



UNHRC

United Nations Human Rights Council

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WELCOME LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear delegates,

I, the secretary general of the conference, would like to welcome you all to AZIZMUN'25. It is an honor for me to be able to present you this work that we have been preparing for months. My team has worked tirelessly to hopefully bring you one of the best MUN experiences you will ever attend.

In our UNHRC committee, it will be in your hands to unite humanity. During the Cold War Era, people shared different opinions and many were imprisoned due to their opinions which violates the basic right of free speech. You delegates will be the ones to solve that. I advise you all to do your research outside of this guide too and come prepared in the best way. For any questions don't hesitate to reach out to me or your USG.

We are eager to see you and can't wait for the debates we will have. As a team, we will do our best to make this conference unforgettable for everyone. I wish you all the best with your preparations!

Best regards,

Melis KARAALI
Secretary General of AZIZMUN'25

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WELCOME LETTER FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL

Dear Delegates ,

I am Ecem Yaren Ekici, acting as the Director General of AZİZMUN'25. It is indeed a proud moment for me to welcome on board those present at the conference as a whole. This has been a part of our hard work for a long time, and I exerted great strength and personal effort into making the preparation of study guide material for the UNHRC committee. Detail by detail, I have left nothing out that could effectively promote the experience for you as best it can. That makes it ever so special, indeed, when I see all of you here, and I couldn't be happier about this moment.

The Council just does not speak of human rights violations; it brings the ability and togetherness for solutions and action to be taken towards the protection and advancement of human rights worldwide. For this year, we will address very pressing issues, and we are going to discuss the connections between human rights violations and the legacy of the Cold War across the globe. Every dialogue will be an opportunity for learning from history and working toward a more fair world.

I wish you all a enjoyable, productive, unforgettable and flawless conference. For any problem or questions please dont hesitate contact with me. Looking forward to meeting all of you soon and joining hands for work in our committee!

Best regards,

Ecem Yaren EKİCİ
Director General of AZİZMUN'25

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WELCOME LETTER FROM UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL

Distinguished Delegates,

It is my greatest honor to invite each and every one of you to the United Nations Human Rights Council at this year's meeting. As the Under Secretary-General responsible for this committee, I am delighted to have such competent and committed professionals coming together to discuss and debate the key questions that will determine our shared future.

Here, you are not just going to represent nations but also raise the questions of millions of individuals whose life and rights are in the hands of our decision-making. I have faith in your commitment, diplomacy, and thinking power that will guide you through the meetings.

On behalf of the secretariat, I wish you a productive, reflective, and memorable committee experience. If you have any questions or need assistance during the conference, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Warm regards,

Ertuğrul ÖNER
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INTRODUCTION

While the UNHRC was created by the UN General Assembly in 2006, this committee will simulate its history as if it were 1977. The committee shall review human rights records of specific treaty states, address violations, and assist in the promotion of international human rights standards.

There are stark divergences of East-West narratives on human rights, in addition to being the heady days of Cold War in 1977, when military and ideological rivalries were at their peak. In fact, political oppression increased-the highest in the Soviet Union; media censorship reached the highest; and ethnic and religious minorities were been neglected in the Eastern bloc. The Western was accused of backing authoritarian regimes and foreign interventions, which often involved extensive human rights violations.

Now, under this UN body, accusations are voiced, defenses are mounted and attempts are made to justify human rights records under such elaborate international politics. And more, the committee is expected to deal with what has happened globally in human rights violations and pave the way for ideas about cooperation and international action on such issues. Indeed, ever since the signing of the Helsinki Final Act in 1975, international consideration of human rights has increased dramatically in importance for the UNHRC from 1977 onwards.

Such debate is expected among the delegates to be stimulated while also hearing their arguments and defenses regarding their countries' policy positions within that particular diplomatic framework as regards debate and within constructive and realistic solution contexts. Media freedom-the rights of ethnic minorities the refugee crisis-political persecution: the committee's wide agenda brings about a creating experience fast-moving and intellectually stimulating for all.

AGENDA ITEM: Human Rights Violations during the Cold War

The Cold War now is more than just the competition of nuclear arms or the differences between ideologies in addition to clandestine operations. It enables us to look into how human rights have become employed, neglected, or defended in international relations. Human rights during this period became politicized; it became a medium of propaganda and an item of diplomatic conversation. In this awkward and ambivalent process, the world was to suffer by 1977 from human rights breaches far worse than those recorded earlier on.

