

VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS

MARKUP BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H. Con. Res. 190, H. Con. Res. 275,
H. Con. Res. 280, H. Con. Res. 284,
H. Con. Res. 294, H. Res. 438, H. Res. 456,
H. Res. 458, H. Res. 479, H. Res. 499,
H. Res. 529 and H. Res. 535**

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CONTENTS

Page

MARKUP OF

H. Con. Res. 190, Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards	3
H. Con. Res. 275, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	8
H. Con. Res. 280, Mourning the horrific loss of life caused by the floods and mudslides that occurred in October 2005 in Central America and Mexico and expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should do everything possible to assist the affected people and communities	12
H. Con. Res. 284, Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt, as amended	19
H. Con. Res. 294, Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government ..	25
H. Res. 438, Urging member states of the United Nations to stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations General Assembly more balanced and constructive approaches to resolving conflict in the Middle East, as amended	31
H. Res. 456, Expressing support for the memorandum of understanding signed by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement on August 15, 2005, to end the conflict in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia	34
H. Res. 458, Remembering and commemorating the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980	37
H. Res. 479, Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary, as amended	43
H. Res. 499, Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation	47
H. Res. 529, Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as amended	49
H. Res. 535, Honoring the life, legacy, and example of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his death	53

VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2005

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 12:05 p.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Henry J. Hyde (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Chairman HYDE. The business meeting of the Committee will come to order. We have several noncontroversial bills on the agenda, and it is the intention of the Chair to consider these measures en bloc, and, by unanimous consent, to authorize the Chair to seek consideration of the bills under suspension of the rules. All Members are given leave to insert remarks on the measures into the record should they choose to do so.

Accordingly, without objection, the Chairman is authorized to seek consideration of the following bills under suspension of the rules, and the amendments to those measures, which the Members have before them, shall be deemed adopted.

H. Con. Res. 190, Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities.

H. Con. Res. 275, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

H. Con. Res. 280, Mourning the horrific loss of life caused by the floods and mudslides that occurred in October 2005 in Central America and Mexico.

H. Con. Res. 284, Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt, as amended.

H. Con. Res. 294, Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government.

H. Res. 438, Urging member states of the United Nations to stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations General Assembly more balanced and constructive approaches to resolving conflict in the Middle East, as amended.

H. Res. 456, Expressing support for the memorandum of understanding signed by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement.

H. Res. 458, Remembering and commemorating the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters and a Cleveland Lay Mission Team

Member who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980.

H. Res. 479, Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary, as amended.

H. Res. 499, Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation.

H. Res. 529, Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as amended.

And H. Res. 535, Honoring the life, legacy, and example of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his death.

[The resolutions referred to follows:]

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 190

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. MCINTYRE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards.

Whereas the Russian Federation is a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and has freely committed to fully respect the rights of individuals, whether alone or in community with others, to profess and practice religion or belief;

Whereas the Russian Federation specifically committed in the 1989 Vienna Concluding Document to “take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination against

individuals or communities on the grounds of religion or belief” and to “grant upon their request to communities of believers, practicing or prepared to practice their faith within the constitutional framework of their States, recognition of the status provided for them in the respective countries”;

Whereas Article 28 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation declares “everyone shall be guaranteed the right to freedom of conscience, to freedom of religious worship, including the right to profess, individually or jointly with others, any religion” and Article 8 of the 1997 Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations provides for registration for religious communities as “religious organizations,” if they have at least 10 members and have operated within the Russian Federation with legal status for at least 15 years;

Whereas registration is critical for religious groups to fully enjoy their religious freedoms, as many rights and privileges afforded to religious communities in the Russian Federation are contingent on obtaining registration;

Whereas many religious groups refuse to seek registration on theological or other grounds, while other communities have been unjustly denied registration or had their registration improperly terminated by local authorities;

Whereas many of the unregistered communities in the Russian Federation today were never registered under the Soviet system because they refused to collaborate with that government’s anti-religious policies and they are now experiencing renewed discrimination and repression from the authorities;

Whereas over the past 2 years there have been an estimated ten arson attacks on unregistered Protestant churches, with little or no effective response by law enforcement officials to bring the perpetrators to justice;

Whereas in some areas of the Russian Federation law enforcement personnel have carried out violent actions against believers from unregistered communities peacefully practicing their faith; and

Whereas the United States has sought to protect the fundamental and inalienable human right to seek, know, and serve God according to the dictates of one's own conscience, in accordance with the international agreements committing nations to respect individual freedom of thought, conscience, and belief: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the
 3 United States should—

4 (1) urge the Russian Federation to ensure full
 5 protection of freedoms for all religious communities
 6 without distinction, whether registered and unregis-
 7 tered, and end the harassment of unregistered reli-
 8 gious groups by the security apparatus and other
 9 government agencies;

10 (2) urge the Russian Federation to ensure that
 11 law enforcement officials vigorously investigate acts
 12 of violence against unregistered religious commu-
 13 nities, as well as make certain that authorities are
 14 not complicit in such attacks;

1 (3) continue to raise concerns with the Govern-
2 ment of the Russian Federation over violations of re-
3 ligious freedom, including those against unregistered
4 religious communities, especially indigenous denomi-
5 nations not well known in the United States;

6 (4) ensure that United States Embassy officials
7 engage local officials throughout the Russian Fed-
8 eration, especially when violations of freedom of reli-
9 gion occur, and undertake outreach activities to edu-
10 cate local officials about the rights of unregistered
11 religious communities;

12 (5) urge both the Personal Representative of
13 the OSCE Chair-in-Office on Combating Racism,
14 Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on In-
15 tolerance and Discrimination against Christians and
16 Members of Other Religions, and the United Nations
17 Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief
18 to visit the Russian Federation and raise with fed-
19 eral and local officials concerns about the free prac-
20 tice of unregistered religious communities; and

21 (6) urge the Council of Europe and its member
22 countries to raise with Russian Federation officials
23 issues relating to freedom of religion, especially in

7

5

- 1 light of the Russian Federation's responsibilities as
- 2 President of the Council in 2006.

