

ISHMUN

Chair Research Report Guide

THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIRD COMMITTEE

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Topic: Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism, and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance

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Introduction to the committee

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) Third Committee discusses and offers solutions for social, cultural, and humanitarian matters. Over time, the work of this committee has evolved to deal with mostly human rights issues, making it the world's largest and most prominent forum for international human rights norm creation. The Third Committee derives its direction and work content from a variety of UN documents. Articles 10-17 of the Charter are the principal guidelines for the substance and scope of all GA committees. These articles state that the GA has the authority to “initiate studies and make recommendations,” as well as “receive and consider reports” from other organs of the UN, including the Security Council (SC).

Key Terms

Nazism: the body of political and economic doctrines held and put into effect by the Nazis in Germany from 1933 to 1945 including the totalitarian principle of government, predominance of especially Germanic groups assumed to be racially superior, and supremacy of the führer*.

Neo-Nazism: Neo-Nazism refers to the post-World War II militant, social, and political movements seeking to revive and implement Nazi ideology.

Racism: Prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism by an individual, community, or institution against a person or people on the basis of their membership of a particular racial or ethnic group, typically one that is a minority or marginalized. Racism originates from the deranged view of a group of individuals thinking they are better than other people who look different from them; they can't accept diversity.

Xenophobia: here, the dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries. It can also be perceived as a broad term meaning a fear of anyone who is different from you.

*Führer: a tyrannical leader.

Background Information

What is the Nazist ideology and what does it stand for? Racism, including racial antisemitism (prejudice against or hatred of Jews based on false biological theories), was an integral part of German National Socialism (Nazism). According to Nazi theories of race, Germans and other northern Europeans were “Aryans” — a superior race. All other nationalities were deemed inferior races, and were ranked hierarchically according to how similar they were deemed to be to “Aryans”. Nazi racial ideology was used to rationalize the displacement of entire communities from their homes and murder on an unprecedented scale. The spread of such an ideology has led to the fueling of racial discrimination and other forms of intolerances.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

All countries and all organizations have a huge role to play when it comes to combatting racial discrimination in its different forms. These organisations range from international organisations to small Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). A few of them are:

1. The United Nations (its committees like the United Nations General Assembly 3, the United Nations Human Rights Council, UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, etc.)
2. The Commission on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)
3. Governmental Organisations (Example: the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee)
4. Non-Governmental Organisations (Example: International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism)

Relevant UN Reports and Resolutions

UN Reports:

1. Rise in Anti-Semitism during Pandemic Report:
<https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sgsm20553.doc.htm>
2. The Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination:
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cerd/pages/cerdindex.aspx>
3. Eliminating Racial Discrimination: The Challenges of Prevention and Enforcement of Prohibition: <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/eliminating-racialdiscrimination-challenges-prevention-and-enforcement-prohibition>
4. Timeline of Past Relevant UN Conference Reports:
<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Racism/SRRacism/Pages/ReportNazism.aspx>

Resolutions:

1. Policy on Xenophobia and Racial Discrimination (IMPORTANT, Approved by American Psychological Association NOT the UNITED NATIONS) :
<https://www.apa.org/about/policy/racism>
2. Passed GA Resolution on “Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action” (Adopted in 2013) :
https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_68_151.pdf

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

1. Previous Actions Taken Globally to improve the Human Rights of People of African Descent: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent/actions-taken>
2. Global Action Plan: <https://www.un.org/en/letsfightracism/>
3. Combating Racism and Racial Discrimination in Europe:
<https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/combating-racism-and-racial-discrimination-europe>

Possible Solutions

1. Building open-mindedness through empathy in communities in order to build tolerance towards other cultures and ethnicities.
2. Acknowledgement of racial discrimination and prejudice as not a global but local issue.
3. Integration of international cultures in communities that are more conservative.

Tips for drafting resolutions

1. In your clauses, ensure and specify how provisions to combat racial discrimination will be regulated.
2. Address and draw fundamental issues with race in your delegations in order to create relevant clauses to your position.
3. Mention how the various forms of discrimination would be kept in check and how the solutions implemented would be tracked for progress.
4. Ensure that when writing the operating clauses, all the necessary details are mentioned. For example, what the operative clause is aiming to achieve, how the solution would be implemented, and how the solution would have an impact in

solving the issue. A very good operative clause tends to be more detailed and specific through the inclusion of sub-clauses and sub-sub-clauses.

Bibliography

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