



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

Thirty-third session

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,  
political, economic, social and cultural rights,  
including the right to development**

### **Written statement\* submitted by the CIRID (Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[29 August 2016]

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\* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.16-15695(E)



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## **Clustered ID with SR on unilateral coercive measures**

The CIRID [Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue] welcomes the UN **Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights**, and reaffirms the important role of Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts and various working groups. The CIRID [Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue] urges UN Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights to consider that the mixture of religion and politics is a serious issue in the MENA region in particular.

The rise and fall of intolerant political Islam in all of its factions is a significant threat to international peace and security, that destabilizes the whole notion of democracy, as understood in Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as interpreted by the Human Rights Committee in General Comment 25.

The measures taken by a number of Middle States (such as Bahrain) against some clerics who are directly involved in politics and lead political societies, whether directly or indirectly cannot be seen as inconsistent with freedom of religion, or any religious right thereof, given to the political nature of actions.

Therefore, the Human Rights Council and the international community and civil society should take positive measures to reaffirm the importance of participative democratization, in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the UN Secretary General's Agenda for Democratization and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, in order to protect transitional democratic societies against the threat of religious intolerance.

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