

2007-2008 SCORECARD
UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL KEY ACTIONS



PRESENTED AT UN HEADQUARTERS

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2007-2008 Scorecard of UNHRC Members on Key Actions

Looking at 32 key UNHRC actions, we scored each Council member's position as positive (1), negative (-1) or neutral (0). The highest possible score is 32 and the lowest is -32.

Country	Score
Canada	19
France	11
Germany	11
Italy	11
Netherlands	11
Romania	11
Slovenia	11
United Kingdom	11
Switzerland	9
Bosnia Herzegovina	8
Ukraine	8
Japan	5
Republic of Korea	5
Guatemala	-5
Uruguay	-8
Mexico	-9
Peru	-10
Brazil	-11
Bolivia	-12
Gabon	-12
Cameroon	-13
Ghana	-13
India	-13
Madagascar	-13

Country	Score
Philippines	-13
Angola	-15
Jordan	-15
Mauritius	-15
Zambia	-15
Saudi Arabia	-16
Azerbaijan	-17
Bangladesh	-17
Djibouti	-17
Mali	-17
Nigeria	-17
Pakistan	-17
Qatar	-17
Senegal	-17
South Africa	-17
Cuba	-18
Egypt	-18
Indonesia	-18
Malaysia	-18
Nicaragua	-18
Russian Federation	-18
Sri Lanka	-18
China	-19

Methodology: Key UN Human Rights Council Actions in 2007-2008

To assess the Council's performance, we focused on its most meaningful human rights actions. By meaningful, we mean resolutions and motions that were widely considered among HRC stakeholders to be important and were treated as such by members through their statements and actions. Resolutions on technical issues and those that passed by consensus and without significant debate were not considered meaningful for the purposes of our evaluation.

The most important class of resolutions for diplomats and human rights activists has always been the "name and shame" votes where a specific country is censured. Out of more than 190 UN member states, the Council's predecessor body each year typically censured only five or six. The power of such denunciations in the world of human rights and the arena of international relations cannot, therefore, be underestimated. Large and small states alike exert considerable diplomatic efforts to avoid censure.

Even if they are major violators of human rights, powerful states, such as China or Russia, have routinely been shielded from condemnation. The same has held true for those that belong to large and powerful alliances—e.g., Zimbabwe, which belongs to the African Group and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), a political bloc of developing countries; or Saudi Arabia, a member of NAM, the Arab League, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), an alliance of 57 Muslim nations.

In 2007-2008, the vast majority of states escaped censure by the Council, including serial violators such as Iran, China and Sri Lanka. There were only 18 country-specific resolutions, dealing only with a handful of countries: nine censures of Israel, four censures of Burma, one censure of North Korea, three non-condemnatory resolutions on Sudan, and one resolution that eliminated the Council's mandate to investigate abuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Other meaningful votes included:

- An EU-sponsored resolution extending the Council's mandate to protect freedom of religion.
- An amendment by the Islamic and African blocs that redefines the mandate of the expert on freedom of expression, now requiring him to police individuals who "abuse" their free speech. This was a dramatic reversal in the history of the UN.
- An Islamic-group text on "defamation of religion," seeking to suppress perceived offenses against Islam, and to reinforce and justify domestic blasphemy laws, in contravention of the fundamental principle that international human rights law protects individuals, not religions.
- A resolution by Cuba limiting the independence of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, one of many regular acts of intimidation by regimes interested in hiding their abuses. The way in which countries voted demonstrates their commitment to protecting the UN's non-political human rights mechanisms.

