



HRC Upholding Human Rights in Xinjiang:
Addressing the Situation of Uighurs and Other Ethnic
Minorities



This is the kindest greeting from Yuika Sakata, who will be serving as your associate chair in this agenda. With three years of previous experience in MUN from Cape Town, South Africa, this will be my 6th attendance on a committee. MUN has allowed me to find my voice. Public speaking may be jarring or frightening for some, so for those, it is with great hope that you, too, will be able to discover that voice. I strongly encourage you to find that confidence within you and do your best. It will be my privilege to aid you through your journey, so enjoy the ride and remember to have fun!



Tables of contents

Overview	2
Definition of important terms	5
Timeline of key events	6
Position of key nations	9
Suggested solutions	12

Overview

The topic "HRC Upholding Human Rights in Xinjiang: Addressing the Situation of Uyghurs and Other Ethnic Minorities" discusses the Human Rights Council's (HRC) role in the long-standing human rights crisis in China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR). It brings to the forefront the plight of Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities, who have faced tremendous discrimination, cultural suppression, and strict state policies, particularly regarding religious freedom, education, and economic prospects.

The situation in Xinjiang has garnered global scrutiny due to reports of widespread surveillance, forced labor, arbitrary detentions, and suppression of Uyghur culture and religious identity, including the use of the Uyghur language and the practice of Islam. Some have described the actions of the Chinese government as constituting "genocide" or "crimes against humanity," leading to calls for international accountability and intervention.

The HRC, as a global body charged with the promotion and protection of human rights, has a primary responsibility in responding to these abuses. This includes urging China to respect international human rights standards, provide access to independent investigations, and respect the rights of Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities in Xinjiang. The HRC can do this through the passing of resolutions, fact-finding missions, and coordination with international agencies to compel China's compliance with international human rights obligations.

The topic also delves into the challenges faced by the HRC in addressing the Xinjiang crisis, including political resistance, particularly from China and its allies, and the quandaries of



balancing state sovereignty with the protection of individual rights. It underscores the imperative of international pressure, activism, and diplomacy to push for concrete change in the region and to ensure the rights of Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities living in Xinjiang are upheld.

Definitions of important terms

Systematic human rights violations

Systematic human rights violations refer to deliberate, large-scale, and state-directed abuses targeting Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic minorities, particularly in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. These violations are not isolated incidents but part of a coordinated government policy aimed at repressing and assimilating Uyghurs.

Detention

Refers to the act of holding individuals in custody or confinement, often without due process or legal justification. Specifically, in Xinjiang, it pertains to the arbitrary and discriminatory imprisonment of Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities in so-called *re-education camps* or detention facilities.

These detentions are often carried out without formal charges, fair trials, or legal representation, and reports indicate that detainees face forced indoctrination, harsh treatment, forced labor, and human rights abuses. The UN Human Rights Office suggests that the scale and nature of these detentions could amount to crimes against humanity, meaning they may be part of a systematic and widespread attack on a civilian population.

Enforced disappearances

Enforced disappearances are serious violations of international human rights law. An enforced disappearance occurs when state authorities detain a person and then refuse to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or the person's whereabouts, placing the person outside the protection of the law and increasing the likelihood of other abuses, such as torture and extrajudicial execution. The practice of "disappearances" and unlawful arrests also violates various provisions of Chinese criminal and procedural law.

Genocide

A term debated in the international community regarding the systematic repression of Uyghurs, including mass sterilization, forced assimilation, and mass detentions. Restrictions on Islamic



practices, including banning fasting during Ramadan, destruction of mosques, and prohibitions on religious attire.

Reproductive Rights

According to the to paragraph 7.2 of the Programme of Action in The World Health Organization, Reproductive rights is "a state of power over one's body in complete physical, mental and social well-being ... in all matters related to the reproductive system"

Counter-terrorism

China has found a path of law-based counterterrorism that conforms to its realities by establishing a sound legal framework, promoting strict, impartial, procedure-based law enforcement, and ensuring impartial administration of justice and effective protection of human rights

One-China Policy

A principle influencing diplomatic relations, where many countries hesitate to condemn China's policies in Xinjiang to maintain economic ties.

