

**FORUM:** Legal Committee (GA6)

**QUESTION OF:** Examining principles of public international law in the context of self-determination and national sovereignty

**SUBMITTED BY:** Republic of Congo

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, China, Cyprus, Egypt, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Peru, Russian Federation, Qatar, Jordan,

*Acknowledging* the importance of self-determination as a fundamental principle of international law, which empowers peoples to freely determine their political status and pursue economic, social, and cultural development, as recognized in the United Nations (UN) Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

*Bearing in mind* that in recent years conflicts arise around the world due to unresolved regional tensions, illicit economic gain, scarcity of resources exacerbated by climate change, racial, religious and political divides,

*Noting* the significance of respecting the right of people to self-determination, that is to freely choose their own personal political beliefs and to freely develop in regards of their economical and social status,

*Acknowledging* the role of the United Nations as well as the principles in Article 1(2) of the UN Charter regarding the right to self-determination,

*Affirming* the significance of respecting each state's right to national sovereignty as a fundamental principle of international law,

*Concerned* about ongoing disputes where the balance between self-determination and national sovereignty remains a source of tension, leading to conflicts, human rights violations, and threats to regional peace,

1. Calls for international attention to the forces in regions that declare their will to become an independent state, through the following measures:

- a) the establishment of local referendums that will be conducted in conditions free from military or diplomatic interferences in which states will discuss:
  - i. the reason for the declaration, including how the current government treats the aforementioned forces and the circumstances that led to this decision,

- ii. the legitimacy of these statements will be justified through the investigations and reports done about the living standards and any hostile actions taken towards the separatist forces by the impartial international observers chosen by the United Nations (UN),
          - iii. any credible data or evidence found by these investigations will be sent directly to the UN bodies to be evaluated and determined whether it should be kept away from the media in order to prevent any misrepresentations or as opposed, should be released to increase awareness and recognition to the general public and will be funded by the World Bank,
          - iv. the UN should monitor all the processes to ensure transparency and neutrality of the referendum,
  - b) the establishment of legal frameworks made to protect these forces which will:
    - i. emphasize any form of violation of human rights or hostile action coming from the government to oppress these civilians from expressing their voices in honesty,
    - ii. be written under the monitorization of the UN to avoid any manipulative articles to provide an advantage to any side,
    - iii. present the expectations of these separative forces through their words, and if they'd prefer to get under the autonomy of another state while still maintaining their right to self-govern;
2. Proposes focusing on providing help to nations facing internal conflicts between national governments and movements regarding self-determination by means such as but not limited to:
- a) applying monitoring mechanisms regarding human rights and national law with supervision from the UN with the purpose of:
    - i. ensuring that there are no violations of international human rights such as violence and physical abuse,
    - ii. reporting such situations to the Security Council with the purpose of tackling down any possible conflict,

b) dialogue forums and meetings hosted by specialized UN organizations such as United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in order to:

- i. address the main cause of the problem,
- ii. allow citizens to communicate and share experiences about these conflicts,
- iii. focus on the impact of the conflict on citizens' mental health by also providing emotional support,

c) enhancing the educational curriculum on these states through means such as but not limited to:

- i. lectures on the topics of self-determination and national sovereignty to educate the youth and encourage them to take action,
- ii. making sure that educational materials are easily accessible to everyone,
- iii. utilizing funds from organizations such as the World Bank to provide better educational environments by focusing on edu. educational institutions;

3. Suggests the importance of the preservation of cultural heritage which is linked to the sovereignty of ethnic minorities by actively preserving their traditions through means such as but not limited to:

a) implementing cultural education and national history in the education curriculum under the monitoring of the UN, to prevent motivating separatist actions done on purpose to create chaos and pose a threat to global stability, through ways, appealing to the youth including:

- i. lectures on traditional heritage and cultural practices seeing that they are appealing to students while being educational as well,
- ii. going on educational trips in order to learn more about their culture's history,
- iii. celebrating national holidays and entertaining traditions,

- iv. teaching students about other traditions as well in order to reduce discrimination and prevent nationalism,
  - v. adding or enhancing already existing religious classes in school to educate students both on their own and others' cultural beliefs,
- b) holding free campaigns and educational programs to raise awareness in the public about the majority of these heritages and the role they play for human history which will be :
- i. accessible to everyone,
  - ii. to raise awareness to the public,
  - iii. funded by the World Bank and the UN,
  - iv. with the help of NGOs,
- c) establishing policies and specialized units dedicated to the protection of heritage and develop training courses for them,
- d) building or enhancing already existing cultural infrastructures such as museums and libraries;

4. Calls for enhanced protection of human rights in contexts of self-determination and sovereignty disputes by:

- a) ensuring that all populations have access to humanitarian aid and protection during conflicts through organizations such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,
- b) monitoring and addressing any violations of human rights during processes of self-determination or territorial changes by ensuring periodic and transparent reporting by member states as well as implementing Legal frameworks for accountability,

5. Supports the role of international jurisdiction for such matters in the means of:

- a) advising international cases when needed for the protection human rights within cases of national sovereignty

- b) inspecting further both national and international cases for violations of national sovereignty and self-autonomy by:
    - i. sending representatives in court,
    - ii. examining card files,
    - iii. sending case possible general assembly for evaluation;
6. Encourages strengthening punishments for companies that go against UN legislation and discriminate minorities through means such as but not limited to:
- a) the creation of the United Nation Organisation on Corporate Ethics (UNOCE) which may govern on:
    - i. private companies which states which states fail to regulate their unethical behaviour, many times referring to minorities that may have been hurt by the actions of a corporate body,
    - ii. public companies that discriminate against national minorities both in job offering but also in services,
    - iii. trade Unions that do not organize workers of certain ethnic backgrounds,
  - c) nationalization when companies surpass serious boundaries and violate minority rights.