The Legacy of World War II and the Birth of the United Nations

After World War II, with its end in 1945, utterly terrible catalogues of abuses began, including genocide under Nazi rule, massive aerial bombardments against civilian targets, and innumerable war crimes. The horrendous scenarios were the background to the institution of the United Nations and to what was mostly principally about prevention. The adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 was a historic milestone in the development of a global framework for the rights of man.

But all that was happening just as the Cold War was coming into focus. The distinct confrontations were not within the Western camp but between the Soviet Union as the one pole of the equation and the United States and its partners as the other. Human rights were construed in line with the political perspective of either of the two sides, thus commodifying it into something that serves the interest of one side or another rather than being understood as a universal good.

Ideological Interpretations and Double Standards

In the Eastern Bloc (particularly the USSR, China, East Germany, Poland, and Hungary), collective rights took precedence, emphasizing the right to housing, education, and health care with the justification of the limitation of individual liberties. In a different light, the Western countries-the US, the UK, and France focus on civil liberties such as freedom of expression and freedom from discrimination in the exercise of property rights.

Human rights were an integral part of the rhetoric that each bloc utilized to condemn the perceived failure of the other. However, when it came to their own allies or nations in their sphere of influence, they often overlooked or legitimized the human rights violations committed by them. This led to the weakening of the international human rights discourse and turned the concept of "human rights" into a political instrument rather than a universally recognized moral norm.

Helsinki Accords and the Post-1975 Period

A major watershed in the dragging human-rights discussions of the Cold War was provided in 1975 by the signing of the Helsinki Final Act. Here the US and the Soviet Union together with a total of thirty-three other European states recognized borders yet also committed to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms on the part of the signatories. But serious violations were registered in most of the countries holding their executions, especially in Eastern Europe.

- In the USSR, dissident writers like Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn were exiled, imprisoned, or sent to labor camps.
- Intellectuals were repressed in Czechoslovakia after the crushing of the 1968 Prague Spring.
- The infamous Stasi of East Germany perpetrated intense surveillance upon its citizens, nearly wiping public life from private life.
- In China, after the Cultural Revolution, mass persecutions followed by public humiliations and forced re-education campaigns rend cultural heritage and millions of lives.

The Western Bloc was also, with good reason, accused of numerous human rights abuses.

- The U.S. supported and backed the Pinochet regime in Chile, a brutal dictatorship known for torture, forced disappearances, and the murder thousands of political opponents.

- Also in the left, there was the dirty war, meaning, in Argentina the military dictatorship merged innocents into the blood-soaked parasite, i.e. either abducted or disappeared.
- He kept being the king in Iran through a ferocious secret police that tortured-SAVAK-backed by America.

These examples indicate that the West often compromised its surface commitment to human rights for strategic reasons in particular in the Global South. Hence, such countries have become very skeptical of the West's credibility when it comes to provide genuine humanitarian advocacy.

Refugee Crises, Minority Oppression, and Constituted Civil Movements

By 1977, the growth of human abuse was assumed to have engendered humanitarian crises of global dimensions manifested in forced migration and refugee flows.

- Without uttering a word, hundreds of thousands of these so-called "Boat People" departed from Vietnam and neighboring countries by sea following the Vietnam War.
- Genocide and genocidal policies inflicted by the Khmer Rouge regime, headed by Pol Pot, had killed over two million Cambodians.
- In Uganda, ethnic cleansing, mass murder, and internal dislocation of persons became the hallmark of Idi Amin's brutal regime.
- In the USSR and in countries from Turkey, minorities such as Kurds, Jews, and Crimean Tatars were subjected to systemic discrimination, cultural eradication, and political oppression.

However, the 1970s marked the burgeoning international movement in civil society. In this context, groups such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, along with some eminent dissidents like Andrei Sakharov, became the most important international forces opposing state narratives and exposing abuses occurring from the state to the citizens and vice-versa across the globe. They thus became some of the most immediate and leading actors to help internationalize the human rights discourse in the favor of individual rights even under state-imposed opposition.