Re-education Camps

The Xinjiang internment camps, which the Chinese government refers to as vocational education and training centers, are facilities run by the Xinjiang authorities and the Chinese Communist Party's Provincial Standing Committee. According to Human Rights Watch, these camps have been used since 2017 to indoctrinate Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities under the guise of a "people's war on terror".

Media Censorship & Misinformation

The control and restriction of information regarding Xinjiang within China and the global spread of conflicting narratives.

Timeline of key events

Historical context

During the Cultural Revolution (1966–1976), the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), under Mao Zedong, sought to eliminate “old ideas, old culture, old customs, and old habits” (the Four Olds) across China. This movement severely impacted Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities in



Xinjiang, as the CCP viewed their religious and cultural traditions as obstacles to socialist unity. In Xinjiang, the Cultural Revolution led to widespread destruction of Islamic institutions, including mosques, madrasas, and religious texts. Many Uyghur imams and religious scholars were persecuted, imprisoned, or executed. Uyghurs were forced to renounce Islam, and religious practices like fasting during Ramadan and wearing traditional clothing were banned. Uyghur-language schools were closed or forced to adopt Mandarin, accelerating cultural assimilation. Red Guards, radical youth loyal to Mao, targeted Uyghur intellectuals and community leaders, labeling them “counter-revolutionaries” and subjecting them to public humiliation, imprisonment, and execution.

The period also saw increased Han migration into Xinjiang, as the government promoted the settlement of Han Chinese in the region, reducing Uyghur influence in their homeland. The forced collectivization of agriculture disrupted traditional Uyghur livelihoods, worsening economic inequality. By the end of the Cultural Revolution in 1976, many Uyghurs had suffered political repression, economic hardship, and cultural erasure. The damage done during this period laid the foundation for ongoing ethnic tensions and government control in Xinjiang.

2017

In 2017, according to official statistics, arrests in Xinjiang accounted for nearly 21 percent of all arrests in China, despite people in Xinjiang making up only 1.5 percent of the total population. Since 2017, Chinese authorities have used various pretexts to damage or destroy two-thirds of Xinjiang’s mosques; about half of those have been demolished outright. Important Islamic sacred sites have been demolished across the region. As part of regional authorities’ intrusive “Becoming Families” surveillance, development, and indoctrination campaign, officials impose themselves for overnight stays at the homes of Turkic Muslims, a practice that authorities say “promote[s] ethnic unity.” In another particularly chilling practice, some Turkic Muslim children whose parents have been arbitrarily detained are placed in state institutions such as orphanages and boarding schools, including boarding preschools.

The global response to these abuses has been increasingly critical. Some governments, such as Canada, the European Union, the United Kingdom, and the US, have imposed targeted and other sanctions on Chinese government officials, agencies, and companies implicated in rights violations. Increasingly, governments are joining statements at the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Third Committee, the human rights arm of the UN General Assembly, to condemn Chinese government policy. Nonetheless, many governments, including several



members of the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation, still praise the Chinese government's Xinjiang policies.

2018

Government officials first denied the camps' existence. By late 2018, they started acknowledging that there were "vocational education and training centers" in Xinjiang. They publicly stated that the camps had two purposes: to teach Mandarin, Chinese laws, and vocational skills, and to prevent citizens from becoming influenced by extremist ideas, to "nip terrorist activities in the bud," according to a government report. Pointing out that Xinjiang has not experienced a terrorist attack since December 2016, officials claimed the camps have prevented violence.

"Since a sweeping crackdown starting in late 2016 transformed Xinjiang into a draconian police state, witness accounts of intrusive state interference into reproductive autonomy have become ubiquitous," the report says. According to Mr Zenz's analysis of the data, natural population growth in Xinjiang has declined dramatically in recent years, with growth rates falling by 84% in the two largest Uighur prefectures between 2015 and 2018 and declining further in 2019.

