



# UNHRC

## Research Report

NISMUNC'22

#futureof\_





## Personal Introduction Chair

Greetings delegates, my name is Lim Ke Wen and I'm a recent Biomedical Science degree graduate from Taylor's University, Malaysia. I have been doing MUN since 2016 and I have been a delegate, chair, secretariat and even observer in MUN conferences. It is my passion to teach MUN as a platform for youths to acquire political literacy and critical thinking in an ever-changing world. I will be your head chair, along with the endearing yet very dependable Carmen Tan as my co-chair.

I encourage all delegates of the council to thoroughly read the research report to gain enough understanding about the council topics that will be discussed throughout the conference and do research beyond the research report, as research reports tend to be very summarized in terms of content and may not be able to sufficiently cover everything. Do not worry if this is your first time as joining MUN is a step towards lifelong learning. Everyone should participate in the debate and contribute to the drafting of the resolution, as it is a way for delegates to learn about MUN and have a take-away knowledge post-conference. With that, I hope that a fruitful debate can come out of the council with each delegate of the council having a sufficient understanding of the topics, as well as enjoying the council. I hope to see you at the conference!

If there are any doubts, do contact me at [limkw98@gmail.com](mailto:limkw98@gmail.com)

## Co-chair

What's up my dudes, my name is Carmen and I am your co-chair along with the very lovely Ke Wen, nervous, trying my best, sleep-deprived and a barely discernible blob who makes terrible puns. Here's a special message to first-timers and if you are an experienced delegate, sigh I suppose you can stay.

Welcome to the Malaysian MUN Community! \*Insert Super Smash Bros Melee Menu Theme and maniacal laughing\* Just kidding, a few quick pieces of advice - Don't be afraid of the fancy jargon and don't let the experienced delegates intimidate you. Don't worry, we are in the same boat and I am probably as terrified as you are. You will only regret it if you don't put yourself out there so just fake it till you make it! Feel free to contact me or if you have any questions about MUN or if you just need an electronic or physical hug. Best of luck!

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## Introduction to the Committee

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), or commonly known as “the Human Rights Council”, is a body within the United Nations system that is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights globally and addressing issues of human rights violations and providing recommendations on them. The Human Rights Council is made up of 47 United Nations Member States elected by the United Nations General Assembly. It has the mandate to discuss and review all pressing human rights issues and situations that require the council's attention throughout the year.<sup>1</sup>



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1. “About the Human Rights Council”, United Nations:  
<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/AboutCouncil.aspx>



## Topic 1: Uighur Treatment In China

### An Introduction to the Xinjiang Autonomous Uyghur Region

Nicknamed “The New Frontier”, Xinjiang has long acted as the gateway to the northwestern Chinese doorstep of the ancient silk road. Despite its reputation and potential to reap vast economic benefits, the region has suffered a tumultuous history in the early 20th century. Xijiang and surrounding regions started as the Second East Turkestan Republic in 1944. After the establishment of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, a population of sixty thousand Uyghurs emigrated from China to the USSR (Modern day Kazakhstan) in mid-1955. The Xinjiang Autonomous Region (XUAR) was then established in 1955.<sup>2</sup>

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) established in 2013 by Xi Jinping as the modern day silk road, forming special economic zones and international trade routes. The economic success of the BRI is demonstrated by the dramatic decrease of the population living under the poverty line from 1978 to 2017 from 5.32 million to 1.43 million. As such, the region of Xinjiang holds great value to China in terms of its potential to boost local economic power and Chinese geopolitical influence in the world.<sup>3</sup>

### Timeline of Events

1970	<b>The Han concentration in Xinjiang has increased to 40% of the overall Xinjiang population<sup>4</sup></b>
1997	<b>Ghulja Incident and Protests</b> The Chinese government captured and publicly executed thirty Uyghur muslim men during the islamic holiday of Ramadan as part of the nation’s anti-terrorism campaign. The executions sparked protests across Uyghur populated areas including other nations such as Kazakhstan <sup>5</sup>
August 4th	<b>The Kashgar Attack</b>

2. Kadeer, R. (2009). *The Uyghurs: A History of Persecution*. U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight.

<https://www.uscif.gov/sites/default/files/resources/rebiya%20kadeer%20testimony.pdf>

3. Shafei Moiz Hali. (2020, August 20). *Xinjiang and its Potential for the Belt and Road Initiative*. ResearchGate; unknown.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343976368\\_Xinjiang\\_and\\_its\\_Potential\\_for\\_the\\_Belt\\_and\\_Road\\_Initiative](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343976368_Xinjiang_and_its_Potential_for_the_Belt_and_Road_Initiative)

4. Howell, A., & Fan, C. C. (2011). Migration and Inequality in Xinjiang: A Survey of Han and Uyghur Migrants in Urumqi. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 52(1), 119–139. <https://doi.org/10.2747/1539-7216.52.1.119>

5. Irwin, P. (2017, March 2). *Remembering the Ghulja Incident: 20th Anniversary of “Uyghur Tiananmen” Passes With Little Notice*. Thediplomat.com. <https://thediplomat.com/2017/03/remembering-the-ghulja-incident-20th-anniversary-of-uyghur-tiananmen-passes-with-little-notice/>

2008	Two men suspected of having ties to the Uyghur separatist Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement drove a truck into seventy unarmed police officers then attacked them with grenades and machetes, killing sixteen officers. The Chinese government authorities labeled it a terrorist attack. <sup>6</sup>
June 26th, 2009	<b>The Shaoguan Incident</b> A former factory worker in Shaoguan claimed that two ethnically Han women had been gang raped by six Uyghur males in late June 2009. On the 26th of June, a violent ethnic clash broke out between the Uygurs and the Hans, resulting in the deaths of two Uyghur workers, local authorities never found evidence of the alledged rape. <sup>7</sup>
July 5th, 2009	<b>The Urumqi Riots</b> July 2009 were a series of violent riots that occurred in Urumqi. The riots began as a peaceful protest of approximately a thousand attendees due to increased Han migration into Xinjiang. Within a day, after facing provocation the protests turned into violent attacks on Han people. The authorities estimated that six hundred people had been injured, a majority of the casualties being ethnic Han Chinese. The authorities proceeded to lockplace a down on Urumqi. <sup>8</sup>
July 18th, 2011	<b>The 2011 Hotan attack</b> A group of eighteen Uyghur men who opposed the local government's campaign against the burqa occupied a police station, yelled Jihadist religious slogans and killed two security guards with knives and bombs and capturing eight hostages. <sup>9</sup>
March 1, 2014	<b>The 2014 Kunming attack</b> A group of eight terrorists slashed more than 140 people and killed 31 civilians at the Kunming Railway Station with longknives. Local police claimed that they had found a black East Turkestan flag on one of the apprehended terrorists. Xinhua News claimed that the attack had been linked to Sunni Xinjiang separatists. <sup>10</sup>

