



International Federation of Liberal Youth

1, Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HD, United Kingdom

Phone: +44 203 2396840 • Fax: +44 207 100 8159 • office@iflry.org

## **39<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016**

#### **1. Resolution 1**

#### **2. *Human Rights Before Immunity***

#### **3. Submitted by the Young Liberals of Norway (NUV)**

4.

#### **5. Noting that:**

6. • the American policewoman and whistleblower Kathryn Bolkovac in 2001 discovered the  
7. organized human trafficking and sexual abuse of women by UN peacekeepers in Bosnia  
8. and Herzegovina.

9. • Bolkovac was threatened, pressured to keep silent and was forced to leave her job in the  
10. UN.

11. • a secret UN report was leaked to French legal authorities in the summer of 2014 by the  
12. swede Anders Kompass.

13. • Sexual abuse by UN Peacekeepers was first documented in Bosnia and Herzegovina and  
14. Kosovo in the early 1990s, and there have been similar reports of human trafficking into  
15. Brothels by UN peacekeepers since then.

16.

#### **17. Recognising that:**

18. • the report Kompass leaked withheld evidence of sexual abuse against young boys at a  
19. centre for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Central African Republic by the hand  
20. of French UN soldiers.

21. • Kompass was suspended from his job at (OHCHR) the Office of the High Commissioner for  
22. Human rights, and that he risks losing his job permanently.

23. • Refugees have been sexually exploited for food rations, and that women and children  
24. have been exposed to brutal violence and rape in Haiti, Darfur and the Democratic  
25. Republic of the Congo.

26. • during the last two decades multiple reports have been put forward on sexual violence  
27. committed against defenceless civilians by the soldiers sent to protect them.

28. • the crimes have seldom resulted in a just trial, and there is bound to be undiscovered  
29. abuse.

30.

#### **31. Aware of:**

32. • the fact that the UN charter of 1945 gives all UN employees protection under the principle  
33. of immunity from criminal prosecution.

34. • the fact that immunity only can be lifted by the UN Secretary-General.

35. • the fact that the UN does not have legal jurisdiction over soldiers sent by member-states,  
36. and that the member-states in general have been unwilling to take legal action on their



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37. • the fact that the immunity, if not lifted, will pose an obstruction for countries that want to
38. prosecute abuse by their own officials, because they will not be able to interview UN
39. employees who have been aware of the abuse and other criminal activities.
41. Believing that:
42. • Immunity all too often leads to UN employees not being held responsible for their own
43. illegal actions in the field.
44. • The UN Secretary-General should use his power to lift the immunity of UN personnel,
45. when there is evidence of abuse in line of duty for the UN.
46. • The UN has a moral responsibility to ensure that UN officials follow the Universal
47. Declaration of Human Rights.
- 48.
49. IFLRY calls for:
50. • the UN Secretary-General to remove immunity for UN peacekeepers, when they
51. deliberately and grossly disproportionately break universal human rights, and especially
52. when officials commit organised sexual and other abuse.
53. • an independent investigative commission with full disclosure to be established, to
54. survey how the UN processes messages about sexual abuse and exploitation by the hand
55. of UN officials in the field or UN leadership.
56. • the UN to create a mechanism for protecting whistleblowers in line of duty for the UN,
57. who blow the whistle on human rights abuse committed by UN personnel during UN
58. missions.
59. • change in the UN's laws so that states that send troops are legally obliged to prosecute
60. their citizens when there is evidence of abuse and exploitation while in duty of the UN.



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### 1. **Resolution 2**

#### 2. *Resolution on development aid level*

3. Submitted by Radikal Ungdom (RU)

4.

5. *Recalling* that the UN Monterrey Consensus of 2002 on Financing for Development clearly

6. States a global target of domestic GDP to development aid to be 0.7% by 2015.

7.

8. *Concerned* that the global level of GDP given to development aid by the member countries

9. Of OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) is at approximately 0.3% according to

10. OECD's numbers for 2015.<sup>1</sup>

11.