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
OM/1/1: Report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on follow-up to the report of the Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon	Pakistan for the Islamic Group, and Sudan for the Arab League	“Recalling its resolution S-2/1 of 11 August 2006 on ‘The grave situation of human rights in Lebanon caused by Israeli military operations’...”	Recalls resolution that was rejected by democracies as one-sided for investigating and condemning only Israeli conduct in 2006 war with Hezbollah. Encourages Iranian-sponsored extremism in the Middle East, emboldens opponents of peace process.	Adopted without a vote 6/20/07	No
OM/1/2: Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: follow-up to Human Rights Council resolutions S-1/1 and S-3/1	Pakistan for the Organization of the Islamic Conference (“the Islamic Group”), and Sudan for the Arab League	“Noting with regret that Israel, the occupying Power, has not to date implemented these two resolutions and hindered the dispatching of the urgent fact-finding missions specified therein...”	<p>Censures Israel for not cooperating with two Islamic-initiated missions of inquiry from previous year concerning Gaza. Both inquiries sought to exclude firing of Palestinian Qassam rockets from examination and to look only at Israel’s responses, and were rejected as one-sided by democracies at the HRC. Resolution OM/1/2 adopted contrary to plea by UN expert on Palestine John Dugard, who said his regular reports already covered the events, the issue was moot, and resolution was unhelpful. Council’s initial 2006 attempt to dispatch Dugard in S-1/1 also adopted contrary to his requests.</p> <p>Resolution claimed concern for S-3/1 (Beit Hanoun, Nov. 2006) but disregarded contemporaneous Hamas-Fatah killings in Beit Hanoun.</p>	Adopted without a vote 6/20/07	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
Vote on HRC President's ruling that the Institution-Building Package (HRC 5/1) was adopted by consensus the night before	Incoming HRC President Costea, for package sponsored by outgoing HRC President Luis Alfonso de Alba	<i>HRC President Costea:</i> "There is a challenge to a ruling that I have just said. . . that this organizational meeting need[s] to proceed with the necessary follow-up concerning the agreement on the package. . . I would call for a vote on this situation. . . whether the ruling that I have just offered is correct or not. Let me repeat what your opinion is asked about: We need to proceed with the necessary follow-up concerning the agreement on the package." (See UN webcast video , June 19, 2007.)	Council members vote 46 to 1 in support of the president's interpretation, thereby deciding retroactively that the post-midnight announcement of President De Alba constituted actual adoption of the text—and that, notwithstanding Canada's declared opposition, it had been adopted "by consensus."	Adopted 6/19/07 Vote: Yes: 46 No: 1	No
A/HRC/6/7: Human Rights and Unilateral Coercive Measures	Cuba for the Non Aligned Movement	"Condemns the continued unilateral application and enforcement by Certain Powers of such measures as tools of political or economic pressure against any country, particularly against developing countries, with a view to preventing these countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems..." "Invites all special rapporteurs. . . to pay due attention. . . Requests the High Commissioner to give urgent consideration to the present resolution..."	Fails to distinguish between unilateral coercive measures such as economic or non-economic sanctions that are acceptable under international law, and extraterritorial measures that are contrary to international law. Politically-motivated text imposes hierarchy of issues upon Council and independent experts, on basis of political interests of sponsoring states.	Adopted 9/28/07 Vote: Yes: 34 No: 11 Abstain: 2	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/18: Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: follow-up to Human Rights Council resolutions S-1/1 and S-3/1	Iraq for the Arab Group, and Pakistan for the Islamic Group	“Noting with regret that Israel, the occupying Power, has not implemented to date these two resolutions and hindered the dispatching of the urgent fact-finding missions specified therein...”	<i>Same as OM/1/2; see analysis above.</i>	Adopted without a vote 9/28/07	No