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109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 275

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Florida (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. WATSON, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SAXTON, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KIND, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. MALONEY, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BOYD, and Mr. McNULTY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Whereas the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, were carried out by 19 hijackers, including 15 Saudi Arabian nationals;

Whereas since September 11, 2001, multiple terrorist attacks have occurred inside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that were carried out by Saudi nationals;

Whereas Saudi nationals have joined the insurgency in Iraq, carrying out terrorist activities and providing financial support;

Whereas the Government of Saudi Arabia controls and regulates all forms of education in public and private schools at all levels;

Whereas Islamic religious education is compulsory in public and private schools at all levels in Saudi Arabia;

Whereas the religious curriculum is written, monitored, and taught by followers of the Wahhabi interpretation of Islam, the only religion the Government of Saudi Arabia allows to be taught;

Whereas rote memorization of religious texts continues to be a central feature of much of the educational system of Saudi Arabia, leaving thousands of students unprepared to function in the global economy of the 21st century;

Whereas the Government of Saudi Arabia has tolerated elements within its education system that promote and encourage extremism;

Whereas some textbooks in Saudi Arabian schools foster intolerance, ignorance, and anti-Semitic, anti-American, and anti-Western views;

Whereas these intolerant views instilled in students make them prime recruiting targets of terrorists and other extremist groups;

Whereas extremism endangers the stability of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Middle East region, and threatens global security;

Whereas the events of September 11, 2001, and the global rash of terrorist attacks since then, have created an ur-

gent need to promote moderate voices in the Islamic world as an effective way to combat extremism and terrorism;

Whereas the report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States stated that “Education that teaches tolerance, the dignity and value of each individual, and respect for different beliefs is a key element in any global strategy to eliminate Islamist terrorism”; and

Whereas the ascension of King Abdullah to the throne in August 2005 presents a new opportunity for education reform in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That the Congress—*

3 (1) urges the Government of Saudi Arabia to
4 reform its textbooks and education curriculum in a
5 manner that promotes tolerance and peaceful coex-
6 istence with others, develops civil society, and en-
7 courages functionality in the global economy;

8 (2) urges the President to direct the Secretary
9 of State to use existing public diplomacy channels,
10 international visitor exchanges, professional develop-
11 ment, and educational reform programs, including
12 those under the Middle East Partnership Initiative
13 and the Broader Middle East Initiative, to focus on
14 the issue of educational reform in Saudi Arabia in

1 accordance with the objectives enumerated in para-
2 graph (1);

3 (3) expresses extreme disappointment with the
4 slow pace of education reform in the Kingdom of
5 Saudi Arabia;

6 (4) urges the President to take into account
7 progress in meeting the goals outlined in paragraph
8 (1) when determining the level and frequency of
9 United States bilateral relations with the Govern-
10 ment of Saudi Arabia; and

11 (5) requests that the Secretary of State exam-
12 ine the educational system in Saudi Arabia, monitor
13 the progress of the efforts to reform the education
14 curriculum, and report on such progress, in classi-
15 fied form if necessary, to the appropriate congres-
16 sional committees.

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109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 280

Mourning the horrific loss of life caused by the floods and mudslides that occurred in October 2005 in Central America and Mexico and expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should do everything possible to assist the affected people and communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 27, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WELLER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. MACK, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. FORTUÑO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Mourning the horrific loss of life caused by the floods and mudslides that occurred in October 2005 in Central America and Mexico and expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should do everything possible to assist the affected people and communities.

Whereas on October 4, 2005, Hurricane Stan made landfall on Mexico's Gulf coast, bringing sustained winds of 80 miles per hour before weakening to a tropical storm and generating separate storms across southern Mexico and Central America;

Whereas Hurricane Wilma, a category four hurricane, made landfall in Cozumel, Mexico on October 22, 2005, and

stalled over the Yucatan Peninsula bringing over 60 inches of rain to some parts of the Peninsula and causing severe flooding, over 75,000 evacuations, damaging between 30–40 percent of the houses in Cancun, and causing severe damage to the area’s vital tourism industry;

Whereas the heavy rainfall associated with these storms caused widespread and severe flooding that has affected millions of people across Central America, including the people of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala, and the people of Mexico;

Whereas, as of October 12, 2005, the flooding had killed an estimated 2,000 people across Central America and Mexico, according to government estimates which are expected to be revised upwards;

Whereas rains have produced more than 900 landslides, burying entire villages and causing numerous deaths in Guatemala, with official government estimates confirming 654 deaths, 577 people missing, and more than 120,000 people affected across 621 communities in the provinces of Escuintla, Guatemala, Quetzaltenango, Chiquimula, San Marcos, Chimaltenango, El Quiché, and Baja Verapa;

Whereas many of the affected areas are especially vulnerable to natural disasters and lack access to basic healthcare, sanitation, and medical services;

Whereas the flooding and landslides have damaged housing and public infrastructure in 251 of the 331 municipalities in Guatemala and sustained rains across much of the country have hampered ongoing relief efforts;

Whereas two simultaneous emergencies in El Salvador—the severe flooding caused by Tropical Storm Stan and the

eruption of the Santa Ana volcano on October 1, 2005—have affected half of the country and forced the evacuation of more than 69,000 people to local shelters;

Whereas Tropical Storm Stan caused massive flooding in the Mexican States of Veracruz, Chiapas, Oaxaca, Tabasco, Puebla, Hidalgo, and Guerrero and forced the evacuation of approximately 370,000 people from nearly 3,000 communities to local shelters, according to the Government of Mexico;

