



General Assembly

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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 98

INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark,
Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary,
Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway,
Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland: revised draft resolution

Freedom of expression and peaceful assembly

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

Aware of its responsibility to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and determined to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur,

Recalling articles 19 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/

Mindful of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, 3/

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- 1/ Resolution 217 A (III).
 - 2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
 - 3/ Resolution 34/169, annex.

Noting the pertinent resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, most recently its resolution 1989/31 of 6 March 1989, 4/ on the right to freedom of opinion and expression,

Seriously concerned over recent reports from different regions of the world on the quelling of peaceful assemblies and demonstrations,

1. Expresses its concern at the occurrence of the use of force against and the detention of persons who exercise the rights to freedom of opinion and expression and of peaceful assembly as affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
2. Calls upon all States to respect existing international standards in the field of human rights relating to the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;
3. Appeals to all States to ensure respect for the rights of all persons who exercise the right to freedom of opinion and expression and, where any persons have been detained solely for exercising the right to freedom of opinion and expression, to release them immediately.

4/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.