XXXIII
TECMUN Jr.

Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Affairs

Wednesday, November 12th

Registration	8:00 – 9:00 h
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 10:00 h
Break	10:00 – 10:30 h
First Session	10:30 – 12:30 h
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h
Second Session	13:00 – 15:00 h
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h
Third Session	16:00 – 18:00 h

Thursday, November 13th

Master Conference	8:30 – 9:30 h
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h
Fourth Session	10:00 – 12:30 h
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h
Fifth Session	13:00 – 15:00 h
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h
Sixth Session	16:00 – 18:00 h

Friday, November 14th

Seven Session	8:00 – 9:30 h
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h
Eighth Session	10:00 – 12:00 h
Break	12:00 – 12:30 h
Ninth Session	12:30 – 13:45 h
Meal	13:45 – 14:30 h
Closing Ceremony	15:00 – 17:30 h

Secretary General: Abril Valdés Calva

GENERAL COORDINATION
Subsecretary of General Coordination: Mauro Carillo Gálvez
Supervisor of General Coordination for Co. Secretariat: Emiliano Parra Maya

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
General Subsecretary: Andrea Abigail Salazar López
Supervisor of Coordination: Hannia Nieves José

Plenary Session for the General Assembly
President: Fernada Cisneros Farfán

A) Mitigating the legal, humanitarian, and environmental repercussions of the forced relocation in the Republic of Kiribati, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Maldives caused by the increasing sea levels and the historical emissions by developed nations.

B) Addressing the conflict in the Taiwan Strait caused by the military activities, airspace violations, and sovereignty claims between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan), with a focus on regional security and international law.

Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Affairs
Presidente: Diego López Peralta

A) Measures to regulate human rights violations and punishments against the LGBTQ+ community in Africa.

B) Ethical implications of artificial intelligence in healthcare access in countries with developing healthcare systems, like all of East Africa.

Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos
Presidente: Mariana Dueñas Salgado

A) Estrategias para garantizar la seguridad y el cumplimiento de derechos humanos de periodistas en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos frente a los ataques derivados del narcotráfico, corrupción estatal y falta de protección por parte del Estado.

B) Medidas para salvaguardar los derechos humanos y la seguridad de los inmigrantes en los Estados Unidos de América afectados por las políticas de deportación masiva implementadas por la administración actual del presidente Donald Trump.

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Presidente: Josué Yazid Reyes Oliveros

A) Medidas para frenar el tráfico ilegal de especies como amenaza a la biodiversidad y los esfuerzos de conservación global en América del Sur y la Amazonia brasileña

B) Estrategias para mitigar el impacto de los microplásticos en los ecosistemas marinos y su aplicación en el Sudeste Asiático

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
President: María Fernanda López Islas

A) Actions to strengthen national legislation to prevent child labor in the informal textile industry in urban centers of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, where regulatory systems remain weak and exploitative practices are common.
B) Addressing the rise in mental health issues among children and adolescents following the COVID-19 pandemic with Significance in the Republic of India.

Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia
Presidente: Reggina Marie Orta Gónzalez

A) Acciones para abordar crímenes vinculados al turismo criminal en el Sudeste Asiático, con enfoque en vacíos regulatorios y violaciones de derechos humanos.
B) El crecimiento del cibercrimen transnacional en América Latina como amenaza a la seguridad digital y jurídica.

Comisión de Derecho Internacional
Presidente: Axl Paris Ortega Rodríguez

Tópico A) Estrategias globales para detener la explotación ilegal de recursos naturales en el Amazonas, centrándose en la intervención de empresas extranjeras en Brasil y Perú.
Tópico B) Medidas para evitar el uso del derecho internacional con fines políticos, con énfasis en las sanciones económicas impuestas por los Estados Unidos y la Unión Europea a la Federación de Rusia.

Committee Against Torture
President: Mariana Méndez Cruz

A) Measures to eradicate the degrading and generational torture of genital mutilation of females in the Middle East and Africa.
 B) Measures to stop mass repression, forced disappearance, and torture in the criminal procedure of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Histórica Organización de los Estados Americanos
Presidente: Aarón Vázquez Guzmán

A) Mecanismos para eliminar la influencia política del Cártel de Medellín en la República de Colombia priorizando la protección de los derechos humanos de la población. (1976-1993)
B) Medidas para la resolución pacífica del conflicto bélico interno causado por los Contras en la República de Nicaragua mediante la liberación de tensiones políticas entre los Estados Unidos de América y la Unión de Repúblicas Socialistas Soviéticas. (1979–1990)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

General Subsecretary: Samantha Salgado Nájar
Supervisor of Coordination: Alexa Esmeralda Rivera Jimenez

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
President: Valentina Reyes Pardo

A) Mechanisms to address the rise in obstetric violence in Latin America, due to the increasing cases of professional negligence that contribute to the violation of women's reproductive rights.
B) Measures to counter Gender-Based Political Violence Against Women perpetuated by the diffusion of anti-progressive campaigns during electoral processes in the United Mexican States.