Whereas extensive rainfall in the Costa Rican provinces of Alajuela, Cartago, Guanacaste, Heredia, Puntarenas, and San Jose in the Pacific and Central Valley caused severe flooding and landslides, forcing more than 1,000 people in 459 communities to evacuate to local shelters, damaged 550 houses, 117 bridges, and 11 educational buildings, and more than 281 roads have been blocked or damaged by mudslides;

Whereas many families in these affected areas are homeless and in desperate need of reconstruction help;

Whereas the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) initially provided \$150,000 to USAID/Guatemala for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, as well as for helicopter support, including fuel and rental of local helicopters and an additional \$1,200,000 to USAID/Guatemala for emergency grants to nongovernmental organization partners for emergency health, water and sanitation, and shelter activities;

Whereas USAID/OFDA committed \$200,000 to support the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) emergency

health and water and sanitation activities as part of the United Nations joint appeal;

Whereas USAID/OFDA is working closely with the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico to coordinate transportation and distribution of relief commodities to affected communities and for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, water, and food;

Whereas on October 8, 2005, the United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) deployed a 58-person team to Guatemala City to assist with ongoing disaster relief efforts in southwestern Guatemala and sent nine United States Army helicopters to conduct search and rescue missions and provide for the transportation of emergency relief supplies, including food, medical supplies, and communications equipment, to affected areas, as well as flying in host nation firefighters, emergency aid workers, and doctors; and

Whereas the United States initially has provided \$100,000 to the Mexican Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies to aid victims of Hurricane Wilma, and a USAID/OFDA team is working with USAID/Mexico, local disaster officials, and other organizations to assess impacts, aid requirements, and deliver further emergency assistance: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That—

3 (1) Congress—

1 (A) mourns the horrific loss of life caused
2 by the floods and mudslides that occurred in
3 October 2005 in Central America and Mexico;

4 (B) expresses its deep condolences to the
5 families of the many victims;

6 (C) commits to provide the necessary re-
7 sources and to stand by the people of Costa
8 Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico in
9 the relief, recovery, and rebuilding efforts;

10 (D) applauds the prompt humanitarian re-
11 sponse to this natural disaster by the United
12 States Agency for International Development,
13 the United States Armed Forces, and other de-
14 partments and agencies of the United States
15 Government, the United Nations and other
16 international organizations, and nongovern-
17 mental organizations;

18 (E) recognizes the growing support by
19 international donors for relief efforts;

20 (F) affirms its commitment to additional
21 United States support for relief and long-term
22 reconstruction efforts in areas affected by the
23 flooding;

24 (G) urges continued attention by donors
25 and relief agencies to the needs of vulnerable

1 populations in the stricken countries, particu-
2 larly those left homeless by this disaster and
3 whose welfare and economic livelihoods have
4 been disrupted;

5 (H) urges assistance which targets imme-
6 diate and long-term infrastructure needs, with a
7 special emphasis on improvements that aim to
8 increase emergency preparedness and withstand
9 future natural disaster events; and

10 (I) encourages the Administration and
11 other international donors to provide immediate
12 and long-term assistance for the reconstruction
13 of affected infrastructure that is a requisite for
14 the economic and social development of the dev-
15 astated communities; and

16 (2) it is the sense of Congress that it should be
17 the policy of the United States—

18 (A) to promote economic growth and im-
19 proved living standards, reduce poverty, and
20 promote democracy and the rule of law in the
21 countries of Central America;

22 (B) in concert with multilateral humani-
23 tarian organizations, the Organization of Amer-
24 ican States and the Inter-American Develop-
25 ment Bank, to actively support the reconstruc-

1 tion of affected communities in places to be de-
2 termined by respective governments in collabo-
3 ration with representatives of such commu-
4 nities;

5 (C) to expedite humanitarian relief and re-
6 construction efforts in order to mitigate the im-
7 mediate and long-term threats to public health,
8 economic development, and security in Central
9 America;

10 (D) to provide technical assistance to Cen-
11 tral American governments in order to
12 strengthen the capacity of first responders and
13 governmental institutions at the national, pro-
14 vincial, and local levels in the area of disaster
15 management coordination and preparedness, in-
16 cluding information and communications sys-
17 tems to help with the response to natural disas-
18 ters; and

19 (E) to encourage the governments of these
20 countries to improve disaster mitigation tech-
21 niques and compliance among all key sectors of
22 their societies.

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[COMMITTEE PRINT]

NOVEMBER 15, 2005

**[Showing the Amendment Adopted by the Subcommittee on
Middle East and Central Asia]**

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 284

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and
parliamentary elections in Egypt.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 27, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. ACKERMAN) submitted the following
concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Inter-
national Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005
presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt.

Whereas promoting freedom and democracy is a foreign pol-
icy and national security priority of the United States;

Whereas free, fair, and transparent elections constitute a
foundation of any meaningful democracy;

Whereas Egypt is the largest Arab nation representing over
half the Arab world's population;

Whereas Congress has long supported Egypt as a partner for peace and stands ready to support Egypt's emergence as a democracy and free market economy;

Whereas a successful democracy in Egypt would dispel the notion that democracy cannot succeed in the Muslim world;

Whereas in his 2005 State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush stated that "the great and proud nation of Egypt, which showed the way toward peace in the Middle East, can now show the way toward democracy in the Middle East";

Whereas in her June 20, 2005, remarks at the American University in Cairo, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stated: "[T]he Egyptian Government must fulfill the promise it has made to its people—and to the entire world—by giving its citizens the freedom to choose. Egypt's elections, including the Parliamentary elections, must meet objective standards that define every free election.";

Whereas on February 26, 2005, Egyptian President Mubarak proposed to amend the Egyptian Constitution to allow for Egypt's first ever multi-candidate presidential election;

Whereas in May 2005, President Bush stated that Egypt's presidential election should proceed with international monitors and with rules that allow for a real campaign;

Whereas Egypt prohibited international monitoring in the presidential election, calling such action an infringement on its national sovereignty;

Whereas domestic monitoring of the election became a major point of contention between the government, the judiciary, and civil society organizations;

Whereas in May 2005, the Judges Club, an unofficial union for judges, took the provisional decision to boycott the elections if their demand for a truly independent judiciary was not met;

Whereas the Judges Club initially insisted that the 9,000 to 10,000 judges were in no position to monitor the election if plans proceeded for polling at 54,000 stations on one day.

