UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA)

REUMUN 2023

"Combating the rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism"

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Letter from The Executive Board

Honourable Delegates,

Greetings and welcome to the United Nations General Assembly of REUMUN'23! We cannot wait to have you and conduct what promises to be two days of thrilling, chaotic and exceptional debate.

The agenda we have opted for is **"Combating the rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism"**. This was chosen after taking into consideration the fast pace of the committee and involvement of all the delegates.

That being said, the EB is here to assist you in any way possible so feel free to reach out to us via mail, before or during the committee.

Best of luck!

Yashovardhan Das   Joshua Preetham   Ishaan Ghosh
(Chairperson)   (Vice-Chairperson)   (Moderator)

Introduction to UNGA

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is a pivotal organ within the United Nations, comprising all 193 member states. Often referred to as the "world's parliament," the UNGA serves as a global forum for international cooperation and diplomacy, embodying the fundamental principle of sovereign equality among nations. It convenes annually and plays a crucial role in shaping the policies and actions of the United Nations.

One of the central powers and functions of the UNGA is its role in policy formulation. Member states gather to set the international agenda and engage in candid discussions on a wide range of issues that have global implications. This open and inclusive dialogue allows nations to express their viewpoints and concerns, promoting transparency and cooperation on matters of international significance.

The UNGA holds the authority to make recommendations on various global issues, serving as a platform for member states to collectively address challenges such as peace and security, development, human rights, and environmental concerns. These recommendations, while not legally binding on member states, carry significant moral and political weight, often influencing the decisions and policies of individual countries.

Another critical function of the UNGA is the establishment of subsidiary bodies and committees to delve deeper into specific issues. These

subsidiary bodies, consisting of member states, work to examine, research, and propose solutions for complex problems, contributing to the overall work of the United Nations. Through these subsidiary bodies, the UNGA can drive progress in areas as diverse as disarmament, economic development, and humanitarian affairs.

Additionally, the UNGA plays a crucial role in the budgetary process of the United Nations. It approves the regular budget and any supplementary budgets required for the organization's operation. This financial oversight ensures that the resources of the United Nations are allocated appropriately to support its various programs and initiatives.

In conclusion, the UNGA is an inclusive and representative assembly of all member states of the United Nations, wielding significant powers and functions. It facilitates open dialogue, policy formulation, and the establishment of subsidiary bodies to address global issues. Moreover, it exercises financial oversight to ensure the effective functioning of the United Nations. Through these powers and functions, the UNGA plays a vital role in promoting international cooperation, peace, and development on a global scale.

Introduction to the agenda

The rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism in recent years has emerged as a pressing global concern with far-reaching implications. These trends have given rise to a variety of challenges that affect not only individual nations but also the international community as a whole.

Authoritarianism:

Authoritarianism is characterized by the concentration of power in the hands of a few, often a single leader or a small group. It involves the centralization of authority, limitations on political freedoms, and the suppression of opposition. Some common manifestations of authoritarianism include restrictions on freedom of the press, limitations on political dissent, and the undermining of independent judiciary systems.

The erosion of democratic principles within authoritarian regimes has a direct impact on the protection of human rights. Basic civil liberties, such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and the right to participate in free and fair elections, are often curtailed. This curbing of fundamental freedoms can lead to a climate of fear, self-censorship, and a lack of accountability.

Moreover, authoritarian governments may engage in human rights abuses, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detentions, and restrictions on

individual privacy. Such violations undermine the principles of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the international consensus on the importance of safeguarding human dignity.

Hyper-Nationalism:

Hyper-nationalism, on the other hand, represents an extreme form of nationalism characterized by fervent devotion to one's own nation, often to the exclusion of others. This type of nationalism can lead to a range of concerning behaviors and policies:

- Xenophobia: Hyper-nationalism often fosters a fear or distrust of those from other nations. It can lead to discrimination against immigrants, refugees, or ethnic and religious minorities.

- Isolationism: Hyper-nationalist governments may adopt isolationist policies, distancing themselves from international agreements and institutions. This can hinder cooperation on global issues such as climate change, global health, and trade.

- Nationalism as a Tool for Manipulation: In some cases, leaders may use hyper-nationalism to maintain power or divert attention from domestic problems. This manipulation can lead to divisiveness and further erode social cohesion.

The combination of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism can have profound implications for global stability and peace. It can fuel regional conflicts and disrupt international order. This erosion of democratic principles, protection of human rights, and international cooperation can undermine the very foundations upon which the United Nations and the post-World War II world order were built.

