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in the Soviet Union

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# THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 22, 1982

#### MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached for your signature is H.J. Res. 373 (3 originals) and an associated signing statement prepared by the Department of State.

Among other things this Resolution expresses the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should cease its abuses of the basic human rights of its citizens, in particular, the right to freely practice one's religion and the right to emigrate to another country. This Bill also requests that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the U.S. and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

OMB and the Department of State recommend approval. Craig Fuller, Dave Gergen, Ed Rollins, Ken Duberstein, Bill Clark and the Office of Policy Development concur. NSC and Elizabeth Dole have no objection.

Last Day for Action: March 23

3/22/82: Amal.

Richard G. Darman

# APPRO 1982

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

#### OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

MAR 1 6 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject:

Enrolled Resolution H.J.Res. 373 - Religious Freedom

in the Soviet Union

Sponsors - Rep. Schroeder (D) Colorado and 87 others

### Last Day for Action

March 23, 1982 - Tuesday

### Purpose

Expresses the sense of Congress with respect to religious freedom in and freedom to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

### Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Department of State

Approval (Signing Statement attached)

National Security Council

No objection

### Discussion

H.J.Res. 373 expresses the sense of the Congress that the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva in February 1982. In addition, the President is directed to transmit copies of H.J.Res. 373 to the Soviet Ambassador to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

As the Department of State notes in its attached views letter, the issues raised by H.J.Res. 373 "... have been raised in a variety of contexts, including the 1981 meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. ... The current session of the Commission on Human Rights, which closes March 12, has provided an excellent forum for again airing these matters."

The enrolled resolution passed the House and the Senate by voice vote. The State Department has prepared an appropriate signing statement for your consideration.

Assistant Director for Legislative Reférence

**Enclosure** 

### STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have signed House Joint Resolution 373 expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should cease its abuses of the basic human rights of its citizens, in particular the right to freely practice one's religion and the right to emigrate to another country. resolution draws special attention to the hardships and discrimination now being imposed upon the Jewish community in the U.S.S.R.

I wholeheartedly join with the Congress in renewing our call to the Soviet Government to cease its repressive actions against those who seek the freedom to emigrate or to practice their religious or cultural traditions. These freedoms are a fundamental part of our American heritage, and their denial is a matter of the deepest concern to our Government and citizenry. We urge the Soviet Union to take positive steps to ensure that its policies and practices conform with its international obligations to respect the individual rights of its citizens.

Rosed Roger

# THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 11, 1982

DICK:

Rather than stamping the approved date on these two copies after they are signed by the President as we normally do on enrolled bills like so:

# **APPROVED**

MAR 1 0 1982

you might want to consider having the President write the date next to his name on both copies of the resolutions.

Ron Geisler

Mo stamp beed Deck Damas

# THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 23, 1982

FOR THE RECORD:

This H.J. Res. requires the President to transmit a "copy" of the resolution to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Richard Darman instructed me to give the two copies to Judge Clark's office for transmittal to the Department of State.

The two copies were given to George Van Eron, NSC staff this day. He will have Judge Clark forward them to the Secretary of State who will make the arrangements for delivering the copies to the soviet officials.

It is very unusual for a request of this nature to be contained in a law.

Ron Geisler

### The Speaker's Rooms H. S. House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

March 11, 1982

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to Section 2 of House Joint Resolution 373, I am enclosing two copies of said enrollment for transmittal to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Best Wishes.

Sincerely,

The Speaker

Enclosures (2)

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Document No.	048950SS
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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE:	3/16/82	ACTION/0	CONCURR	ENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:	c.o.b.	Friday, 3/1
SUBJECT:	ENROLLED RES		H.J. R	ES. 373 - RELIGIOUS	FREEDOM	IN THE
		ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE	PRESIDENT			GERGEN Approve	19	) <sub>-</sub>
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Remarks:						

May we have your comments on the attached Resolution. Thank you.

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President (x2702)

Response:

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1920

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD G. DARMAN

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARR Romfor

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Resolution H.J.Res. 373 -- Religious

Freedom in the Soviet Union

We have reviewed and concur in Enrolled Resolution H.J.Res. 373, as set forth in OMB's memorandum of March 16 (Tab A), expressing the sense of Congress with respect to religious freedom in and freedom to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Attachment:

Tab A Your memorandum of March 16 with attachments.