A/HRC/6/19: Religious and cultural rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	Iraq for the Arab Group, Pakistan for the Islamic Group, and Venezuela	<p>“Deeply concerned at the Israeli actions undermining the sanctity and inviolability of religious sites in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem...”</p> <p>“Deeply concerned also at the Israeli policy of closures and the severe restrictions, including curfews and the permit regime, that continue to be imposed on the movement of Palestinians and their free access to their holy sites, including Al Aqsa Mosque...”</p>	<p>Unbalanced and excessive language hampers effective dialogue aimed at resolving genuine concerns, with negative effect on ongoing UNESCO negotiations. Effectively grants impunity to worst violators of religious freedom in the Middle East.</p> <p>Fails to reflect the human rights provisions that in specific circumstances (threats to public safety, terrorism), allow limitations on religious practices and access to religious sites.</p>	<p>Adopted 9/28/07</p> <p>Vote: 31 Yes 1 No 15 Abstain</p>	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/21: Elaboration of international complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Egypt for the African Group	<p>“Deeply alarmed at the sharp increase in xenophobic tendencies and intolerance towards various racial and religious groups and cultures, where people belonging to minorities, migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers and illegal migrants are the worst affected victims of such tendencies and acts...”</p> <p>“Recalling [the Council’s] decision...by which...it decided to establish the Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of the Complementary Standards, with the mandate to elaborate, as a matter of priority and necessity, complementary standards...filling the existing gaps in the convention, and also providing new normative standards aimed at combating all forms of contemporary racism, including incitement to racial and religious hatred...”</p>	<p>Prejudges result of discussion in the Ad Hoc Committee on International Complementary Standards by selectively mentioning international instruments dealing with the issue of religion and freedom of expression and arbitrarily outlines the content of these possible future norms.</p> <p>Creates hierarchy between various categories of victims of racism, by arbitrarily stressing that specific groups suffer more than others.</p> <p>Seeks to impose specific norms as complementary standards based on subjective criteria rather than genuine needs in the fight against racism.</p>	<p>Adopted 9/28/07</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 32 No: 10 Abstain: 4</p>	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
<p>A/HRC/6/22: From rhetoric to reality : a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</p>	<p>Egypt for the African Group</p>	<p>“Deploing the surge and sharp increases in xenophobic and racial tendencies in certain regions of the world, particularly towards those categories of victims already identified in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action such as migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, people of African descent, people of Asian descent and national and ethnic descent...”</p> <p>“Absolutely convinced that the lack of political will remain the core factor prompting the failure by States to translate the Durban commitments into concrete action and tangible results, in particular with respect to honouring the memory of the victims of historical injustices and past tragedies caused by slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade, apartheid, colonialism and genocide, and also underlining that Africans and people of African descent, Asians and people of Asian descent and indigenous peoples were victims of these injustices and tragedies and continue to be victims of their consequences...”</p>	<p>Implies that racism is only present in some parts of the world.</p> <p>Imposes hierarchy between victims of racism.</p> <p>Selectively focuses on only some parts of the DDPA.</p>	<p>Adopted 9/28/07</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 28 No: 13 Abstain: 5</p>	<p>No</p>