UNHRC-1977 Regarding Involvement

UNHRC was however established only in paper in the year 2006. In this imbalance, the UNHRC simulation will show international public discussions pertaining to human rights, which might have occurred in 1977. The said year was critical since that was the time human rights have emerged not simply as subjects of ethical concern but equally as strategic instruments in international relations.

By 1977:

- Human rights advocacy was influencing foreign affairs.
- Global consciousness of abuses was heavily imprinted by mass media and advocacy networks.
- Everything was in contention from international human rights organizations: non-state actors against state actors, exiled dissidents, and grassroots resistance movements.

Therefore, members of this committee will be expected to:

- Represent the interests of the assigned country in the political and legal milieu then,
- Objectively assess the human rights records of other states,
- Propose possible, realistic measures towards stopping on-going abuse,
- Endorse the establishment of a global consensus on the universality and justiciability of human rights norms.

This Committee will not only be required to analyze the past, but perhaps even imagine a future international order in which human dignity shall take precedence over ideological slaughters. The grand platform for universality, accountability enforcement, and human rights depoliticization will be invigilated by this forum.

SUB TOPICS

1. **Political Prisoners and Repressive Regimes Through the Cold War**

The imprisonment and persecution of persons with an objectionable political view, affiliation, or activism became a defining feature of the authoritarian regimes on both sides of the Iron Curtain. By 1977, these practices were blatantly being employed against dissenters in order to maintain the stability of regimes in political systems where state ideology permeated daily life.

Eastern Bloc: Criminalization of Dissent

In the Eastern Bloc, anti-Communist activities were continuously criminalized; indeed, Communist regimes would label any anti-government expression, any desire for reforms, and any small questioning of Marxist-Leninist tenets as being "enemies of the people".

This was no different with the harassment of Andrei Sakharov, Natan Sharansky, and Yuri Orlov in the USSR, which ranged from harassments to exiles and imprisonments. Many other political prisoners were arrested and sent to Gulag work camps or psychiatric hospitals where forced labor and psychological manipulation were the order of the day.

The KGB methodically monitored dissident activities involving more serious intellectuals, groups, students, and religious leaders. Even trivial activities such as pasting and spreading so-called literature or holding occasional gatherings would get you arrested.

In Czechoslovakia, after the Prague Spring (1968), pro-reform activists were systematically purged from public life. Persecution started against the authors of Charter 77, the human rights manifesto signed in January 1977, including playwright Václav Havel.

The Stasi operated one of the most sophisticated surveillance systems of the day in East Germany. Political opposition was silenced through imprisonment, character assassination, and forced emigration. Prisons like Bautzen epitomized political repression.

Such regimes justified their actions by treating dissent as treason, or as some sort of subversion from the West, equating those undertaking human rights advocacy with national security threats

Pro-Western Bloc and Suppression Strategy

While the West extols civil liberties in principle, the Cold War realpolitik turned a blind eye often enough to the support or toleration of oppressive regimes in the service of Western geopolitical convenience.

- In Latin America: Chile, under the Pinochet regime, for instance, the Dirty War in Argentina, and the military junta in Brazil, arrested, tortured, and disappeared thousands of political opponents. All of the above regimes had implicit or open support from the United States for their differences in anti communism.
- Again in South Africa, the anti-apartheid campaigns utilized the detaining of anti-apartheid activists, Nelson Mandela among them, imprisoned since 1962. The western worlds often refrained from condemning South Africa extremely due to economic and strategic alignments.
- In Iran, the US-supported regime of the Shah had the SAVAK secret police brutalize political dissidents to silence them. The methods included torture, censorship, and imprisonment, which effectively silenced both secular and religious opposition.

Accountability at the international level was limited by the fact that these acts were often echoed by civil society organizations. Containment of communism overshadowed the repression by most Western states within allied states.

NGOs and International Advocacy

By 1977, non-governmental organizations such as Amnesty International were beginning to document cases of political imprisonment on both sides. The publication of lists of prisoners and testimonies of torture through international letter-marketing campaigns would help bring to light their plight and secure the release of some well-known prisoners.

State denial and propaganda campaigns complicated matters to such an extent that, in many instances, political prisoners were recorded simply as criminals or mentally ill to discredit their cause.

