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## Critiques entre Maroc et France à l'UNESCO

Par Jenna Rossi, Le Monde

Les tensions croissent à l'UNESCO suite au développement de deux propositions distinctes de la part du comité au sujet des droits de la communauté LGBTQ. Le Maroc participe au développement d'une résolution mettant l'accent sur les personnes transgenres comme un troisième sexe et la prévention du VIH/SIDA.

Le Royaume du Maroc critique ouvertement les propositions françaises, qui proposent des points centrés sur la décriminalisation de la communauté LGBTQ. La France critique elle-même la proposition du Maroc.



Le Maroc s'adresse à la France suite à des commentaires sur sa culture.

«Le Maroc ne peut pas s'afficher comme étant du même côté [en ce qui a trait à l'homosexualité et les propositions de la France] car nous reflétons les désirs de nos citoyens.» dit la déléguée du Maroc lors d'une entrevue. Cette dernière soutient que le Maroc a fait « *un pas de l'avant en [éliminant] la peine de mort. [...] En raison des autres opinions majoritaires publiques dans notre pays, nous ne pouvons pas aller de l'avant [avec la proposition française].* »

En effet, le Maroc, un pays à confession majoritairement musulmane, dit emprisonner les personnes ouvertement homosexuelles afin de les protéger de ripostes de la part de la population générale. La France offre un point de vue différent, beaucoup plus paternaliste. Elle suggère que le Maroc pourrait moderniser ses mentalités et ajouta « *Le problème est qu'ils ne reconnaissent pas les personnes LGBT et en soi ils criminalisent leur existence. Ils justifient ça en disant vouloir les protéger, ce qui n'est pas le cas.* »

La France espère un changement des mentalités marocaines. En réponse aux critiques, le délégué se défend des accusations d'ingérence évoquées par son adversaire en rétorquant que ces derniers « *[ont des] politiques beaucoup plus aigües et beaucoup plus centrées sur la discrimination des groupes.* »

Les autres pays du comité déplorent un certain manque de perspective chez les deux pays, en particulier concernant le manque d'ouverture d'esprit dont font preuve les deux délégués, comme le mentionne la déléguée de la Russie. « *Le Maroc ne doit pas complètement suivre le modèle français mais il peut vraiment essayer de faire une différence en prenant quelques pas en avant* », ajouta un délégué italien.

## Western states enable dependency on refugee camps

Nykole King, Russia Today

During committee session in UNHCR, there have been resolutions drafted which attempts to address a burden-sharing framework, but not all the nations have addressed the root cause, which has created conditions for the refugee crisis. A block has formed made of delegates from Canada, the United States, and other states that have attempted to benefit themselves while only address short term concerns about refugees.

The refugees of Lebanon and Syria have been fled their homes in order to find refuge in neighbouring countries and abroad, but this has led to increased strain on the resources of many states. The UNHCR committee has been in talks this past weekend in an attempt to mediate this issue and find a solution that may be achievable by the international community.

Russia has been a leader in advocating for responsible resettlement of refugees where they will be temporarily given safe haven, but then resettled in their country of origin when conflict has been resolved. The delegation of Russia is "planning to fully fund the UNHCR, which has been severely underfunded for quite some time, also a particular goal of Russia, just generally and not just in this committee, is stabilizing countries from whence refugees come, so we have to focus on ending that". Russia will continue to advocate for temporary resettlement and education programs for refugees in order for the least destructive burden-sharing framework.

The delegates from Canada and the United States have not fully addressed the concerns of Russia. These criticisms were in regards to the use of the private sector being a major player in the resettlement program, as it reduces refugees to economic commodities. Also, the loss of highly skilled and educated individuals from developing countries being permanently lost to the developed world can have detrimental effects on states of origin.

## Russia retracts sponsorship due to political games

By Melanie Renaud, The New York Times

In the Security Council, delegates are growing tired of political games. “Unfortunately, politics has once again been slowing down the progress,” says the delegate of Russia. The Russian delegate announced that they will be officially retracting their sponsorship of the resolution due to the accusations made towards the Russian delegation stating that the Russian delegate was conspiring with ISIS.

The conspiracy unraveled when United Kingdom intelligence received information that the components of the bomb that went off in Egypt was “partially of Russian military origin” – Russia addressed the situation calmly.

“I am not collaborating with ISIS. I am the biggest supporter of the Assad regime – it would make no sense for me to be spending millions of dollars to support Assad, I would be fighting myself,” the Russian representative explains.

