



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.4/2001/L.51
12 April 2001

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 11

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Albania*, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan*, Botswana*, Brazil, Chile*, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic*, Ecuador, Egypt*, El Salvador*, Guatemala, Honduras*, Israel*, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Nepal*, Nicaragua*, Niger, Paraguay*, Peru, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka*, Turkey*, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela: draft resolution

2001/... The incompatibility between democracy and racism

The Commission on Human Rights,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenants on Human Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

Recalling the commitment reached in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights concerning the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recalling also its resolution 2000/40 of 20 April 2000,

* In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Mindful of the responsibility of Governments to ensure such equality as is established in the relevant international and regional human rights instruments, *inter alia*, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

Reaffirming that acts of racial violence and discrimination do not constitute legitimate expressions of opinion, but rather are offences,

Remaining alarmed by the rise of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large,

Recognizing the fundamental role of education and other active policies in the promotion of tolerance and respect for others and in the construction of pluralistic and inclusive societies,

1. *Remains* convinced that political platforms and organizations based on racism, xenophobia or doctrines of racial superiority and related discrimination must be condemned as incompatible with democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

2. *Condemns* legislation and practices based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as incompatible with democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

3. *Reaffirms* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance condoned by governmental policies violates human rights and may endanger friendly relations among peoples, cooperation among nations, international peace and security and the harmony of persons living side by side within one and the same State;

4. *Urges* States to reinforce their commitment to promote tolerance and to fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as a way to strengthen democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

5. *Invites* the mechanisms of the Commission and the treaty bodies, in particular the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, to continue to pay particular attention to violations of human rights stemming from the rise of racism and xenophobia in political circles and society at large, especially as regards their incompatibility with democracy;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/CN.4/2001/60);

7. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit an analytical report on the main trends and governmental policies regarding this subject, especially on the development of political parties with racist platforms, as well as actions to counter such trends, to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its fifty-eighth session under the same agenda item.