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones
Presidente: David Trujillo Loza

A) Estrategias para mitigar la crisis masiva de desplazamientos de la República de Sudán a causa de las disputas territoriales entre las Fuerzas Armadas de Sudán (FAS) y las Fuerzas de Apoyo Rápido (FAR).
B) Estrategias para frenar la crisis migratoria de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela hacia países de Latinoamérica y los Estados Unidos de América, manteniendo el enfoque en la violencia generada por las elecciones presidenciales de 2024.

Comisión Económica de las Naciones Unidas para Europa
Presidente: Camila Oliveros Dávila

A) Medidas para mitigar el impacto económico y social del envejecimiento poblacional en Europa Occidental y del Norte, con especial atención a la sostenibilidad de los sistemas de pensiones y salud.
B) Acciones para fomentar la transición energética a energías renovables en países en desarrollo, con enfoque en Asia Central.

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
President: Claudia Guadalupe Pfeiffer Benítez

A) Measures to Address the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic with Emphasis on Compliance with the International Disarmament Regime.
B) Approaches to Strengthening Nuclear Non-Proliferation in the Middle East with Focus on Adherence to International Norms.

Comisión Económica para África
Presidente: Rebeca Farah Romero Pérez

A) Estrategias para contrarrestar la hambruna extrema y la escasez de recursos en origen al conflicto civil en la República del Sudán del Sur.
B) Estrategias de intervención para el deterioro de la economía de la República de Sierra Leona a causa de la epidemia de ébola.

Fonds Monétaire International
Président: Melany Fayed Cervantes Espinoza

A) Mesures visant à réduire la perte d'emplois ruraux en République Fédérative du Brésil, en particulier dans la région du Cerrado, en raison de la dégradation des terres agricoles.
B) Actions visant à réduire la dette extérieure de manière juste et organisée pour renforcer et diversifier l'économie africaine, en particulier en République du Zambie.

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura
Presidente: Aarón Badillo Aguilar

Tópico Único) Medidas para la retención del desplazamiento forzado de comunidades indígenas por megaproyectos extractivos en la República Federativa del Brasil, la República de Colombia, la República del Perú y los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
President: María Fernanda Domínguez Hereida

A) Actions to prevent the recruitment of young people in the Central African Sahel region into organized crime, addressing the social roots of recruitment into gangs, cartels, and extremist networks.
B) Strategies to limit radicalization within prison systems in the Southern Philippines and the lack of effective programs to prevent criminal recidivism.

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America
President: Jacobo Nicolas Palafox Valdes

A) Strengthening nuclear security protocols in Latin America and the Caribbean in response to natural disasters.
B) Addressing the risks of illicit nuclear material trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISMS
General Subsecretary: Patrick Eduardo Cunillé Paniagua
Supervisor of Coordination: Arantza Estrada Ríos

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra
Presidente: Alexandra Sofía Reyes Galindo

A) Medidas para frenar la trata de personas en África Occidental, con énfasis en los matrimonios infantiles forzados.
B) Acciones para contrarrestar la represión estatal en Irán, ocasionada por la concentración del poder en manos del líder supremo y la Guardia Revolucionaria.

Organización Internacional de la Policía
Presidente: Diego Alejandro Salazar Náfate

A) Medidas para frenar el empleo de criptomonedas en el tráfico ilícito de especies protegidas, entre la República de Camerún, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos y la República Federal de Alemania.
B) Medidas para erradicar las redes de trata de menores encubiertas como adopciones internacionales a través de la manipulación de procedimientos legales y la adulteración de

credenciales de identificación entre la República Federal de Nigeria, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos y el Reino de los Países Bajos.

International Committee of the Red Cross
President: Emilio Antonio Contreras Salas

A) Measures to protect and assist the civil population and detained persons affected by the armed conflict between the State of Israel and Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip.
B) Measures to prevent and address violations of human rights in the armed conflict in the Republic of Sudan, with emphasis on the protection of civilians.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
President: Marian Robles Ortiz

Topic A) Actions to ensure the management of humanitarian consequences taking place in the Republic of Yemen as a result of its domestic conflict and the military intervention of international actors.
Topic B) Strategies to counter the human rights violations happening in Port au Prince and its surrounding areas as a result of gang violence and abuse from government authorities.

Organización del Tratado Atlántico Norte
Presidente: Fausto Moreno Hurtado

A) Medidas para contrarrestar las tensiones diplomáticas causadas en Europa del Este ante la adición de la República de Finlandia y el Reino de Suecia a la OTAN, con enfoque en el conflicto de la Federación Rusa y la República de Ucrania.
B) Medidas para enfrentar la crisis migratoria localizada en la frontera sureste de Europa, con énfasis en la ruta Mediterránea Oriental hacia la República Helénica, causada por conflictos internos localizados en el Medio Oriente con enfoque en el grupo Partido de los Trabajadores del Kurdistán (PKK) en la República Turquía.