Whereas the government responded to their demands by grouping polling stations to decrease their number to about 10,000, more or less matching the number of available judges;

Whereas on September 2, 2005, a majority of the general assembly of the Judges Club decided that the judges would supervise the election and report any irregularities;

Whereas several coalitions of Egyptian civil society organizations demanded access to polling stations on election day and successfully secured court rulings granting them such access;

Whereas the Presidential Election Council, citing its constitutional authority to oversee the elections process, reportedly ignored the court order for several days, before they granted some nongovernmental organizations access to polling stations a few hours before the polls opened;

Whereas the presidential campaign ran from August 17 to September 4, 2005;

Whereas the presidential election held on September 7, 2005, was largely peaceful, but reportedly marred by low turnout, general confusion over election procedures, alleged manipulation by government authorities, and other inconsistencies;

Whereas the denial of full access by the Government of Egypt to domestic and international monitors could undermine the legitimacy of Egypt's presidential and parliamentary elections;

Whereas parliamentary elections will be held in Egypt in three stages: on November 9, 2005, in eight provinces, including Cairo and its twin city of Giza, on November 20 in nine provinces, and on December 1 in nine other provinces;

Whereas it is in the national interests of the United States and Egypt that a truly representative, pluralist, and legitimate Egyptian parliament be elected; and

Whereas the Government of Egypt now has the opportunity to take necessary measures to ensure that the coming legislative elections are free, fair, and transparent: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) recognizes the importance of the presi-
4 dential election held on September 7, 2005, as a
5 first step toward greater openness and political re-
6 forms in Egypt;

7 (2) expresses concern over the lack of inter-
8 national election monitoring and alleged irregular-
9 ities during the Egyptian presidential election;

10 (3) recognizes that the development of a demo-
11 cratically-elected representative and empowered
12 Egyptian national parliament is a fundamental re-

1 form needed to permit real progress towards the rule
2 of law and democracy;

3 (4) calls on the Government of Egypt, during
4 the 2005 parliamentary elections, to—

5 (A) ensure supervision by the judiciary of
6 the election process across the country and at
7 all levels;

8 (B) ensure the presence of accredited rep-
9 resentatives of all competing parties and inde-
10 pendent candidates at polling stations and dur-
11 ing the vote-counting; and

12 (C) allow local and international election
13 monitors full access and accreditation;

14 (5) calls on the Government of Egypt to sepa-
15 rate the apparatus of the National Democratic Party
16 from the operations of government, to divest all gov-
17 ernment holdings in Egyptian media, and to end the
18 government monopoly over printing and distribution
19 of newspapers; and

20 (6) calls on the Government of Egypt to repeal
21 the 1977 emergency law which took effect in 1981
22 and in the development of any future anti-terrorism
23 legislation to allow peaceful, constitutional political
24 activities, including public meetings and demonstra-

- 1 tions, and allow full parliamentary scrutiny of any
- 2 such legislation.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 294

Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2005

Mr. WOLF (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. STARK) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government.

Whereas the Laogai is a vast prison labor system in the People's Republic of China and consists of a network of more than 1,000 prisons, camps, and mental institutions in which detainees must work at factories, farms, mines, and other facilities;

Whereas the two major aims of the Laogai are to generate economic resources for the state through free labor and

to “reform criminals” through hard labor and political indoctrination;

Whereas the Government of the People’s Republic of China relies on the Laogai as a tool for political suppression of pro-democracy activists, Internet dissidents, labor activists, and religious and spiritual believers, including Han Chinese, Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongolians, and “house church” Christians;

Whereas, while the Soviet Gulags no longer exist, the Chinese Laogai is still fully operational, subjecting most of its three million prisoners to forced labor by threatening torture;

Whereas fifty million people have suffered as prisoners in the Laogai since its inception;

Whereas Laogai prisoners are deprived of religious freedom and forced to give up their political views in order to become a “new socialist person” and uphold communism and the Chinese Communist Party;

Whereas in recent years, more than 100,000 religious believers have been unjustly and illegally imprisoned in one Laogai camp alone, where they have been beaten, tortured, and often killed;

Whereas Laogai prisoners are forced to work long hours in appalling conditions, including mining asbestos and other toxic chemicals with no protective clothing, tanning hides while standing naked in vats filled with chemicals used for softening of animal skins, and working in mining facilities where explosions and other accidents are a common occurrence;

Whereas it is documented that China’s national policy since 1984 has been to extract organs from executed prisoners

without prior consent of the prisoners or their family members, setting China apart from every other country in the world;

Whereas there are more than 1,000 instances in which organs are harvested from executed Chinese prisoners every year;

Whereas both Chinese and foreign patients from around the world receive organs transplanted from executed Chinese prisoners;

Whereas Laogai prisoners are required to make confessions of their wrongdoings, which include political and religious views that the Chinese Communist Party wishes to suppress;

Whereas Chinese citizens are not guaranteed due process of law nor even a right to trial;

Whereas many individuals are often convicted and sentenced with no trial at all, or they are convicted with “evidence” extracted through torture;

