

On November 4, the amended resolution came up before the Assembly and was adopted by a vote of 38 in favour (including Canada), 10 against and 12 abstentions. The effect of the resolution is that United Nations member states are now free to send ambassador and ministers to Madrid if they so desire; and Spanish participation in the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations is now permissible and a matter for decision by each such Agency.

Greece

The Greek question, which first came before the United Nations in 1946, was again the subject of a debate in the Political Committee from November 10-15 when the main topics of discussion were the report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans (UNSCOB) and the question of the repatriation of the children abducted from Greece in 1948. During the first part of the debate the Soviet bloc made an attempt to introduce a discussion of alleged United Kingdom and United States "intervention" in Greece and of alleged "terrorist activities" by the Greek Government. The Committee did not, however, take up these issues and rejected a Soviet draft resolution approval of which would have involved endorsing the Soviet bloc's contentions. Over the opposition of the Soviet bloc it continued to strive for a solution along lines laid down during previous sessions of the Assembly by approving a draft resolution submitted by Greece calling on the states concerned to repatriate all those members of the Greek armed forces detained in their territories who desired repatriation, and a joint Australian, French, Pakistani, United Kingdom and United States draft resolution approving the report of UNSCOB and continuing this body in being until the Sixth Session of the General Assembly, unless before that time UNSCOB recommended its own dissolution to the Interim Committee.

There was less acrimony during the second part of the debate which was devoted to the discussion of a joint Australian, Danish, French and Netherlands draft resolution urging all states harbouring Greek children to make arrangements for their early return to their parents and establishing a joint committee, composed of the representatives of Peru, Philippines and Sweden, to assist in this. Although a Soviet attempt to secure the deletion of certain provisions which it considered offensive or unnecessary was unsuccessful, the Soviet bloc merely abstained from voting on the unamended joint resolution which was, in consequence, adopted by the Committee without any negative votes.

Treatment of People of Indian Origin in South Africa

On November 14, the Ad Hoc Political Committee resumed discussion of the complaint originally lodged by India in 1946 and considered at the sessions of the Assembly in the three following years. As in previous debates on this subject, the South African Delegation invoked Article 2 (7) of the Charter to support their contention that the question was beyond the competence of the United Nations. On this point, however, only two delegations (Australia and Greece) supported the South African stand when the matter was put to a vote; a majority of 35 voted that the United Nations was competent; 17 delegations (including Canada) abstained.

At the beginning of the debate, a resolution was submitted by the delegations of Burma, India, Indonesia and Iraq, condemning the South African Government's "group areas act", which, the sponsors maintained, contravened the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights. Subsequently, the delegations of Bolivia, Brazil, Denmark, Norway and Sweden introduced a more moderately worded resolution which, with certain amendments, was adopted by a vote of 26 in favour, 6 against, with 24 abstentions (Canada abstaining).

This amended five-power resolution recommended that the Governments of India, Pakistan and South Africa revert to round-table discussion in accordance with