World Bank
President: Javier Gil Rodríguez

A) Actions to limit the expansion of the agricultural frontier and large-scale deforestation in South America, with an emphasis on affected groups in vulnerable regions such as the Amazon and Gran Chaco.
B) Measures to eradicate the severe precarity of physical and economic resources in the conflict between the State of Palestine and the State of Israel, with specific attention to vulnerable citizens located in the Gaza Strip.

Consejo de Seguridad
Presidente: Emiliano Bautista Soza

A) Estrategias para prevenir el resurgimiento de la violencia armada entre el Estado de Israel y los grupos armados palestinos en Gaza y Cisjordania, al tiempo que se promueve la estabilidad a largo plazo en la región.
B) Acciones para detener el avance del programa nuclear de Corea del Norte, poniendo especial atención en sus pruebas de misiles y las amenazas que representa para la estabilidad de Asia Oriental.

International Atomic Energy Agency
President: Ana Mercado Garduño

A) Measures to prevent illicit trafficking of radioactive materials through unstable border regions, focusing on the region of Central Asia.
B) Actions to mitigate environmental and security risks of nuclear facilities in active and post-conflict zones centered on Ukraine and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Caribbean Court of Justice
President: Miguel Ángel Pérez Rodríguez

A) Appeal by Nevis Betancourt against conviction on depriving Jose Castellanos of his life in Belizean Appeal (Nevis Betancourt v The King).
B) Proceeding by Shanique Myrie against the State of Barbados on violation of human rights and free movement rights under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (Shanique Myrie v The State of Barbados).

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." — *Eleanor Roosevelt*

Dear reader,

Six years ago, I participated in my very first TECMUN as a judge in the *International Court of Justice*. It was a model full of challenges — not only because it was the first online TECMUN, but also because I struggled to find the courage to speak in front of delegates who were far more experienced than I was. I remember spending those three days hiding behind my camera, only speaking when the chair required me to. However, there was one moment that changed everything: watching the *Agent Defense* inspired me in a way I will never forget. It was then that I realized I also wanted to be there — to become someone capable of raising my voice and creating change. It wasn't until my second model that I discovered my true potential. I represented the Republic of Colombia in UNICEF, and that was when I asked myself why I should be afraid to express my opinions on topics that deserve to be heard. That year, I made a promise to stop doubting myself and to participate with the conviction that my voice also had value. That's when I understood that TECMUN was not just about debating — it was about growing, learning, and daring to step out of my comfort zone. That model marked the beginning of my personal evolution.

Years later, I decided to close this journey where it had all begun — in a court. I joined the *Caribbean Court of Justice* as the *Agent Defense* for the State of Barbados. During the closing ceremony, I realized I had achieved what I once only dreamed of: I had become an agent of change. I looked at the High Secretariat and understood that this was my destiny, my dream, my goal — to welcome new generations of agents determined to transform the world from within the debate halls. I share a piece of my TECMUN story with you because, just like me, you are probably seeking to grow, to find your voice, or to reach new goals. No matter where you are in your journey, what truly matters is that you keep moving forward and never stop believing in yourself.

Never stay silent in the face of injustice. Speak up, act, and make choices — because the power to create change lies both in the decisions you take and in the ones you choose not to. Educate yourself, because nurturing your mind will help you understand yourself and others. Help those who need it most, because you hold privileges that many people around the world do not — and using them to serve others is one of the noblest forms of leadership. Do everything with passion, with love, and with purpose — every single day, for yourself and for others. Inspire and be inspired, because you never know if your words or your actions might be the push someone needs to believe in themselves.

Take advantage of being here today. You have the opportunity to expand your limits, to learn, to teach, and to motivate those around you. Remember, you are not alone — there is a network of support surrounding you, believing in you, and walking beside you every step of the way. Be the person you once wished would guide you through your learning process. And above all, trust yourself — because you are capable of achieving everything you set your mind to.

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Abril Valdés Calva
Secretary General for the
XXXIII TECMUN Jr.

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Dear participant,

 Today I speak to you from the heart of a 12-year-old Mauro, who came to his first model and wants to tell you that you are about to experience one of the most beautiful things — TECMUN. A model to which we have poured our soul, heart, and life. I ask you to please come and enjoy it. I don't know if you're here because you had to or because you wanted to, but the only thing I want to say is thank you — thank you for being part of this great model, because without you, this project wouldn't be possible. Thank you for getting involved in topics that maybe others find irrelevant, but in which you see a solution.

Many people think that being in TECMUN is something insignificant, but the truth is that you are deeply engaging with issues that are real global challenges today. I want to tell you that this experience will not only give you knowledge, but it will also open doors to future and amazing academic opportunities. Moreover, you'll meet incredible people who share your same academic interests — or even new ideas that might encourage you to step out of your bubble and see the world and things from a more realistic perspective.