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/23: Preparation of the Durban Review Conference	Egypt for the African Group	“Noting with deep regret the non-participation of all relevant non-governmental organizations [to the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee in August 2007], including the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and also regretting the fact that not all these entities were able to contribute to the Preparatory Committee’s dialogue on the ‘Objectives of the Review Conference’...”	Fails to reflect the reality of the content and outcome of the August 2007 session of the Preparatory Committee of the Durban Review Conference.	Adopted 9/28/07 Vote: Yes: 33 No: 10 Abstain: 3	No
A/HRC/S-5/1: Situation of human rights in Myanmar <i>(Adopted in Special Session)</i>	Portugal for the EU	“Deeply concerned at the situation of human rights in Myanmar...” “Strongly deplores the continued violent repression of peaceful demonstrations in Myanmar...” “Urges the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms...” “Requests the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar to assess the current human rights situation...”	Special session deplored Burmese repression. Although the original word “condemns” was excised, this was nevertheless a welcome statement.	Adopted without a vote 10/2/07	Yes

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/33: Follow-up to the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar	Portugal for the EU	<p>“Deeply concerned about the situation of human rights in Myanmar...”</p> <p>“Strongly urges the Governments of Myanmar to follow-up and implement the recommendations contained in the report [of the Special Rapporteur]...”</p> <p>“Requests the Special Rapporteur...to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to conduct, in this regard, a follow-up mission to Myanmar...”</p>	Renewed censure of Burmese repression.	Adopted without a vote 12/14/07	Yes
A/HRC/6/34: Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan	Egypt for the African Group	<p>“Urges the Government of the Sudan to continue cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur...”</p> <p>“Requests the Special Rapporteur to assess the needs of the Sudan...and to mobilize the necessary international technical and financial support for the Sudan in the field of human rights...”</p> <p>“Further requests the Special Rapporteur to ensure effective follow-up and foster the implementation of the...recommendations identified in the first report of the Group of Experts...through open and constructive dialogue with the Government of the Sudan...”</p>	<p>Extends for one year the mandate of the rapporteur on Sudan, and urges implementation of her recommendations.</p> <p>Fails to condemn massive violations of human rights perpetrated by Sudan.</p> <p>Emphasizes “the needs of the Sudan.”</p> <p>Seeks to mobilize financial support for Sudan.</p> <p>Falsely implies Sudan is “cooperating fully” with the rapporteur.</p>	Adopted without a vote 12/14/07	Abstain

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/35: Human Rights Council Group of Experts on the situation of human rights in Darfur	Egypt for the African Group, and Portugal for the EU	<p>“Acknowledges the cooperation of the Government of the Sudan...”</p> <p>“Acknowledges the efforts made by the Government of the Sudan to implement the recommendations identified by the Group of Experts, but expresses its concerns that . . . the implementation of many recommendations has not been fully completed so as to lead to the desired level of improvement in the situation of human rights in Darfur...”</p> <p>“Expresses particular concern at the fact that perpetrators of past and ongoing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Darfur have not yet been held accountable for their crimes and urges the Government in the Sudan to address urgently this question...”</p>	<p>Omits to mention the future work of the group of experts on Darfur, thus quietly abolishing it.</p> <p>Addresses impunity in Darfur, cautiously criticizing the lack of improvement of the situation of human rights.</p> <p>Praises the Government of the Sudan for its “cooperation.”</p> <p>Calls on the UN to continue providing support and technical assistance to Sudanese authorities.</p>	Adopted without a vote 12/14/07	Abstain

