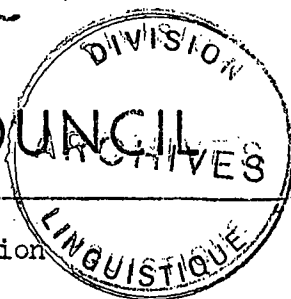




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REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (SEVENTH SESSION)

Observations of Governments on the Draft International

Covenant on Human Rights

4. YUGOSLAVIA

(Letter dated 24 July 1951 from the Permanent
Representative of the Federal People's
Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations)

1. The views of my Government on certain articles and related clauses, which in our opinion should be included in the Covenant, have already been stated by the Yugoslav delegate to the Commission on Human Rights.

The Yugoslav Government would like in this connection to refer to the proposals and critical observations of the Yugoslav delegate which were summarily mentioned in the report of the Seventh Session of the Commission on Human Rights. The substance of these proposals and remarks was to draft the Covenant in such a form so that it would become a document that would consistently express society's contemporary views on the human person and human rights.

2. At the Seventh Session of the Commission on Human Rights those articles dealing with economic, social and cultural rights have been drafted for the first time. This draft shows some imperfections and according to the opinion

of my Government certain improvements and additions would be necessary in order that these articles conform to the spirit of the General Assembly's resolution which states that: "... the enjoyment of civic and political freedom and of economic, social and cultural rights are interconnected and interdependant" and that if "deprived of economic, social and cultural rights, man does not represent the human person whom the Universal Declaration regards as the ideal of the free man....".

Moreover, the opinion of the Yugoslav Government is, that it would be erroneous to deal with these rights in a separate section of the Covenant. This would be contrary to the resolution of the General Assembly which calls upon the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights: "...to include in the draft Covenant a clear expression of economic, social and cultural rights in a manner which relates them to the civic and political freedoms proclaimed by the draft Covenant".

3. The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia considers it particularly important that attention should be paid to Section A2 of resolution 421(V) which reads: "The General Assembly calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give priority in its work to the completion of the draft Covenant and measures for its implementation in order that the General Assembly may have before it at its Sixth Session the revised draft of this Covenant".

It follows, therefore, that the complete elaboration of the draft Covenant and its submission to the General Assembly at its Sixth Session are strictly the obligation of both the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council. It is obvious that the successful completion and adoption of the Covenant at the Sixth Session of the General Assembly depend entirely on the fulfilment of that obligation and in the present international situation this would certainly represent an important accomplishment of the United Nations Organization.

For these reasons my Government suggests that the Economic and Social Council call a new session of the Commission on Human Rights to be held before the Sixth Session of the General Assembly, with the purpose of definitively elaborating the draft Covenant and its related clauses.