

Jubilee Campaign Submits Multiple Statements to the United Nations Human Rights Council

Jubilee Campaign, as a regular NGO participant of various United Nations mechanisms - including the General Assembly, Human Rights Committee, Commission on the Status of Women, and Universal Periodic Review - recently submitted five written statements to the Human Rights Council. Below you can find the summaries of our statements and the key points.

Trigger warning: This article contains content that some may find disturbing.



The Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of North Korean Women & Girls

Trafficking and sexual exploitation of North Korean women and girls, in particular during the defection process, remains a major human rights issue in China and South Korea. As of 2019, 60% of North Korean female defectors in China have been trafficked into the sex industry via forced prostitution, whereas many others are sold into coerced marriages. In South Korea, some instances have taken place in which government officials tasked with helping North Korean defector women have instead harbored and sexually assaulted them.

One of the other main forms of sexual exploitation of North Korean defector women is through the cybersex industry. Distinct from other forms of trafficking, but just as horrendous, cyber-trafficking involves the recruitment and harboring of victims for online content such as subjecting them to rape and sexual assault on camera for consumption by a paying audience. These women and girls are required to 'work' for upwards of ten hours a day and meet a minimum income, or else they be further physically abused and punished.

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the Rohingya Minority

Since the 1 February 2021 military coup by the Tatmadaw in Myanmar, peaceful protesters and ordinary citizens have been extrajudicially killed at alarming rates. Innocent children as young as 5 years old have been shot at indiscriminately by Tatmadaw troops. For the Rohingya as well, the situation remains perilous. The same military that waged genocidal acts against them in 2017 - murder, rape, burning of communities - is the one that has now taken the nation under its stronghold. There is an increasing risk that the Rohingya will soon come under the wrath of the Tatmadaw once again.



For the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya that over the past few years have sought refuge in Bangladesh, there is a growing consensus that returning to Myanmar could be deadly should they gain the attention of military forces. However, at the same time, in Bangladesh they are relegated to overcrowded and in some cases unsafe refugee camps - one experienced a massive fire in March - and are rejected by the government of Bangladesh who is continuously trying to repatriate them despite the imminent danger they would face in their home country.

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Nigeria Must Ensure Equitable Assistance to IDPs in Southern Kaduna

Humanitarian organizations, such as one of Jubilee Campaign's partners, Resilient Aid and Dialogue Initiative (RADi) have asserted that Southern Kaduna state remains one of the most neglected areas regarding internally displaced persons. (IDPs). IDP camps are full of thousands of Nigerian civilians who have fled their communities in response to militant attacks and ambushes; in the IDP camps, however, they remain in a situation of insecurity. Lack of medical supplies, food, access to work and education, and even clothing remains a daily reality.

RADi's interviews with numerous IDPs have highlighted the savagery that they faced prior to their relocation to camps. [ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION DELETED AS TOO GRAPHIC]

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The Humanitarian Crisis in Tigray, the Arrest of

Eritrean Christians, and the Prolonged Detention of Patriarch Abune Antonios

*I*n November 2020, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed authorized a military offensive into the Tigray region against the regional ruling Tigray People's Liberation Front. What ensued has been regarded as a major humanitarian crisis, worsened by the involvement of Eritrean forces in the atrocities; one million Tigrayan civilians have been displaced, thousands have been extrajudicially killed by Ethiopian and Eritrean forces; women and girls have been raped and sexually assaulted. The G7 Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK, and the US released a joint statement urging Ethiopia to allow humanitarian access into the region and calling on an immediate exit of Eritrean troops.



Over the past few years, and especially throughout 2019 and 2020, Eritrean authorities have maintained a confusing and concerning pattern by which they arrest groups of Christian believers and release other Christian prisoners. Some of the releases have been chalked up to mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in detention facilities, but rising hopes of freedom for Eritrean Christian prisoners of conscience swiftly declines when another group is arrested. One of the most notable prisoners is 93-year-old Patriarch Abune Antonios who has been detained since 2006 for his criticisms of the Eritrean government's interference in religious affairs.

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The Looming Threat of the Hong Kong National Security Law

*I*n May 2020, China's parliament, the National People's Congress, finalized its decision to draft a national security legislation for Hong Kong, in violation of the Hong Kong Basic Law of 1997 which prohibits the Chinese government from applying domestic laws to the territory. Since the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law, numerous peaceful pro-democracy protesters have been detained and charged for simply exercising their freedoms - for such 'crimes' as holding signs, chanting independence slogans, and waving flags.

While the National Security Law does not explicitly prohibit acts of assembly and peaceful protest, we find that assembly is indirectly targeted by the criminalization of certain speech and activities of expression usually used in gatherings.

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