"This kind of drop is unprecedented, there's a ruthlessness to it," Mr Zenz told the Associated Press. "This is part of a wider control campaign to subjugate the Uighurs." Former detainees in internment camps in Xinjiang said they were given injections that stopped their periods, or caused unusual bleeding consistent with the effects of birth control drugs. "Overall, it is likely that Xinjiang authorities are engaging in the mass sterilization of women with three or more children," the report said. But according to the AP, Han Chinese have been largely spared the abortions, sterilisations, IUD insertions and detentions implemented against minority populations, including the Uighurs. Mr Zenz's report characterises the alleged campaign of coercive birth control in Xinjiang as part of a "demographic campaign of genocide" against the Uighurs. "These findings provide the strongest evidence yet that Beijing's policies in Xinjiang meet one of the genocide criteria cited in the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide," he writes. According to a report by the Associated Press published on Monday, women in Xinjiang have faced exorbitant fines and threats of internment for breaching childbearing limits.

Gulnar Omirzakh, a Chinese-born Kazakh, was ordered to get an IUD inserted after having her third child, the AP reported. In January 2018, four officials in military camouflage knocked at her door anyway and handed Omirzakh, the penniless wife of a detained vegetable trader, three days to pay a 17,5000 RMB (£2,000) fine for having more than two children. She was reportedly



warned that she would join her husband in an internment camp if she refused to pay.

2019-2020

In July 2019, two dozen governments sent a letter to the Human Rights Council president urging “meaningful access” for the UN high commissioner for human rights to Xinjiang, and monitoring and reporting on alleged abuses against the Muslim population.^[7] The Chinese government responded by coordinating, though not itself joining, a letter signed by 50 countries, including Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and other states with poor human rights records. In November 2019, a similar group of governments delivered a similar statement of concern at the UN Third Committee. China responded with a letter signed by 54 countries.

Throughout 2020, reports of abuses in Xinjiang increased, making it harder for governments to deny or avoid. In June 2020, 50 UN special procedures—special rapporteurs, working groups, and other human rights experts—issued a searing indictment of China’s human rights record, including the Chinese government’s “collective repression” of religious and ethnic minorities in Xinjiang and Tibet. The experts called for a special session of the Human Rights Council on China, for the creation of a dedicated UN monitoring mechanism on China, and for UN agencies and governments to press China to meet its human rights obligations. In October 2020, a cross-regional group of 39 governments issued a stinging public rebuke of the Chinese government’s widespread human rights violations in Xinjiang, Hong Kong, and Tibet. The statement largely endorsed the call by the 50 UN special procedures. Instead of committing to investigate the allegations, the Chinese government responded with two separate statements, including one on Xinjiang read out by Cuba and signed by 45 countries.

Position of key nations

Australia

Australia, the United States and 13 other countries criticized China at the United Nations on Tuesday over alleged human rights abuses in Xinjiang and Tibet.

"We urge China to uphold the international human-rights obligations that it has voluntarily assumed, and to implement all U.N. recommendations," Australia's U.N. Ambassador James Larsen told the U.N. General Assembly's human rights committee. "No country has a perfect



human-rights record. But no country is above fair scrutiny of its human-rights obligations," Australia's Larsen said. "It is incumbent on all of us not to undermine international human-rights commitments that benefit us all, and for which all states are accountable."

Reports have indicated that products made with forced labor by Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities in western China have entered Australia, including components for infrastructure projects and consumer goods. Despite the United States banning such imports, Australia has faced challenges in preventing these products from entering its market. The Australian government has acknowledged these concerns and is working towards strengthening measures to ensure that goods produced through forced labor do not enter the Australian supply chain

China

China denies allegations of human rights abuses in Xinjiang, asserting that its policies are aimed at countering extremism and promoting stability. The government claims its measures, including "reeducation" camps, are necessary for national security, economic development, and social harmony. China opposes international interference, labeling criticisms as politically motivated. China emphasizes that its policies in Xinjiang, including infrastructure projects and the promotion of industry, are designed to boost **economic development** in the region. The government argues that investments in **education**, **poverty alleviation**, and **job creation** have improved the livelihoods of Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities. China claims that the construction of new roads, factories, and urban centers has helped lift many people in Xinjiang out of poverty, while also providing employment opportunities.