Lastly, I want to invite you to make the most of your time at TECMUN, because it is a unique experience that truly changes you as a person and helps you grow. Be open to change and new ideas, remembering how your past self once dreamed of creating a big change — both within yourself and in leaving a small mark on the hearts of those who dare to step out of their comfort zones and routines. Now it's your turn: laugh, cry, enjoy, learn, and above all, never let others limit your ability to create.

Mauro Carillo Gálvez
Subsecretary of General Coordination for the
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Delegate, ambassador, minister, judge, or agent. Whoever is behind the position you will assume during these three days. Thank you for being here, whether by obligation or by choice; thank you for making the effort to discuss global issues and, above all, thank you for stepping outside your comfort zone to see the world more objectively, free from the privilege we sometimes fail to recognize. Through this model, you'll discover a lot about the world and about yourself. You might not realize it, but you'll emerge a different person, a better person. From my perspective, many years later, each model is something to be treasured. There may be problems, arguments, laughter, or tears, but each one teaches you something in its own way. This model falls to me to view it from the side that seems the most distant, the one least involved in the discussions, but in a way, the one that sees the most of what happens in the twenty-seven committees of this edition. I confess that throughout this experience, I've missed being a delegate, a member of the chair, or a president, but looking back at the person who entered TECMUN in their first semester wanting to be the subsecretary for the general assembly, I realize that I'm exactly where I once wanted to be. Even if it's difficult, tedious, or tiring, that's what Model United Nations teaches you: to grow, to face challenges, and to pursue your dreams. I hope this model treats both you and me in the best way possible and leaves us with one of the many enriching experiences we have yet to live and are already living. Learn, have fun, and don't forget about yourself or others while you're doing it.

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Andrea Abigail Salazar López

Subsecretary of the General Assembly for the

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"Life isn't how to survive the storm, it's about how to dance in the rain."

- *Taylor Swift*

Dear delegate,

First I want to thank you for having the courage and being brave enough to enter a model of the United Nations. In this case TECMUN , I know that you may be scared, nervous or excited; any emotion that you feel right now is totally valid because this is not an easy thing. It takes strength and determination to step into a space like this, where ideas, dialogue, and debate are key, also I want you to know that your voice matters and it may be part of shaping our future. My most important message for you is don't be afraid of anything, of expressing your thoughts, of making mistakes, or of standing out.

My objective as your president of the Third Commission of social Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs is that you leave this experience with something meaningful, it could be your participation, the creation of a new mindset by being more open minded or simply a funny anecdote that you'll remember forever , we are part of a committee that is the key to conflicts resolutions, as the topics we are solving today. What you do here, what you learn, and what you share can become a powerful seed for change, both within this committee and beyond it.

Finally I want to share you a little bit of my own experience in MUNs, I first started just like you, very scared during my first model in 6th grade that was online due to COVID, I spoke and all my thoughts were thinking I was doing badly or that I was meaningless, but I kept trying in next models, it was not easy but I was always learning something new and realizing that I had a clear path to follow in this journey. Being on the other side of the debate opened me up to a totally different experience that was thrilling and incredible, TECMUN has been one of the most wonderful experiences of my life, and I want to share that passion with you I really hope these words help you to motivate and remind you that if you are persistent you can achieve great things, so enjoy these three days of discussion, solutions and hard work. Good luck to you all, Enjoy!

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Diego López Peralta

President of the Third Commision of Social Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs for the

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Background

The Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs, founded in 1945 shortly after the creation of the United Nations (UN) and having an original objective to address the human consequences regarding war and injustice. Nowadays it is part of the main UN body having a concise purpose to promote and protect universal human rights, cultural understanding, and social justice through discussion and non-binding resolutions. Since the establishment of the Human Rights Council in 2006, the Third Committee has adapted its role by presenting and reviewing reports from the council. The Committee meets up every October bringing together high representatives of member states who deliver statements and interactive dialogues with a high number of the Special Procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council.

Faculties

Aiming to develop efficiency in social, humanitarian and cultural affairs, facing present and future challenges in an international field, the Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs offers the following facilities:

- Recommend the establishment of international investigation, with the capacity to request detailed reports on human rights situations, and promote mechanisms for a clear accountability;
- Collaborate among other United Nations agencies and committees to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated approach, thereby strengthening the effectiveness of solutions and avoiding duplication of efforts;

- Develop and promote international agreements among members of the committee, aiming to advance the protection and promotion of human rights globally, ensuring commitment and coordinated implementation strategies;

- Promote technical assistance programs for member states, in order to strengthen national human rights institutions and support the implementation of international human rights standards;

- Encourage member states to defend and protect human rights according to the international standards, ensuring the wellbeing of individuals within their national policies while respecting their sovereignty.

Topic A

Measures to regulate human rights violations and punishments against the LGBTQ+ community in Africa

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By: Diego López Peralta y Valentina Ramírez Galindo

Introduction

In most of Africa (33 out of 55 countries) homosexuality is criminalized, punishable by imprisonment. In countries such as the Republic of Uganda and the Federal Republic of Nigeria same sex relationships are totally illegal, and recent legislative developments have introduced even harsher penalties, including life imprisonment and in the Republic of Uganda even death penalty. Since 2023, these laws have been justified with cultural and religious arguments, considering they still conflict with international human rights standards. Socially community individuals face it with family rejection, making these countries to have high rates of depresion, suicide and homelessness amoung LGBTQ+ youth. There even exist barriers to healthcare and education, many avoid medical care or any type, demanding human rights.