6. Deutsche Welle. (2008). *Attack in Kashgar Kills 16 Chinese Policemen* | DW | 04.08.2008. DW.COM. <https://www.dw.com/en/attack-in-kashgar-kills-16-chinese-policemen/a-5213791>

7. Watts, J. (2009, July 10). Old suspicions magnified mistrust into ethnic riots in Urumqi. The Guardian; The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/jul/10/china-riots-uighurs-han-urumqi>

8. Branigan, T. (2009, July 6). *China locks down western province after ethnic riots kill 140*. The Guardian; The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/jul/06/china-uighur-urumqi-riots>

9. News, B. (2011, September 8). *Islamic militant group “behind Xinjiang attacks.”* BBC News; BBC News. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-14834042>

April 30, 2014	<b>2014 April Ürümqi attack</b> After Xi Jinping's visit to Ürümqi two members of the extremist Turkestan Islamic Party set off explosives and attacked passengers at the Ürümqi railway station with knives. The casualties of the attack injured seventy nine and left three people dead. <sup>11</sup>
May 22, 2014	<b>2014 May Ürümqi attack</b> Five suicide bombers drove two SUVs driven into the main market street in Ürümqi. The attackers threw approximately a dozen handmade explosives from the vehicles and ran over civilians with the SUVs. The suicide bombers then detonated explosives rigged to the vehicles, killing four of their own members. The attack was named the deadliest attack in Xinjiang with ninety civilians injured and 42 dead. <sup>12</sup>
May 2014	<b>Launching of the Strike Hard Campaign Against Terrorism Campaign</b>
2014	<b>The first re-education camps opens in the outskirts of Ürümqi</b>
December 28, 2016	<b>Attack on Karakax Council Hall</b> 4 militants drove into the Karakax County Council Hall and set off self-made explosives leaving two dead and three injured. All militants were caught in police crossfire and perished at the scene. So far no mass attacks were reported in Xinjiang from 2017 to the writing of this research report.
April 1st, 2017	<b>Xi Jinping formally declares that the Xinjiang De-Extremification Regulations targeting Uyghurs enter into force</b>
2018	The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination estimated that supposedly a million Uyghurs were being held against their will in re-education camps in Xinjiang alone

10. Pach, J. (2014, March 2). Horrific Knife Attack in China Leaves 33 Dead. Thediplomat.com. <https://thediplomat.com/2014/03/horrific-knife-attack-in-china-leaves-33-dead/>

11. Ians. (2014, May 15). *Turkestan Islamic Party claims Chinese railway station attack*. Biharprabha News | Connecting Bihar with the Entire World. <https://news.biharprabha.com/2014/05/turkestan-islamic-party-claims-chinese-railway-station-attack/>

12. 习近平对乌鲁木齐暴恐案做出批示. (2014). [Sina.com.cn. http://news.sina.com.cn/c/2014-05-22/130830198790.shtml](http://news.sina.com.cn/c/2014-05-22/130830198790.shtml)



September 10th, 2018	Michelle Bachelet, the current UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, requested China to let observers enter Xinjiang and expressed concern about the Uyghur situation there. <sup>13</sup>
July 8th, 2019	22 nations released a statement calling for an end to China's mass detentions and expressing alarm over pervasive monitoring and persecution.
November 1, 2019	A report condemning China's Counter-Terrorism Law and its racially targeted efforts against the Uyghurs in Xinjiang was released in November by ten UN Special Rapporteurs <sup>14</sup>
June 2021	Increased deportations of Uyghurs from Saudi Arabia have been reported, the "black site" in the United Arab Emirates was uncovered. <sup>15</sup>

### Ethnic Tensions - A Comparative With the Hui Muslims

Hailing majoritively from the Ningxia Autonomous Region, the Hui Muslims are an ethnic minority similar to the Uyghurs. Though practicing the same faith, the Hui Muslims have been awarded a larger amount of religious freedom. For example, the Hui are able to name their children Islamic names such as Muhammed and grow out their beards. Both of these labeled as characteristics of potential terrorist behavior in Xinjiang. The disparity of treatment is even clearer when we examine government response to Hui and Uyghur protests. Mass Hui protests broke in the early 1990s after the publication of an offensive booklet, the CCP responded favorably upon the Hui Muslims, immediately banning the publication of the booklet and did not seek further action on any misdemeanors that occurred as result of the protests. This is in contrast with the government response to the July 2009 Urumqi protests in which witnesses claimed that

12. Kamath, P. (2021, June 22). *China sets "no probe" condition for UN Human Rights chief's visit to Xinjiang & Uyghurs*. Republic World; Republic World. <https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/china/china-sets-no-probe-condition-for-un-human-rights-chiefs-visit-to-xinjiang-and-uyghurs.html>

13. *Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the right to education; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.* (2019). [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Terrorism/SR/OL\\_CHN\\_18\\_2019.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Terrorism/SR/OL_CHN_18_2019.pdf)

14. Merchant, N. (2021, August 16). *Detainee says China has secret "black site" in Dubai, holds Uighurs*. The Sydney Morning Herald; The Sydney Morning Herald. <https://www.smh.com.au/world/middle-east/detainee-says-china-has-secret-black-site-in-dubai-holds-uighurs-20210817-p58jau.html>

the police allegedly provoked violence amongst the Uyghurs, resulting in riots that injured more than six hundred.<sup>16</sup>

