

## Voting analysis: [Third Committee resolution on the situation of human rights in Iran](#)

### Overview

The vote this year was 86 for, 32 against with 59 abstaining. Compared to last year in the Third Committee, this shows an increase of 6 YES votes, a decrease of 12 NO votes and a decrease of 2 abstentions. Compared to last year in the General Assembly plenary, this shows an increase of 8 YES votes, a decrease of 13 NO votes and no change in the number of abstentions. 16 States were absent.<sup>1</sup>

Overall, the major positive changes of note from Third Committee last year are the shifts from **NO to YES** by Tunisia, Libya and Senegal, and shifts from **abstain to YES** by the Central African Republic, Colombia, Haiti, Malawi, Republic of Korea and Tanzania. Unfortunately, Ecuador and India shifted away from **Abstain to NO**.

Comparing votes in [Human Rights Council resolution creating the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Iran](#), no States switched their votes from **NO to YES** or from **Abstain to YES**. However, Brazil and Guatemala changed their votes from **YES to Abstain**.

Apart from Canada (the main sponsor) and Iran, 11 States made statements. Kazakhstan (for the OIC), Nicaragua, Syria, Venezuela, and Cuba (for the NAM), who all voted NO, spoke strongly against the resolution on principle against state resolutions. Uruguay, Malaysia and Indonesia (who all abstained) stated that the Human Rights Council's UPR is the proper forum to address these issues but also expressed concern about the situation in Iran, urging Iran to cooperate with the UN's special procedures and further engage in constructive dialogue.

Brazil (who also abstained) highlighted a number of human rights violations of concern and called for access for the Special Rapporteur on Iran, but ultimately felt that the resolution could have been more balanced to better reflect the positive steps taken by Iran. Uruguay also abstained, explaining that they favoured cooperation and dialogue and considered the invitation for the High Commissioner to visit Iran to be a positive step. Japan was the only state to speak in favour of the resolution. They explained that they did not co-sponsor the resolution because they have begun a dialogue with Iran and appreciate the continued discussions.

### Which countries changed their votes from last year?

(see table below)

Compared to last year's vote in Third Committee, 3 states shifted their votes from **NO to YES** (Libya, Senegal and Tunisia). 6 States shifted their votes from **abstain to YES** (Central African Republic, Colombia, Haiti, Malawi, Republic of Korea and Tanzania). 1 State (Tuvalu) shifted its vote away from **YES to abstain**. 7 states shifted from **NO to abstain** (Egypt, Mauritania, Indonesia, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, and UAE). 2 States shifted away from **abstain to NO** (Ecuador and India).

Compared to last year's vote in the GA plenary, 2 states shifted from **NO to YES** (Libya, Tunisia). 7 states shifted from **abstain to YES** (Central African Republic, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania, Korea, Colombia and Haiti). 8 states shifted from **NO to abstain** (Egypt,

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<sup>1</sup> Azerbaijan, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Georgia, Guinea, Iraq, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Turkey, Yemen.

Mauritania, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, and UAE). 2 states shifted from **abstain** to **NO** (Niger, Egypt).

Of the states that traditionally oppose state resolution: 15 states maintained that position (Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, DPRK, Iran, Myanmar, Oman, Russia, Sudan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe) but 3 states **abstained** (Egypt, Kyrgyzstan and Malaysia) and 1 state (Libya) voted **YES**.

### Votes by regional or other groups

Votes across the 56 OIC states were very split: about half (25) **abstained**, 17 voted **NO** and 5 voted **YES** (Libya, Tunisia, Senegal, Maldives, Albania). A further 9 were absent.

Votes across the 117 states in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) were also split: 27 voted **YES** despite a principled NAM position against country resolutions in the General Assembly. A further 27 voted **NO** and 12 were **absent**. 51 states **abstained**.

In GRULAC, there was a nearly even split between 14 states voting **YES** (Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Saint Lucia) and 13 states **abstaining** (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Brazil, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay). The usual 5 GRULAC States voted **NO** (Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela).

In the African group, approximately half abstained (27) while 5 voted **NO** (Algeria, Comoros, Niger, Sudan and Zimbabwe) and 12 voted **YES** (Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, and Tunisia).

### 2010 and 2011 votes compared

REGION	COUNTRY	Iran HRC 16	Iran C3 2010	Iran GA 2010	Iran C3 2011
African	Algeria		NO	NO	NO
African	Angola		A	A	A
African	Benin		A	A	A
African	Botswana		YES	YES	YES
African	Burkina Faso	A	A	A	A
African	Burundi		A	A	
African	Cameroon	A	A	A	A
African	Cape Verde		YES	YES	YES
African	Central African Republic		A	A	YES
African	Chad				
African	Comoros		NO	NO	NO
African	Congo		A	A	A
African	Côte D'Ivoire		A		A
African	Democratic Republic of the Congo			A	
African	Djibouti	A	A	A	A
African	Egypt		NO	NO	A
African	Equatorial Guinea				
African	Eritrea		NO	NO	
African	Ethiopia		A	A	A
African	Gabon	A	A	A	A
African	Gambia		YES	YES	
African	Ghana	A	A	A	A
African	Guinea		NO	NO	
African	Guinea-Bissau		A	A	A
African	Kenya		A	A	A