1794

Document No. \_\_\_\_048950SS

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM URGENT

3/16/82	_ ACTION/	CONCUI	RRENCE/COMM	MENT DUE BY:	c.o.b.	Friday,	3/1
		H.J.	RES. 373 -	RELIGIOUS	FREEDOM	IN THE	
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Remarks:

May we have your comments on the attached Resolution. Thank you.

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President (x2702)

Response:



### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

#### OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

MAR 1 6 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject:

Enrolled Resolution H.J.Res. 373 - Religious Freedom

in the Soviet Union

Sponsors - Rep. Schroeder (D) Colorado and 87 others

Last Day for Action

March 23, 1982 - Tuesday

<u>Purpose</u>

Expresses the sense of Congress with respect to religious freedom in and freedom to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approva1

Department of State

Approval (Signing Statement attached)

National Security Council

No objection

### Discussion

H.J.Res. 373 expresses the sense of the Congress that the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva in February 1982. In addition, the President is directed to transmit copies of H.J.Res. 373 to the Soviet Ambassador to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

As the Department of State notes in its attached views letter, the issues raised by H.J.Res. 373 "... have been raised in a variety of contexts, including the 1981 meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. ... The current session of the Commission on Human Rights, which closes March 12, has provided an excellent forum for again airing these matters."

The enrolled resolution passed the House and the Senate by voice vote. The State Department has prepared an appropriate signing statement for your consideration.

Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosure

# Minety-seventh Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two

### Joint Resolution

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be among the issues raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights at Geneva in February 1982.

Whereas the Soviet authorities have mounted a triple assault on their Jewish community, (1) the number of Jews allowed to emigrate has been reduced from a high of four thousand seven hundred and forty-six in the month of October 1979 to a total of only nine thousand four hundred in all of 1981, the lowest number since emigration began, (2) frequent harassments, arrests, and trials have become an almost daily occurrence, and (3) unparalleled assaults on Jewish self-study groups occur in the major urban areas; and

Whereas such harassment and obstacles to free movement violate the obligations of the Soviet Union to respect the rights of freedom of thought, conscience, expression, religion, and emigration, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is the

sense of the Congress that—

(1) the President should instruct the United States delegation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights meeting in Geneva in February 1982 to carry to the Commission the message that the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, should stop its harassments, arrests, and trials of the members of its Jewish community, and should stop its assaults on Jewish self-study groups:

(2) the Government of the Soviet Union should comply with its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by ceasing the indiscriminate arrests and trials of Jewish activists, by ending the assaults on Jewish self-study groups, and by opening its doors to those who wish to emigrate;

(3) the President should express to the Government of the Soviet Union the strong and continuing opposition of the United States to such harassment of its citizenry, and the obstacles it presents to those who wish to emigrate; and

(4) the President should reiterate to the Government of the Soviet Union that the United States, in evaluating its relations

### H.J.Res. 373-2

with other nations, will consider the extent to which they honor their commitments under international law, particularly their commitments concerning human rights.

Sec. 2. The President shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

### WASHINGTON

March 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD G. DARMAN

FROM:

EDWIN L. HARPER

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 373

Religious Freedom in the Soviet Union

08950SS

The Office of Policy Development recommends approval of H.J. Res. 373 and the proposed signing statement.

25 10 16 10 26

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

MAR 1 1 1982

Dear Mr. Stockman:

In accordance with established procedure, I am responding to Mr. James M. Frey's communication of March 8, requesting Department of State views on enrolled bill H.J. Res. 373. The resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be among the issues raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights at Geneva in February 1982.

The preamble to the resolution contains two expressions which lack firm historical context. The phrase "since emigration began" in subparagraph (1) is unnecessarily ambiguous; in fact Jewish emigration is at its lowest level since 1970. The word "unparalleled" in subparagraph (3) overlooks the periods of severe persecution of Jews during the Stalin era. However these inaccuracies are not fatal to the overall thrust of the bill.

The operative sections of the resolution are fully consistent with present United States policy. Our Government has consistently supported the rights of Soviet citizens to practice their religious and cultural traditions free of state interference or harassment. We have similarly supported the efforts of all those who seek to exercise their right to emigrate. As the resolution properly points out, these rights are enunciated in several international agreements to which the USSR is a signatory.

