

Voting analysis: [Resolution on the situation of human rights in Iran](#) (General Assembly Plenary)

OVERVIEW

The vote this year was 89 in favour, 30 against with 64 abstaining. 10 States were absent.¹ A no-action motion put forth by Iran was defeated 100 to 35, with 42 abstentions.

Compared to last year in the General Assembly, this is 11 more YES votes, 15 less NO votes and 5 more abstentions. Compared to the vote in the 2011 Third Committee, this is 3 more YES votes, 2 less NO votes and 5 more abstentions.

Overall, the positive changes of note from the General Assembly last year are the shifts from **NO to YES** by Libya and Tunisia, and shifts from **Abstain to YES** by Barbados, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Haiti, Malawi, Republic of Korea, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania. Unfortunately, India shifted away **from Abstain to NO**.

Comparing votes on [Human Rights Council resolution creating the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Iran](#), no States switched their votes **from NO to YES** or **from Abstain to YES**. Unfortunately, Brazil, Guatemala and Zambia changed their votes **from YES to Abstain**.

VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION

Which countries changed their votes from last year?

Compared to last year's vote in the General Assembly, 2 states shifted their votes **from NO to YES** (Libya and Tunisia). 8 States shifted their votes **from abstain to YES** (Barbados, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Haiti, Malawi, Republic of Korea, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania). 1 State (Sierra Leone) shifted its vote away **from YES to abstain**. 10 states shifted from **NO to Abstain** (Bahrain, Cambodia, Comoros, Indonesia, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Niger, Somalia and the United Arab Emirates). 1 State shifted away **from Abstain to NO** (India).

Compared to the 2011 vote in the Third Committee, no states shifted from **NO to YES**. 2 states shifted from **abstain to YES** (Barbados and South Sudan). 2 states shifted from **NO to abstain** (Comoros and Niger). No states shifted from **abstain to NO**.

Of the states that traditionally oppose country-specific resolutions: 15 states maintained that position (Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, DPRK, Iran, Myanmar, Oman, Russia, Sudan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe) but 3 states **abstained** (Egypt, Kyrgyzstan and Malaysia) and 1 state (Libya) voted **YES**.

¹ Azerbaijan, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Georgia, Iraq, Madagascar, Namibia, Turkey and Yemen.

Votes by regional or other groups

Votes across the 56 OIC states were very split: over half (31) **abstained**, 15 voted **NO** and 6 voted **YES** (Albania, Gambia, Libya, Maldives, Senegal and Tunisia). A further 4 were absent.

Votes across the 117 states in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) were also split: 29 voted **YES** despite a principled NAM position against country resolutions in the General Assembly. A further 25 voted **NO** and 7 were **absent**. 56 states **abstained**.

In GRULAC, there was a nearly even split between 15 states voting **YES** (Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Saint Lucia) and 13 states **abstaining** (Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Dominica, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay). The usual 5 GRULAC States voted **NO** (Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela).

In the African group, approximately a third abstained (32) while 3 voted **NO** (Algeria, Sudan and Zimbabwe) and 14 voted **YES** (Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Gambia, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, South Sudan, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania).

VOTE ON THE NO-ACTION MOTION

Iran called a no action motion before the vote that was defeated 100 to 35 for, with 42 abstentions. Venezuela and Cuba spoke in favour of the no action motion on principle against country specific resolutions. Canada and Iceland (on behalf of Andorra, Australia, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland) spoke against the motion, highlighting the fact that a no-action motion stifles debate and undermines the General Assembly's mandate.

Iran last put forth a no-action motion in last year's Third Committee, where it was defeated 91 against to 51 for, with 32 abstaining. Comparing this year's vote to last year's, there were 16 less YES votes, 9 more NO votes and 10 more abstentions. 16 States were absent this year.²

Overall, the positive changes of note last year are the shifts from **YES to NO** by Libya and Senegal, and shifts from **Abstain to NO** by Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, and the United Republic of Tanzania. Unfortunately, India shifted away from **Abstain to YES**.

Which countries changed their votes from last year?