The international community faces the challenge of addressing these trends while respecting the principles of national sovereignty. Striking a balance between the legitimate rights of states and the need for a rules-based international order that upholds human rights and peace is a complex and urgent task. The United Nations General Assembly, as a representative body of nations, plays a vital role in addressing these challenges and finding cooperative solutions to combat the rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism, preserving the values of democracy, human rights, and international cooperation.

Impact of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism

The agenda "Combating the rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism" has significant implications for the world situation. The rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism has been linked to the suppression of human rights, including freedom of speech, assembly, and the press, as well as the persecution of minority groups and the erosion of democratic institutions. As democracy is declining and authoritarianism is on the rise around the world, diplomats report they cannot effectively champion human rights.

Defending and promoting freedom, democracy, and human rights is viewed as a key component of U.S. soft power, because it can help to promote stability and prosperity around the world. The United Nations has recognized the threat of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism and has taken steps to combat it. The UNGA is responsible for delivering recommendations on many international issues and managing internal UN appointments and budget approval.

The rise of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism continues to be a global issue, with many countries experiencing a decline in democratic institutions and human rights. The UNGA is empowered to create any subsidiary organs it considers appropriate to carry out its duties under Article 22 of the UN Charter. This allows the UNGA to establish specialized agencies and programs to address specific issues such as health, education, and the environment.

Authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism have different impacts on different regions of the world. In India and Pakistan, both countries have experienced periods of authoritarian rule, with the suspension of democratic institutions and the suppression of human rights. The rise of hyper-nationalism in both countries has led to conflicts between the two nations, particularly over the disputed region of Kashmir

In China, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has stuck to its authoritarian convictions, despite speculations about the end of history and the spread of liberal democracy. China's authoritarianism combines communism and a hyper-nationalist interpretation of China's status and destiny. The CCP proclaims hyper-nationalist aspirations with roots in Chinese cultural and political traditions, which require the People's Republic of China (PRC) to occupy the commanding position in world affairs

In France, the rise of hyper-nationalism has led to tensions with immigrant communities and a rise in far-right political parties. France has been involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with recent efforts to broker peace between the two sides. Arab attitudes toward Pakistan and India have affected French attitudes toward these countries

In Israel/Palestine, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been ongoing for decades, with both sides experiencing periods of authoritarian rule and the suppression of human rights. The rise of hyper-nationalism in Israel has led to tensions with neighboring countries and ongoing conflicts over land and resources. France has been

involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with recent efforts to broker peace between the two sides.

QARMA

QARMA, which stands for "Questions a Resolution Must Answer," is a framework used to guide the development of resolutions in conferences. It consists of a set of questions that a resolution should address to ensure a comprehensive and well-rounded analysis of the agenda. These questions prompt delegates to consider key aspects such as defining terms, assessing effectiveness, exploring limitations and alternatives, considering stakeholder perspectives, and evaluating potential impacts. By incorporating QARMA, resolutions can provide a structured and thorough framework for discussion, enabling delegates to address the complexities of the agenda and propose well-informed solutions.

In summary, QARMA is a tool that helps delegates create resolutions that are comprehensive and address all essential aspects of the agenda. By answering a set of guiding questions, resolutions can provide a thorough analysis of the topic, consider various perspectives, and propose well-rounded solutions. QARMA ensures that resolutions are well-structured and enable meaningful discussions during conferences or debates.

QARMA for the given agenda

1. What are the root causes of authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism?

2. How can the international community promote and protect democratic principles and human rights globally?

3. What diplomatic and peaceful means can be employed to address authoritarian regimes and conflicts arising from hyper-nationalism?

4. How can the United Nations and member states support conflict prevention and resolution in regions affected by authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism?

5. What steps can be taken to address refugee and migration challenges arising from these trends?

6. How can the international community promote international cooperation while respecting national sovereignty?

7. What role should the United Nations play in monitoring and addressing authoritarianism and hyper-nationalism?

8. How can global economic stability and cooperation be preserved in the face of rising hyper-nationalism?

9. How can the international community support and strengthen countries committed to democratic principles and human rights?

10. How can the international community hold authoritarian regimes accountable for human rights violations?

11. What measures can be taken to promote tolerance, diversity, and the rejection of xenophobia on a global scale?

12. What role should regional organizations and alliances play in addressing these global issues?

References

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*****The End*****

Good Luck, Godspeed, and May the Force be With You