

**Country:** Saudi Arabia

**Committee:** United Nations General Assembly Third Committee (SOCHUM)

**Agenda Item:** Seeking solutions for human rights violations derived from ethnic divides

Saudi Arabia is a regional power in the Middle East and is a leader among Arab nations. It plays an influential role in global politics as a founding member of the Arab League, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Saudi Arabia covers most of the Arabian Peninsula. The country has a landmass of around 2,150,000 km2. Saudi Arabia shares a border with 7 different countries.Education is free for all students in all levels in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Arabian population numbers at around 2,15 million (2022 census). Saudi Arabia is an absolute monarchy with the king as its chief of state, the prime minister as its head of government and Riyadh as its capital. The current king is Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

The term "ethnic conflict" is used to talk about conflicts which occur as a result of divides between different ethnic groups. They may be started because of a variety of reasons, be they economic, political, religious or social. Such conflicts are especially bloody and have devastating effects on the civilian population, as it can be seen from the examples in Myanmar and the DRC. People of both countries have suffered from numerous human rights violations. These violations of human rights contain all kinds of vile crimes such as genocide, ethnic cleansing, mass murder and rape. The governments have not been able to protect their people, warranting action from various UN bodies and agencies, which haven’t been successful in preventing further violations of international law nor have they been able to punish those responsible for them. It is our responsibility to help people in need, especially if their inalienable human rights are being violated. To ensure that human rights are protected, SOCHUM must take action.

Saudi Arabia has taken many efforts to combat ethnic conflicts in the past. The country is seen as a moderating influence in the Arab-Israeli conflict because it regularly devises and proposes peace plans between the Israelis and the Palestinians, while also condemning terrorist organizations like Hezbollah. Saudi Arabia has financed many relief efforts in Muslim countries affected by various human rights abuses and has taken in over 250,000 Muslims from Myanmar as refugees. To sum up, Saudi Arabia does its part in regards to the mediation of ethnic conflicts and the protection of human rights. However, Saudi Arabia believes that further measures must be taken to solve such problems and to care for the ones affected. Firstly, we should start to examine the root causes of ethnic conflicts. Since the best way to solve a problem is to never have had it happen in the first place, addressing the root causes is an absolutely necessary endeavor. Member states should also be welcoming to refugees from countries embroiled in ethnic conflicts and should treat them with hospitality rather than hostility, as they are the victims of the very problems that the UN is fighting day and night to prevent, mediate and solve. Saudi Arabia is firm in its belief that the main source of ethnic tension is ethnocentrism fueled by ignorance which disregards human rights and freedoms, dehumanizes other groups and encourages crimes against humanity. This ignorance is the greatest threat to cultural diversity. To combat this threat globally, SOCHUM should sponsor and support educational projects in all corners of the world and provide financial aid to countries who are running similar programs. In conclusion, millions of people are in serious danger and it is up to SOCHUM to rescue them from ethnic conflict. Saudi Arabia takes the issue at hand very seriously, believes that immediate action is necessary and expects other member states to do the same.

**References:**

cia.gov

wikipedia.org

saudiembassy.net