The delegate of Senegal says the council is divided, “We can’t move forward because of politics and veto power.” The delegates of Russia and Senegal are currently negotiating with other countries that want to contribute to the coalition. “There are lots of politics going on right now – hopefully we can move past that and get things done,” says the delegate of Senegal.



## Canada steers disarmament working paper in a different direction, UNGA

By Jaspreet Kaur Dhillon, The Globe and Mail

The Canadian delegation expresses the need for a detailed, comprehensive working paper.

“We really think the other working paper being worked on can be merged with ours, but I really want to focus on the specifics,” explained the delegate of Canada. Specifically, the delegates of Canada and Ecuador are focusing on improving border security, training police officers with the support of INTERPOL, and encouraging nations on revitalizing their private sector to promote the growth of small businesses.

When the delegate of New Zealand was asked about the second working paper, the delegate expressed similar concerns as that of the Canadian delegation. “The US is leading debate and our working paper, along with Brazil and me,” explained New Zealand. This bloc is focusing on strengthening existing UN mandates. Specifically, the delegates leading this bloc clarify that they are using the model of the UN Regional Centre for Peace & Disarmament in the Asia-Pacific. “We wish to expand this and encourage its implementation in other regions,” announced the delegate of New Zealand. The delegate used the example of the Caribbean, where she explained that the energy sector is underdeveloped. “In the Asia-Pacific, energy such as geothermal energy is extremely developed. So currently, countries such as New Zealand are sending experts to countries like Jamaica to help them develop their energy technology and energy sector.” The delegate emphasized the importance of encouraging other nations to do the same.

“Nations have more to gain by staying at peace than by going to war,” clarified the Canadian delegate.

## US and Russia to fight ISIS together

By Elyette Levy, Fox News

It has been a very eventful committee session for the United Nations Security Council today, as they have faced many hurdles.

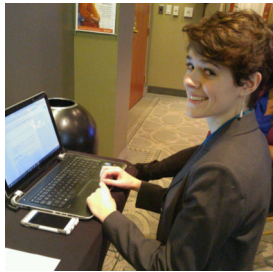
After the news of an explosion on an important monument in Cairo, Egypt, the Italian delegation took hostage of the ISIS fighter responsible for the attack, and who had the intentions of bombing the leaning tower of Pisa. In light of this information, the Japanese delegation declared, “The events that have unfolded in Italy just prove that we need more border control and a halt on migration.”

After a thorough interrogation, the Muslim terrorist accused Russia of being affiliated with ISIS in Syria. The United Kingdom also claimed that its Intelligence Agency had found that parts of the Cairo bomb were manufactured in Russia, an allegation that was later disproved by a Japanese Intelligence Agency investigation.

A deal was also made between the United States, Russia, and Ukraine, where the cooperation of Ukraine in regards to a directive would result in the Russian government forcing rebel forces that have invaded Crimea to recognize the Ukrainian authority in the region. When asked about the success of the agreement, the US delegate said, “We make the best deals!”

The arrangement also consisted of sending exclusively Russian ground troops to Syria, not American ones, as the US had already tripled its airstrikes in the Middle East.

## The International Court of Justice Votes On the “Iran v. U.S.” Case



By Seeba Chaachouh, CBC

The International Court of Justice passed the “*Islamic State of Iran v. United States of America*” case on Saturday afternoon. Following a moderated caucus motion, the debate was suspended for almost an hour in order to finish editing the draft decision.

This came forward after the Justices resolved certain disagreements surrounding the case. Justice Manzerolle further explained that a few Justices had initially opposed certain definitions of terms. However, the issue was quickly resolved, as they started working on their draft decision during committee session two.

Justice Manzerolle explained that the United States of America broke obligations in the treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights, also known as the treaty of 1955.

“While they [Iran] are subject of the legal proceedings of the United States in their domestic law there, fortunately, the U.S. can’t freeze the assets found in the bank account,” explained Justice Manzerolle.

Justices came to this conclusion when they established that the bank is a state-sponsored institution of Iran. “We determined that the U.S. has to pay back the frozen assets to Iran,” said Justice Manzerolle. “But they don’t have to pay other damages.”

### Justices’ work in the draft decision

Five questions were addressed under the “issues” section of the draft decision in order to determine whether “the court hold jurisdiction over the case” and whether “damages should be awarded” to Iran.