France

France has taken a firm stance on the treatment of Uyghurs in China. In January 2021, the French parliament passed a resolution officially recognizing China's actions against Uyghurs as genocide, a move that strained diplomatic relations between Paris and Beijing. France has been vocal in condemning China's treatment of Uyghurs. In October 2023, France joined 50 other UN member countries in a joint declaration condemning China's actions in Xinjiang and calling for an end to systematic human rights abuses.

Germany

Germany has also condemned China's policies in Xinjiang. Alongside other nations, Germany has expressed grave concerns over the arbitrary detention and widespread surveillance of Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities



Economy Minister Robert Habeck acknowledged reports of human rights violations in Xinjiang, stating that Germany would adjust its China policy to place greater emphasis on these issues. In February 2025, Germany condemned Thailand's deportation of Uyghur individuals back to China, citing concerns over potential human rights violations upon their return. The German government called on China to respect and protect the rights of those deported.

Indonesia

Indonesia has maintained a more neutral stance on the Uyghur issue. While there have been domestic calls for the government to address the situation, Indonesia has generally refrained from publicly condemning China, reflecting its strategic and economic ties with Beijing.

Indonesia maintains significant economic and diplomatic ties with China, which may influence its cautious approach to the Uyghur issue. This relationship includes trade partnerships and infrastructure investments, which could be factors in Indonesia's reluctance to publicly criticize China's policies. Indonesian civil society activists have expressed concern over reports of human rights violations against Uyghurs. However, some Muslim leaders in Indonesia have criticized Western narratives, labeling them as misrepresentations of the situation in Xinjiang. This perspective aligns with the government's view that China's internal policies should not be subjected to external scrutiny.

Ireland

In February 2025, Uyghur and Hong Kong diaspora communities in Ireland penned an open letter to the Irish government. They called for a human rights-centered approach in discussions with Chinese officials, underscoring the importance of addressing human rights concerns in diplomatic relations. Ireland has participated in international efforts to address the situation, including signing a joint letter at the United Nations Human Rights Council in July 2019. This letter condemned China's treatment of Uyghurs and other minority groups, urging the closure of internment camps in Xinjiang. However, Ireland's actions have faced scrutiny. Concerns have been raised about the use of surveillance technology in Irish parliamentary buildings, supplied by companies implicated in human rights abuses against Uyghurs. This has led to questions about Ireland's indirect support for such practices.

Israel

Israel's stance on the Uyghur human rights issue is closely linked to its broader diplomatic priorities, including its relationship with China, especially in the context of the Gaza issue.



Israel is cautious in its approach to China's human rights policies, particularly regarding the Uyghurs, because of the importance of China's diplomatic and economic backing in key international forums. While Israel has faced international criticism over its treatment of Palestinians, including in Gaza, it must balance and calculate a solution for these concerns with its need to preserve relations with China, which provides support in key international matters

Japan

In February 2022, Japan's Lower House adopted a resolution expressing serious concern over the human rights situation in Xinjiang and other regions, including Tibet and Hong Kong. The resolution called on the Japanese government to collaborate with the international community to monitor these issues and provide assistance to those affected

In March 2024, a group of Japanese lawmakers urged the government to investigate potential links between Japanese automotive companies and forced labor practices in Xinjiang's aluminum industry, highlighting concerns over corporate involvement in human rights abuses. Despite these criticisms, Japan has exercised caution in labeling China's actions as genocide, reflecting a desire to balance human rights advocacy with maintaining stable diplomatic and economic relations with China as for example the fast Retailing, the parent company of Uniqlo, faced a stock price drop in December 2024 after founder Tadashi Yanai's comments about not sourcing cotton from Xinjiang, amid concerns over human rights abuses. This incident underscores the challenges Japanese companies face in navigating supply chain ethics linked to Xinjiang.

