

United Nations General Assembly  
Sixty-first session  
Third Committee  
Agenda item 67 (c)  
Introduction of draft resolution

**STATEMENT**

**by Ambassador Andrei Dapkiunas  
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to the United Nations**

The delegation of Belarus has the honour and a sad duty to introduce to the Third Committee a draft resolution entitled 'Situation of democracy and human rights in the United States of America'.

It is an obvious honour to introduce a **righteous** resolution. The one which clearly states the truth. The one which is right on its substance. The resolution which takes no heed of whims or prompts of the high and mighty, no heed of being inconvenient. The resolution which honestly draws attention of the Assembly to abuses of human rights in one of the most self-confident democracies in the world. The resolution which in a most careful, diligent and comprehensive manner assigns a homework for the United States Government to remedy grave faults and misdeeds which endanger human rights and democratic principles in this country and world over.

Yet it is a tainted honour to introduce a resolution which is also **wrong**. Yes, this resolution is wrong. It is wrong as a method. It is wrong as a tonality of human discourse. It is wrong as a solution. Why?

It is a sad duty to be introducing a document to which no self-respecting government will listen. It would take a politically very naïve party to believe that de-facto blackmail, finger-pointing and name-calling can promote responsiveness, trust and cooperation. This has never happened with any country-specific resolution, with any government. It will not be different with this one.

Why introduce it then? We are humbly presenting this document to you as a warning sign that something is still deadly wrong in the way we – as a global community of nations – address such a sensitive and delicate matter as engagement and participation of governments in promotion of human rights.