

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Agenda Item: Preserving Human Rights of Uyghur Turks

Country: Bulgaria



Bulgaria is a country in Southeast Europe. Bulgaria declared its independence on October 5, 1908. Its capital city is Sofia. The population is 6.465 million. Bulgaria is bordered by Greece and Turkey to the south, Serbia and North Macedonia to the west, and Romania to the north. It covers a territory of 110,994 square kilometers (42,855 sq mi) and is the 16th largest country in Europe.

China's actions in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region have resulted in growing pressure and breaches of Uyghur Turks' human rights. The beginnings of these policies became more evident when the Chinese government began to take stricter control measures in the region in the 2010s. In particular, the increase in the number of concentration camps called "Vocational Education and Training Centers" by China and the mass detention and detention of Uyghur Turks and other Muslim minorities have led to a great international reaction and concern. It's alleged that individuals in these camps are subjected to forced labor or education, denial of their religious and cultural identities, and severe physical and psychological abuse. There are also reports that the Uyghur Turks are always under mass surveillance and that the Chinese government uses technology to track their every move. AI-powered facial recognition systems, biometric data collection, and extensive digital surveillance constantly monitor and control the lives of the Uyghur community. These policies result in the forcible assimilation of Uyghur Turks, the erasure of their cultural and religious identities, and the prohibition of their traditional rituals and worship. Serious concerns are also raised by reports of mistreatment and torture while in detention. Human rights organizations claim that during the past few years, China has sentenced hundreds of thousands of Uyghurs to lengthy prison sentences and imprisoned almost a million of them against their will in a huge network of "re-education camps". In conclusion, the repression and human rights violations against Uyghur Turks are widely recognized as a major human rights crisis that has captured the attention of the international community. This has led to increased scrutiny of China's policies and a growing international response against them. Speaking upon the release of the Xinjiang Police Files, the Chinese government said that the anti-terrorism policies had brought prosperity and stability to Xinjiang and that this was the best way to counter "all sorts of lies".

Bulgaria and China have usually cordial and cooperative ties. In 1954, diplomatic relations were established between the two nations. They collaborate in a number of sectors, including trade, cultural exchange, and economic cooperation. But like many other nations, Bulgaria has a general position on international relations and human rights, which may or may not include worries about how Uyghur Turks are treated. Bulgaria is well-known for its support of the rule of law and human rights on the global arena, frequently standing in solidarity with viewpoints that place a higher priority on the defense of human rights.