Republic of Korea

In October 2022, South Korea voted in favor of a draft decision at the UN Human Rights Council to hold a debate on the human rights situation in China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. This vote was significant, marking a departure from previous administrations that had generally avoided publicly criticizing China on human rights issues. The conservative party in South Korea has expressed intentions to adopt a firmer stance on China, emphasizing human rights in its foreign policy. This position aligns with a broader strategy to strengthen relations with Western allies, notably the United States, in addressing China's human rights record. South Korea's policy decisions are influenced by its strategic positioning amid U.S.-China rivalry. While the U.S. has not explicitly urged South Korea to adopt an anti-China stance on democracy and human rights, there is an underlying expectation for alignment in addressing China's global influence.



Russian Federation

Russia has supported China's policies in Xinjiang. In various international forums, Russia has praised China's efforts in combating terrorism and extremism, aligning with Beijing's narrative regarding the situation in Xinjiang. In October 2019, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov dismissed reports of China's alleged oppression of Uyghurs, stating that Russia had no reason to take action beyond existing UN procedures, as China had provided clarifications on the accusation. Russia's unwavering support for China's policies in Xinjiang reflects a strategic partnership that influences their collective stance on global human rights issues, impacting their relations with Western nations and shaping international diplomatic dynamics. Russia maintains a close geopolitical and economic relationship with China, and this alliance shapes its stance on the Uyghur issue. For example, Russia's trade with China, especially in energy resources and technology, further cements its support for Beijing's position.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has publicly supported China's policies in Xinjiang. In a 2019 letter to the UNHRC, Saudi Arabia, along with other countries, commended China's counter-terrorism and de-radicalization measures, reflecting strong bilateral ties and economic interests. In February 2019, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman publicly defended China's actions in Xinjiang, stating that China has the right to conduct anti-terrorism and de-extremization efforts for its national security. In April 2022, Amnesty International reported that Saudi authorities were preparing to deport four Uyghurs, including a 13-year-old girl and her mother, back to China, where they faced grave risks of arbitrary detention and torture. Furthermore, as Saudi Arabia is the birthplace of Islam and the custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, believes in the importance of combating extremism that threatens the peace and security of the Muslim world, however it must protect its mutual benefits with Chinese cooperation, including energy and infrastructure development through initiatives like China's Belt and Road Initiative.

Singapore

Singapore advocates for diplomatic engagement and constructive dialogue over confrontation. Singapore supports human rights but believes they should be approached pragmatically. While acknowledging the concerns raised about the Uyghur situation, Singapore would likely argue for balanced and constructive solutions rather than harsh sanctions or punitive measures.



Singapore, as a trading hub, would likely emphasize economic cooperation and investment in Xinjiang, encouraging China to focus on long-term development to improve conditions in the region and reduce tensions.

Thailand

Thailand's recent deportation of 40 Uyghurs to China in February 2025 has drawn international criticism. Despite concerns about potential human rights violations, Thai authorities defended the deportation, stating it was conducted with goodwill and measures were in place to ensure the deportees' welfare.

Thailand has strong economic ties with China, particularly in trade, tourism, and infrastructure development. Thailand may emphasize the importance of maintaining good relations with China, which benefits the regional economy. Economic cooperation could be a key component in your speech, as Thailand would be keen to maintain its relationship with China. Thailand is a participant in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which is designed to improve regional infrastructure and connectivity. You could advocate for the peaceful and constructive economic development of regions like Xinjiang, in ways that benefit both China and neighboring countries, without external interference.

United Arab Emirates

The UAE has a vested interest in maintaining regional stability and combating extremism. The UAE might argue that China's security measures in Xinjiang are part of the broader fight against extremism and terrorism, which threatens regional peace and stability.

The UAE could support initiatives that focus on economic development, poverty reduction, and education in Xinjiang as a way to address the root causes of extremism, while ensuring the region's stability and prosperity. The UAE has a strong economic and strategic relationship with China, including cooperation in trade, energy, and infrastructure. The UAE would likely prioritize maintaining good relations with China and might avoid taking any positions that could jeopardize these ties.

United Kingdom

The UK aligns with countries like the United States and Canada in condemning China's treatment of Uyghurs. As part of this alignment, the UK may seek to form or join coalitions advocating for Uyghur rights, leveraging diplomatic pressure to create a unified stance.