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/6/37: Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief	Portugal for the EU	<p>“Recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion...”</p> <p>“Condemns all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief...”</p> <p>“Recognizes with deep concern the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia”</p>	<p>Extends the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion.</p> <p>Equally addresses problems in all parts of the world and condemns all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief.</p>	<p>Adopted 12/14/07</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 29 No: 0 Abstain: 18</p>	Yes
A/HRC/S-6/1: Human rights violations emanating from Israeli military attacks and incursions, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip <i>(Adopted in Special Session)</i>	Pakistan for the Islamic Group countries, Syria for the Arab League	<p>“Israeli military attacks and incursions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. . . constitute grave violations of the human and humanitarian rights of the Palestinian civilians therein, exacerbate the severe humanitarian crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and undermine international efforts. . . aimed at invigorating the peace process”</p> <p>“Expresses grave concern at the repeated Israeli military attacks carried out in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, which have resulted in loss of life and injuries among Palestinian civilians, including women and children. . .”</p>	<p>One-sided text fails to mention 4,000 rockets fired by Palestinians into Israeli towns, loss of life and injuries among Israeli civilians, including women and children.</p> <p>Failed to mention Israel’s full withdrawal from Gaza, nor that this territory used by Hamas for rocket attacks.</p> <p>Accuses Israel of being the only party hampering the peace process without acknowledging Hamas accountability.</p>	<p>Adopted 1/24/08</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 30 No: 1 Abstain: 15</p>	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/1: Human rights violations emanating from Israeli military attacks and incursions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly the recent ones in the occupied Gaza Strip	Pakistan for the Islamic Group, and Palestine for the League of Arab States	<p>“Recognizing...that the recent Israeli attacks and incursions in the occupied Gaza Strip have led to a considerable loss of life and injuries among Palestinian civilians, including women, children and infants...”</p> <p>“Expresses its shock at the Israeli bombardment of Palestinian homes and the killing of civilians therein and at the Israeli policy of inflicting collective punishment against the civilian population, which is contrary to international law, and calls for bringing the perpetrators to justice...”</p> <p>“Calls for the immediate cessation of all Israeli military attacks throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the firing of crude rockets, which resulted in the loss of two civilian lives and some injuries in southern Israel...”</p>	<p>One-sided text selectively and disproportionately condemns Israel, fails to mention Hamas.</p> <p>In cynical gesture, expressly downplays nature of rocket attacks (“crude”) and suffering (“some”) of Israeli civilians.</p>	<p>Adopted 3/6/08</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 33 No: 1 Abstain: 13</p>	No
A/HRC/7/2: Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Cuba	<p>“Imbalance in the composition of the staff could diminish the effectiveness of the work of the OHCHR if it is perceived to be culturally biased and unrepresentative of the UN as a whole...”</p> <p>“Requests the High Commissioner to submit a comprehensive and updated report to the Council in 2009. . . with a special focus on further measures taken to correct the imbalance in geographical composition of the staff of the Office...”</p>	<p>Limits independence of the High Commissioner by seeking HRC intervention in OHCHR affairs.</p> <p>Focuses on “geographic balance” at the expense of Charter principles of staff efficiency, competence and integrity.</p> <p>Promotes piecemeal approach to human resources management.</p>	<p>Adopted 3/27/08</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 34 No: 10 Abstain: 3</p>	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/4: Mandate of the independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	Cuba	“Requests the independent expert to explore further, in his/her analytical annual report to the Human Rights Council, the interlinkages with trade and other issues, including HIV/AIDS, when examining the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, and also to contribute, as appropriate, to the process entrusted with the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development...”	Deals with issue beyond competence and expertise of the Council; should be addressed in other international organizations that deal with debt issues, economic reform and millennium development goals. Emphasizes collective rights over rights of individuals.	Adopted 3/27/08 Vote: Yes : 34 No: 13 Abstain: 0	No
A/HRC/7/5: Mandate of the independent expert on human rights and international solidarity	Cuba	“Reaffirming that the widening gap between economically developed and developing countries is unsustainable and that it impedes the realization of human rights in the international community...” “Recognizing that the attention paid to the importance of international solidarity as a vital component of the efforts of developing countries towards the realization of the right to development of their peoples and the promotion of the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by everyone has been insufficient...”	Focus on abstract groups and state interests over rights of individuals. Distracts HRC and international community from violations of basic civil, religious, and political freedoms.	Adopted 3/27/08 Vote: Yes: 34 No: 13 Abstain: 0	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/11: The role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights	Poland	<p>“Transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government is the foundation on which good governance rests...”</p> <p>“Noting with satisfaction the outcomes of the conferences of the Community of Democracies. . . at which the States committed themselves to build on shared principles and goals to promote democracy in all regions of the world...”</p>	<p>Reference to Community of Democracies opposed by Cuba and Russia.</p> <p>Only resolution addressing the impact of democracy and good governance on human rights. Addresses negative impact of corruption on human rights.</p> <p>References right to development.</p>	<p>Adopted 3/27/07</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 41 No: 0 Abstain: 6</p>	Yes
A/HRC/7/15: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	Japan and Slovenia for the EU	<p>“Deeply concerned at the continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the DPRK...”</p> <p>“Deploing the grave human rights situation in the DPRK...”</p> <p>“Deeply regretting the refusal of the Government of the DPRK to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur or to extend full cooperation with him...”</p> <p>“Alarmed by the precarious humanitarian situation in the country...”</p>	<p>Extends mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in North Korea.</p> <p>Condemns North Korea for grave human rights abuses.</p>	<p>Adopted 3/27/08</p> <p>Vote: Yes: 22 No: 7 Abstain:18</p>	Yes