This begs the question as to why there is such a major difference in treatment between the Hui and Uyghur Muslims. Shorey stipulates that the two main reasons for the difference in treatment boils down to identity and separatist movements. The Ningxia region was incorporated into China much earlier whilst many Uyghur migrants and the XUAR was only incorporated into the People's Republic of China in the late 1950s. Thus there is a common conception within and outside of the Uyghur community that they do not claim their Chinese identity, this is compounded by an increased number of Uyghurs attempting to leave the country for neighboring Islamic nations such as Pakistan.<sup>17</sup> Furthermore, the Uyghurs are associated with separatist and extremist movements such as the militant East Turkestan Islamic Movement and have influence over bodies such as the World Uyghur Congress which has been shunned by the Chinese government for inciting violence and pro-independence sentiments. This results in the Uyghurs being stigmatized by other similar ethnic groups.<sup>18</sup>

### Xinjiang De-Extremification Regulations

In response to the increasing tension in the region and China as a whole, the CCP launched the Strike Hard Campaign Against Violent Terrorism to counter the three evils of terrorism, separatism and religious extremism. The Xinjiang Implementing Measures for the Counter-Terrorism Law of the People's Republic of China<sup>19</sup> targets specifically Uyghur residents in Xinjiang and includes the following methods of surveillance and control:

### Xinjiang Grid-Management System

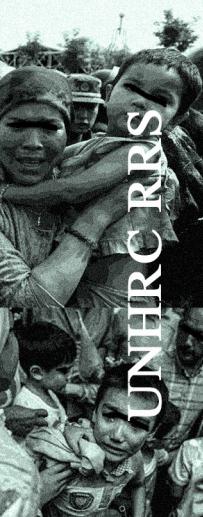
Xinjiang is split into grids containing five hundred people each. A police station is then planted in that grid and is assigned with issuing and scanning documents such as identification cards, collecting fingerprint data and conducting random cellphone searches and photographs at checkpoints and major public transport areas. The police stations are equipped with arms and have access to each grid's CCTV footage and geographical data. Police checkpoints can be found at almost every ninety meters in cities with higher Uyghur populations such as Kashgar and Urumqi. Vehicles in Xinjiang are also tracked using the grid management system. Civilians must install state provided GPS tracking devices in all vehicles. The government justified this by arguing that vehicles and civilian cars can be disguised and used as a way to smuggle weapons

16. Beech, H. (2014, August 12). *If China Is Anti-Islam, Why Are These Chinese Muslims Enjoying a Faith Revival?* Time; Time. <https://time.com/3099950/china-muslim-hui-xinjiang-uighur-islam/>

17. Joniak-Lüthi, A. (2013). *Han Migration to Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region: Between State Schemes and Migrants' Strategies* on JSTOR. Jstor.org. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24364952>

18. Shorey, A. (2013). UW Tacoma Digital Commons The Hui and the Uyghurs: A Comparison of Relationships with the Chinese State. [https://digitalcommons.tacoma.uw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=ppe\\_prize](https://digitalcommons.tacoma.uw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=ppe_prize)

19. Greitens, S. C., Lee, M., & Yazici, E. (2020). Counterterrorism and Preventive Repression: China's Changing Strategy in Xinjiang. *International Security*, 44(3), 9–47. [https://doi.org/10.1162/isec\\_a\\_00368](https://doi.org/10.1162/isec_a_00368)



and terrorists. Police are also tasked with identifying “signs of a jihadist terrorist”, some signs include wearing a headscarf, growing out one’s beard and abstaining from eating pork and alcohol.<sup>20</sup>

### Pair Up and Become Family Program

Part of the Strike Hard Campaign Against Violent Terrorism, the Civil Servant-Family Pair Up Program is a hosting programme where Uyghur families are “paired up” with (usually male) ethnically Han Chinese civil servants for a duration of a week or two out of a month. Many women who participated in the program alleged that male civil servants would force themselves between her husband and herself as they slept on their beds. There also have been allegations that many female members of the Uyghur household were sexually harassed by the civil servant or that cameras were set up in Uyghur homes to monitor them.<sup>21</sup>

### The Camps

While China has not released a concrete number of how many of these re-educational camps exist, much of the sources available to the international community are based on satellite images of buildings that resemble prisons with high watchtowers and four cornered walls. Adrian Zenz a US journalist estimated that 1.8 million Uyghurs were extrajudicially detained and alleged multiple reports of mass killings in the re-educational centers as of July 2020 China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs first denied the existence of these camps but then backtracked and branded them as “Vocational Education and Training Centers”<sup>23</sup>

Uyghurs are admitted to these centers through arbitrary detention if they are under suspicion of terrorist behaviour such as growing an abnormally long beard or if they have previously committed petty crimes such as theft. The Chinese government claims the purpose of these camps are to rehabilitate and reintegrate criminals and extremists back to Chinese society. Experts estimate as many as three million people have gone into these camps in Xinjiang and about one million are currently being held in 2020 alone.

Former detainees of the camp report that they were forced to consume pork and alcohol, both which are prohibited in Islam, made to sing the Chinese anthem and praise the Chinese Communist Party. Many Uyghur women testified that they had been habitually raped by several

20. 新疆维吾尔自治区第十二届人民代表大会常务委员会. (2016, July 26). 新疆维吾尔自治区实施《中华人民共和国反恐怖主义法》办法. People.com.cn. <http://npc.people.com.cn/n1/2016/0801/c14576-28601824.html>

21. 结对认亲、守望相助！两年了，新疆民族团结史册翻开崭新一页！-新疆统战部-天山网. (2019). Xjtbz.gov.cn. <http://www.xjtbz.gov.cn/system/2019/04/10/035638200.shtml>

22. Nagib, R. A. M., & Anam, S. (2021). De-extremization Effort through Political Re-education Camps In China. *Nation State: Journal of International Studies*, 4(1), 51–72. <https://doi.org/10.24076/nsjis.v4i1.517>