Taking into account the legal and social challenges faced by LGBTQ+ population across Africa and highlighting the importance of fostering community resilience and inclusive cultural dynamics, rather than concentrate only in the legal sanctions imposed by the government, with the objective to empower and reshape the perspective of the majority of the people, while in South Africa is totally the opposite with a progressive legal framework and public acceptance, in these places fostering community resilience becomes key. Local traditions and indigenous communal structures have served for a societal identity, offering a unique opportunity to redefine acceptance. By all these aspects communities can cultivate dialogue and empathize with an ideology of focusing on their local art, music and literature. These cultural expressions can trigger stereotypes and help forge a shared narrative of inclusivity that connects through generational and ideological divides. Furthermore, efforts that engage respected local leaders whether in education, religion, or community mobilization can help realign public perceptions about gender and sexuality, making tolerance and understanding a part of everyday social life. This approach does not advocate for the adoption

of models from elsewhere, but rather internal strategies that respect national laws and honor the diversity of African cultures.

International Perspective on LGBTQ+ Rights in Africa

International community concerned about the criminalization and persecution of LGBTQ+ people in African countries. The main problem is having a high number of laws, such as the, Promotion of Proper Human Sexual Rights or the Anti Homesexuality Act promoted in 2023, being the harshest one of their type with sentences from 10 years of imprisonment for "conspiracy to commit homosexuality" up to the casualty penalty for "aggravated homosexuality", all of this in the Republic of Uganda. These are flagship developments standing firmly in opposition to human rights principles universally accepted and have elicited reactions from multilateral organizations, human rights advocacy groups, and United Nations bodies. International Human Rights Law, under the leading banner of such important documents as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) adopted by the United Nations in 1948, ensures equality, dignity, and freedom from discrimination to any individual. As described by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights" (OHCHR, 2023). These provisions have been cemented by treaties like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which most African countries have signed as a binding agreement with protection for privacy rights, freedom of expression and right to life and liberty. The instruments above clearly provide a clear legal and ethical framework that prohibits the criminalization of individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

International actors have responded very fatally to the criminalization of LGBTQ+ in Africa. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have issued alerts against such laws, the European Union and some Western governments such as the United States of America or

Canada have considered or have already issued measures by suspending development aid or imposing diplomatic sanctions. For instance, after the Republic of Uganda passed its Anti-Homosexuality Act in 2023, a number of countries including the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands recalibrated their bilateral partnerships with the country on grounds of violations of human rights. These forms of international responses are also a clear demonstration that domestic issues can no longer confine LGBTQ+ issues within national boundaries, but must be raised at the level of governance, development cooperation, and international standing.

United Nations and Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs viewpoint

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is an intergovernmental body with a mandate to make effective the promotion and protection of human rights at the global level. It has repeatedly raised its concerns about anti-LGBTQ+ *legislation.*[1] It issued recommendations that discriminatory laws should be reviewed by the states, and measures taken to prevent violence and hate speech. According to another resolution adopted by the UNHRC, "Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is a fundamental human rights issue" (UNHRC, 2024). Others such as that from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) began initiatives like this "Free and Equal" campaign providing public education leading on to policy reform support around the globe for action that leads towards inclusive societies respecting cultural diversity.

The Third Committee, which convenes under the United Nations General Assembly with relevant powers of inquiry, cooperation, promotion, and dialoguing encouragement, forms the human rights forum that most directly touches responsibility for rights issues

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[1] **Legislation:** a law or set of laws suggested by a government and made official by a parliament (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)

affecting disadvantaged populations. However weak it may be in terms of actual enforcement power, such issues get raised at a wider level in the General Assembly with facilitation toward international cooperation on resolutions unsupported legally but reflecting diplomatic norms and expectations. In regular sessions between discrimination and minority rights to vulnerable groups including any member of the LGBTQ+ community. "Universal and equal *suffrage*[2] must be accessible to all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity" (United Nations General Assembly, 2024).

The world community isn't trying to force beliefs on anyone, instead it aims to spread shared values in a way that respects different cultures. More and more countries and groups want to team up with local people like teachers, religious figures, and community leaders to encourage acceptance and understanding from the inside. This plan builds strength and respect without weakening a country's independence. Worldwide, when LGBTQ+ people are pushed aside, it hurts not only their rights but also progress in areas like health, education, and general well-being. Because of this, the world sees this issue not as a local problem, but as a bigger problem for humanity and society.

