



**OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS**



**Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full
enjoyment of all human rights by all**

Human Rights Resolution 2005/56

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling all previous resolutions on this issue,

Recalling also resolutions 1996/16 of 29 August 1996 and 1997/36 of 28 August 1997 of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, entitled “International peace and security as an essential condition for the enjoyment of human rights, above all the right to life”,

Noting General Assembly resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984, entitled “Declaration of the Right of Peoples to Peace”, and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion,

Underlining, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its full and active support for the United Nations and for the enhancement of its role and effectiveness in strengthening international peace, security and justice and in promoting the solution of international problems, as well as the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice are not endangered,

Emphasizing its objective of promoting better relations among all States and contributing to setting up conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace, free from any threat to or attempt against their security,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also its commitment to peace, security and justice and the continuing development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Rejecting the use of violence in pursuit of political aims and stressing that only peaceful political solutions can assure a stable and democratic future for all peoples around the world,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

Also reaffirming that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Further reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that peace and development are mutually reinforcing, including in the prevention of armed conflict,

Affirming that human rights include social, economic and cultural rights and the right to peace, a healthy environment and development, and that development is in fact the realization of these rights,

Underlining that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

Recalling that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights can be fully realized,

Convinced of the aim of creating conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Also convinced that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries, and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

Further convinced that international cooperation in the field of human rights contributes to creating an international environment of peace and stability,

1. *Stresses* that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all;

2. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor, and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability;

3. *Solemnly declares* that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace;

4. *Also solemnly declares* that the preservation of peace and its promotion constitute a fundamental obligation of each State;

5. *Emphasizes* that the preservation of peace and its promotion demand that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on respect of the principles enshrined in the Charter and the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and the right of peoples to self-determination;

7. *Urges* all States to respect and to put into practice the principles and purposes of the Charter in their relations with all other States, irrespective of their political, economic or social systems, as well as of their size, geographical location or level of economic development;

8. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are parties and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, and encourages States to settle their disputes as early as possible, as a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights of everyone and all peoples;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations with Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations on how the Commission on Human Rights could work for the

promotion of an international environment conducive to the full realization of the right of peoples to peace, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

10. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

11. *Decides* to continue considering the issue at its sixty-second session under the same agenda item.

*58th meeting
20 April 2005*

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 32 votes to 15,
with 1 abstention. See chap. XVII, E/CN.4/2005/L.10/Add.17]