Kirby, J. (2020, July 28). *China's repression of Uighur Muslims: Concentration camps, forced labor, and other abuses*. Vox; Vox. <https://www.vox.com/2020/7/28/21333345/uighurs-china-internment-camps-forced-labor-xinjiang>



staff serving at the camps and when they showed resistance, they would be shocked with an electric taser or have their toenails plucked out.<sup>24</sup>

Ambassador of the Xinjiang region Zheng Zeguang stated in response to the alleged human rights violations at the camps that

The Vocational Education and Training Centers in Xinjiang are absolutely not "concentration camps", but preventative and de-radicalization measures. In nature, they are no different from the Desistance and Disengagement Programme (DDP) of the UK or the deradicalization centers in France.<sup>25</sup>

### Forced Labor, COVID19 and PPE Production

Uyghurs held in these re-educational centers in Xinjiang are allegedly forced to engage in forced labor as part of their rehabilitation. Many Uyghurs in other provinces in China who have not conducted any misdemeanors that warrants them being in the re-education camps have also supposedly been forcibly moved out of their homes to work in factories and pick cotton in the XUAR. Dante Pesce, Chairperson of the Working Group in a press release supported by the United Nations stated that.

"Uyghur workers have allegedly been forcibly employed in low-skilled, labor-intensive industries, such as agribusiness, textile and garment, automotive and technological sectors,"<sup>26</sup>

Many large international corporations have factories based in Xinjiang. There are five hundred companies from the United States alone who have their industrial base in Xinjiang, among them are giants such as Amazon, Exxon Mobil and Boeing. Volkswagen's previous CEO Herbert Diess stated that he was "not mindful" of the alleged forced labor and situation in Xinjiang.

Besides the industrial sector, Xinjiang is also China's top producer of cotton used to produce items of clothing, toys and more pertinently, personal protective equipment (PPE). Many of the Uyghurs held in these vocational centers have been reportedly made to work in the cotton fields without any compensation. The consumption of cotton has increased worldwide due to the

24. Clark, M. (2018, July 25). Patriotic songs and self-criticism: why China is “re-educating” Muslims in mass detention camps - ABC News. ABC News.  
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-25/china-uighur-ethnic-cleansing-xi-jinping-chinese-muslims/10033472>

25. 姜璐. (2021). Ambassador Zheng Zeguang Made Remarks and Answered Questions at Online Press Conference on Xinjiang-related Issues. Chinadaily.com.cn.  
<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202109/10/WS613b39bea310efa1bd66ebac.html>

26. Rights experts concerned about alleged detention, forced labour of Uyghurs in China. (2021, March 29). UN News.  
<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1088612>



proliferation of the COVID19 pandemic and the implications behind this are concerning if the allegations are true.

Although due to the nature of these allegations, governments and larger bodies have been hesitant to take action against the supposed forced labor in Xinjiang. The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act was introduced in the United States in early 2021. The Act seeks to associate goods produced from Xinjiang with forced labor, to prevent the import of such goods produced by Uyghur forced labor into the United States and to act as a visa blocker. The Act has passed at the Senate level so far. If the Act passes and becomes law, the US will be able to increase the economic and social pressure that China needs to reconsider the Uyghurs' current situation in Xinjiang.<sup>27</sup>

In response to the allegations, major producers such as Intel and Visa were asked to attend a Congressional-Executive Commission in China Hearing. Coca-Cola's vice president for human rights, Paul Lalli stated that he had "no comments" when asked about the allegations of genocide from the United States government. The Chinese representative stated in a summary of the hearing that "Most of the representatives said it was not their position to address those issues and deferred to the federal government."<sup>28</sup>

Besides efforts by governments to pressure Chinese forced labor practices, NGOs such as the Coalition to End Uyghur Forced Labor were formed in 2020 to tackle complicity in Uyghur forced labor. It was sponsored by more than a hundred and eighty NGOs and encouraged large corporations to stop sourcing cotton and labor from Xinjiang. The coalition have since declared their support for the US Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, as well as demanded complete disclosure of those companies who lobby against the act.<sup>29</sup>

In the light of China's hosting of the 2022 Winter Olympics, many NGOs called upon the general public to boycott companies such as Nike and Adidas who are sponsoring the games. Countries such as the USA, Canada, New Zealand and Denmark have also chosen to boycott the event in light of the accusations of genocide and forced labour. This act has been criticized by China's foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin as Western countries engaging in "political

27. Kehr, A. K. (2020). *Addressing Forced Labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region: Toward a Shared Agenda*. Csis.org. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/addressing-forced-labor-xinjiang-uyghur-autonomous-region-toward-shared-agenda>

28. Xinhua. (2021, July 31). *Coca-Cola, Visa Reps refuse to condemn China's so-called "genocide" of Uyghur people: media - Xinhua | English.news.cn*. Xinhuanet.com. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-07/31/c\\_1310098915.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-07/31/c_1310098915.htm)

29. Coalition Statements & Releases - Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region. (2022, January 4). Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region. <https://enduyghurforcedlabour.org/coalition-statements-releases/>



posturing". Interestingly, China has chosen Xinjiang native Uyghur athlete Yilamujiang to be the torch bearer of the event<sup>30</sup>

### **Uyghur Independent Tribunal - Allegations of Genocide**

While the International Criminal Court has been called on to conduct investigations in the disputed region. The ICC does not have jurisdiction in China as the nation has not signed the Rome Statute, which allows for the ICC to utilize its investigative powers.<sup>31</sup> As of the writing of this research report, the only "legal action" taken against China's alleged crime of genocide has been the Independent Uyghur Tribunal. The Independent Uyghur Tribunal is a "people's tribunal" and was created in late 2020 in response to the allegations and reports from Adrian Zenz against the CCP. The trial used the leaked "Karakax List" document from local Xinjiang authorities which details plans for a campaign of mass female sterilization in rural Xinjiang, targeting 34 percent of married women. This project targeted rural Southern Xinjiang.<sup>32</sup>

In response to the tribunal, the Chinese representative from Xinjiang, Xu Gui Xiang stated during a press release that the witnesses at the tribunal were "liars" and "actors". One of the witnesses at the trial, Shamshinur Ghopur claimed that Uyghur women in Xinjiang who had more than three children would have their uterus forcibly removed by state gynecologists. This was disputed by Shamshinur's younger sister, Marhaba Abdul Ghopur who worked as a gynecologist in Xinjiang.

