia's current, many-sided civil war, the OHCHR has been unable to conduct any investigations or publish any further documents

instructing Somalia on how to improve their situation. Therefore, Somalia has been left stranded: no hope or aid in sight.

Somalia desired the following policy outcomes from cooperation with the UN: the reduction in intergovernmental conspiracies (through internal investigations conducted by the Human Rights Council), the condemnation of terrorist and anti-government groups, the reparation of the court system, the reduction of terrorist attacks, the improvement of healthcare, the maintenance of resources, the gaining of international aid and support, the protection of free speech and media without censorship, the reduction of piracy through: the usage of private security aboard ships, the inflation of costs and reduction of resources in order to cut-off pirate funding at the source, and the allowance of cheap, private industry to provide pirates with the opportunity to innovate and not resort to piracy, and the encouragement of workers, children's, and women's rights. Therefore, Somalia agrees that, in involvement and partnership with the UN and any other willing and able countries, total protection of human rights can be achieved.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

All countries, whether developing or not, have had an influx of migrant workers. Protecting the rights of these migrant workers varies from country to country. The International Labor Organization (ILO) has been instrumental in protecting migrant workers' rights across the world. The Constitution of the International Labor Organization was founded in 1919 which works towards the "protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own." Since the ILO's foundation there have been two conventions. The Migration for Employment Convention that took place in 1949 and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention in 1975. Both of these conventions assisted in the progression of migrant workers gaining rights. Migrant workers are essential globally and assist in making countries' industries efficient, studies show "recent estimates suggest that the number of international migrants has reached 200 million." Somalia, currently being in a crisis, does not have an increase in migrant workers. Therefore, Somalia is focusing on improving current conditions within the government and protecting the rights of the people. As the delegation of Somalia we do not have a current desired outcome for the rights of migrant workers, but encourage other countries to protect these rights of their migrant workers.

Somalia is not actively involved in migrant workers' causes. In the past Somalia has been a large import of migrants especially around 1973 because of Somalia's major oil production. At that time around 150,000 to 200,000 migrants traveled to Somalia for work. The migrants who traveled to Somalia were usually known as "Gulf migrants" and were seen as well-educated individuals seeking work. During the Ogaden war many Ethiopian people traveled to Somalia for safety and work opportunities. At that time one out of six people in Somalia were registered refugees. In 1988 Somalia's civil war had begun reversing the effects of the Ogaden migration. This conflict has negatively affected the number of migrants entering Somalia continually. Somalia's civil war contributes to the high poverty rate, poor healthcare, high unemployment rates, and internal conflicts driving down the amount of migrant workers Somalia has. The overall effect of the Somali civil war in relation to migration is a decline of -233,405 people leaving the country in comparison to individuals entering. However, recently Somalia has ratified Convention 190 and six other conventions of the International Labor Organization to show support of worker rights. These ratifications were essential in the assisting of the rights of all workers, especially migrants in Somalia. The Federation of Somali Trade Union (FETUS) was instrumental in advocating for the rights of the Somali workers. Their belief being that, "ratification will benefit workers during the current Covid-19 pandemic and will assist in 'resilient social and economic recovery'". Somalia's past has not reflected any indication of opposing migrant workers' rights and currently work to improve the rights of migrant workers through policy.

Somalia has had positive migrant instances; this is proven by them being a registered refugee nation. Since Somalia was considered a safe haven in the past for immigrants, the protection of migrant workers' rights is encouraged. Migrant rights is not a top concern for Somalia because of the lack of immigration, high unemployment rates, and the Somali civil war. Somalia has no current desired outcomes for the protection of migrant workers due to conditions including the civil war, internal government conspiracies, droughts, terrorist groups, and lack of resources. However, Somalia does support other nations in the protection of migrant workers.

Delegation from: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

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Position Paper for the United Nations Human Rights Council

The topic before the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is *Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises* and *Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers*. The delegation from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is obligated to protect their stance on the topic of human rights accountability while maintaining their influence in the United Nations in regard to migrant workers and crisis response.

I. Accountability for Human Rights Violations During Crises

Worldwide, many human rights have been violated due to extreme pressure on government agencies and a lack of accountability for these actions. The recent pandemic is an example of a crisis that was handled improperly from a human rights standpoint. Since the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19), there has been a record-breaking amount of human rights violations in countries all over the world, but specifically the less wealthy ones. These developing countries have been facing an increasingly difficult situation with little to no support from the United Nations and its funding partners. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stands firm in its argument that Human Rights violations have been accounted for; the committee should place its focus on prevention of Human Rights Violations during crises with the intention to alleviate pressure from government pressure.

On March 13th, 2020, the first case of Coronavirus in Venezuela was reported. In other countries, panic ensued as Covid-19 took the world by storm. Immediately, the government declared a state of emergency and issued a nationwide quarantine to protect the people of Venezuela. Despite multiple requests for financial assistance, the International Monetary Fund refused to give aid to the Venezuelan government. However, Venezuela still handled this pandemic with regulations and government assistance with a death toll of only 4,884 deaths, 740,116 less than the highest death toll in the United States. The Venezuelan government put forth its best efforts to protect the people of Venezuela and maintain living conditions for all by issuing several lifesaving measures. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will work to continue these efforts to best combat humanitarian crises.

The Delegation from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela believes that the United Nations should establish funding for countries suffering from crises and to establish accountability for countries violating human rights. In the future, countries experiencing crises should receive funding from the International Monetary Fund. Funding received will reduce Humanitarian crises and violations of Human Rights. In regards to Human Rights violations, all violations must be recognized and resolved to establish accountability.

II. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

Throughout history, migrant workers have been a severely persecuted group, especially in Central America. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has imputed a Humanitarian Response Plan which calls for \$762.5 million to assist 4.5 million of the most vulnerable Venezuelans. Because the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is a part of the UN Human Rights Council, they vote regularly to prevent backlash of human rights violations. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela believes that the rights of migrant workers have been addressed, but the United Nations should continue to support them and recognize their vulnerability

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is working with the United Nations and its partners to provide assistance to migrant workers and their families. These workers may be under pressure due to the conflict and displacement that some Central American countries such as Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras, are instigating. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has taken into account that migration is often the cause of serious problems for the members of migrant workers and their families. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is willing and able to continue providing assistance to their own migrant workers, and they will work to alleviate the crises in their surrounding countries.

The Delegation from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela believes that the UN should work with employers to uphold laws to hold them accountable to fair labor standards. In the past, countries also striving to protect the human rights of migrant workers have had success in pressuring employers to respect the human rights of migrant workers. The Delegation from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela also needs to account for legal measures which would hold the employers accountable if they abuse the human rights of the migrant workers. The Republic of Venezuela hopes to approach the Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers with the respect to the migrant workers' human rights and with regard to each individual nation's policies.

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