Compared to last year's vote in the General Assembly, 2 states shifted their votes **YES to NO** (Libya and Senegal). 7 States shifted their votes **from abstain to NO** (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, and the United Republic of Tanzania). 12 states shifted from **YES to abstain** (Angola, Bahrain, Egypt, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Thailand, Tunisia, and Uganda). Unfortunately 4 States

² Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brunei, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Georgia, Iraq, Kiribati, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkey and Yemen.

shifted away **from NO to abstain** (Gambia, Niger, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu) and 1 State shifted away **from abstain to YES** (India).

Votes by regional or other groups

Votes across the 56 OIC states were very split: approximately half (24) **abstained**, 17 voted **YES** and 7 voted **NO** (Albania, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Libya, Maldives, Nigeria, and Senegal). A further 8 were absent.

Votes across the 117 states in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) were also split: 38 voted **NO** despite a principled NAM position against country resolutions in the General Assembly. A further 32 voted **YES** and 11 were **absent**. 36 NAM states **abstained**.

In GRULAC, approximately a third of States (21) voted **NO** (Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia and Uruguay) and 6 states **abstained** (Brazil, Dominica, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago). 6 GRULAC States voted **YES** (Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Suriname and Venezuela).

In the African group, approximately a half abstained (22) while 6 voted **YES** (Algeria, Comoros, Mali, Sudan, Swaziland and Zimbabwe) and 18 voted **NO** (Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, and the United Republic of Tanzania).

2010 and 2011 votes compared

REGION	COUNTRY	Iran HRC 16	Iran C3 no-action 2008	Iran C3 no-action 2010	Iran C3 2010	Iran GA 2010	Iran C3 2011	Iran GA no-action 2011	Iran GA 2011
African	Algeria		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
African	Angola		YES	YES	A	A	A	A	A
African	Benin		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Botswana		NO	A	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
African	Burkina Faso	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Burundi		NO	NO	A	A			
African	Cameroon	A	A	A	A	A	A		A
African	Cape Verde		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
African	Central African Republic		YES	YES	A	A	YES	NO	YES
African	Chad		YES					NO	A
African	Comoros		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	A
African	Congo		YES		A	A	A		A
African	Côte D'Ivoire		A	A	A		A	NO	A
African	Democratic Republic of the Congo					A		A	A
African	Djibouti	A			A	A	A	A	A
African	Egypt		YES	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
African	Equatorial Guinea		A						
African	Eritrea		YES	YES	NO	NO			
African	Ethiopia		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Gabon	A		A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Gambia		YES	NO	YES	YES		A	YES
African	Ghana	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Guinea		YES	A	NO	NO		A	A
African	Guinea-Bissau		YES	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Kenya		YES	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Lesotho		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Liberia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES

