

# Hilton 2021

## SHC

### Committee Overview

Abuse in Canadian Detention Centers

Abuse of Sex Workers in South Africa

Abuse of Power by the Myanmar Government

### Committee Description

SHC will be run Harvard Style, meaning that resolutions are not to be written until the date of the conference itself. Any delegates found to be possessing resolutions written beforehand will not be considered for an award and the resolution will not be accepted. Additionally, it is highly suggested that every delegate write at least one position paper on a topic, as doing so will be necessary to be considered for an award. Position papers should be turned in at the beginning of the conference or electronically to either chair by Friday at midnight.

All delegates are expected to come to the first day of the conference with a working knowledge of all or most of the topics as well as the policies of the countries that they represent. The purpose of the United Nations Social Humanitarian Cultural Committee is to provide aid to people who face human rights violations as a result of cultural reasons. Delegates should work together in committee in order to prevent these issues and to help aid these people in need.

### Chairs

Ahmed Shah | [ahmed317436@gmail.com](mailto:ahmed317436@gmail.com)

My name is Ahmed Shah, this is my third time chairing and my fourth year doing Model UN. I am currently a senior at Pittsford–Mendon High School. Outside of MUN, I play tennis and enjoy other racquet sports. I also participate in our school's newspaper club as the senior layout editor and french cultural club as the treasurer. I am so excited to be chairing at Hilton 2021. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions!

My email is [ahmed317436@gmail.com](mailto:ahmed317436@gmail.com)

Muhammad Mbowe | [Mbowe297@gmail.com](mailto:Mbowe297@gmail.com)

My name is Muhammad Mbowe, I am a Junior at Pittsford–Mendon Highschool, and this is my third year doing Model UN. Outside of MUN, I am one of the directors of my school's American Statesmen Initiative, which I really enjoy. I am also the treasurer of my class's student council, among other things. I am so hyped to be chairing at Hilton 2021! If you have any questions my email is: [Mbowe297@gmail.com](mailto:Mbowe297@gmail.com).

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### Abuse in Canadian Detention Centers



The Canadian government detains thousands of asylum seekers every year in abusive and inhumane conditions. Between April 2019 and March 2020, Canada placed 8,825 migrants into detention centers. There are only three immigration holding centers in Canada; however, these migrants can also be placed into provincial jails across the country.

They face intense abuse in these detention centers and jails. They are often shackled or chained to walls and receive little food and water. This intense violation of human rights needs to be stopped so that asylum seekers receive the proper help they deserve.

Those fleeing persecution and seeking protection in Canada are put in detention centers with very little contact from the outside world as they are held in solitary confinement. With no release date, these migrants are often held for months and even years at a time. As a result, many people who face mental health problems and psychosocial disabilities face intense discrimination. Being held in solitary confinement can affect any person but it can be especially damaging for those already facing psychological problems.

Reports have also shown that those with intellectual disabilities or people of color are often placed in the worst conditions and not released until much later than a year. There is no place for racism or ableism in any place in the world and actions need to be taken in order to curb these problems.

These problems are only exacerbated by the current processing system in Canada. With only three detention centers nationwide, it is very easy for families to get separated as they are placed into different jails and centers across the country. This can be very damaging to families and children already scared from the long journey to Canada. On top of this, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) is now allowed to detain anyone they believe poses a threat. This has significantly increased the amount of people being detained each year.

Lastly, another major concern is Covid-19. With tight and cramped conditions asylum seekers are worried about catching the deadly virus and spreading it to others. With little to no medical help, catching this virus can tremendously affect the migrants' already difficult journey.