Whereas in one part of the Laogai system known as the Laojiao, or reeducation-through-labor, Chinese citizens can be detained for up to three years without any judicial review or formal appearance in the judicial system;

Whereas goods produced by forced labor in the Laogai system continue to be exported to the United States and the world;

Whereas the Chinese Government has continuously encouraged the export of goods produced through the Laogai prison system and relies on forced labor as an integral part of its economy;

Whereas forced labor and torture practices carried out in the Laogai violate international laws, standards, and treaties to which China is party, including the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and

Whereas China, a member State of the International Labor Organization, also violates many agreements regarding labor conditions and the rights of workers: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) calls on the international community to con-
4 demn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison
5 camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool
6 for suppression maintained by the Chinese Govern-
7 ment;

8 (2) calls on the Government of the United
9 States to fully implement United States laws that
10 prohibit the importation of forced labor products
11 made in the Laogai;

12 (3) calls on the Government of the United
13 States to take actions to review the implementation
14 of the Memorandum of Understanding on Prison
15 Labor in 1992 and the Statement of Cooperation in
16 1994 with respect to the Laogai;

1 (4) will undertake efforts to join with the Euro-
2 pean Parliament to urge the introduction of a reso-
3 lution at the United Nations Human Rights Com-
4 mission condemning the Laogai and the human
5 rights situation in China;

6 (5) calls on the Government of the People's Re-
7 public of China to release information about the
8 Laogai, including the total number of Laogai camps
9 and prisoners throughout China, the exact locations
10 of the camps, and the business production activities
11 taking place at the camps;

12 (6) calls on the Government of the People's Re-
13 public of China to release information about the
14 number of executions of prisoners at the camps that
15 are carried out every year, and the extent of the har-
16 vesting and transplantation of organs of executed
17 prisoners;

18 (7) urges the Government of the People's Re-
19 public of China to allow unrestricted visits by inter-
20 national human rights inspectors, including United
21 Nations inspectors, to Laogai camps throughout
22 China; and

23 (8) urges the Congressional-Executive Commis-
24 sion on China to investigate the Laogai system in
25 China and to make recommendations for United

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- 1 States policy that will help protect human rights for
- 2 Chinese citizens.

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[COMMITTEE PRINT]

NOVEMBER 15, 2005

**[Showing the Amendment Adopted by the Subcommittee on
Middle East and Central Asia]**

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 438

Urging member states of the United Nations to stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations General Assembly more balanced and constructive approaches to resolving conflict in the Middle East.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

Mr. ROTHMAN (for himself and Mr. KIRK) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Urging member states of the United Nations to stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations General Assembly more balanced and constructive approaches to resolving conflict in the Middle East.

Whereas the 60th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations is currently underway in New York City;

Whereas the State of Israel is a critical strategic ally of the United States in the Middle East and the only true democracy in the region;

Whereas 60 years ago the United Nations was founded, in part, to prevent another Holocaust from ever happening again;

Whereas three years after its founding, the United Nations passed General Assembly Resolution 181, which provided for the partition of Mandatory Palestine and the establishment on its territory of an independent Jewish state, which became the State of Israel;

Whereas in recent years, the General Assembly of the United Nations has engaged in a pattern of approving resolutions that unfairly criticize and condemn Israel;

Whereas during the 59th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the General Assembly adopted 21 resolutions criticizing Israel;

Whereas despite the myriad of challenges facing the world community, the General Assembly of the United Nations has devoted a vastly disproportionate amount of time and resources to castigating Israel;

Whereas for the past 30 years, the United Nations has funded three entities that support anti-Israel propaganda, including the Division for Palestinian Rights, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Human Rights Practices Affecting the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories;

Whereas the double standard against the State of Israel that is perpetrated at the United Nations is pervasive: of ten

emergency special sessions called by the General Assembly of the United Nations, six have been about Israel, and since 1997, at the annual meetings of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, only Israel has had its own agenda item (Item 8) dealing with its alleged human rights violations, whereas all other countries are dealt with in a separate agenda item (Item 9); and

Whereas as a founding member of the United Nations, the United States has a special responsibility to promote fair and equitable treatment of all member states of the United Nations: Now, therefore be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives urges
- 2 member states of the United Nations to—
- 3 (1) stop supporting resolutions that unfairly
- 4 castigate Israel; and
- 5 (2) promote within the United Nations system
- 6 a more balanced and constructive approach to re-
- 7 solving conflict in the Middle East.

Amend the title so as to read: “Resolution urging member states of the United Nations to stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations a more balanced and constructive approach to resolving conflict in the Middle East.”.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 456

Expressing support for the memorandum of understanding signed by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement on August 15, 2005, to end the conflict in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. BLUMENAUER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the memorandum of understanding signed by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement on August 15, 2005, to end the conflict in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia.

Whereas for three decades there has been a continuous armed conflict in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia;

Whereas violence between the Indonesian military and the Free Aceh Movement has resulted in an estimated 15,000 deaths in the region;

Whereas the tsunami that occurred on December 26, 2004, killed at least 165,000 people in Aceh and devastated the landscape;

Whereas after the tsunami both the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement recognized that a peaceful settlement of the conflict would have to be reached to enable the rebuilding of Aceh;

Whereas after months of negotiating through the Crisis Management Initiative chaired by former President Martti Ahtisaari of Finland, the parties agreed to a draft memorandum of understanding to end the conflict in July 2005;

Whereas Hamid Awaludin, Minister of Law and Human Rights of Indonesia, and Malik Mahmud, of the Free Aceh Movement, signed the final memorandum of understanding on August 15, 2005, in Helsinki;

Whereas the memorandum of understanding provides a timetable for disarmament of the Free Aceh Movement and troop withdrawals by the Indonesian military;

Whereas the memorandum of understanding provides the people of Aceh with new political powers and the right to retain 70 percent of the revenues from certain natural resource extractions from the province;

