



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

131st IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 12 - 16.10.2014

Standing Committee
on Democracy and
Human Rights

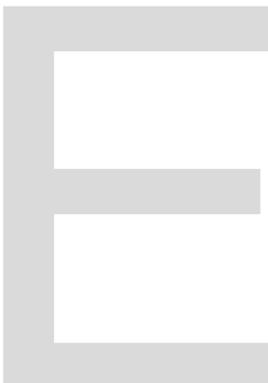
C-III/131/DR
18 July 2014

International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights

***Draft resolution submitted by the co-Rapporteurs,
Mr. Ali Jassim Ahmad (United Arab Emirates) and Mr. Philippe Mahoux (Belgium)***

The 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* the relevant provisions of previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations General Assembly with regard to international law, national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights, and the body of relevant legal instruments of the United Nations, particularly the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- (2) *Reaffirming* that the sovereign equality of States is the basis for international cooperation and a factor of stability,
- (3) *Considering* that international law defines the legal responsibilities of States in their conduct with each other, and their treatment of individuals within State boundaries,
- (4) *Mindful* of the fundamental importance of the rule of law for political dialogue and cooperation among all States, and *underlining* that the rule of law applies to all States equally,
- (5) *Stressing* that an independent judiciary and active civil society and community organizations are important components of the rule of law at the national level and necessary to guarantee the protection of human rights,
- (6) *Aware* that the rule of law, peace and security, human rights and sustainable development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing,
- (7) *Noting* the universal nature of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the solemn commitment made by all States to respect, observe and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people, and *underscoring* that this is fully compatible with the principles of State sovereignty and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States enshrined in the UN Charter,
- (8) *Recalling* the responsibility of occupying States for the protection of the human rights of persons living in the occupied territories,



(9) *Recognizing* that the protection of human rights is a matter of concern for all members of the international community,

(10) *Noting* that by ratifying international human rights law instruments, States accept the monitoring mechanisms foreseen in the instruments,

(11) *Considering* that instances of abuse of international human rights law mean that the system of implementation needs to be strengthened, but do not call into question the validity of the law itself,

(12) *Desirous* of seeing positive developments in the system of international cooperation and the settlement of international disputes through dialogue and other peaceful means, within the framework of the international collective security system,

(13) *Convinced* that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the future Sustainable Development Goals will greatly contribute to such developments,

1. *Reiterates* the principles of the sovereign equality of States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence;
2. *Reaffirms* its commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and *underlines* the essential role of parliaments in upholding the rule of law at the national level through their legislative and oversight functions;
3. *Underscores* the importance of ensuring that women, on the basis of the equality of men and women, fully enjoy the benefits of the rule of law, and *restates* its determination to uphold their equal rights and ensure their full and equal participation, including in institutions of governance and the judicial system;
4. *Calls on* States to ratify the core international human rights treaties and to fulfill their commitment to respect and protect human rights for all;
5. *Urges* parliaments to ensure that States' obligations under international human rights law are translated into national legislation, in conformity with the original intention of the law, and *calls on* parliaments to play an active role in overseeing the implementation of States' obligations;
6. *Expresses* support for the UN Human Rights Council and the existing independent treaty-based mechanisms that monitor States' compliance with international human rights law, *calls for* such mechanisms to be further strengthened, and *calls on* parliaments to participate actively in these monitoring mechanisms;
7. *Encourages* parliaments to strengthen national systems for the protection of human rights;
8. *Appeals* to States to refrain from the threat or use of force, and to resolve disputes by peaceful means, in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms;
9. *Insists* that collective use of force to uphold and ensure respect for human rights must be decided by the United Nations acting under its Charter;
10. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from unilateral economic, financial and trade measures that run counter to international law and the UN Charter, and particularly from enacting national laws that have extra-territorial effects;

11. *Rejects* unilateral interpretations of international human rights law, including in national legislation, and *calls for* the development of safeguards to prevent the abuse of international human rights law for political purposes;
12. *Strongly supports* the provision of humanitarian and economic aid by the international community in cases of disasters, war or hostilities;
13. *Calls on* States to strengthen the system of collective and individual security, including through reform of the UN Security Council, to ensure greater legitimacy of its decisions, and reform of the United Nations in general;
14. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between parliaments, the IPU and the United Nations in the protection of human rights and the development of the rule of law at the national and international level; and *calls for* the existing cooperation agreement between the IPU and the United Nations to be developed into a strategic partnership;
15. *Proposes* that a committee be set up within the Inter-Parliamentary Union to prepare a declaration based on this resolution as a way of further contributing to the enhancement of peace and international security.