*How can the United Nations assist in changing the systems put in place in Canada without infringing on national sovereignty? What can be done to aid detainees that suffer from mental health problems and other illnesses? What can be done about the reported racism and ableism in these centers? How can the United Nations aid in preventing the spread of Covid-19 in these centers?*

#### Sources:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/abusive-conditions-in-canada-s-immigration-detention-system-human-rights-groups-1.5474050>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/17/rights-groups-urge-canada-to-end-abusive-immigration-detention>

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/abusive-conditions-in-canada-s-immigration-detention-system-human-rights-groups-1.5474050>

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## Abuse of Sex Workers in South Africa



South Africa has a vast sex work industry consisting of 131,000 to 182,000 people, primarily women, who depend on it for income. However, these workers are being abused by the police because prostitution is illegal; but officers are taking advantage of that fact, using it against the women

In a study in 2017, 18.5 percent of sex workers were psychologically and sexually assaulted by police officers. These officers refuse to wear contraception, leading to a plethora of problems: unwanted pregnancy, and high percentages of HIV and/or HPV. A study in 2013 revealed that 40 to 72 percent of sex workers in South Africa have HIV. This is substantially higher than the rest of the South African population. Furthermore, most of the cases result from when clients and police officers refuse to wear contraception such as condoms. Even after experiencing assault and contracting diseases, workers cannot go to hospitals because their profession is illegal and neglected by their society, so they often receive inadequate medical assistance. This causes a cycle of

abuse and poor health that these workers cannot escape from.

For these reasons, the international community has been prompting the South African government to decriminalize prostitution and give sex workers the rights they deserve: equal medical services, protection from the abuse of police officers, and mandated usage of contraception such as condoms.

However, countries like the United States have strict policies against prostitution leading to them not giving foreign aid to help these sex workers thrive. Though the South African government has started programs they are focused on getting rid of the industry; these programs have shown little evidence is shown when it comes to the problems plaguing sex workers, calling their effectiveness into question. Sex workers are suffering in South Africa for practicing their profession and this is unacceptable by every measure.

*What can the UN do to help these sex workers without infringing on national sovereignty? How can the UN help reduce the number of HIV cases in the sex work industry? What can be done to increase the usage of condoms in the sex work industry? What can be done to help sex workers against sexual abuse? How can the UN give medical assistance to sex workers without infringing on national sovereignty?*

### Sources:

<https://www.anovahealth.co.za/anova-news/most-sex-workers-do-know-their-hiv-status-use-condoms-with-clients-few-have-access-to-art-2/>

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/newsroom/sex-workers-southern-africa-face-increasing-barriers-rights-health-care>

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/08/07/why-sex-work-should-be-decriminalised-south-africa#>

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## SHC

### Abuse of Power by the Myanmar Government



The Myanmar government, under the leadership of President Win Myint, has been violating multiple human and political rights. During this past election, it has persecuted any opposition, including media and political opponents. This has led it to restrict media access from its opponents, thereby not letting them campaign. This is just one example of the this government's brutality.

During these past few years, it has become increasingly militaristic, with 25 percent of the parliament consisting of military officials. Not to mention, the persecution of the Rohingya people; there are approximately 600,000 Rohingya currently in internment-like camps with no way to leave. The persecution of the Rohingya has been present in Myanmar since 1948, and this present government had promised to stop those terrible practices. However, they have since recanted their previous promises and

have enforced laws oppressing the Rohingya and other ethnic minorities. This has led to inadequate living conditions and a lack of healthcare, food, and education. Also, the government has enforced strict internet restrictions to block the persecuted ethnic groups from contacting humanitarian aid services.

1 million Rohingya have fled from Myanmar to Bangladesh because of the ethical cleansing taking place. The unprecedented levels of abuse and tyranny by the Myanmar government have caused them to be called by The Gambia to the International Court of Justice. However, they deny all allegations despite overwhelming evidence of human rights abuses. The rampant corruption and human rights abuses of the Myanmar government are issues that the whole world must come together to tackle.

*What can the UN do to help the Rohingya and other ethnic minorities being persecuted in Myanmar? What can be done to help reform Myanmar without infringing on national sovereignty? What can the UN do to help integrate the Rohingya into Bangladesh? What can the UN do to hold the Myanmar government accountable for its actions?*

#### Sources:

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/myanmar-burma>

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/01/13/myanmar-serious-rights-abuses-persist>

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/2021/columnists/tyranny-continues-in-myanmar.html>