

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 919

Condemning the United Nations decision to appoint China a seat on its
Human Rights Council.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2020

Mr. STEUBE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning the United Nations decision to appoint China
a seat on its Human Rights Council.

Whereas, on April 1, 2020, China was appointed to a United
Nations Human Rights Council panel;

Whereas the United Nations Human Rights Council
(UNHRC) has been criticized for being influenced by
countries widely perceived as having poor human rights
records;

Whereas China rejected recommendations made by the
Human Rights Council related to human rights activists,
extrajudicial detention, freedom of belief, freedom of ex-
pression, and the rights of ethnic minorities;

Whereas some countries called on China to ensure greater
protections of the rights of ethnic minorities;

Whereas China violated basic privacy rights by spying on its own people;

Whereas during the COVID–19 outbreak, China further suppressed religion in the country by destroying places of worship or placing them under heavy surveillance;

Whereas in 2018, the United States left the Council;

Whereas in 2018, the Department of State released its Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, highlighting China for engaging in some of the worst human rights violations;

Whereas former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley called the Council “a protector of human rights abusers, and a cesspool of political bias”;

Whereas former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley tweeted that “China was appointed on Wednesday to a UN Human Rights Council panel where it will play a key role in picking the world body’s human rights investigators—including global monitors on freedom of speech, health, enforced disappearances, and arbitrary detention. You can’t make this up!”;

Whereas United States Government senior officials have expressed concerns about the completeness and timeliness of information China is reporting on COVID–19; and

Whereas China’s failure to be transparent with global leaders about the outbreak has cost thousands of lives: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the United Nations decision to

3 appoint China a seat on its Human Rights Council;

1 (2) demands serious reform if the United States
2 is going to remain in the United Nations and pro-
3 vide funding to countries that ignore basic human
4 rights; and
5 (3) holds China and the United Nations ac-
6 countable for human rights violations.

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