Oppression and Invisibility of LGBTQ+ Communities

Most Africans express high levels of tolerance for people of different ethnicities or relogies, nevertheless for members of the LGBTQ+ community it is very low, with an average of 21% acceptance rate. Differences between countries are quite important, nations like the Republic of Cabo Verde or the Republic of South Africa have high tolerance with homosexuals (70%), on the contrary,the Republic of Senegal with a quite low acceptance of 3%. Given this data it is evident that *homophobia*[3] can escalate into widespread discrimination and by consequence acts of violence. This progression often stems from deeply rooted social stigmas and

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[2] **Suffrage:** the right to vote in an election, especially to vote for representatives in a government (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)

[3] **Homophobia:** harmful or unfair things a person does based on a fear or dislike of gay people or queer people (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)

state-sanctioned intolerance, creating an environment where LGBTQ+ individuals are dehumanized and denied basic rights.

This invisibility is not accidental but the result of legal barriers, media censorship, and cultural norms that continue to silence the community across the continent. Many countries justify laws inherited from colonial times, using terms like "unnatural acts", targeting the fear of LGBTQ+ individuals. The media also plays a significant role in this invisibility, as most mainstream avoid representing community people or do so in a negative and stereotyped way, reinforcing the social rejection. Social exclusion from families, schools, and communities is very common, and leads to serious mental health problems such as depression and anxiety topics that are often *taboo[4]* or ignored in many regions.This is even more challenging for LGBTQ+ individuals who belong to other marginalized groups, like ethnic minorities, people living with human immunodeficiency virus (*HIV[5]*), or those in poverty, since they face multiple layers of discrimination.

Advocacy[6] is more demanding than other fights for social justice, the only way to gain visibility is fighting against HIV/AIDS, but it has reduced their action due to the public health concerns and that does not translate to full legal protection against individuals. Even in countries where LGBTQ+ have legal existence, their freedom of expression is mostly challenged due to limited funds or limited collaboration; African activists often fight against the "*heteronormativity*"[7] demands a clear path for the African *queers[8]*. This resistance not only requires resilience, but also constant innovation to navigate a hostile political and social climate; despite these efforts, progress remains slow and uneven across the continent.

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[4]**Taboo:** a subject, word, or action that is avoided for religious or social reasons (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)
[5] **HIV:** virus that attacks the body's immune system (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention n.d.)
[6] **Advocacy:** public support for an idea, plan, or way of doing something (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)
[7] **Heteronormativity:** the presumption and privileging of heterosexuality (National Library of Medicine n.d.)
[8] **Queers:** having or relating to a gender identity or a sexuality that does not fit society's traditional ideas about gender or sexuality (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)

In response to these challenges, some activists are turning to cultural expression art, music, and literature as a way to share empathy, break stereotypes, and reframe public narratives. These tools help foster understanding across generations and offer safer ways to advocate for inclusion. Social media platforms also play a crucial role in amplifying these voices, connecting local movements with global support networks. Additionally, the connection within leaders in education, religion and community help shift public attitudes, strengthening a message of acceptance that feels rooted in local identity rather than imposed from outside.

Role of Culture and Tradition into a Reshape of Ideology

Culture and tradition play a significant role in shaping societal attitudes toward LGBTQ+ rights in Africa. Across the continent, deeply rooted customs and religious beliefs influence the perceptions of gender and sexuality, often reinforcing a conservative point of view that resists change. However, cultural evolution is an ongoing process, and historical evidence suggests that African societies have not always been uniformly opposed to diverse sexual identities. Historically, pre-colonial African societies exhibited a range of gender and sexual expressions that were often tolerated or integrated into social structures; nowadays external influences have been key in the reshape of a new ideology. In some regions, the change is more notorious with the high tolerance of traditional leaders and community figures. A clear example of this is the Republic of South Africa, which has embraced LGBTQ+ rights within its constitutional framework, demonstrating that cultural heritage can coexist with a progressive legal protection.

Efforts to reshape an ideology must consider local contexts, informate and make progress with communities through education, dialogue and representation; art and media play a vital role in changing the perception A significant example is the Loud and Proud

Arts Movement in Nigeria, which promotes queer voices through theatre, poetry, and film, despite Nigeria's strict anti-LGBTQ+ laws. This movement creates safe spaces for expression and raises awareness about discrimination; allowing individuals to see community identities as part of their shared cultural roots rather than as foreign impositions. Young people across African nations are also playing a key role, using social media, local music scenes, fashion and film to challenge traditional norms and express gender and sexual diversity in very different ways to make it easier for people to adapt. Countries like the Republic of Botswana have shown important legal progress by a cultural dialogue. In 2019 the High Court decriminalized same sex relations by acknowledging that the society has changed through the time, also arguing that criminalization violated dignity, equality and privacy rights.

