



Committee: The Special and Political Decolonization Committee(SPECPOL)

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Ever since the beginning of the humanity there were stateless people and the problem of statelessness has existed. But with the evolution of the nations and the policies they use this problem became more apparent. With this problem becoming more apparent a lot of countries tried to take measurements by enforcing laws for this problem. Before the founding of the actual SPECPOL committee in 1993 , there other attempts made by the League of Nations and the United Nations itself. For example the first official attempt came from the League of Nations by giving stateless people a passport called Nansen Passport but it didn't last long. Statelessness was also an overdefined term before the establishment of the United Nations. Until the 1954 convention it always failed to receive any legal treatment. The 1954 Convention being a landmark in the legislative framework for the stateless individuals being the first document officially addressing the rights and protection of individuals who are not recognized as a citizen for any country. This also meant that actual recognition was being given to stateless people a chance to redeem themselves as a citizen for a country on legal grounds. This convention distinguished refugees and the stateless people from each other by giving a distinct description for the first time. With the 1961 Convention one of the important things it established was safeguards to prevent statelessness at birth. It also aimed to ensure the rights of the stateless people in order to prevent any of their rights taken away because of this problem. But what helped to start these conventions getting this specific to change this problem was 1948 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) with this it tried to connect to every human being and ensure their rights and the article 15 was one of them stating that everyone has the right to a nationality. This meant even the stateless people have to be given a citizenship because it was their natural right to have one. The document is also considered as one of the biggest milestones for universalist language since in the document no cultures, political system or religion has been mentioned. With the The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) getting adopted in 1989 it ensured the children's rights and also their right to a nationality. No matter how developed statelessness in our time is the influence of social media is undeniable. Effort to address statelessness has been a hot topic and it grew with time with UNHCR's " #IBelong " campaign, launched in 2014 with the aim of

eradicating the statelessness by 2024. This got a lot of attention from around the world and it even helped getting birth registration systems get better, got states to reform nationality laws and implement safeguards against statelessness. As we look into the history of this problem we can see there a lot of improvements that led to the legal grounds we have for them today. As the Russian Federation we especially got involved in this problem when USSR collapsed in 1991. Because of this a lot of former citizens of USSR did not got any new citizenship addressing them as Russians and this led to many of them being stateless. With this problem occurring we have strict policies adopted and also using strict regulations on our territories about this problem and seeking to improve them as much as possible in order to ensure safety for those people because stateless people are no less human than the others. In our country until 2021 we addressed stateless people in the country as illegal immigrants and put them in prisons and used them for labor. But after a lot of backlash we face and suffered we decided to soften our politics against them. We started an id card system which we gave for stateless people for to use for 10 days. In this 10 days they were considered no different than a legal citizen and this helped them get time to form their documents and such to get them a permanent citizenship. But it does not end when they got a permanent citizenship. As Russian Federation we keep track of their activities because if they commit any crime or get involved in one we are allowed to take their citizenship if they proven guilty by the court. Also if they try to form a document with false information we can also take away their citizenship if they have one or reject them to have one. Even though after the changes we made in our policies we still receive a lot of backlash by the humanitarian groups we are not going to change our policies from the scratch because we are developing and also a really big country we have to consider the safety of our actual citizens but also ensure the safety of the stateless people who are residing in our country. As the Russian Federation we are looking forward to finding new solutions and conducting new ideas in order to prove not only ours but every countries policies who are facing this problem. In conclusion this problem existed since the start of the humanity and every country has their own policies they adopted against this problem and there were a lot of attempts in order to fix this problem and there were certain landmarks which helped countries to progress more such as UDHR and specifically the article number 15 which stated that nationality is a human right , 1954 convention and the 1961 convention . As the Russian Federation we are one of the countries who faces this problem harder after the world wars and also because of the collapse of USSR in 1991. But as the Russian Federation we are seeking to help and conduct new ideas about the statelessness problem around the world and ready to work with other countries to ensure the safety of stateless people and their rights of nationality by conducting new ideas and finding new solutions to fix this problem for a better future of stateless people and help them become a legal citizen.

References: SPECPOL Study Guide

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