The United States has unequivocally made known to the Soviet Government that its abuses of the fundamental rights of its citizens have a decidedly detrimental effect upon our bilateral relations. We have strongly condemned official Soviet persecution of religious believers, Jewish and other cultural activists, and

The Honorable
David A. Stockman,
Director,
Office of Management and Budget.

emigration applicants. These issues have been raised in a variety of contexts, including the 1981 meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. We shall continue to stress our concern to the Soviets and to bring Soviet abuses of human rights to international attention. The current session of the Commission on Human Rights, which closes March 12, has provided an excellent forum for again airing these matters.

H.J. Res. 373 will not have any impact upon the President's budgetary program. Implementation of the resolution will require neither additional personel nor additional expenditure of funds by the U.S. Government.

The Department of State recommends that the President give approval to H.J. Res. 373 and issue the attached signing statement.

Sincerely,

Powell A. Moore Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:
Proposed Signing Statement.

### Proposed Signing Statement

Today I am signing a joint resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should cease its abuses of the basic human rights of its citizens, in particular the right to freely practice one's religion and the right to emigrate to another country. The resolution draws special attention to the hardships and discrimination now being imposed upon the Jewish community in the U.S.S.R.

wholeheartedly join with the Congress in renewing our call to the Soviet Government to cease its repressive actions against those who seek the freedom to emigrate or to practice their religious or cultural traditions. These freedoms are a fundamental part of our American heritage, and their denial is a matter of the deepest concern to our Government and citizenry. We urge the Soviet Union to take positive steps to ensure that its policies and

### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 8, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES M. FREY

FROM:

MICHAEL O. WHEELER MW

SUBJECT:

H. J. Resolution 373

This will confirm that we have no objection to the subject enrolled bill, as forwarded by your memorandum of March 8, 1982.

Document No.	048950SS
Document 140.	

DATE:	3/16/82	ACTION/	CONCUR	RENCE/COMMENT DUE BY	c.o.b	. Friday,	3/1
SUBJECT: _	ENROLLED SOVIET UN	RESOLUTION		RES. 373 - RELIGIOUS			
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VIC	E PRESIDENT			GERGEN			
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FUL	LER —	<b>&gt;</b>		-			
Remarks:							

May we have your comments on the attached Resolution. Thank you.

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President (x2702)

Response:

TO: 49 81 AAM 58

4:05

Document No.	048950SS

DATE:	3/16/82	ACTION/0	CONCU	RRENCE	/COMM	IENT DUE BY:	c.o.b.	Friday,	3/
SUBJECT:		RESOLUTION	н.ј.	RES.	373 -	RELIGIOUS	FREEDOM	IN THE	
	SOVIET UN	NION						*	_
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	<u> </u>								
	MAR 19					,		nard G. Darma int to the Presi (x2702)	

Response:

March 19, 1982

No objection.



Document No.	048950SS

DATE:	3/16/82	_ ACTION/0	CONCUI	RRENCE/CO	MMENT D	UE BY: _	c.o.b.	Friday,	, 3/1
SUBJECT: _	ENROLLED SOVIET UN	RESOLUTION ION	н.J.	RES. 373	- RELIC	GIOUS	FREEDOM	IN THE	
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Nead 3-16 3-45 Richard G. Darman									
Response:	^					St	Assistant E: Id 618	nt to the Pres (x2702)	ident
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Document No.	048950SS
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DATE:	3/16/82	ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:C.o.b. Frid						3/1
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### Remarks:

May we have your comments on the attached Resolution. Thank you.

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President (x2702)

### Response:

Approved - no additional comments.

Edward J. Rollins Office of Political Affairs

DATE:	3/16/82	ACTION/0	CONCURREN	ICE/COMMENT DUE BY:	c.o.b.	Friday, 3/
SUBJECT:	ENROLLED SOVIET UN		H.J. RES	. 373 - RELIGIOUS	FREEDOM	IN THE
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VICE	PRESIDENT			GERGEN		
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Remarks:  May we have your comments on the attached Resolution. Thank you.						
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						nard G. Darman ant to the President (x2702)
Response:						
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### Proposed Signing Statement

Today I am signing a Joint Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should cease its abuses of the basic human rights of its citizens, in particular the right to freely practice one's religion and the right to emigrate to another country. The resolution draws special attention to the hardships and discrimination now being imposed upon the Jewish community in the U.S.S.R.