2. Migration and Refugee Crises

The decade of the seventies saw a phenomenal increase in forced migrations and displacements, as millions fled persecution, wars, and political unrest. This mass migration was framed as diseconomy, but soon began to be politicized as both paid for controlling the definition regarding these migration flows: humanitarianism versus politicization.

Postwar and Cold War Refugees

The usual decade developments of crisis for refugees have been proxy wars and authoritarian regimes receiving at least some backing of at least one superpower. Hundreds of thousands fled Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia after the Vietnam conflict, fearing communistic retribution, extensive violence, and famines. They were termed "Boat people." The harrowing journeys of these people were often accompanied by fates much less sure in camps in Southeast Asia or countries such as the United States, France, or Australia.

The realization of the Khmer Rouge regime in the Cambodian kingdom initiated probably one of the most disastrous refugee calamities during that era. Starvation, mass purges, and execution of more than 1.3 million Cambodians led to the movement of numerous thousands of refugees to the abode of Thailand.

Migration in Europe or the Eastern Block

In Europe, fleeing citizens of East Germany tried to cross legally into the West but were usually shot in the process at the Berlin Wall and elsewhere in East German countryside. Restrictions and heavy punishment for defectors from the Soviet empire have also reigned over the length and breadth of Russia, where Soviet Jews, intellectuals, and dissidents became icons of the ideological resistance, causing havoc in diplomatic relations.

In this way, however, the refugee movements during the Cold War were ideologically laden. The refugee applicants who managed to enter the delivery channels of the West despite being from communist countries were more evidence for the failure of totalitarianism than the atrocities perpetrated by the regimes this West otherwise supported in displacing people.

Quite a momentous year, 1977 generated increasing confrontation globally toward a rather consistent and unapologetic system of answering questions about refugee protection. Clearly worthy of scrutiny from this committee.

3. Freedom of Expression and Media Control

During the Cold War, two blocs made effective use of controlling information as an important tool. They aimed to influence the public, suppress dissent, and exercise power through control over media outlets and free speech suppression.

Media Control of the Eastern Bloc

The Soviet Union and other Eastern Bloc countries had state-dominated media channels. The government carefully controlled newspapers, radio, and television broadcasts in order to transmit only state-approved narratives. Criticism of the government or Communist Party was illegal and almost all dissenters were imprisoned or exiled.

- Prague spring of 1968, the period during which Czechoslovakia briefly dabbled in reforms, has its state clampdown on media promoting ideas of "socialism with a human face." Some journalists were arrested, and publications favoring democratic reforms were banned.
- Extending up to Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet Union reinforced the policy of censorship, known as glasnost, a rather controlled openness under discussions limited to the regime's ideological concerns.

Western Bloc and Media Manipulation

Freedom for freedom, open ideological exposure with regard to the West vis-à-vis the United States and the United Kingdom, was matched solidly with corporate property and political interests.

- For while the First Amendment ensured unfettered freedom of speech in the US, the government sometimes found the need for covert operations such as the CIA's Operation Mockingbird to infiltrate some media outlets.
- Be it a western European freedom of press, anti-communist rhetoric would still be peddled in most of such media to fuel the ideological confrontation of the Cold War.

Censorship of the media and repression gave power and held narrative control for both blocs; thus, it was really a very high-human right issue during the Cold War era.

4. Minorities in Ethnicity and Religion

Both Eastern and Western sides faced the issues of their ethnic and religious minorities during the Cold War. Governments tended towards discrimination against them either to maintain ideological purity or to consolidate their power through national unity. Minorities shared the same destiny in the sphere of repression, forced assimilation, and persecution, albeit to different levels of visibility internationally.

Eastern Bloc with Ethnic Repressions

Ethnic minorities such as Tatars, Chechens, and Jews faced severe discrimination in the Soviet Union. The policies of Stalin like forced deportations and ethnic cleansing devastated many communities, and after his demise, the subsequent leaders also continued oppression against non-Russian ethnicities to strengthen the position of ethnic Russians in the USSR.

- Normally, the Crimean Tatars were forcibly exiled to Central Asia in 1944 by Stalin's orders, faced severe conditions for years, and were permitted to return officially only in the 1980s.
- The Jewish community in the Soviet Union received both anti-Semitism from the state and from society. Most suppress Jewish religious practices and migrations attempts to Jews emigrate to Israel by the government.

