

1st DISEC: Uyghur Muslim Genocide (Xijian Crisis)

Hi! I am Kaley Newlin, your head chair for 1st DISEC. I will be running the committee's debate. I am a Junior at Mission Viejo High School, and I love to draw, watch anime, play video games, or play DnD. I am happy to be your head chair for this debate, and I encourage that everyone has fun and tries their best!

Hi, I am Nick Welch, your vice chair for 1st DISEC. I will help and maintain the flow of the debate. I am a junior at MVHS. I run in cross country, I enjoy hanging out with friends, have a dog named Bruin, and I love sports in general. I am excited to be your vice chair, and I assure you that this will be a great experience. I know that you will all have fun!

If you have any questions or want to submit your paper, email us at mvhsmun1stdisec@gmail.com! We can't wait to chair for you at this year's conference!

I. Background of Topic

In China, mass cultural genocide is putting the minority Uyghur Muslims in distress. In Xinjiang, China, confirmed or possible reeducation camps hold several hundreds of thousands of Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic Turkic Muslims including Kazakhs and Kyrgyz. 11 million Uyghur Muslims live in Xinjiang, and they continue to be oppressed by the rest of the society and by brutalities of the police. Usually, the people inside the camps have not been charged with crimes, but they are seen as possibly being dangerous by practicing their Muslim religion, having too many children, or communicating to other countries with an overall Muslim religious population. On another note, information about the camps is limited but it is estimated that these camps started in 2014, and since then gained size and number. The total number of camps,

although there are about thirty main reeducation camps, can be approximate up to 1,200. People that have fled the camps illustrate harsh conditions. This includes denouncing their religion and emerging communism, prison conditions, microphones, cameras, torturings, and sexual abuse. The specific people in control of the camps are relatively unknown- though it is obvious that the Chinese government and authorities run the camps. This act of re-educating citizens inside camps correlates with the United Nations definition of genocide as there is evidence that it causes serious mental or physical harm to its members and also implements measures to prevent births within the group.

II. UN Involvement

The United Nations have been involved in this due to what seems like human rights violations by the Chinese against the Uyghur Muslims. Right now, there are 39 countries that see the genocide taking place, but there are more than 50 countries that approve of the so-called “counter-terrorism” steps that the Chinese are taking. No resolutions have been passed against the Chinese actions, but many NGOs like Uyghur Human Rights Project and Campaign for Uyghurs are amongst the many who oppose the treatment of these Muslims in Xinjiang. Many NGOs have advocated for the production of a resolution between the members of the UN, but due to the many countries who advocate for their “counter-terrorism” program, it has been very hard to get things passed through in order to benefit these people. UN members in the United States and the UK have recently asked if the UN commissioner for human rights can visit these camps, but it has been rejected many times.

III. Possible Solutions

Possible solutions include sanctions of certain government officials, or just officials there in the reeducation camps in order to see what human rights abuses are going on. What other nations can do is they can also support NGOs or organizations that are affiliated with the Uyghur Muslims. Nations could also, if willing to, offer to cut all economic supply with China in order to make China struggle economically. Other solutions include supporting the stop of forced Uyghur labor. Nations could also spread awareness through social media, or just spread it throughout the communities inside their nation.

IV. Bloc Positions

Europe, Japan, Canada: Calls on China to respect human rights and is concerned about eliminating racial segregation. This bloc entirely disagrees with the repressive acts demonstrated upon the Uyghur group. This is a major human rights violation in the eyes of this bloc.

Africa, Middle East, North Asia: Despite this one human violation, this bloc supports China's policies, and in fact commends China on their achievements in human rights.

The United States, Central eastern Europe, bordering Muslim states: This bloc feels on the fence about China's decision because of their multiple entanglements with China despite the mostly negative stances on this human right's violation.

V. Guiding Questions

1. What has your country done in order to speak out for or against what has happened to the Uyghur Muslims?

2. Does your nation believe this is genocide?
3. What have nations done to help these people?
4. What could these nations do to help the Uyghurs?
5. What aid can be supplied to these Muslims?

VI. Works Cited/Bibliography

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