



## Bréf varðandi the General Assembly the Delegation of Iceland.

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Bjarni Benediktsson – Stjórnámál – Utanríkisráðherra – Utanríkismál – Sameinuðu Þjóðirnar – Íslenska  
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## Tekið af vef Borgarskjalasafnsins

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Mr. Chairman:

At the last session of the General Assembly the Delegation of Iceland listened with great concern to the accusations made there with regard to the observance of human rights in Bulgaria and Hungary. We felt, <sup>then</sup> however, as did many other delegations, that a dispute had arisen with regard to specific stipulations of the Peace Treaties with these countries. Since the Peace Treaties provided for a certain machinery for the solution of such disputes, we were of the opinion that this machinery should be put into operation. My delegation, therefore, voted for Resolution No. 272 (III), wherein the attention of Bulgaria and Hungary was drawn to their obligation to "co-operate in the settlement of these question<sup>s</sup>".

It is with grave concern that we now learn that accusations are still being made in regard to the question of human rights in Bulgaria, Hungary and also Roumania and that these countries have refused to respect the provisions of the Peace Treaties.

In Iceland the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms is such an integral part of our life as individuals and as a nation that we find it impossible to understand how any nation can live without them. It seems to us that the



accusations made here in this committee are so serious and of such a shocking nature that any civilized country thus accused should put its pride into immediately proving that they are not founded upon facts.

The question whether these accusations are based upon facts or not is a matter which in our opinion vitally affects every member of our international community. Since the procedure for which we voted during the last session of the General Assembly proved of no avail, we fully support the draft resolution submitted by Bolivia, the United States and Canada to the effect that the International Court of Justice be requested for an advisory opinion on the questions therein outlined and that this ~~and~~ question be retained on the agenda of the next session of the General Assembly with a view to ensuring that the charges are appropriately examined and dealt with.