

# **Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) of the General Assembly**



# Role and main responsibilities of the technical secretariat (what do we do?)

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- Provide technical secretariat support to the Committee focusing on procedural and organizational matters.
- Ensure all services are in place and are used efficiently and effectively.
- Work closely with other offices involved in the substantive work of the Committee.
- Support the Chair and the Bureau.



# Presentation – 4 parts

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1) Programme of work (proposed modalities)- Interactive dialogues, general debate.

2) Documentation and draft proposals (i.e. resolutions or decisions - including introduction and action).

3) The Bureau.

4) Tools.



# Programme of work

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- Programme of work - circulated on the e-deleGATE portal and the Committee website.
- 14 items considered annually – 2 of which are organizational.
- General Committee to recommend items for inclusions and allocation on 14 September – GA plenary to adopt the agenda on 16 September.



# Programme of work, cont'd

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- 8 weeks of deliberations (5 weeks of deliberations and 3 weeks of action).
- List of speakers for general discussions with a deadline (*opens on 16 September*).
- Time limits: **5 minutes** for individual delegations and **8 minutes** for groups.
- For interactive dialogues: **2-3 minutes**.



# Programme of work, cont'd

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- Human rights item (item 69) includes presentations by special procedure mandate-holders and other experts (around 70 expected for 77<sup>th</sup> session).
- Up to 3 experts presenting per meeting followed by an interactive dialogue with each presenter.

# Draft programme of work



**DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE - 77th session**

Items of the provisional agenda (A/77/150)

Week 1	MON 26 SEPT	TUE 27 SEPT	WED 28 SEPT	THU 29 SEPT	FRI 30 SEPT	Week 2	MON 3 OCT	TUE 4 OCT	WED 5 OCT	THU 6 OCT	FRI 7 OCT
<b>AM</b>	No formal meeting	No formal meeting	No formal meeting	Organizational matters Election of officers followed by 25 (a, b, c): Social Development General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm	25 (a, b, c): Social Development	<b>AM</b>	110, 111 and 112: Crime, Information and Technology; Drugs General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm	26: Advancement of women General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm	No meeting YOM EPPWR	26: Advancement of women	65 (a, b): Rights of children General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm
<b>PM</b>	No formal meeting	No formal meeting	No formal meeting	25 (a, b, c): Social Development	25 (a, b, c): Social Development	<b>PM</b>	110, 111 and 112: Crime, Information and Technology; Drugs	26: Advancement of women	No meeting YOM EPPWR	26: Advancement of women	65 (a, b): Rights of children
Week 3	MON 10 OCT	TUE 11 OCT	WED 12 OCT	THU 13 OCT	FRI 14 OCT	Week 4	MON 17 OCT	TUE 18 OCT	WED 19 OCT	THU 20 OCT	FRI 21 OCT
<b>AM</b>	65 (a, b): Rights of children	65 (a, b): Rights of children	65 (a, b): Rights of indigenous peoples General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 25, 110, 111 and 112	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights (Dialogue with OHCHR)	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	<b>AM</b>	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 25, 65, and 66	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts General Discussion	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts
<b>PM</b>	65 (a, b): Rights of children	65 (a, b): Rights of children	No formal meeting	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	<b>PM</b>	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights General Discussion	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts
Week 5	MON 24 OCT	TUE 25 OCT	WED 26 OCT	THU 27 OCT	FRI 28 OCT	Week 6	MON 31 OCT	TUE 1 NOV	WED 2 NOV	THU 3 NOV	FRI 4 NOV
<b>AM</b>	No meeting OHCHR	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	<b>AM</b>	67 (a, b): Racism; 68: Self- determination General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm	67 (a, b): Racism; 68: Self- determination 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposal under items 67 (a to d)	65: UNHCR 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 65, 67 and 68	No formal meeting	Action on proposals
<b>PM</b>	No meeting OHCHR	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	69 (a, b, c, d): Human Rights Special procedures and other experts	<b>PM</b>	67 (a, b): Racism; 68: Self- determination General Discussion	66: UNHCR 66: Self- determination (Dialogue with UNHCR) General Discussion Speakers list closes at 1 pm	64: Report of the IC (Dialogue with the President) followed by General Discussion Speakers list closes at 6 pm 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposal under item 64	No formal meeting	No formal meeting
Week 7	MON 7 NOV	TUE 8 NOV	WED 9 NOV	THU 10 NOV	FRI 11 NOV	Week 8	MON 14 NOV	TUE 15 NOV	WED 16 NOV	THU 17 NOV	FRI 18 NOV
<b>AM</b>	No formal meeting	No meeting OHCHR	1 pm - deadline for submission of revised draft proposals and draft amendments	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	<b>AM</b>	Action on proposals	No formal meeting	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	122: Revitalization 130: Programme planning Action on proposals Conclusion
<b>PM</b>	No formal meeting	No meeting OHCHR	No formal meeting	No formal meeting	Action on proposals	<b>PM</b>	Action on proposals	No formal meeting	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	