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/16: Situation of human rights in the Sudan	Egypt for the African Group	<p>“Expresses its deep concern at the seriousness of the ongoing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in some parts of Darfur...”</p> <p>“Acknowledges the measures taken by the Government of the Sudan to address the human right situation in the Sudan, but expresses its concern that, for various reasons, their implementation has not yet led to the desired positive impact on the ground...”</p> <p>“Welcomes the collaboration of the Government of the Sudan with the Special Rapporteur...”</p> <p>“Calls on the Government of the Sudan to continue and intensify its efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights...”</p>	<p>Criticizes violations of human rights in Darfur but fails to condemn Sudan’s actions.</p> <p>Fails to reflect gravity of the situation in Sudan and the recent human rights and humanitarian deterioration in Darfur.</p> <p>Praises Sudan for its “collaboration” with the international community, disregarding systematic Sudanese non-cooperation, especially in Darfur.</p> <p>Seeks to provide support and assistance to the Sudanese government.</p>	Adopted without vote 3/27/08	No
A/HRC/7/17: Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	Pakistan for the Islamic Group, Palestine for the Arab League	<p>“Construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination...”</p> <p>“Stresses the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem...”</p>	<p>Prejudges negotiations on core issues of peace process. Redundantly asserts Palestinian claim that Israel already recognized.</p> <p>Fails to mention role of Hamas terrorism and that of other extremist groups in severely impeding right to self-determination of both Palestinians and Israelis.</p> <p>Breaches non-selectivity principle by enacting self-determination resolution concerning claim against only one member state.</p>	Adopted without a vote 3/27/08	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/18: Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan	Pakistan for the Islamic Group, Palestine for the Arab League	“Israeli settlements activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory constitute very serious violations of international humanitarian law and the human rights of the Palestinian people therein and undermine international efforts...aimed at invigorating the peace process and establishing a viable, contiguous and independent Palestinian State...”	One-sided text fails to mention or criticize Hamas terrorism, contravenes balanced approach of Road Map peace process. Redundant to GA resolutions already adopted this year on same issue, e.g., A/RES/62/108.	Adopted 3/27/08 Vote: Yes: 46 No: 1 Abstain: 0	No
A/HRC/7/19: Combating defamation of religion	Pakistan for the Islamic Group	“Condemned the growing trend of Islamophobia and systematic discrimination against the adherents of Islam...” “Welcoming. . . the report by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Muslims and Arabs in various parts of the world...” “Invites the Special Rapporteur to continue to report on all manifestations of defamation of religions, and in particular on the serious implications of Islamophobia, on the enjoyment of all rights to the Council at its ninth session...”	Seeks to protect a specific religion rather than individuals. Focuses specifically on Islam and ignores other religions and beliefs. Makes 17 references to the words “Islam,” “Islamophobia,” “Muslims,” “Islamic Conference,” and “Arab.” Seeks to limit freedom of expression.	Adopted 3/27/08 Vote: Yes: 21 No: 10 Abstain: 14	No

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/20: Technical cooperation and advisory services in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	Egypt for the African Group	<p>“Decisions to create, review or discontinue country mandates should also take into account the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations...”</p> <p>“Invites the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to inform and update the Council, at its future sessions, on the human rights situation on the ground...”</p>	<p>Omits to mention future work of the Special Rapporteur on the DRC, thus quietly abolishing it.</p> <p>Invites the government of the DRC itself to report on its own human rights situation in future sessions.</p> <p>Describes work of OHCHR office in the DRC as sufficient, implicitly justifying elimination of the Special Rapporteur’s mandate.</p>	Adopted without vote 3/27/08	No
A/HRC/7/30: Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan	Palestine for the Arab Group, and Pakistan for the Islamic Group	<p>“Deeply concerned at the suffering of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan due to the systematic and continued violation of their fundamental and human rights by Israel since the Israeli military occupation of 1967...”</p>	<p>Addresses territorial dispute unrelated to individual rights. Redundant to resolutions adopted this year on the same topic by the General Assembly, e.g., A/RES/62/110.</p> <p>Fails to address Syrian support for enemies of the peace process and sponsorship of terrorism. Accuses only Israel of acting against the peace process.</p>	Adopted 3/28/08 Vote: Yes: 32 No: 1 Abstain: 14	No
A/HRC/7/31: Situation of human rights in Myanmar	Slovenia for the EU	<p>“Strongly deplores the ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Myanmar...”</p>	<p>Strongly deplores Burmese repression.</p> <p>Urges Myanmar to receive follow-up mission by the Special Rapporteur.</p>	Adopted without vote 3/28/08	Yes
A/HRC/7/32: Mandate of Special Rapporteur on Myanmar	Slovenia for the EU	<p>“Expressing serious concern about ongoing human rights violations... Decides to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur”</p>	<p>Extends mandate of Special Rapporteur on Burma for one more year.</p>	Adopted without vote 3/28/08	Yes