The UK has a strong tradition of advocating for human rights globally. In the case of the Uyghurs, the UK has been vocal in condemning human rights abuses, including forced labor, mass detentions, and religious repression in Xinjiang.

The UK has imposed targeted sanctions on Chinese officials and entities accused of involvement in the suppression of the Uyghur population. These sanctions include travel bans and asset freezes. The UK may argue that sanctions are an important tool to pressure China to change its policies in Xinjiang. The UK may push for international efforts to investigate the situation in Xinjiang through independent fact-finding missions or international tribunals, calling for evidence-based approaches to address allegations of human rights violations.

Suggested solutions

Refining Securitization Strategies: Balancing Surveillance and Ethnic Tensions in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Short-term policy changes are inherently limited in addressing systemic issues such as Uyghur socioeconomic disparities relative to Han Chinese or the commodification of their ethnic identity. However, securitization strategies can be improved to mitigate present and future ethnic minority resentment and hostility in the XUAR. By drawing on lessons from other jurisdictions, China can refine its mass data surveillance approach to precisely target individuals at risk of radicalization and adopt a community engagement plan. Implementing these strategies could help reduce ethnic tensions more effectively.

Nations such as the UK, Canada, the USA, Japan, and South Korea have increasingly leveraged big data to assess individual radicalization risks. Big data analytics is widely regarded as a powerful tool for enhancing counter-terrorism efforts, enabling authorities to identify radicalization patterns through informal networks, emerging topics, influencers, and sentiment analysis. Research on lone-wolf radicalism highlights the importance of detecting subtle signals that individuals or groups with radical intent often exhibit. However, from both normative and ethical perspectives, concerns persist regarding the biases embedded in big data collection and analysis, whether through human oversight or machine learning.

Given the sophistication of China's existing surveillance system, it is unrealistic to expect the state to abandon these practices. Nevertheless, surveillance should not serve as a blanket tool for suppressing core aspects of Uyghur identity, such as Islam and the Uyghur language—an approach intensified since Chen Quanguo's appointment as Party Secretary of XUAR in 2016. This broad crackdown has fostered deep resentment among Uyghurs, even those seeking



integration, and has amplified ethnic consciousness. Coupled with economic marginalization, this heightened ethnic identity could contribute to future radicalization. Since 2016, China's counter-terrorism measures toward Uyghurs have increasingly taken on an exclusionary character. Instead, if surveillance is to be used, it should be strictly limited to individuals credibly identified as at-risk for radicalization and violence, with appropriate institutional checks and balances—elements largely absent in the current XUAR framework.

Media portrayal

Media and ethnocultural festival portrayals of Uyghurs in a highly commodified manner should be significantly reduced, and in the best-case scenario, eliminated. The state should discourage negative media portrayals of Uyghurs. For example, existing acting roles for Uyghurs tend to erroneously depict members of the group in an “Orientalist” fashion, as “exotic” or “warlords” from Western regions or Islamic nations. The state can encourage positive media portrayals of Uyghurs by ideally depicting friendships between Uyghur and Han Chinese characters. This, in part, could be achieved in a hyper fashion through direct, or indirect, state financial support for media—television, books, films, or video games—that engages in this type of positive representation. It could also be achieved through direct state directives to media outlets—which is commonplace practice in China—instructing them to dampen down negative portrayals of Uyghurs and their cultural and/or religious practices. Vicarious contact and ending negative portrayals of Uyghurs are important initial steps in reducing prejudice between the groups; however, they will likely be insufficient unless paired with meaningful between-group contact.

Policy Measures in state agencies

Addressing Han Chinese prejudice through policy measures presents significant challenges, yet there are potential solutions, particularly within the state sector. Research by Xiaowei Zang indicates that Uyghurs experience an ethnic premium in state agencies with a redistributive organizational culture—such as trade unions, women's federations, and youth organizations—where adherence to social equity principles is prioritized. In contrast, state firms with a market-oriented culture tend to discriminate against Uyghurs in hiring, largely due to Han Chinese employers' perceptions of lower productivity among Uyghur workers. As a result, the more market-driven the state firm, the lower the likelihood of Uyghur employment. One possible remedy is the introduction of diversity quota requirements in state-run firms. However, this approach carries potential drawbacks. The Han Chinese majority already harbors resentment toward existing affirmative action policies, and hiring unqualified minority employees could reinforce negative stereotypes, further entrenching prejudice. Nonetheless, improving Uyghur representation in the state sector remains only a partial solution, given the increasing dominance of the private sector.