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Topic B

Ethical implications of artificial intelligence in healthcare access in countries with developing healthcare systems like all the east africa

By:Diego López Peralta, Valentina Ramírez Galindo y Estefany Eunice Santillan Garcia

Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) is playing such an important role in healthcare systems across the world, offering innovative ways to enhance medical access particularly in areas where healthcare infrastructure is underdeveloped. In East Africa, where health systems often fight with a shortage of medical professionals, limited hospital resources, and restricted access to essential medications, AI holds significant potential to address critical service gaps. However, its adaptation also brings important ethical considerations, including concerns around data privacy, equitable access, and regulatory oversight. The World Health Organization (WHO) has highlighted the importance of the establishment of ethical frameworks for AI use, especially to promote a fair access to healthcare in low-income environments. The Union emphasizes the need for robust governance structures to safeguard patient data and prevent exploitation. Research has suggested that AI powered diagnostics and *telemedicine[9]* could greatly enhance healthcare outcomes in East Africa, though persistent issues remain regarding data security, informed consent, and the risk of excluding already marginalized communities.

AI's integration into healthcare is also linked to wider economic and social conditions. Many countries in East Africa continue facing high poverty levels and lack the necessary technological infrastructure to fully implement AI based medical innovations. Moreover, AI systems developed in Western contexts may not be appropriately functional for the genetic diversity, environmental factors, and disease patterns specific to African populations, raising concerns about the accuracy and effectiveness of diagnoses and treatments. From a governance point of view, international bodies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have approved inclusive AI policies that place a strong

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[9]**Telemedicine:** the use of electronic information and communications technologies to provide and support health care when distance separates the participants.(National Institutes of Health n.d.)

emphasis on ethics and the protection of human rights. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has similarly stressed the need for effective regulation to prevent discriminatory practices and to ensure fair access to AI-driven healthcare solutions.

Challenges of data privacy and informed consent in AI-based medical systems in East Africa

Nowadays implementation of artificial intelligence across East African healthcare systems, patient data is becoming one of the most important and vulnerable resources. Countries like the Republic of Kenya, the Republic of Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Republic of Rwanda are using AI tools for diagnostics, disease and medical surveillance, and patient management. These systems depend on large datasets, often including personal, *biometric*[10], and health-related information. However, many of these countries don't have a strict structure of data protection laws, a strong cybersecurity infrastructure, or widespread digital literacy, creating a fragile environment for the safe use of sensitive health data. A clear example is Kenya's Data Protection Act (2019) being a step forward, but enforcement remains inconsistent especially in rural areas. In the Republic of Uganda, the use of biometric data in health programs has raised concerns about consent and surveillance. According to the World Health Organization, "the absence of robust legal and ethical frameworks in many countries poses a significant risk to the protection of personal health data" (World Health Organization, 2021).

Informed consent is another core challenge. In East Africa, low literacy rates, limited access to health education, and lack of transparency in how AI tools operate; many individuals don't completely understand what they are consenting to when they agree to share their medical data. In rural communities, language barriers and cultural norms complicate the

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[10] **Biometric:** referring to detailed information about someone's body, such as the patterns of colour in their eyes, that can be used to prove who that person is (Cambridge Dictionary n.d.)

process. A recent study made by UNESCO emphasizes that "informed consent must be meaningful, not merely a formality, and must be adapted to the context and understanding of the individual" (UNESCO, 2024). In some cases, people are entered into AI systems or biometric databases without proper awareness or control over how their data will be used or stored. This is particularly concerning in refugee camps and informal settlements, where digital identity systems are being implemented quickly without people realizing what they're sharing.

The unequal power dynamic between foreign tech companies and local healthcare institutions intensifies the issue. Without adequate regulation, these corporations may prioritize data extraction over ethical responsibility, exploiting regulatory gaps for commercial gain. This opens the door to potential abuses such as surveillance, discrimination, or biased decision-making systems that exclude already vulnerable populations from adequate care. While some East African nations are beginning to develop data protection frameworks, progress is uneven. The African Union and UNDP have called for a more inclusive and rights-based approach to digital health governance.

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has urged the creation of a comprehensive governance framework on AI technologies, that improves human rights protection on the African continent including protection of the ownership of data, to support this vision, regional collaboration and policy alignment will be crucial to exploit AI responsibly and equitably. Ensuring meaningful informed consent and strong data protection policies is essential not only for ethical reasons, but also to build public trust and guarantee that the benefits of AI in healthcare are shared fairly across all sectors of East African society. Without this, AI risks becoming a tool of inequality rather than a way to health equity.

The role of international organizations in shaping ethical AI frameworks in Africa

Many international organizations have taken on a fundamental role in promoting ethical frameworks for the implementation of artificial intelligence in Africa, especially in the field of health. This is because many African countries still lack robust legislation on data protection, informed consent, or technological oversight. As a consequence, many global entities such as UNESCO, the United Nations (UN), and the African Union (AU) have issued guidelines and recommendations aimed at ensuring that the use of AI respects human rights and helps promote equity in access to healthcare in this region. These efforts also include building initiatives and technical support to help governments develop their own regulatory structures and ethical standards.