UN Watch Scorecard: Key UNHRC Actions in 2007-2008

(2nd Year of UNHRC, from June 2007 to May 2008)

Symbol and Title	Sponsors	Text	Analysis	Result	Desired Vote
A/HRC/7/L.39: Amendment to draft resolution L.24 on mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	Egypt for the African Group, Pakistan for the Islamic Group, and Palestine for the Arab League	“Requests the Special Rapporteur, within the framework of his/her mandate. . . to report on instances in which the abuse of the right of freedom of expression constitutes an act of racial or religious discrimination...”	Unprecedented restriction on freedom of expression. Redefines mandate of the special rapporteur, requiring him to police individuals who “abuse” the right to freedom of expression.	Adopted 3/28/08 Vote: Yes: 27 No: 17 Abstain: 3	No
Oral amendment to draft resolution L.24 <i>(see above).</i>	Cuba	“Recognizing. . . the importance that all forms of media report and deliver information in a fair and impartial manner...”	Seeks to restrict press freedom.	Adopted 3/28/07 Vote: Yes: 29 No: 15 Abstain: 3	No
A/HRC/7/36 <i>(includes above amendments):</i> Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	Canada was sponsor but withdrew sponsorship after the adoption of OIC amendment.	“Decides to extend for a further three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur...” “Requests the Special Rapporteur, within the framework of his/her mandate. . . to report on instances in which the abuse of the right of freedom of expression constitutes an act of racial or religious discrimination...”	Extends mandate of special rapporteur, but redefines that mandate in Orwellian terms. <i>(See two amendments above.)</i>	Adopted 3/28/08 Vote: Yes: 32 No: 0 Abstain: 15	Abstain

	OM/1/1 Inquiry on Lebanon	OM/1/2 HR in OPT	5/1* Institution- Building Package	6/7 Unilateral Coercive Measures	6/18 HR in OPT	6/19 Religious Rights in OPT	6/21 Comple- mentary Standards	6/22 Racism	6/23 Durban II	S-5/1 HR in Myanmar	6/33 Report on Myanmar	6/34 SR on Sudan	6/35 Removing Experts on Darfur	6/37 Religious Intolerance	S-6/1 Gaza
Sri Lanka	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y
Switzerland	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
Ukraine	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A	N	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
United Kingdom	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
Uruguay	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Zambia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

* The June 19, 2007 vote on whether the HRC Institution-Building Package (Res. 5/1) was adopted by consensus the night before.
Canada's request to vote on the package was defeated 46 to 1.

	7/1 HR in Palestine	7/2 Staff of OHCHR	7/4 IE on Foreign Debt	7/5 IE on Int'l Solidarity	7/11 Good Governance	7/15 HR in DPRK	7/16 HR in Sudan	7/17 Palest Self- Determination	7/18 Settle- ments	7/19 Defamation of Religion	7/20 Remo- ving SR on DRC	7/30 Golan	7/31 HR in Myanmar	7/32 SR on Myanmar	7/L.39 OIC Limit on Free Speech	Cuban Limit on Free Speech	7/36 SR on Free Expression
Peru	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y
Philippines	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A
Qatar	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Republic of Korea	A	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y	A	N	A
Romania	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	A
Russian Federation	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Saudi Arabia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Senegal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Slovenia	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	A
South Africa	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sri Lanka	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Switzerland	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	A
Ukraine	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	A
United Kingdom	A	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	A
Uruguay	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Zambia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y