Religious Minorities Under State Control

Religious minorities, on the other hand, received blows harshly coupled with ethnic persecution. Christians, especially those of Eastern Orthodox and Catholic churches, usually fought a different battle together with the state with respect to secularism. The Russian Orthodox Church remained under extreme state surveillance, with many of its priests having been imprisoned or exiled.

- Among the restrictions practiced concerning religious practices imposed on Muslim communities by the Soviet government, especially in regions like the Volga, was a forced assimilation into secular Soviet life.

Western Bloc Rights for Minorities

In the West, racial and religious discrimination also prevailed. In the United States, African Americans suffered under both segregation and systematic inequality; civil rights became one of the great struggles of the 1960s and 1970s. Racial tensions remained high even after the formal abolition of segregation.

Black Africans were subjected to intense and radical segregation, denial of rights, and oppression under the apartheid system in South Africa.

Both blocs exploit the occurrence of minority oppression as a unifier in holding political power; thus, it becomes an important aspect in understanding the Cold War human rights front.



CONTRIES POSITIONS ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE COLD WAR

United States

In 1977, the United States was basically trying to cope with the consequences of the Vietnam War and dealing with the fallout of the Watergate scandal. While it was being sold as a democracy in the world, the US faced severe criticism for its human rights violations especially with regard to Latin America and Africa. Among others, the US provided support to authoritarian regimes in these regions, such as Pinochet in Chile and Somoza in Nicaragua, under guises such as fighting communism during the Cold War. On the home front, it, too, had civil rights challenges as a country that could easily be qualified as a new effort at racial reconciliation, all of which were fresh in the mind of the nation from the Civil Rights Movement. More embarrassing was the fact that the US was being accused of fighting with the South Vietnamese government in what, by 1975 were already apparently lost causes.

USSR

The 1977 human rights record of the USSR became well known for the oppression of political dissidence and the minority. One very persecuted dissident was Andrei Sakharov, a nuclear physicist and human rights advocate. For advocating change and demanding freedom of speech, he was forced into exile. The government picks up dissent in mouths by systematic scrutiny and control of media and communication. Ethnic minorities were the Tatars of Crimea and Jews, who suffered persecution and resettlements or either denied freedoms like emigration. Religious freedoms were tightly controlled and religious institutions were often subject to persecution.

China

In the year 1977, China had come under the control of Mao Zedong's successors after the death of the Great Helmsman in the year 1976. This has been a period for China that is recovering from mass persecution against intellectuals and ethnic minorities- chiefly the Cultural Revolution. D Stalin policy, while the repression of political dissent remained rigorous and unforgiving, Deng Xiaoping continued to gain strength and moved toward control to drive economic reforms. Political prisoners like the Democracy Wall activists are still arrested in spite of Nepalese and Uyghurs being subjected to severe oppression. In terms concerning freedom of expression, the state believes in a repressive bent's perspective, and any dissent would usually lead to punishment either by imprisonment or reeducation.

United Kingdom

The UK presented itself as being on the side of democracy and human rights even though it was rather controversial at times. The problem about Northern Ireland had not yet subsided, for the bloodshed continued between the Protestant unionists and the Catholic nationalists. These reviled human rights by the UK government that had been formed out of the bloody allegations of how the state dealt with the whole event, especially by the internment of suspected militants without trial. All this while, his outcry has resounded at a higher pitch while condemning the Soviet Union for its abuses on human rights viewed mostly from the angle of political dissidents and other ethnic minorities.

France

In 1977, France was ruled by Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in power, who said that they need to pay attention to human rights concerns as one aspect of French foreign policy in Africa. France, while supporting authoritarian governments, would protect any French expatriate living abroad, especially those in Africa. Internally, immigration matters proved quite contentious, especially with regard to Algerian immigrants, due to past historical tensions arising from the Algerian War of Independence. France joined UN peacekeepers and international public calls supporting the protection of human rights but did not speak out against some repressive acts committed by its Cold War allies.