In 2024, the African Union adopted the Continental Artificial Intelligence Strategy. This is responsible for promoting an ethical, inclusive, and sustainable approach to the development of Artificial Intelligence on the African continent. Likewise, during a summit in 2025, some African leaders along with other international organizations, reaffirmed their commitment to the creation of a Continental Governance Mechanism on AI, as well as the promotion of digital inclusion and Africa's representation in international debates on AI. The strategy emphasizes the importance of regional cooperation to build technological capacity and share best practices among member states,it also calls for investments in AI education and infrastructure to ensure that African countries can actively shape and benefit from AI advancements.

For its part, UNESCO has been a fundamental pillar in establishing global standards for the ethical use of AI, as the *Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence* published in 2021, which has already been implemented by 194 countries. This recommendation promotes transparency, responsibility, and non-discrimination in the use of this technology, while also protecting human rights and cultural diversity. Likewise, this recommendation explains the need to conduct ethical impact assessments before

implementing AI technologies. It also encourages international cooperation to ensure that low and middle income countries are not left behind in the global AI landscape.

Similarly, the United Nations Organization has emphasized the importance of global AI regulation, as it expresses concern about developing countries that may be left behind or technologically exploited. For its part, the UN has been responsible for promoting international cooperation to reduce digital divides and ensure that AI does not increase inequalities. In recent forums, the UN has expressed the urgency of creating safeguards that prevent the concentration of AI power in the hands of a few dominant actors. This reflects a wider commitment to an inclusive technological governance that prioritizes fairness and human rights.

Barriers to the Adoption of Technology in Resource-Limited Health Systems

Currently the integration of technology in healthcare systems holds significant progress for improving medical services across Africa, yet numerous barriers continue to totally adapt. Although digital tools such as telemedicine, electronic health records, and AI-based diagnostics could help close gaps in healthcare access, particularly in rural and underserved less attended areas. Nevertheless the implementation remains uneven due to systemic, infrastructural, financial, and social challenges. A major structural barrier is the lack of essential infrastructure. Many regions across sub-Saharan Africa struggle with poor internet connectivity, unreliable electricity, and limited access to digital equipment, making it difficult to maintain or even introduce health technologies (World Health Organization, 2021). These deficiencies are particularly marked in remote and rural communities, where basic healthcare services are already limited.

Financial limitations further complicate the situation, most African health systems operate with low budgets, leaving it narrow for investment in technological infrastructure or

digital training programs. While non governmental organizations have supported some initiatives, long term actions are often weakened by the absence of internal funding mechanisms. Another key issue is the shortage of professionals trained in both healthcare delivery and digital technology management. Many healthcare workers are unfamiliar with data systems or AI assisted diagnostics. Most commonly is being observed that the absence of capacity building programs limits the ability of staff to operate and maintain electronic health systems, which results in underutilization and system failures. Education systems in many African countries such as the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania have yet to integrate digital health into medical and public health curricula, perpetuating the skills gap.

Cultural and linguistic diversity present a quite important level of complexity, many digital health platforms are developed in Western contexts, using languages and interfaces that may not resonate with African populations. This disconnect can lead to low adoption rates, especially in communities where local dialects dominate or where literacy is limited. Furthermore, traditional beliefs about healing and medicine may clash with technologically driven healthcare, creating a bias or resistance toward digital interventions. Digital inequality is perhaps one of the most pervasive barriers, since access to mobile phones, internet services, and digital devices is unevenly distributed between urban and rural populations and among different socio-economic groups. The World Health Organization (WHO) emphasizes that this digital divide not only limits who can access telehealth or digital records but also reinforces pre-existing health gaps.

Despite these challenges, efforts are underway to address the problem. The African Union and other regional bodies have launched strategies to enhance digital infrastructure and promote the ethical use of health technologies. However, as the United Nations has warned, "if not carefully regulated, AI and other digital tools could worsen existing inequalities and

exploit vulnerable populations" (UNESCO, 2021).The successful adoption of health technology in Africa depends on more than just innovation; it requires strong existing institutions, or the creation of new ones, inclusive policy-making, sustainable financing, cultural sensitivity, and investment in human capital.

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Glossary of Forbidden Words

Forbidden Words

Defined by the United Nations, are non diplomatic terms participants must avoid to mention during their speeches on the debate and in the writing of resolution projects

Forbidden Words	Permitted equivalents
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay[11]	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War[12]	Belic conflict
Rape	Sexual abuse
Terrorist	Extremist
Kill or murder	Deprive someone of their life
Death	Casualties
Assassination	Homicide
Army	Military forces
Money	Economic resources
Poor	Lack of resources
Okay	Yes or agree
Black[13]	Afrodescendant

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[11] The word Gay is replaced by a more inclusive term, recognizing that not all people within the LGBTIQ+ community identify in the same way.

[12] The word War can be used in order to refer to historical contexts, such as the Cold War, the First World War, etc. It can only be used in the Security Council to refer to armed conflicts.

[13] The word Black, in reference to ethnicity, is not prohibited but it is recommended to limit its use and refer to this sector as a dark-skinned person or afrodescendant as the case may be.

Glossary for Resolution Projects

Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

Glossary for Resolution Projects

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. They must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	Affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts

Personal notes