"As a gynecologist, I have never seen or heard of that. Our parents have eight children and I also have three children. Her fabricated story has never happened in Xinjiang."<sup>33</sup>

Assuming the reliability of the witness allegations, the alleged crimes would constitute a violation of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, in which the definition of genocide reads:

30. Smith, S., Reuters, Smith, S., & Jett, J. (2022, February 4). *Uyghur athlete delivers Beijing Olympics flame in opening ceremony after global criticism of China*. NBC News; NBC News.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/winter-olympics-opening-ceremony-beijing-china-rcna14511>

31. *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*. (2022). Un.org. <https://legal.un.org/icc/statute/romefra.htm>

32. Zenz, A. (2020). *Sterilizations, IUDs, and Mandatory Birth Control: The CCP's Campaign to Suppress Uyghur Birthrates in Xinjiang*.

<https://d1wqxts1xzle7.cloudfront.net/64365147/Zenz-Internment-Sterilizations-and-IUDs-UPDATED-July-21-Rev2-with-cover-page-v2.pdf?Expires=1643976120&Signature=SEztCIwuqUFrfiWMiolPpsMTEeEVdv3BDi2u0Qo8xMtGbEiUEvJUKyh1xbzKiTt0Bkr~FeI62JpfoMnN~r5FvEyLA1qQfnV2ywzHgS6cDNoaQQzK5txBmo1NuU~VGNHfXQprBYph~CoQHSLjpMExNVXNjJxFyCU5RRu~ERIRgpSKziqH1PhwoYY4HftgcdWJQ3nvFlizCBlhGIXZY6P4XSKv8z-MawA9~XowOP5XziATTs1oGBFixb881her4R14RDW9rIUBtpUaNuqpxGl~3mJ3i37NXECMA8TTBsTC9jmPli0WfqAcow8q~lvG5oivs4KkGrj0tw8KGZk-U8lw~&Key-Pair-Id=APKAJLOHF5GGSLRBV4ZA>

33. 马驰. (2021). Testimony in "Uyghur court" given by actors. Chinadaily.com.cn.  
<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202106/19/WS60cd23f3a31024ad0baca156.html>



In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- A. Killing members of the group;
- B. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- C. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- D. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- E. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.<sup>34</sup>

On 9 December 2021, the tribunal was satisfied with the evidence that the CCP had committed genocide as defined in the convention cited above (specifically subclause D as the tribunal did not find evidence of the Chinese government performing mass killings against the Uyghur muslims) against the Uyghurs through the disproportionate use of forced birth control, abortions and sterilisation. In addition to the conclusion of genocide, the tribunal has accused China of engaging in crimes against humanity through testimonies of the use of sexual abuse and torture in the camps. It is important to note that the decision of the tribunal is not legally binding and is up for the international community to decide what they should do next.<sup>35</sup>

### Past UN and International Actions

[UN CERD Report Concluding observations on the combined fourteenth to seventeenth periodic reports of China \(including Hong Kong, China and Macao, China\)](#)

[United States Resolution Condemning persecution of religious minorities in the PRC, October 2018 \(S/RES/667\)](#)

A joint letter issued by forty four countries to the UNHRC in July 2020 condemned China's arbitrary detention of Uyghurs in re-education camps, the letter demands that China release all the Uyghurs that are being held "against their will" at the vocational centers.<sup>36</sup>

34. United Nations. (1948). *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*. [https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity\\_crimes/Doc.1\\_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity_crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf)

35. Gunter, J. (2021, December 9). *China committed genocide against Uyghurs, independent tribunal rules*. BBC News; BBC News. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-59595952>

36. *UN Human Rights Council 47: Joint statement on the human rights situation in Xinjiang*. (2021, June 22). GOV.UK. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-47-joint-statement-on-the-human-rights-situation-in-xinjiang>



UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachalet pressed for investigations and for her and her team to be allowed to survey the re-education facilities in Xinjiang. While China is publicly open to the visit, there is dispute over the UN's jurisdiction over the visit. As of the writing of this research report, the High Commissioner has not set foot in Xinjiang despite much controversy over the opening of the country for the 2022 Winter Olympics.<sup>37</sup>

## Additional Materials

The Qiao Collective

<https://www.qiaocollective.com/attacks-on-xinjiang>

CGTN, Fighting Terrorism in Xinjiang

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4cYE6E27\\_g&t=664s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4cYE6E27_g&t=664s)

CTGN, By following @CNN , we find how they make fake news about Xinjiang

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXBIeKpUq\\_c&list=WL&index=28](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXBIeKpUq_c&list=WL&index=28)

VICE News, Uyghurs Who Fled China Now Face Repression in Pakistan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RrpjLEQQMnE&list=WL&index=29>

Asian Boss, What The Chinese Think of The US Boycott of Beijing Olympics and Uyghur Issues | Street Interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LZ8tyLzRbM>

## QARMAs

1. If countries in the Human Rights Council decide that intervention in China is necessary, how would the council intervene with respect to China's national sovereignty?
2. If direct intervention is not possible due to issues of national sovereignty, what kind of mechanisms, beyond pre-existing mechanisms, that the Human Rights Council could do to hold China accountable in protection of human rights of the Uyghur population?
3. What steps can the international community take to protect the Uyghur population living outside of China?
4. What can be improved upon current initiatives conducted by the international, private and public sectors alike, to fight for Uyghur rights within and outside China?

37. Jazeera, A. (2021, February 22). *China rejects Uighurs genocide charge, invites UN's rights chief*. Aljazeera.com; Al Jazeera. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/2/22/china-rejects-uighurs-genocide-charge-invites-uns-rights-chief>



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## Topic 2: Internet Censorship On Activism

### Introduction to Topic

Internet censorship is, by definition, the control or suppression of the publishing of, or access to information on the Internet. This is as internet censorship places restrictions or limitations on what can be posted or accessed on the internet, including individuals and organizations placing self-censorship for moral, religious, or business reasons, to conform to societal norms, due to intimidation, or out of fear of legal or other consequences.