12. *Emphasising* the importance of raising the level of GDP given to development in order to

13. have a financial ground to reach the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by

14. 2030.

15.

16. The International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) calls for:

17. The UN to encourage member countries of OECD's Development Assistance Committee

18. (DAC) to raise their level of GDP to development aid to the minimum target of 0.7%.

19. An aim to reach the global minimum level of 0.7% in the next 5 years in order to have a

20. comfortable amount of years to secure the application of the Sustainable Development

21. Goals by 2030.

22.

23. <sup>1</sup> [http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/development-aid-stable-in-2014-but-flows-to-poorest-](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/development-aid-stable-in-2014-but-flows-to-poorest-countries-still-falling.htm)

24. [countries-still-falling.htm](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/development-aid-stable-in-2014-but-flows-to-poorest-countries-still-falling.htm)



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### 1. **Resolution 3**

#### 2. *Resolution on the issue of illegal felling of the rainforest*

3. Submitted by Radikal Ungdom (RU)

4.

#### 5. Considering:

6. • That between up to 650 million cubic meters of rainforest land are felled illegally  
7. every year.

8. • That illegal felling constitute for up to 20-40% of all loggings.

9. • That estimates suggest that almost 40% of the Amazonas Rainforest will be felled by 2030.

10.

#### 11. Acknowledging:

12. • The global issue that the continuing felling of rainforest have for the indigenous people  
13. And the future of our planet's nature.

14. • That the primary reason for this development is the short-term profit gained by usage of  
15. the areas for farming.

16. • That long-term consequences for felling rainforests continuously are extremely damaging  
17. to our nature, because overusing the land will make it useless for future agricultural  
18. Purposes.

19.

#### 20. The International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) calls for:

21. • Countries' governments and civil society actors to fight for reducing the illegal felling of  
22. Rainforests.

23. • The UN to support with aid to promote long-term and sustainable loggings and usage of  
24. the grounds.

25. • Raising awareness among the relevant actors in order to make a global agreement that  
26. Deals with illegal felling and impoverishment of the rain forest areas.



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### 1. **Resolution 4**

2. *Promoting mental health awareness*

3. Submitted by Jonge Democraten (JD)

4.

#### 5. **Noting that:**

6. • According to the World Health Organization four out of ten leading causes of disability in

7. the developed countries are mental disorders. By 2020, major depressive disorder (MDD)

8. will be the leading cause of disability in the world for women and children.

9. • Stigma, discrimination and social exclusion related to mental illness exist, fuelled by

10. ignorance and misinformation, which leads to social disabilities.

11. • Mental illness is in some societies misunderstood and stigmatized due to cultural

12. expectations or religious beliefs.

13. • Mental illness is treatable and recovery is possible.

14.

#### 15. **Believing that:**

16. • Social stereotypes should be actively challenged in order to promote acceptance, create  
17. understanding and take action on mental health issues.

18. • Because cultural stereotypes are assimilated from an early age, young people should be

19. the target for mental health awareness campaigns, since they are the next generation to

20. eliminate stigma and discrimination.

21. • Providing young people with basic knowledge for understanding mental health issues is

22. vitally important for detecting mental illnesses and offer care at an early stage.

23. • Mental health awareness is supportive to emotional well-being and inclusion.

24.

#### 25. **Calls upon IFLRY and its MOs to:**

26. • Increase its lobby and advocacy efforts to stress the need for health awareness and the  
27. education of young people on mental illness.

28. • Encourage its member organizations to actively promote the need for mental health

29. awareness in their national contexts and among their mother parties.



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### 1. **Resolution 5**

#### 2. *Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights: Liberalizing Women's Sexual Rights*

3. Submitted by Jonge Democraten (JD)

4.

#### 5. **Recognizing**

6. • the distinction between sexual and reproductive rights and health, whereby

7. ◦ (1) sexual rights are those rights related to the individual's sexual freedom. This includes

8. the protection against practices such as genital mutilation, forced marriage, and rape.