Whereas a Truth and Reconciliation Commission and a Human Rights Court will be established for Aceh;

Whereas the Free Aceh Movement has agreed to forego its demand for independence; and

Whereas Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has provided amnesty and released hundreds of Free Aceh Movement members being held in prison since the signing of the peace agreement: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) expresses support for the memorandum of
2 understanding signed by the Government of the Re-
3 public of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement on
4 August 15, 2005, to end the conflict in Aceh, a
5 province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and congratulates
6 both parties for their willingness to compromise;

7 (2) expresses the hope that both parties live up
8 to their commitments under the memorandum of un-
9 derstanding and that peace and security can finally
10 be achieved in Aceh after three decades; and

11 (3) encourages the Secretary of State and the
12 Administrator of the United States Agency for
13 International Development to commit resources in
14 guaranteeing the peace and building a strong civil
15 society in Aceh.

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109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 458

Remembering and commemorating the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. LEACH, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. WATSON, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. TIERNEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. HINCHHEY, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. OLVER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KUCINICH, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mrs. KELLY, and Mr. OBEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Remembering and commemorating the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980.

Whereas on December 2, 1980, four United States churchwomen, Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mis-

sion Team Member Jean Donovan, were violated and executed by members of the National Guard of El Salvador;

Whereas in 1980 Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford were working in the parish of the Church of San Juan Bautista in Chalatenango, El Salvador, providing food, transportation, and other assistance to refugees and Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan were working in the parish of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in La Libertad, El Salvador, providing assistance and support to refugees and other victims of violence;

Whereas these four United States churchwomen dedicated their lives to working with the poor of El Salvador, especially women and children left homeless, displaced and destitute by the Salvadoran civil war;

Whereas these four United States churchwomen joined the more than 70,000 civilians who were murdered during the course of the Salvadoran civil war;

Whereas on May 23 and May 24, 1984, five members of the National Guard of El Salvador—Subsergeant Luis Antonio Colindres Aleman, Daniel Canales Ramirez, Carlos Joaquin Contreras Palacios, Francisco Orlando Contreras Recinos, and Jose Roberto Moreno Canjura—were found guilty by the Salvadoran courts of the executions of the churchwomen and were sentenced to thirty years in prison, marking the first case in the history of El Salvador where a member of the Salvadoran Armed Forces was convicted of murder by a Salvadoran judge;

Whereas the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador was established under the terms of the historic January 1992 Peace Accords that ended El Salvador's

twelve years of civil war and was charged to investigate and report to the Salvadoran people on human rights crimes committed by all sides during the course of the civil war;

Whereas in March 1993 the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador found that the execution of the four United States churchwomen was planned and that Subsergeant Luis Antonio Colindres Aleman carried out orders from a superior to execute them, and that then Colonel Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, then Director-General of the National Guard and his cousin Lieutenant Colonel Oscar Edgardo Casanova Vejar, then Commander of the Zacatecoluca military detachment where the murders were committed, and other military personnel knew that members of the National Guard had committed the murders pursuant to orders of a superior and that the subsequent cover-up of the facts adversely affected the judicial investigation into the murders of the four United States churchwomen;

Whereas the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador determined that General Jose Guillermo Garcia, then Minister of Defense, made no serious effort to conduct a thorough investigation of responsibility for the murders of the churchwomen;

Whereas the families of the four United States churchwomen continue their efforts to determine the full truth surrounding the murders of their loved ones, appreciate the cooperation of United States Government agencies in disclosing and providing documents relevant to the churchwomen's murders, and pursue requests to release to the family members the few remaining undisclosed documents and reports pertaining to this case;

Whereas the families of the four United States churchwomen appreciate the ability of those harmed by violence to bring suit against Salvadoran military officers in United States courts under the Torture Victim Protection Act of 1991 (28 U.S.C. 1350 note);

Whereas the lives of these four United States churchwomen have, for the past 25 years, served as inspiration and continue to inspire Salvadorans, Americans, and people throughout the world to answer the call to service and to pursue lives dedicated to addressing the needs and aspirations of the poor, the vulnerable, and the disadvantaged, especially among women and children;

Whereas the lives of the four United States churchwomen have also inspired numerous books, plays, films, music, religious, and cultural events;

Whereas schools, libraries, research centers, spiritual centers, health clinics, women's and children's programs in the United States and in El Salvador have been named after or dedicated to Sisters Maura Clarke, Ita Ford and Dorothy Kazel and lay missionary Jean Donovan;

Whereas the Maryknoll Sisters, headquartered in Ossining, New York, the Ursuline Sisters, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, numerous Religious Task Forces in the United States, and the Salvadoran and international religious communities based in El Salvador annually commemorate the lives and martyrdom of the four United States churchwomen;

Whereas the historic January 1992 Peace Accords ended twelve years of civil war and have allowed the Government and the people of El Salvador to achieve significant

progress in creating and strengthening democratic political, economic, and social institutions; and

Whereas December 2, 2005, marks the 25th anniversary of the deaths of these four spiritual, courageous, and generous United States churchwomen: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) remembers and commemorates the lives and
3 work of Sisters Maura Clarke, Ita Ford, and Dorothy
4 Kazel and lay missionary Jean Donovan;

5 (2) extends sympathy and support for the families,
6 friends, and religious communities of the four
7 United States churchwomen;

8 (3) continues to find inspiration in the lives and
9 work of these four United States churchwomen;

10 (4) calls upon the people of the United States
11 and religious congregations to participate in local,
12 national, and international events commemorating
13 the 25th anniversary of the martyrdom of the four
14 United States churchwomen;

15 (5) recognizes that while progress has been
16 made during the post-war period, the work begun by
17 the four United States churchwomen remains unfinished
18 and social and economic hardships persist
19 among many sectors of Salvadoran society; and

20 (6) calls upon the President, the Secretary of
21 State, the Administrator of the United States Agen-

1 cy for International Development, and the heads of
2 other United States Government departments and
3 agencies to continue to support and collaborate with
4 the Government of El Salvador and with private sec-
5 tor, nongovernmental, and religious organizations in
6 their efforts to reduce poverty and hunger and to
7 promote educational opportunity, health care, and
8 social equity for the people of El Salvador.