West Germany

In 1977, West Germany still remained in deep political tension on its position regarding the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The Federal Republic of Germany was quite a part of the European Economic Community and used its involvement as a pretext for advocating on behalf of human rights in communist states in general and on behalf of political prisoners in particular in the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc. Increasing anti-immigrant hostility managed to spark domestic controversy around refugee and asylum-seeking policies in the country as rising economic issues continued to intensify.

East Germany

The much-feared East Germany, otherwise known as the German Democratic Republic, was one of the worst instances of such states, particularly with respect to the use of the Stasi in crushing dissent. Freedom of expression for East Germans was largely an illusion. Those who were political dissidents were imprisoned, sent into exile, or forcibly committed to mental institutions. East Germans who made attempts to flee to the West were either executed or imprisoned. While the East German state used media and education to indoctrinate the populace in socialist ideology, the surveillance on the religious and ethnic minorities was particularly concentrated.

Türkiye

Relatively few things will make one think of Turkey in 1977 more than political instability from the economy and political violence. Cycles of military coups had been embedded in Turkish politics, the latest having been in 1971, with the subsequent conflict between military and civilian governance over the respect and protection of human rights. These tensions engulfed both military and civilian authorities: dissensions over Kurdish rights and treatment of minority populations such as the Alevi community were regularly raised; freedom of expression was also impinged upon. The other landmark in this regard was the 1977 Istanbul Massacre, where leftist demons were met with military force, thus showcasing a conflict between the state repression and political activism.

Poland

In 1977 Poland was still Communist, within the Soviet sphere. A great deal of unrest was beginning to break out in the country, mostly associated with Solidarity, which began to emerge in the early 1980s. Although the government moved quickly against the labor movement, its emergence marked the beginning of political and social upheaval within the state. Religious liberty was itself a concern; the Catholic Church exerted significant pressure as an opposing force to the Communist government. Poland was also much concerned with human rights abuses in the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia

The Communist government in Czechoslovakia enforced severe censorship and surveillance measures to exercise control over the populace. Dissent was met with severe punishment, while one of its major opposition movements, Charter 77, that stood for greater freedom and respect for human rights, was severely repressed. Intellectuals and political dissidents were either persecuted and condemned internationally; yet, the country was also an important player in human rights-related discussions within the Warsaw pact.

Australia

In 1977, Australia enthusiastically entered into active international discussions on human rights mainly concerning its attitude to Southeast Asian refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia. Australia practiced stringent immigration regulations that would be thrown into the very broth and often criticized by international human rights organizations for the severity of conditions met by asylum seekers in their country. Australia, in addition, strongly condemned the repression of ethnic minorities in neighboring Papua New Guinea, actually advocating international pressure against the repressive regimes.

Bulgaria

Under Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria was a faithful Soviet ally; no legacies of Eastern Bloc human-rights policies would fail to be visible in Bulgaria's human rights policies. Political dissent was not tolerable under this Government, especially among the ethnic Turkish and Roma communities. Religious freedom was very restricted. Most infamous were the forced assimilations done by Bulgaria against most of its Turkish minority. Bulgaria's harsh repression of freedom of speech and its membership in Soviet-led international activities have attracted many international condemnations.

Hungary

By 1977, Hungary was going through a relatively more liberal stage of Eastern Bloc politics. The government under János Kádár had relatively liberal policies, which he called the Goulash Communism period; however, there was still very little political dissent allowed. There were problems facing most of the religious minorities, especially Roman Catholics, but the Romanian Orthodox Church faced the severest persecution. Political dissidents and activists were usually punished through imprisonment or exile.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN THE RESOLUTION PAPER

1. How can the suppression of political prisoners and dissidents in authoritarian regimes during the Cold War be addressed without escalating tensions between opposing blocs?
2. What steps can be taken to provide protection and support to refugees fleeing human rights violations, especially those displaced by Cold War conflicts such as those from Vietnam, Chile, and Afghanistan?
3. What strategies can be implemented to combat media censorship and ensure freedom of expression, particularly in regimes that used strict media control to suppress dissent during the Cold War?
4. What measures can be taken to prevent the persecution of ethnic and religious minorities in both Eastern and Western blocs, and how can the international community ensure the protection of these minorities' rights?
5. How can international cooperation with countries that acted against democratic values during the Cold War be made more effective in combating human rights violations?
6. How can international accountability mechanisms be strengthened to address past human rights violations following the end of the Cold War?

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