9. ◦ (2) sexual health focuses on the protection of the individual against and appropriate

10. treatment of HIV/AIDS;

11. ◦ (3) reproductive health focuses on the available medical care for pregnant women;

12. • **that SRHR contributes to the emotional and physical wellbeing of women and girls.**

13.

#### 14. **Considering that**

15. • the current development in conflict zones and the subsequent refugee movements create

16. additional threats to vulnerable groups, including young and adolescent girls and their

17. protection of SRHR.

18. • urbanization and a growing population in developing countries increases challenges posed

19. to reproductive and sexual health problems of women.

20.

#### 21. **Believing that**

22. • Freedom of choice should be at the core of SRHR-advocacy;

23. • Access to appropriate education on SRHR is key;

24. • Men play a vital role in the safeguarding of SRHR, as they are equally responsible for the

25. men protection of the women's freedom of choice and dignity;

26. • IFLRY has a unique role to play as global progressive youth-led platform.

27.

#### 28. **Calls upon IFLRY to**

29. • increase its lobby efforts on SRHR through international platforms, such as Liberal

30. International, ICMYO, UN ECOSOC and other appropriate and governmental organizations;

31. • encourage its member organizations to prioritize SRHR-advocacy in their national contexts

32. and among their mother parties.



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### 1. **Resolution 6**

#### 2. *Assisting LGBTQ2+ Refugees*

3. Submitted by Young Liberals of Canada

4.

5. WHEREAS, as of July 2015, seventy two countries still have laws that persecute LGBTQ2+  
6. people.

7.

8. WHEREAS, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed A/HRC/RES/17/19 in 2011,  
9. expressing grave  
10. concern at acts of violence and discrimination, in all regions of the world, committed against  
11. individuals  
12. because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

13.

14. WHEREAS, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed A/HRC/RES/27/32 in 2014,  
15. welcoming positive  
16. developments at the international, regional and national levels in the fight against violence  
17. and discrimination  
18. based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

19.

20. WHEREAS, the UNHCR launched a training campaign in 2015 directed at educating UNHCR  
21. staff, protection and humanitarian workers on international law, operational protection,  
22. conducting interviews, determining health and refugee status, which were focused on  
23. practical guidance when assisting LGBTQ2+ refugees and asylum seekers.

24.

25. WHEREAS, LGBTQ2+ refugees fleeing persecution still face a wide and complex array of  
26. challenges and threats at all stages of displacement, including discrimination, prejudice,  
27. violence, difficulty accessing humanitarian services, and barriers to articulating their  
28. protection needs during asylum procedures and other interactions with protection and  
29. humanitarian workers.

30.

31. WHEREAS, Canada's recent commitment to accept 25,000 new refugees prioritized assisting  
32. and accepting LGBTQ2+ refugees.

33.

34. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the International Federation of Liberal Youth and its Member  
35. Organizations work with their UN partners, governments and stakeholders to advocate for  
36. the establishment of a UN Envoy on LGBTQ2+ refugees.

37.

38. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the International Federation of Liberal Youth encourage its  
39. Member Organizations to advocate for immigration policies within their respective liberal  
40. parties which recognize the specific needs of LGBTQ2+ refugees.



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### 1. **Resolution 7**

2. *Pledge to accelerate the closing of coal-fired plants around the world*

3. Submitted by Young Liberals of Canada

4.

5. WHEREAS, 195 countries' parties to the UNFCCC agreed in Paris to limit global average

6. temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius, striving for 1.5;

7.

8. WHEREAS, developed countries, under the provision of the UNFCCC's common but

9. differentiated responsibilities, are required to assist the least developed, developing, and

10. rapidly industrializing countries with climate mitigation and adaptation;

11.

12. WHEREAS, the single largest impact to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions is the

13. elimination of coal-fired plants;

14.

15. WHEREAS, coal-fired energy is still widely in use around the world, with many countries with

16. existing and new applications for coal-fired power;

17.

18. BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Federation of Liberal Youth encourages its Member

19. Organizations to work with the parties of the UNFCCC to eliminate coal-fired energy

20. generation around the world by 2030.