There is a multitude of motivations as to why censorship is done on the Internet, namely:

1. Desire to protect children from unsuitable contents such as pornography and materials that promotes violence,
2. Protection of copyright and intellectual property,
3. Limit access to information and materials deemed offensive to a nation's social and cultural norms,
4. Block sites that are promoting or conducting criminal activity such as unlicensed gambling, drug trade, etc.,
5. Concerns of national security. For example, block sites that have links to extremist groups that promote violence as well as cause disharmony in the society due to the spread of hate speech.

However, governments, depending on their varying tendencies towards authoritarianism, do block sites that they consider undesirable, to limit the nation's access to information which can be seen to be in opposition to a government's grip on power.

According to a 2017 article by Amnesty International, cyber-censorship has been practiced globally in which governments used sophisticated technologies to “silence, spy on, harass and track critical voices”, leading to arrests in 55 countries in 2016 due to what was said online.<sup>38</sup>

There are many types of censorship. Mass surveillance by the government can be considered as a form of censorship, as citizens, especially activists, will actively self-censor when they know that the authorities are listening in to all their communications.

### How Issues of Censorship Relate to Human Rights?

Due to the fact that censorship limits access to information and blocks materials deemed “undesirable” by authorities, hence limits any “undesired” types of expression and ideas.

38. “Protecting Human Rights On The Internet”, Amnesty International:  
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/03/fighting-back-against-cyber-censorship/>



Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, states “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”.<sup>39</sup> As social media, and the internet as a whole, becomes a platform for information and expression of opinions, it is considered everyone’s right to freedom to express their opinions and ideas on the internet and such freedoms shall not be restricted.

However, one must think about if there are expressions of opinions on the internet that are considered to have elements of harassment, hate speech and discrimination, should these types of expressions be restricted by censorship laws? Some may argue that people who expressed these opinions have the equal right to freedom of opinion and expression as anyone else. Hence, it is important that delegates will need to consider this as an idea or opinion can be good to one person, but can be considered either hate speech or discrimination to another. You will need to think whether governments should define and regulate opinions and expressions that they consider have elements of harassment, hate speech and discrimination.

### **Why Activism is Targeted**

Activism always has been a target of controversy ever since the idea of activism started in human civilization, due to its aims and actions to promote, impede, direct or intervene in reforms on the subject of social, political, economic or environmental aspects, with the desire to make changes in society toward a perceived greater good. These changes usually would have “losers”, which most of the time are powerful people who have vested interest in maintaining the status quo. Those who want to maintain the status quo would most definitely attempt to suppress acts of activism to avoid losing out on their own interests.

The advent of the Internet has given activists a platform to further promote their messages to a wider audience, with the use of blog sites as well as social media. In order to suppress voices of change, censorship laws are usually used under the pretext of protecting social sensitivities or national security to limit access to information to the public as well as prosecute any dissenting voices.

In academic discussions, social media are often portrayed as tools used by activists and blocked (or implemented specific restrictions) by authoritarian regimes. Social media have become coordinating tools for nearly all of the world's political movements, just as most of the world's authoritarian governments are trying to limit access to social media, which enables citizens to

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39. “Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, United Nations: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>



report news, expose wrongdoing, express opinions, mobilize protest, monitor elections, scrutinize government, deepen participation, and expand the horizons of freedom.<sup>40</sup>

## Past Actions Taken

The United Nations Human Rights Council has adopted by consensus, a series of resolutions under the title “The Promotion, Protection and Enjoyment of Human Rights on the Internet” since 2012. The latest resolution in this series are adopted on 13 July 2021.<sup>41</sup>

Many of the resolutions in the series are built on the previous iteration of the resolution to review progress on the issues as well as provide recommendations. It is highly recommended for delegates to look into each of the series of resolutions to understand what the UN Human Rights Council has discussed on this issue. You may find the list of the resolutions below:

2012: Resolution A/HRC/RES/20/8 ([Link](#))

2014: Resolution A/HRC/RES/26/13 ([Link](#))

2016: Resolution A/HRC/RES/32/13 ([Link](#))

2018: Resolution A/HRC/RES/38/7 ([Link](#))

2021: Resolution A/HRC/RES/47/16 ([Link](#))

Despite the resolutions covering a wide range of issues relating to the Internet, one of them does touch upon issues of internet censorship. However, these resolutions are criticized to be ineffective as the wordings of the resolution are highly ambiguous in order to maintain consensus and prevent certain member states from pushing hostile amendments to jeopardize the resolution. This means that at this point the United Nations are only able to review and provide recommendations on this matter on an international level.

There are also reports from special rapporteurs and the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights on this issue, which can be taken note to further understand where the United Nations is standing on the issue and if anything has been done, especially anything in relation to freedom of expression and freedom to information on the Internet.

Promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the internet: ways to bridge the gender digital divide from a human rights perspective: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights ([Link](#))

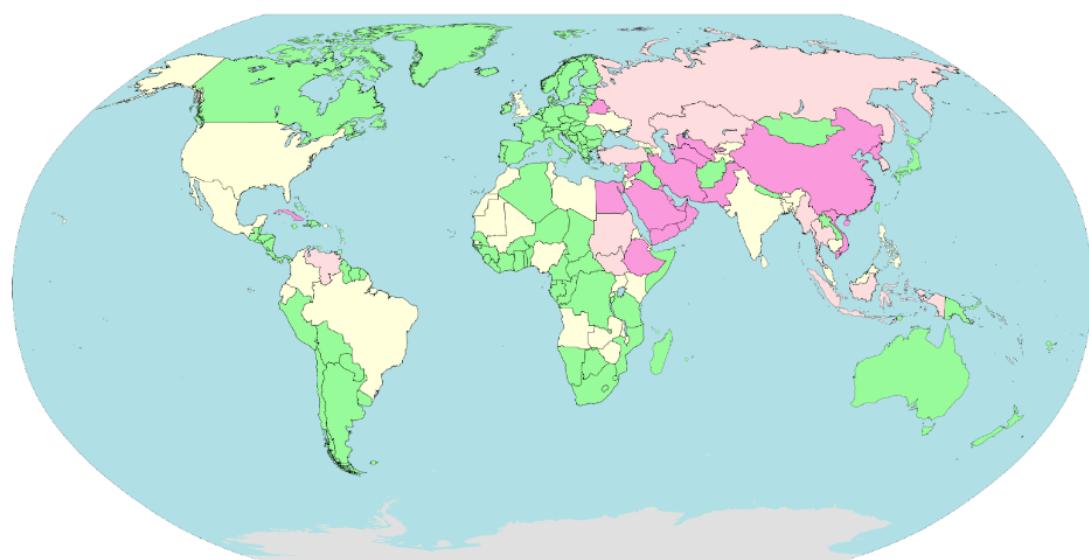
40. “Social Media Activism and State Censorship”, Thomas Poell,  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/266365014\\_Social\\_Media\\_Activism\\_and\\_State\\_Censorship](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/266365014_Social_Media_Activism_and_State_Censorship)