African	Lesotho		A	A	A
African	Liberia		YES	YES	YES
African	Libya		NO	NO	YES
African	Madagascar				
African	Malawi		A	A	YES
African	Mali		A	A	A
African	Mauritania	NO	NO	NO	A
African	Mauritius	A	A	A	A
African	Morocco		A	A	A
African	Mozambique		A	A	A
African	Namibia		A	A	A
African	Niger		NO	A	NO
African	Nigeria	A	A	A	A
African	Rwanda		YES	YES	YES
African	Sao Tome and Principe		YES	YES	YES
African	Senegal	YES	NO	A	YES
African	Seychelles		YES		YES
African	Sierra Leone		YES	YES	
African	Somalia		NO	NO	
African	South Africa		A	A	A
African	South Sudan				A
African	Sudan		NO	NO	NO
African	Swaziland		A	A	A
African	Togo		A	A	A
African	Tunisia		NO	NO	YES
African	Uganda	A	A	A	A
African	United Republic of Tanzania		A	A	YES
African	Zambia	YES	A	A	A
African	Zimbabwe		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Afghanistan		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Bahrain	A	NO	NO	A
Asian	Bangladesh	NO		NO	NO
Asian	Bhutan		A	A	A
Asian	Brunei		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Cambodia		A	NO	A
Asian	China	NO	NO	NO	NO
Asian	Cyprus		YES	YES	YES
Asian	DPRK		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Fiji		A	A	A
Asian	India		A	A	NO
Asian	Indonesia		NO	NO	A
Asian	Iran		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Iraq				
Asian	Japan	YES	YES	YES	YES
Asian	Jordan	A	A	A	A
Asian	Kazakhstan		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Kiribati		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Kuwait		NO	NO	A
Asian	Kyrgyzstan		NO	NO	A
Asian	Lao People's Democratic Republic		A	A	A
Asian	Lebanon		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Malaysia	A	NO	NO	A
Asian	Maldives	YES	YES	YES	YES
Asian	Marshall Islands		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Micronesia		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Mongolia		A	A	A
Asian	Myanmar		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Nauru		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Nepal		A	A	A
Asian	Oman		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Pakistan	NO	NO	NO	NO
Asian	Palau		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Papua New Guinea		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Philippines		A	A	A
Asian	Qatar		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Republic of Korea	YES	A	A	YES
Asian	Samoa		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Saudi Arabia	A	A	A	A
Asian	Singapore		A	A	A
Asian	Solomon Islands		YES	YES	YES

Asian	Sri Lanka		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Syria		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Tajikistan		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Thailand	A	A	A	A
Asian	Timor-Leste		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Tonga		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Turkmenistan		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Tuvalu		YES	A	A
Asian	United Arab Emirates		NO	NO	A
Asian	Uzbekistan		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Vanuatu		YES	YES	YES
Asian	Viet Nam		NO	NO	NO
Asian	Yemen				
CEIT	Albania		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Armenia		NO	NO	NO
CEIT	Azerbaijan		NO	NO	
CEIT	Belarus		NO	NO	NO
CEIT	Bosnia and Herzegovina		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Bulgaria		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Croatia		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Czech Republic		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Estonia		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Georgia				
CEIT	Hungary	YES	YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Latvia		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Lithuania		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Montenegro		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Poland	YES	YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Republic of Moldova	YES	YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Romania		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Russian Federation	NO	NO	NO	NO
CEIT	Serbia				A
CEIT	Slovakia	YES	YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Slovenia		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		YES	YES	YES
CEIT	Ukraine	YES	YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Antigua and Barbuda		A	A	A
GRULAC	Argentina	YES	YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Bahamas		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Barbados		A	A	A
GRULAC	Belize		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Bolivia		NO	NO	NO
GRULAC	Brazil	YES	A	A	A
GRULAC	Chile	YES	YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Colombia		A	A	YES
GRULAC	Costa Rica		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Cuba	NO	NO	NO	NO
GRULAC	Dominica			A	
GRULAC	Dominican Republic		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Ecuador	NO	A	NO	NO
GRULAC	El Salvador		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Grenada		A	A	A
GRULAC	Guatemala	YES	A	A	A
GRULAC	Guyana		A	A	A
GRULAC	Haiti		A	A	YES
GRULAC	Honduras		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Jamaica		A	A	A
GRULAC	Mexico	YES	YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Nicaragua		NO	NO	NO
GRULAC	Panama		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Paraguay		A	A	A
GRULAC	Peru		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Saint Kitts and Nevis		A	A	A
GRULAC	Saint Lucia		YES	YES	YES
GRULAC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		A	A	A
GRULAC	Suriname		A	A	A
GRULAC	Trinidad and Tobago		A	A	A
GRULAC	Uruguay	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Venezuela		NO	NO	NO
WEOG	Andorra		YES	YES	YES

WEOG	Australia		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Austria		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Belgium	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Canada		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Denmark		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Finland		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	France	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Germany		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Greece		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Iceland		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Ireland		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Israel		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Italy		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Liechtenstein		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Luxembourg		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Malta		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Monaco		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Netherlands		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	New Zealand		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Norway	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Portugal		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	San Marino		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Spain	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Sweden		YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Switzerland	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	Turkey				
WEOG	United Kingdom	YES	YES	YES	YES
WEOG	United States	YES	YES	YES	YES
		14	57	59	59
		7	44	45	32
		22	80	78	86