Justice Paglia and Justice Babin worked together on the *Pacta Sunt Servanda* section of the draft decision. “We saw the application of it [the *Pacta Sunt Servanda*] to the present case since it is a relevant international relations [brocard],” said Justice Babin. The Justices in ICJ are currently working on the second case on “*Equatorial Guinea v. France*.”

## China’s Behaviour Instigating Environmental Hazards?

By Moiz Lakhani, The Economist,

Since the last decade, China’s GDP has drastically increased. However, this was oftentimes at the expense of the environment and the public health. China is currently well underneath international environmental guidelines and regulations; to the extent that some of its cities are branded as “cancerous”. In 2006 China surpassed the U.S to become the world’s biggest Carbon Dioxide Emitter – A title which it currently embraces today.

If the international community is to fix the difficulties relating to the environment, it must indisputably work with China in order to create comprehensive solutions. It is estimated that by 2030, China’s carbon dioxide emissions could equal the entire world’s carbon dioxide production today.

When asked during the UNEP, whether China has not been focusing on introducing new regulations by European Union standards, it responded by simply saying “I don’t know. We are trying our best for 2030”. Though, “trying” is not merely enough if the global community is to ratify a solution immediately.

Today at the UNEP, China was working with the US on a Draft Resolution Paper, which would promote the use of Environmentally friendly transportation. Yet, the Chinese delegate seemed a little confused on what its position was. During a private interview, China explained how

“[They] will punish those who do not comply including the private sector”.

Additionally, the US added how countries would have to switch from conventional transportation methods and use more “Sophisticated” methods of transportation.

Though, how does the US anticipate that developing countries such as, China can afford to transition into more “sophisticated” transportation methods? When asked how countries would be able to fund for alternative transportation methods, the delegate assumed “that there are funds set aside for this”, but was disordered and unaware when asked to speak on a specific amount.

Planet Earth has been immensely resourceful to the human population and as a global community we must not only ensure that this continues but also ensure that we play our part and care for the earth in return. As such, it is important for countries like China to be cognizant and take their role seriously in this imperative cause.

## Inclusion, LGBTQ et Développement durable – des cibles pour l’UNESCO

Par Ioana Zamfir, BBC

Durant le comité de l’UNESCO, deux blocs se sont formés pour écrire deux documents de travail afin d’inclure les membres de la communauté LGBT+ dans l’obtention des objectifs de développement durable (ODD).

Le premier bloc formé de l’Égypte, de la Grèce, du Kenya, de la Russie, de la Malaisie et du Maroc se sont vu critiqués par le second, formé de la France, du Royaume-Uni, de l’Italie, et de l’Allemagne, pour ne pas accepter la légalisation des droits de la communauté LGBT+.

La France s’est exprimée en disant qu’elle « [...] ne veut en aucun cas aller à l’encontre des valeurs religieuses d’un quelconque pays arabe, elle souhaite juste les droits des humains, de la communauté LGBT+ ».

Le Maroc s’est désolé de la position de l’Allemagne qu’il a considérée comme fermée, notamment l’inclusion de troisième sexe, celui neutre pour les personnes transgenres. Il a poursuivi en disant qu’une approche holistique était préférable.

La Grèce s’est exprimée en précisant qu’en tant que pays développé et membre de l’Union Européenne ainsi que « [...] premier pays orthodoxe à avoir passer la loi sur le mariage homosexuel, » elle n’essaie point d’imposer sa vision des choses mais plutôt de comprendre pourquoi que de telles mesures progressistes ne peuvent être imposées.

Le Maroc a renchérit en disant que lorsqu’il y a des tensions comme celles trouvées au Maroc, le bien de la majorité doit être favorisé, car il est possible que la population n’accepte pas ces droits, « [...] la communauté LGBT+ qui se rendrait visible serait encore plus en danger. »

Dans le but de faire valoir le droit de vie des membres de la communauté LGBT, la France a déclaré que « [...] tant et aussi longtemps qu’il n’y aura pas de tuerie, de criminalisation de la communauté, je suis prêt à accepter. »

Le Maroc s’est alors expliqué en précisant qu’un progrès avait été fait au niveau de la législation juridique, si bien qu’être membre de la communauté n’était plus criminalisé la peine de mort mais « [...] bien par un amendement qui va être au niveau d’un emprisonnement ou d’une peine monétaire. »