Interventions in the private sector pose even greater difficulties. Many diversity initiatives in Western jurisdictions have struggled due to organizational inertia, and similar challenges could emerge in the XUAR. Potential solutions include tax incentives for private enterprises that hire ethnic minority candidates. When combined with measures to curb Han Chinese migration—thereby reducing the surplus of Han Chinese labor—such policies could encourage or even necessitate the hiring of Uyghur workers. Additionally, promoting Uyghur entrepreneurship is another avenue worth exploring. Policies could include dedicated government loan and subsidy programs for Uyghur-owned businesses, reducing the costs of obtaining necessary licenses and certifications, and increasing public support for Uyghur enterprises. Crucially, Uyghurs must be made aware of these initiatives, as there appears to be a knowledge gap between Uyghur and Han Chinese entrepreneurs—a pattern observed in Western economies as well.

Improving socioeconomic benefits

Improving Uyghurs' socioeconomic conditions is vital for reducing ethnic tensions and, by extension, minimizing the risk of ethnic violence. Over generations, fostering social trust and robust intergroup networks between Uyghurs and Han Chinese will be key. In the shorter term, however, policies that directly enhance Uyghurs' economic and social well-being should be prioritized. Beyond alleviating ethnic minority tensions, such measures would also signal to Uyghurs that the Chinese state is genuinely committed to improving their quality of life, aligning with its foundational principles on social and economic human rights.



Bibliography

Works Cited

Amnesty International. “China: Xinjiang Vote Failure Betrays Core Mission of UN Human Rights Council.” *Amnesty International*, 6 Oct. 2022,

www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/10/china-xinjiang-vote-failure-betrays-core-mission-of-un-human-rights-council/.

Hasmath, Reza. “Future Responses to Managing Muslim Ethnic Minorities in China: Lessons Learned from Global Approaches to Improving Inter-Ethnic Relations.”

International Journal: Canada’s Journal of Global Policy Analysis, vol. 77, no. 1, 19

May 2022, p. 002070202210979, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00207020221097991>.

“Joint Statement on the Human Rights Situation in Xinjiang at 47th Session of UN Human Rights Council.” *Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade*,

www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/themes/human-rights/hrc-statements/47th-session-human-rights-council/joint-statement-human-rights-situation-xinjiang-47th-session-un-human-rights-council.

ession-un-human-rights-council.

“Rights Experts Urge China to Address Grave Violations in Xinjiang Province.” *UN News*,

7 Sept. 2022, news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126151.

“Some Progress but Further Action Needed to Hold China Accountable for Grave Human

Rights Violations.” *ISHR*, 4 Nov. 2024,

ishr.ch/latest-updates/some-progress-but-further-action-needed-to-hold-china-accountable-for-grave-human-rights-violations/.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. “US Responses to China’s Crimes against the



Uyghurs - United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.” *Www.ushmm.org*,
[www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/china/us-responses-to-chinas-crime
s-against-the-uyghurs](http://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/china/us-responses-to-chinas-crimes-against-the-uyghurs).

usidhr.org. “What Is Being Done about the Uyghurs in China?” *US Institute of Diplomacy
and Human Rights*, 8 July 2022,

usidhr.org/what-is-being-done-about-the-uyghurs-in-china.

Uyghur Human Rights Project. “International Responses to the Uyghur Crisis.” *Uyghur
Human Rights Project*, 2022, uhrp.org/responses/.

MLA 9 Format

Citations: when in-text citing, follow the following format.

Example:

Text: “Brought together by a similar cause for today, and together striving for a better tomorrow. “Unity” is what inspired our 3rd WJMUN conference, and paved the way for our direction and determination in each council represented here in this event.” (1)

Bibliography: 1. <http://wjmun.org/>

(The number next to the text references the source that is cited in the bibliography.)