# Documentation and draft proposals

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## Useful documents:

- Historical information on items: GA annotated agenda (A/77/100)
- Working methods of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee: A/C.3/76/CRP.3

## Pre-session

- Organization of work (A/C.3/77/L.1)
- Status of documentation – (A/C.3/77/L.1/Add.1)

## In-session

- Draft resolutions and decisions (L documents A/C.3/77/L.\_)

## Post-session

- Reports under each item with technical proceedings and action taken (to be reflected in the checklist A/C.3/77/INF/1) 8



# Documentation and draft proposals, cont'd

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## Submission of draft proposals

- Submission of draft proposals (Res. and Dec.) should follow the guidelines.
- *Important:* use **A/RES** document as basis when based on previous text.
- Submission at least **4 working days** in advance of action – processing and budget review.
- **USE E-SUBMISSIONS.**

# Documentation and draft proposals, cont'd

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- *Sponsorship*: through *e-Sponsorship* module in e-delegate or in room prior to action during in-person formal meetings.
- *e-Sponsorship* will close at the start of the consideration of a draft proposal during the meeting.

# Formal and informal meetings

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- Formal meetings: Plenaries of **up to 3-hours** in duration, with interpretation services, summary records and a press release.
- **Punctuality** and **utilization** important.
- Informal consultations do not have services mentioned above.
- All meetings announced in the UN Journal.



# Bureau

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- **Chair:** His Excellency José Alfonso Blanco Conde, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic .
- **Vice-Chairs:**
  - Ms. Almaha Mubarak Althani of Qatar;
  - Ms. Marta Kaczmarska of Poland;
  - Mr. Stefano Guerra of Portugal.
- **Rapporteur:** Ms. Salini Gungaram of Mauritius.



# Bureau cont'd

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## Functions:

- Organize the work of the Committee.
- Divides the responsibilities for draft resolutions by regions.
- Reviews the progress of work and coordinate action in the plenary.

# Tools

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- Committee website ([www.un.org/en/ga/third](http://www.un.org/en/ga/third)).
- e-deleGATE portal ([edelegate.un.int](http://edelegate.un.int)).

# Third Committee website

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/third>



**United Nations**

**General Assembly  
of the United Nations**



## Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Issues (Third Committee)

### Third Committee

The Third Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session, is chaired by His Excellency José Alfonso Blanco Conde (Dominican Republic).

The General Assembly allocates to the Third Committee, agenda items relating to a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people all over the world.

As in previous sessions, an important part of the work of the Committee will focus on the examination of human rights questions, including reports of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council which was established in 2006. In October 2020, the Committee will hear and interact with special rapporteurs, independent experts, and chairs of working groups as mandated by the Human Rights Council.

The Committee also discusses questions relating to the advancement of women, the protection of children, indigenous issues, the treatment of refugees, the promotion of fundamental freedoms through the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, and the right to self-determination. The Committee also addresses important social development questions such as issues related to youth, family, ageing, persons with disabilities, crime prevention, criminal justice, and international drug control.