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[COMMITTEE PRINT]

NOVEMBER 16, 2005

**[Showing the Amendment Adopted by the Subcommittee on
Europe and Emerging Threats]**

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 479

Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2005

Mr. LANTOS (for himself and Mr. HYDE) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956 and reaffirming the friendship between the people and governments of the United States and Hungary.

Whereas on October 23, 1956, university students marching through the streets of Budapest were joined by workers and others until their numbers reached some 100,000 Hungarian citizens protesting against the communist government of Hungary and its domination by the Soviet

Union, whereupon the Hungarian Security Police opened fire on the crowd and killed hundreds;

Whereas the Hungarian government under Prime Minister Imre Nagy released political prisoners, including major church leaders, took steps to establish a multi-party democracy, called for the withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Hungary, announced Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, and requested United Nations assistance in establishing Hungarian neutrality;

Whereas the Soviet Union launched a massive military counteroffensive against the revolt on November 4, 1956, sending tens of thousands of additional troops from the Soviet Union and launched air strikes, artillery bombardments and coordinated tank-infantry actions involving some 6,000 tanks which, remarkably, the outnumbered and under-equipped Hungarian Army and Hungarian workers resisted for several days;

Whereas Prime Minister Imre Nagy was seized by Soviet security forces despite assurances of safe passage for him to leave the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest where he sought asylum, and he was taken to Romania and was subsequently tried and executed;

Whereas an estimated one thousand two hundred Hungarians were tried and executed by the post-1956 Hungarian government;

Whereas an estimated 200,000 Hungarians fled their country in the aftermath of the Soviet suppression of the Hungarian uprising, and over 47,000 of these people eventually were able to settle in the United States, where they have contributed to the cultural diversity and the economic strength of this country;

Whereas the uprising of the Hungarian people in 1956 dramatically confirmed the widespread contempt in which the Hungarians held the Soviet Union and the underlying weakness of the communist system imposed by Soviet authorities in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the strength of popular support for democratic principles and the right of the Hungarian people to determine their own national destiny;

Whereas on October 23, 1989, the Republic of Hungary proclaimed its independence, and in 1990 the Hungarian Parliament officially designated October 23 as a Hungarian national holiday, indicating that the legacy of the 1956 Revolution continues to inspire Hungarians to this day;

Whereas the people of Hungary are beginning a year-long celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956;

Whereas on March 12, 1999, the Government of Hungary, reflecting the will of the Hungarian people, formally acceded to the North Atlantic Treaty and became a member of NATO and on May 1, 2004, Hungary became a full member of the European Union; and

Whereas Hungary and the United States continue to expand their friendship and cooperation in all realms: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the people of Hungary as they
3 mark the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian
4 Revolution which set the stage for the ultimate col-
5 lapse of communism in 1989 throughout Central

1 and Eastern Europe, including Hungary, and two
2 years later in the Soviet Union itself;

3 (2) expresses condolences to the people of Hun-
4 gary for those who lost their lives fighting for the
5 cause of Hungarian freedom and independence in
6 1956, as well as for those individuals executed by
7 the Soviet and Hungarian communist authorities in
8 the five years following the Revolution, including
9 Prime Minister Imre Nagy;

10 (3) welcomes the changes that have taken place
11 in Hungary since 1989, believing that Hungary's in-
12 tegration into NATO and the European Union, to-
13 gether with similar developments in the neighboring
14 countries, will ensure peace, stability, and under-
15 standing among the great peoples of the Carpathian
16 Basin; and

17 (4) reaffirms the friendship and cooperative re-
18 lations between the governments of Hungary and the
19 United States and between the Hungarian and
20 American people.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 499

Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 18, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow and the murders of other members of the media in the Russian Federation.

Whereas on July 9, 2004, American journalist Paul Klebnikov was murdered by gunmen as he exited the Moscow offices of Forbes Magazine;

Whereas twelve journalists have been murdered in the Russian Federation since the Putin administration took office, and Mr. Klebnikov was the first and only United States citizen among these journalists;

Whereas the Department of State's 2004 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices claims government pressure in Russia continues to weaken freedom of expression and

the independence and freedom of the media, particularly among the major national television networks and regional media outlets;

Whereas this repression of free speech in Russia has engendered the belief that journalists can be intimidated and killed with impunity;

Whereas the Government of Russia claims Mr. Klebnikov's murder was ordered by Khozh-Akhmed Nukhayevev, a fugitive Chechen warlord; and

Whereas a group of United States investigative journalists who doubt the Russian Government's claim has launched its own inquiry into the death of Mr. Klebnikov: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the murder of American journalist Paul Klebnikov on July 9, 2004, in Moscow
3 and the murders of other members of the media in
4 the Russian Federation;

5 (2) urges the Government of Russia to continue
6 its inquiries into the murder of Mr. Klebnikov;

7 (3) urges the Government of Russia to take appropriate action to protect the independence and
8 freedom of the Russian media and all visiting members of the media; and
9

10 (4) commends all journalists working and living
11 in Russia for their courageous dedication to transparency and the truth.
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[COMMITTEE PRINT]

NOVEMBER 16, 2005

**[Showing the Amendment Adopted by the Subcommittee on
Europe and Emerging Threats]**

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 529

Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North
Atlantic Treaty Organization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 2, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY (for himself, Mr. RADANOVICH, and Mr. VISCLOSKY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia
into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Whereas the United States recognized the Republic of Croatia on April 7, 1992, acknowledging the decision of the people of Croatia to live in an independent, democratic, and sovereign country;