41. “UN HRC maintains consensus on Internet resolution”, Article19  
<https://www.article19.org/resources/un-hrc-maintains-consensus-on-internet-resolution/>



On a national level, it varies from member state to member state due to, as mentioned, levels of control of the media as well as its usage of censorship laws to silence dissent. Hence, it usually depends on civil societies such as Amnesty International and International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), as well as UN agencies such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to fight for the right to freedom of expression on the Internet, alongside with other human rights, in the respective member states concerned.

### Internet Censorship Globally



The classification of each country as follows:

<span style="color: pink;">■</span> Pervasive	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Selective
<span style="color: lightpink;">■</span> Substantial	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Little or none
<span style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">□</span> Unclassified / No data	

It is important for all delegates in the council to be aware of the level of internet censorship that each country imposed on its citizens, before deciding on the stances on the topic.

### Case Studies

A few well-known case studies will be displayed as an example of how different member states conducted internet censorship on any forms of activism. In fact, it is important to note that the majority of member states have some form of censorship laws in place and have conducted internet censorship to a certain extent. For delegates who are representing the member states

42. "Internet censorship and surveillance by country", Wikipedia,  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_censorship\\_and\\_surveillance\\_by\\_country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_censorship_and_surveillance_by_country)



stated as an example below, it is a good reminder that you should research further on your country's foreign policy and national interests, which will make you understand why your own country suppresses dissenting voices.

## 1. China

China's constitution allows freedom of speech and expression for its citizens but Chinese media regulations are vague enough to allow state authorities to crack down on contents that are deemed "endanger the country" and censor information that deem harmful to their political and economic interests.<sup>41</sup>

China is known for its notorious control over the internet, through a combination of legislative actions and computer technology that effectively blocks various websites that are deemed "not reflecting the same political values, ideals, and standards as the state and the Party", earning the internet censorship policy the nickname "Great Firewall of China". This is done by the "Golden Shield", a software that enables the Chinese government to inspect any data being received or sent, and to block destination IP addresses and domain names, have been used since the early 2000s in conjunction with sets of internet legislations.<sup>44</sup> It also depends on private internet companies such as Weibo and other Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to actively censor users, to ensure restricted access to content with sensitive topics or those deemed "spiritual pollution". According to Article 15 of the "Measures for the Administration of Internet Information Services" issued by the State Council in September 2000, there are 9 categories of information which should be censored, blocked, or filtered from access to the citizens using the internet within China:

1. Opposing the basic principles as they are confirmed in the Constitution.
2. Jeopardizing the security of the nation, divulging state secrets, subverting state power, or jeopardizing the integrity of the nation's unity
3. Harming the honor or the interests of the nation
4. Inciting hatred against peoples, racism against peoples, or disrupting the solidarity of peoples
5. Disrupting national policies on religion, propagating evil cults and feudal superstitions
6. Spreading rumors, disturbing social order or disrupting social stability
7. Spreading obscenity, pornography, gambling, violence, murder, terror, or abetting the commission of a crime
8. Insulting or defaming third parties, infringing on the legal rights and interests of third parties
9. Containing any other content prohibited by law or administrative rules<sup>45</sup>

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43. Media Censorship in China", Council on Foreign Relations, <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/media-censorship-china>

44. "The Great Firewall of China: Xi Jinping's internet shutdown", The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/jun/29/the-great-firewall-of-china-xi-jinping-s-internet-shutdown>

45. "Measures for the Administration of Internet Information Services", Congressional-Executive Commission on China, <https://www.cecc.gov/resources/legal-provisions/measures-for-the-administration-of-internet-information-services-cecc>



There are countless instances of internet censorship in China as a result, hence encouraging delegates to look it up. However, more recent examples are the Hong Kong protests as well as the initial coverup of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Wuhan, China.

## 2. Iran

Iran has strict regulations in terms of internet censorship, in which there are extensive restrictions on access to many types of websites, in which it deems the content “immoral and anti-social”. The extent of the censorship is above many nations and it is said to be only rivaled by China’s internet censorship. Iran also throttles the speed of the internet to limit communication and access to non-state media.

In August 2021, the Iranian parliament fast-tracked the introduction of a bill named Cyberspace Users Rights Protection and Regulation of Key Online Services, widely referred to as the Protection Bill. When implemented, it is expected to further curb access to the internet, invade users’ privacy, infringe net neutrality, and suppress freedom of speech in Iran. The bill will outlaw the production and usage of any censorship circumvention tools (such as a VPN) as well as online anonymity in which activists and journalists rely on to avoid state persecution. It is seen as an attempt to emulate the type of censorship regimes implemented in China and Russia and sets a new standard for authoritarian regimes when it comes to internet censorship.<sup>46</sup>

## 3. Belarus

Belarusian state security, the KGB, conducts mass surveillance on the internet and telecommunications, which has made activists refrain from communicating with other activists through the internet (such as emails and social media), as well as phone calls. This creates an environment in which there are always a threat of surveillance and subsequent arrests by authorities. This led to activists only comfortable to discuss sensitive matters only face to face in a private space, without mobile phones recording conversation, as well as encrypted electronic communications but only as a last resort in the event of communicating with foreign parties. They also practice self-censorship in