African	Lybia			YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
African	Madagascar			NO				NO	
African	Malawi		YES	A	A	A	YES	NO	YES
African	Mali		YES	YES	A	A	A	YES	A
African	Mauritania	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
African	Mauritius	A	A	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
African	Morocco				A	A	A	A	A
African	Mozambique		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Namibia		YES	YES	A	A	A		
African	Niger		A	NO	NO	A	NO	A	A
African	Nigeria	A	A	A	A	A	A	NO	A
African	Rwanda		A	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
African	Sao Tome and Principe		YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
African	Senegal	YES	YES	YES	NO	A	YES	NO	YES
African	Seychelles			NO	YES		YES	NO	YES
African	Sierra Leone			NO	YES	YES			A
African	Somalia		YES	YES	NO	NO		A	A
African	South Africa		YES	A	A	A	A	NO	A
African	South Sudan						A	NO	YES
African	Sudan		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
African	Swaziland		YES	YES	A	A	A	YES	A
African	Togo		YES	A	A	A	A		A
African	Tunisia		YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	A	YES
African	Uganda	A	YES	YES	A	A	A	A	A
African	United Republic of Tanzania		A	A	A	A	YES	NO	YES
African	Zambia	YES	YES	A	A	A	A	A	A
African	Zimbabwe		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Afghanistan		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Bahrain	A		YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
Asian	Bangladesh	NO	YES				NO	YES	NO
Asian	Bhutan		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Brunei		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO		NO
Asian	Cambodia		YES	YES	A	NO	A	YES	A
Asian	China	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Cyprus		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	DPRK		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Fiji		NO	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
Asian	India		YES	A	A	A	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Indonesia		YES	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
Asian	Iran		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Iraq		YES						
Asian	Japan	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Jordan	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Kazakhstan		YES	A	NO	NO	NO	A	NO
Asian	Kiribati		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES		YES
Asian	Kuwait		YES	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
Asian	Kyrgyzstan		YES		NO	NO	A	A	A
Asian	Lao People's Democratic Republic		YES	YES	A	A	A	YES	A
Asian	Lebanon		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Malaysia	A	YES	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A
Asian	Maldives	YES		NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Marshall Islands		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Micronesia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Mongolia		NO	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
Asian	Myanmar		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Nauru		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Nepal		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Oman		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Pakistan	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Palau		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Papua New Guinea		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Philippines		YES	A	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Qatar		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Republic of Korea	YES	NO	NO	A	A	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Samoa		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Saudi Arabia	A	YES	YES	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Singapore		YES	YES	A	A	A	YES	A
Asian	Solomon Islands		YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Sri Lanka		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Syria		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Tajikistan		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Thailand	A	YES	YES	A	A	A	A	A
Asian	Timor-Leste		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Tonga		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES

Asian	Turkmenistan		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Tuvalu		NO	NO	YES	A	A	A	A
Asian	United Arab Emirates		YES	YES	NO	NO	A	YES	A
Asian	Uzbekistan		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Vanuatu		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Asian	Viet Nam		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Asian	Yemen								
CEIT	Albania		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Armenia		YES		NO	NO	NO		NO
CEIT	Azerbaijan		YES	YES	NO	NO			
CEIT	Belarus		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
CEIT	Bosnia and Herzegovina		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Bulgaria		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Croatia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Czech Republic		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Estonia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Georgia		NO						
CEIT	Hungary	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Latvia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Lithuania		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Montenegro		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Poland	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Republic of Moldova	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Romania		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Russian Federation	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
CEIT	Serbia		YES				A	A	A
CEIT	Slovakia	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Slovenia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
CEIT	Ukraine	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Antigua and Barbuda		A	A	A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Argentina	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Bahamas		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Barbados		YES	A	A	A	A	NO	YES
GRULAC	Belize		A	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Bolivia		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
GRULAC	Brazil	YES	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Chile	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Colombia		NO		A	A	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Costa Rica		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Cuba	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
GRULAC	Dominica		A			A		A	A
GRULAC	Dominican Republic		A	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Ecuador	NO	NO	NO	A	NO	NO	YES	NO
GRULAC	El Salvador		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Grenada		A		A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Guatemala	YES	NO	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Guyana		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Haiti		NO	NO	A	A	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Honduras		NO		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Jamaica		A	A	A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Mexico	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Nicaragua		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
GRULAC	Panama		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Paraguay		NO	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Peru		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Saint Kitts and Nevis		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Saint Lucia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
GRULAC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		A	A	A	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Suriname		YES	YES	A	A	A	YES	A
GRULAC	Trinidad and Tobago		A	NO	A	A	A	A	A
GRULAC	Uruguay	A	NO	NO	A	A	A	NO	A
GRULAC	Venezuela		YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
WEOG	Andorra		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Australia		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Austria		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Belgium	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Canada		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Denmark		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Finland		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	France	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Germany		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Greece		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
WEOG	Iceland		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES

WEOG	Ireland		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Israel		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Italy		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Liechtenstein		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Luxembourg		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Malta		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Monaco		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Netherlands		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	New Zealand		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Norway	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Portugal		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	San Marino		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Spain	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Sweden		NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Switzerland	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	Turkey									
WEOG	United Kingdom	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
WEOG	United States	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
			14	28	32	57	59	59	42	64
			7	81	91	44	45	32	100	30
			22	71	51	80	78	86	35	89