Whereas since achieving their independence, the people of Croatia have built a democratic society, based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas Croatia is a functioning democracy, with stable institutions guaranteeing the rule of law, human rights, and market economy;

Whereas Croatia has previously cooperated with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by allowing NATO free access to its air space during NATO's 1999 military action against Serbia;

Whereas the United States has shown support for Croatia in many ways since its independence, including by providing Croatia with economic and military assistance that has contributed significantly to the continued success;

Whereas Croatia is a reliable partner of the United States, actively contributing to the stabilization of South Central Europe;

Whereas NATO's Membership Action Plan, which was launched in April 1999, is a program of assistance that provides both goals and a roadmap for countries aspiring to NATO membership;

Whereas Croatia was invited into the Membership Action Plan in May 2002 and has made substantial progress in attaining the necessary level of reforms required for receiving an invitation to start accession talks with NATO;

Whereas the United States, Croatia, Albania, and Macedonia are signatories to the United States-Adriatic Charter, which promotes Euro-Atlantic integration and commits the signatory nations to the values and principles of NATO and to joining the Alliance at the earliest possible time;

Whereas Croatia's cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) has improved significantly and Prime Minister Ivo Sanader has

affirmed the Government of Croatia's commitment to cooperate fully and take all necessary steps to ensure that the remaining indictee is located and transferred to the ICTY;

Whereas on October 3, 2005, the European Union decided to open accession negotiations with Croatia based on the assessment of its Council of Ministers that Croatia met the political and economic criteria for candidacy in the European Union, including that Croatia was fully cooperating with the ICTY;

Whereas Croatia has sent troops to Afghanistan as part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in support of the war against terrorism and has endorsed and is participating in the Proliferation Security Initiative with like-minded nations across the world to prevent the flow of weapons of mass destruction, missile systems, and related material; and

Whereas Croatia shares the common interests and values of the free and democratic world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the Republic of Croatia has made signifi-
4 cant progress since its independence in strength-
5 ening its democratic institutions and respect for
6 human rights and the rule of law;

7 (2) Croatia should be commended for its
8 progress in meeting the political, economic, military,
9 and other requirements of NATO's Membership Ac-
10 tion Plan, its contribution to the global war on ter-

1 rorism, and for its constructive participation in the
2 United States-Adriatic Charter;

3 (3) the Government of Croatia should be com-
4 mended for the significant improvement in its co-
5 operation with the International Criminal Tribunal
6 for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and it should con-
7 tinue to take all necessary steps to ensure that the
8 remaining indictee is located and transferred to the
9 ICTY;

10 (4) Croatia would make a significant contribu-
11 tion to NATO; and

12 (5) with complete satisfaction of NATO guide-
13 lines and criteria for membership, including the mat-
14 ter described in paragraph (3), Croatia should be in-
15 vited to be a full member of the North Atlantic
16 Treaty Organization at the earliest possible date.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 535

Honoring the life, legacy, and example of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his death.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 4, 2005

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Honoring the life, legacy, and example of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his death.

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin was born March 1, 1922, in Jerusalem;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin volunteered for the Palmach, the elite unit of the Haganah (predecessor of the Israeli Defense Forces), and served for 27 years, including during the 1948 War of Independence, the 1956 Suez War, and as Chief of Staff in the June 1967 Six Day War;

Whereas in 1975, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed the interim agreement with Egypt (Sinai II) which laid the

groundwork for the 1979 Camp David Peace Treaty between Israel and Egypt;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served as Ambassador to the United States from 1968–1973, Minister of Defense from 1984–1990, and Prime Minister from 1974–1977 and from 1992 until his assassination in 1995;

Whereas on September 13, 1993, in Washington, D.C., Yitzhak Rabin signed the Declaration of Principles framework agreement between Israel and the Palestinians;

Whereas upon the signing of the Declaration of Principles, Yitzhak Rabin said to the Palestinian people: “We say to you today in a loud and clear voice: Enough of blood and tears. Enough! We harbor no hatred toward you. We have no desire for revenge. We, like you, are people who want to build a home, plant a tree, love, live side by side with you—in dignity, empathy, as human beings, as free men.”;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin received the 1994 Nobel Prize for Peace for his vision and bravery as a peacemaker, saying at the time: “There is only one radical means of sanctifying human lives. Not armored plating, or tanks, or planes, or concrete fortifications. The one radical solution is peace.”;

Whereas on October 26, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan signed a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan;

Whereas on November 4, 1995, Yitzhak Rabin was brutally assassinated after attending a peace rally in Tel Aviv where his last words were: “I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace, are prepared to

take risks for peace . . . Peace is what the Jewish People aspire to.”; and

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin dedicated his life to the cause of peace and security for the state of Israel by defending his nation against all threats, including terrorism and undertaking courageous risks in the pursuit of peace: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) honors the historic role of Yitzhak Rabin
3 for his distinguished service to the Israeli people and
4 extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the
5 family of Yitzhak Rabin and the people of Israel on
6 the tenth anniversary of his death;

7 (2) recognizes and reiterates its continued sup-
8 port for the close ties and special relationship be-
9 tween the United States and Israel;

10 (3) expresses its admiration for Yitzhak Rabin’s
11 legacy and reaffirms its commitment to the process
12 of building a just and lasting peace between Israel
13 and its neighbors;

14 (4) condemns any and all acts of terrorism; and

15 (5) reaffirms unequivocally the sacred principle
16 that democratic leaders and governments must be
17 changed only by the democratically-expressed will of
18 the people.

○

Chairman HYDE. The business meeting of the Committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:10 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