I wholeheartedly join with the Congress in renewing our call to the Soviet Government to cease its repressive actions against those who seek the freedom to emigrate or to practice their religious or cultural traditions. These freedoms are a fundamental part of our American heritage, and their denial is a matter of the deepest concern to our Government and citizenry. We urge the Soviet Union to take positive steps to ensure that its policies and practices conform with its international obligations to respect the individual rights of its citizens.

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# Minety-seventh Congress of the United States of America

### AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two

# Joint Resolution

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be among the issues raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights at Geneva in February 1982.

Whereas the Soviet authorities have mounted a triple assault on their Jewish community, (1) the number of Jews allowed to emigrate has been reduced from a high of four thousand seven hundred and forty-six in the month of October 1979 to a total of only nine thousand four hundred in all of 1981, the lowest number since emigration began, (2) frequent harassments, arrests, and trials have become an almost daily occurrence, and (3) unparalleled assaults on Jewish self-study groups occur in the major urban areas; and

Whereas such harassment and obstacles to free movement violate the obligations of the Soviet Union to respect the rights of freedom of thought, conscience, expression, religion, and emigration, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is the

sense of the Congress that-

(1) the President should instruct the United States delegation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights meeting in Geneva in February 1982 to carry to the Commission the message that the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, should stop its harassments, arrests, and trials of the members of its Jewish community, and should stop its assaults on Jewish self-study groups;

(2) the Government of the Soviet Union should comply with its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by ceasing the indiscriminate arrests and trials of Jewish activists, by ending the assaults on Jewish self-study groups, and by opening its doors to those who wish to emigrate;

(3) the President should express to the Government of the Soviet Union the strong and continuing opposition of the United States to such harassment of its citizenry, and the obstacles it presents to those who wish to emigrate; and

(4) the President should reiterate to the Government of the Soviet Union that the United States, in evaluating its relations

### H.J. Res. 373-2

with other nations, will consider the extent to which they honor their commitments under international law, particularly their commitments concerning human rights.

their commitments concerning human rights.

Sec. 2. The President shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

### Minety-seventh Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two

### Joint Resolution

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urban areas; and Whereas such harassment and obstacles to free movement violate the obligations of the Soviet Union to respect the rights of freedom of thought, conscience, expression, religion, and emigration, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Now, therefore, be it

Socialist Republics: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the

United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is the

sense of the Congress that—

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meeting in Geneva in February 1982 to carry to the Commission the message that the Soviet Union should respect the
rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate,
should stop its harassments, arrests, and trials of the members
of its Jewish community, and should stop its assaults on
Jewish self-study groups;

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(2) the Government of the Soviet Union should comply with its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by ceasing the indiscriminate arrests and trials of Jewish activists, by ending the assaults on Jewish self-study groups, and by opening its doors to those who wish to emigrate;
(3) the President should express to the Government of the Soviet Union the strong and continuing opposition of the United States to such harasment of its citizenry, and the obstacles it presents to those who wish to emigrate; and
(4) the President should reiterate to the Government of the Soviet Union that the United States, in evaluating its relations

Soviet Union that the United States, in evaluating its relations

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with other nations, will consider the extent to which they honor their commitments under international law, particularly their commitments concerning human rights.

SEC. 2. The President shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

### Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 22, 1982

### STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have signed House Joint Resolution 373 expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should cease its abuses of the basic human rights of its citizens, in particular the right to freely practice one's religion and the right to emigrate to another country. The resolution draws special attention to the hardships and discrimination now being imposed upon the Jewish community in the U.S.S.R.

I wholeheartedly join with the Congress in renewing our call to the Soviet Government to cease its repressive actions against those who seek the freedom to emigrate or to practice their religious or cultural traditions. These freedoms are a fundamental part of our American heritage, and their denial is a matter of the deepest concern to our Government and citizenry. We urge the Soviet Union to take positive steps to ensure that its policies and practices conform with its international obligations to respect the individual rights of its citizens.

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