

FORUM: Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

QUESTION OF: Topic 1: Human Rights Violation in North Korea, Topic 2: Civic Space and Surveillance

MAIN SUBMITTER: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

SPONSORS: People's Republic of China, Russian Federation

SIGNATORIES: Burkina Faso, Mexico

SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN, AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE,

Recalling the Pamunjom Declaration (2018), signed by Dear Respected Kim Jong Un and President Moon Jae-In of the Republic of Korea (ROK), which emphasised peace and cooperation in the Korean Peninsula,

Emphasizing the Five Year Economic Plan put forward by Great Marshal Kim Jong Un in January 2021, which will improve economic development and human life in the DPRK,

Noting with satisfaction the extradition treaty signed between the DPRK and the Russian Federation (2015), which allows for DPRK prisoners in Russia to be returned to the DPRK with the prisoners' written consent,

Further noting the Sino-North Korean Mutual Aid and Cooperation Friendship Treaty (1961) between the DPRK and the PRC,

Noting with regret the failure of the 2019 US-DPRK Summit in Hanoi,

1. Proposes extradition treaties to be signed with willing countries to ensure that criminals fleeing the DPRK will be returned and tried for their crimes, using means such as:
 - a. the Russian extradition treaty signed in 2015, which allows DPRK citizens who are imprisoned in Russia after 6 or more months to give their written consent to be returned to the DPRK to serve their sentence,
 - b. the PRC-DPRK Escaped Criminals Reciprocal Extradition Treaty, signed in 1961 and revised in 1986, which returns DPRK citizens in China,
 - c. treaty with Russia and the U.S.A on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters signed on June 17, 1999;
2. Draws attention to the continued military exercises between the ROK and the USA, as they threaten international security and thus threaten security of ordinary DPRK citizens:
 - a. the ongoing operational control of the South's forces scheduled transition to the ROK in 2015, putting South Korea in charge of decision-making, and planning,
 - b. the ROK-US combined exercises of vastly improved readiness in their country's defenses, and the continued deterrence of large-scale conventional attacks planned to and in defense from Pyongyang;
3. Prioritizing the denuclearization in the Korean Peninsula:
 - a. denuclearization requires an overture or sign of good faith, thus ending the exercises would serve denuclearization and overall human welfare in the DPRK,

- b. denuclearization is the first and most important step since it has to do with the citizens' matter of life and death;
- 4. Deplores the abduction, coercion, and mistreatment of DPRK citizens abroad;
 - a. DPRK citizens who are abducted or processed as prisoners or refugees face inhumane conditions, such as imprisonment for months on end, in such cases governments holding citizens should return them immediately or face possible sanctions:
 - i. DPRK citizen Moon Syung Chun was abducted in Cambodia while working at a restaurant there,
 - ii. others who are processed as prisoners or refugees in Thailand remain in prison for a mandatory one month sentence before being sent to the ROK, where they are interrogated for an indeterminate amount of time,
 - b. DPRK citizens are coerced during this imprisonment to produce defamatory statements about the DPRK to earn freedom, which threatens their mental well-being and cultural identity, which also must cease:
 - i. one example includes Shin-Dong Hyuk, who falsely testified that he was held at a "total control" camp, and later changed his testimony,
 - ii. defectors are often given cash-incentives to give sensational stories by Western media,
 - iii. defectors feel they must provide sensational stories to fit into Western media's narrative about the DPRK,
 - iv. defectors in the ROK are interrogated intensively for an indeterminate time;
- 5. Calls for these citizens immediate return to the DPRK;
 - a. refugees who wish to return to the DPRK being held captives, which goes against the third article of the Declaration of Human Rights and regarding Article 11 of the ICCPR which protects people from imprisonment under contractual obligation;
- 6. Proposes the creation of an anti-misinformation commission against the DPRK within the UN to combat disinformation and facilitate the spread of accurate information about the DPRK:
 - a. this commission would work in conjunction with the DPRK's ministry of Security,
 - b. this commission would work to verify and dispel information in foreign media about the DPRK, similar to the UN's verified campaign, which will ensure a healthy and functioning civic space in the DPRK,
 - c. the commission would work on both traditional media sources (newspapers, news stories) and digital media sources (social media):
 - i. traditional media sources often rely heavily on defector testimony, which has inaccuracies, which would be highlighted by the commission,
 - ii. social media posts usually follow information provided by the traditional media, which would need to be fact checked and verified;
- 7. Urges nations to realize that nations must monitor some aspects of civil media space, because of dangers of manipulation through social media platforms:

- a. fake news coverage being an issue, which causes protests throughout cities as shown in the U.S.A,
 - b. causing degradation of mental health being a problem among people of all groups and ethnicities;
8. Calls upon like-minded socialist states to enter into an economic pact with the DPRK, which will improve economic and human welfare for all parties:
- a. countries which already have trade relations with the DPRK, such as Burkina Faso, would be automatically invited,
 - b. this pact would aim to intensify trade in the following areas, in line with President Kim Jong Un's five year economic plan: agricultural products, coal, forestry, railway development, chemical goods,
 - c. this pact to be negotiated after the partial lifting of sanctions.