At the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee considered 68 draft resolutions, more than half of which were submitted under the human rights agenda item alone. These included three so-called country-specific resolutions on human rights situations.

The Third Committee is expected to consider a similar number of draft resolutions during the present session of the General Assembly.

In line with General Assembly resolution 66/246, the formal meetings of the Third Committee are webcast live on [UN Web TV](#). Live coverage of the formal meetings is available in the six official languages of the United Nations, including the original language of the speaker. Past meetings of the session will also be available from the Committee's dedicated [video archives](#).

### THIRD COMMITTEE

- Secretariat

#### 77th session

- Chairperson
- Bureau
- Documents

#### Resources

- Press releases
- Related links
- e-deleGATE
- UN Web TV
  - Video archives
- Past sessions

### MAIN COMMITTEES

# E-deleGATE portal

<https://edelegate.un.int/>



A screenshot of the E-deleGATE portal interface. The top navigation bar includes 'What's New &gt;', 'General Assembly &gt;', 'Security Council &gt;', 'ECOSOC &gt;', and 'Conference &gt;'. Below this, a 'Personal Profile' section is visible on the left, containing a 'MY CONTACT INFORMATION' box with fields for 'Name' (Paolo) and 'Phone' (Phone), and a 'Change password' button. A dropdown menu is open under 'General Assembly', listing various committees and bodies: Plenary, High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, First Committee, Second Committee, Third Committee (highlighted), Fourth Committee, Fifth Committee, Sixth Committee, Subsidiary Bodies, and Search elected officers. On the right side, there are sections for 'ADMINISTRATORS' and a list of links including 'Schedule', 'Draft proposals', 'Speaker List', 'Documents', 'Contact List', 'e-List of participants', 'Third Committee Place', 'Third Committee Announcements', 'Third Committee Website', 'Press Releases', and 'Third Committee webcast'. A 'Fraud Alert' link is also visible at the bottom right.





# E-deleGATE portal (cont'd)

## Third Committee Menu

The Third Committee Menu can be found by clicking on the "General Assembly" title in the main menu tab, you will be able to select the "Third Committee" title for all information on all formal or informal THIRD COMMITTEE meetings throughout the session

## Schedule of meetings

The schedule of meetings section contains the organization of work, the calendar of meetings, a real time schedule of Third Committee Meetings at UNHQ as well as the schedule of presentations of the special procedure mandate-holders.

## Draft Proposals

The draft proposals section contains the link to e-Sponsorship and e-Submission, e-voting intentions module, the procedure for submission of draft proposals, as well as links to the list of draft proposals and the status of action on draft proposals at the current session.

## Documents

The documents section contains links to the status of documentation, the documentation per agenda item, the list of draft proposals, the status of action on draft proposals, and the voting records of the current session.

## Third Committee Place

The Committee Place is a module in which informal documents such as zero draft proposals are shared under each specific agenda items. Request for posting on the Committee Place should be sent to [thirdcommittee@un.org](mailto:thirdcommittee@un.org).

## Speakers List

The speakers list sections contains the link to the e-speakers module and the Live Speakers List for the General Debate.

## Documents

The documents section contains links to the status of documentation, the documentation per agenda item

## Contact list

The contact list section contains links to the delegates of the Committee contact list as well as the Secretariat contact list.

## e-list of participants

The e-list of participants is a module that allows delegations to enter the names of the participants that will be attending the session.

## Third Committee Website

Also available under the Third Committee menu are the links to the Committee Website, the Press Releases, and the Webcast Videos.

## Instructional Videos

Instructional videos with more detailed instructions on how to use the various modules are also available on the e-deleGATE portal under the Third Committee Menu.

For additional information, please email [thirdcommittee@un.org](mailto:thirdcommittee@un.org)

**END**



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**Thank you**

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*Contact:*

*Ziad Mahmassani*

*Mahmassani@un.org*

*9172921750*