



**SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONVENING OF  
A MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON “THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA”**

1. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations expresses its serious concern at the current and growing threats to the Charter of the United Nations, including those resulting from the continued and ever-increasing encroachment by the Security Council on issues that fall beyond its mandate, as clearly defined in the founding Charter of the United Nations.
2. The Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations attach utmost importance to the promotion and protection of *all* human rights, and also consider that their promotion and protection are strengthened on the basis of dialogue and cooperation.
3. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations, therefore, rejects the convening of meetings for addressing country-specific human rights situations, as such a practice goes against the principles of impartiality, objectivity, transparency, non-selectivity, non-politicization and non-confrontation, but also against the very spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, while undermining, among others, the development of friendly relations amongst nations and the achievement of international cooperation on the field of human rights.
4. The Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations recall that human rights shall not be weaponized or used to either advance political agendas or to meddle into the internal affairs of other States, while stressing that such double standards undermine the true spirit of promoting and defending human rights, while both preventing a harmonious environment and progress in this field and also weakening human rights institutions.
5. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations consider that the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a non-discriminatory platform that provides an opportunity to all Member States to advance towards the full and effective realization of the human rights, in a fair and constructive manner, on the basis of dialogue and cooperation, in terms of mutual respect, and in adherence to the timeless principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, particularly those referred to the sovereign equality of States, the inalienable right to self-determination of peoples, and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.



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CHARTER OF THE  
**UNITED NATIONS**

6. The Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations commend the efforts of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in many fields, including on human rights, with the purpose of ensuring the wellbeing and prosperity of its people. We call on the continuation of such efforts, as well as on the need to ensure that they are nationally-owned, while stressing the primary role of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its institutions in this regard.
7. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations calls for an end to the ongoing practice of the Security Council of dealing with issues and situations beyond its mandate, including by addressing human rights issues, in pursuit of certain States' political objectives. The continuation of this practice infringes upon the spirit that must guide the higher ideals in favor of the genuine promotion and protection of human rights.

New York, 12 June 2024