

Resolution on promoting a rules-based international order founded upon universal ethics and humanitarian values

- Recognizing that a profound shift in the world's economic and geopolitical balance of power is underway, whose impact upon the future of humanity is currently unknown;
- Noting that certain aspects of this rebalancing of power are abundantly clear, such as the rise of China and a long-term shift of the world economy's center of gravity from the North Atlantic to Eurasia;
- Considering the emergence of authoritarian, civilizationist states that do not accept the rules-based post-WWII order, whether in terms of human rights, rule of law, democracy or respect for international borders and the sovereignty of other nations;
- Realizing that the chaos on display in much of the Middle East, Africa and other regions—including discrimination, persecution and outright violence perpetrated against religious and ethnic minorities—constitutes a profound threat not only to those directly affected, but also to the future of humanity, and civilization, itself;
- Recognizing that disdain for the rule of law and denial of the inherent value and dignity of human life threatens the post-WWII international order, which has long served as the framework for international relations, including the greatest expansion of economic well-being in the history of humanity;
- Recalling that in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in direct response to the horrors of total war and genocide;
- Acknowledging that the intellectual, philosophical and spiritual origins of the post-WWII international order, and UDHR, are closely associated with the traditions of Western humanism and Christian democracy;
- Recalling that the preamble of Indonesia's constitution commits the Republic of Indonesia to participate in supporting a global order that respects national sovereignty, peace and justice for all peoples, and rejects any and all forms of colonialism;
- Recognizing the need to apply universal ethics and values, in order to balance competing interests within domestic and international political arenas;
- Noting the current trend in many parts of the world, wherein ethics and humanitarian values are no longer considered a relevant factor in policy decisions;
- Recognizing that in the absence of any ethical yardstick applied to policy decisions, human relations are prone to revert to a Hobbesian state of nature, in which the law of the jungle prevails;
- Recalling that UDHR and the rules-based post-WWII international order were specifically designed to rescue humanity from this savage condition;



- Realizing that the decline of this rules-based international order, and the consequences thereof, are staring us in the face;
- Observing that authoritarian regimes' blatant disregard for the fundamental rights articulated in UDHR has and continues to result in enormous human tragedy;
- Noting that the widespread appropriation of human rights language by those with a partisan, ideological agenda has fostered confusion and undermined trust in the very concept of human rights;
- Affirming that it is essential to the well-being of humanity, that moral and ethical values should weigh equally, with economic and political considerations, in shaping public policy;
- Realizing that the desire to be treated with dignity is inherent in human nature, as is a parallel impulse towards the imposition of tyranny on others;
- Reaffirming that Western humanism, Christian democracy and Humanitarian Islam are kindred traditions, with a shared interest in upholding a rules-based international order, rooted in universal ethics and values;

The CDI states the following:

- As the world's economic center of gravity shifts towards Eurasia—and geopolitical competition threatens to undermine peace and security throughout this vast landmass—widespread acknowledgment of, and adherence to, universal ethics and humanitarian values may help ensure that this transition can be navigated more peacefully;
- CDI and its member parties are in a unique position to facilitate this process, for they embrace a common set of humane and universal values, rooted in their respective religious and cultural traditions;
- These traditions—which include but are not limited to Western humanism, Christian democracy and Humanitarian Islam—may serve as the foundation for a 21st century alliance to promote a rules-based international order founded upon universal ethics and humanitarian values;
- Centrist Democrat International invites people of good will of every faith and nation, as well as political parties and governments worldwide, to join in this alliance to safeguard human dignity and foster the emergence of a truly just and harmonious world order, founded upon the equal rights and dignity of every human being.

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