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46. “Iran Aims to End Online Freedoms “for Good””, Slate, <https://slate.com/technology/2021/08/iran-protection-bill-internet-censorship.html>



order to ensure self-preservation to avoid criminal prosecution, as risk of surveillance by authorities are always present.<sup>47</sup>

During the 2020-2021 Belarusian protests, Belarusian authorities disrupted internet access and restricted contents that are related to the series of mass political demonstrations and protests against the Belarusian government and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko. Internet disruptions are conducted in response to the larger protests and law enforcement engagement towards the protests. These actions are seen by independent groups as a method to silence the voices in the protests and disrupt coordination of the protests, as well as suppress reports of alleged police brutality against the protestors.<sup>48</sup>

#### 4. Mexico

In Mexico, although the government generally does not restrict the freedom of speech on the internet, however there is non-state sanctioned usage of what is called “techno-censorship”, in which cyber-trolls lurk around the internet and social media, and launched well-orchestrated troll campaigns to suppress and silence journalists and critical voices. It is claimed that such campaigns are intensified during election season, when troll bots attempt to sway public opinion for a certain presidential candidate through the posting of fake news.<sup>49</sup> It also said that the repression of freedom of speech in this manner has links to the war on drugs in Mexico. Common tactics involved generating “trending topics” on Twitter by posting thousands of troll tweets, ranging from spambots to hijack hashtags used to organize protests and filling them with spam and false information, to intimidation through sending death threats as well as harass journalists and activists through constant defamation and discredit them on social media. This acts creates a constant climate of fear to further “encourage” self-censorship, in order to ensure anyone with possible voices of dissent avoids being the next victim of cyber-trolls.<sup>50</sup>

#### 5. The Arab Spring

During the Arab Spring in 2010 that sparked in Egypt, Libya, Syria, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, social media and the internet in general is used to help activists

47. “How fear of surveillance is forcing activists to hide from public life in Belarus”, Amnesty International, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2016/07/how-fear-of-surveillance-is-forcing-activists-to-hide-from-public-life-in-belarus/>

48. “Belarus: Internet Disruptions, Online Censorship”, Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/28/belarus-internet-disruptions-online-censorship>

49. “Mexico’s Troll Bots Are Threatening the Lives of Activists”, Vice News, <https://www.vice.com/en/article/mg4b38/mexicos-troll-bots-are-threatening-the-lives-of-activists>

50. “Mexico’s misinformation wars: How organized troll networks attack and harass journalists and activists in Mexico”, Amnesty International, <https://medium.com/amnesty-insights/mexico-s-misinformation-wars-cb748ecb32e9#.hwywwxsuf>



organize, cover the protests, and disseminate information globally. Due to this, governments faced with the Arab Spring protests ramp up all forms of internet censorship and limit internet freedom in order to quell the protests. This ranges from internet shutdowns and stealing private Facebook account login information of its own citizens to as extreme as arrests of bloggers and “netizens” in which some have been allegedly killed.

Since then, authoritarian governments in those member states have treated the power of social media in political movements seriously and taken steps to limit internet freedom. Under the pretext of “fighting terrorism and safeguard national security,” authoritarian governments in the Arab region have engaged in fear mongering, silencing independent media, orchestrating disinformation and smear campaigns, harassing and arresting activists, journalists and dissenting citizens over their social media content and internet activities. Internet shutdowns as well as throttling of internet speeds do occur from time to time to quell any possible political movements. Investments into surveillance technology and spyware to spy on human rights defenders and internet activists are done as well.<sup>51</sup> Lastly, usage of social media and the internet to spread misinformation in order to discredit and demonize democratic activists using alternative narratives.<sup>52</sup>

### Questions a Resolution Must Answer (QARMA)

1. Should current censorship laws in sovereign nations be reviewed to prevent excessive policing?
2. What kind of distinction can be made between “undesired contents” and activism when it comes to censorship laws?
3. What can the United Nations do to protect internet freedom globally, without violating the principles of national sovereignty?
4. What kind of international framework that can be agreed on to ensure human rights on the internet are respected?
5. How can the rights of activists to voice their opinions freely be protected globally?

51. “From Free Space to a Tool of Oppression: What Happened to the Internet Since the Arab Spring?”, The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy, <https://timep.org/commentary/analysis/from-free-space-to-a-tool-of-oppression-what-happened-to-the-internet-since-the-arab-spring/>

52. “Social Media Made the Arab Spring, But Couldn't Save It”, WIRED, <https://www.wired.com/2016/01/social-media-made-the-arab-spring-but-couldnt-save-it/>



## Links for Further Research

The below are additional resources/reading material that should help you push further your own research beyond this research report:

Internet Censorship in 2022: Where the World Stands Today, Broadbandsearch.net:  
<https://www.broadbandsearch.net/blog/internet-censorship>

The Growth of Global Internet Censorship and Circumvention: A Survey, Communications of the IIMA:

[https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?  
referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=1164&context=ciima](https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=1164&context=ciima)

From self-censorship to social protest: Speaking out online in an authoritarian context, Journal Revue française de science politique:

[https://www.cairn-int.info/article-E\\_RFSP\\_615\\_0893--from-self-censorship-to-social-protest.htm](https://www.cairn-int.info/article-E_RFSP_615_0893--from-self-censorship-to-social-protest.htm)

‘Extremely aggressive’ internet censorship spreads in the world’s democracies, University of Michigan:

<https://news.umich.edu/extremely-aggressive-internet-censorship-spreads-in-the-worlds-democracies/>

Why do some countries censor the internet?, Open Access Government:

<https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/countries-censor-the-internet/58366/>

Compilation of materials on internet censorship:

<https://icasis.gmu.edu/course-databases/technology-topics/internet-censorship/>

How Internet Censorship Works:

<https://computer.howstuffworks.com/internet-censorship.htm>

In China, the ‘Great Firewall’ Is Changing a Generation, Human Rights Watch:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/09/01/china-great-firewall-changing-generation>

“Freedom on the Net 2018 Report: The Rise of Digital Authoritarianism”, Freedom House:

[https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/FOTN\\_2018\\_Final.pdf](https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/FOTN_2018_Final.pdf)