

Forum: General Assembly 4

Issue: Creating a framework to have Ethical Methods of Crowd Control in Response to Violent protests

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Introduction

Protests have been present in the world and its various countries for a very long time, whether it be against a governmental body, business or merely an individual. These protests are generally conducted by a mass gathering of people, and if these people do not get their way, sometimes excessive force is used to bring about change for the people. These methods of force are sometimes quite violent and could include flare guns and other weapons. However, most protests are not violent initially – the people protest in peace. The task of managing and dissipating these protests generally falls upon the regional law enforcement agencies of the protest heavy areas. Sometimes, these protests result in violence and unrest between police and protestors. These violent protests are generally initiated by either the protestors or the law enforcement agents (policemen/military), some examples of which are listed underneath. Sometimes, violence occurs as self-defense and is completely preventable, and all people are equally at fault.

There have been many past instances of riots, in many countries around the world. An example would be ‘The Storming of the Bastille’ in 1789 at the end of the French Revolution, when people stormed into a prison, beheaded a governor and controlled the prison. Here, the protesters initiated the harm. Another instance is the Tiananmen Square Massacre in China in 1989, wherein military tanks used force on peaceful protesters – here law enforcement initiated violence. There are many more protests in history, such as the Martin Luther King led March on Washington or the recent ones in the USA. Protests can bring about change while being completely peaceful as well – Mahatma Gandhi’s ‘Salt March’ being a clear example.

There are many glaring issues that lead to protests getting harmful, such as, for one, the

reason protests happen – lawmaking and policy making which doesn't take into account the needs of the people. If there aren't any reasons for people to protest violently, law enforcement can ethically stop any protests that do happen. Another reason why protests happen is due to the law enforcement agents who try to stop the violence but rather, incite more of it by using primitive methods like riot shields and tear gas. Another topic of debate here is the human rights of protestors and how to tackle crowd control from that front. But, it is not always the government and the law enforcement officials who are at fault; the people quite often incite riots and the law enforcement officials are resorted to fighting fire with fire, and are blamed for it. Holding the correct people accountable and making them face appropriate consequences is an issue which has not been tackled. Despite all of this, a few tweaks here and there and some action being taken could drastically reduce violence at protests and save many lives.

Definition of Key Terms

Berlin Wall protests

Mass protests in Germany against the separation of East and West Germany using the Berlin Wall, which resulted in East Germany's governing body destroying the wall and reuniting the two sides after 28 years

Crowd Control

The action of security in which large crowds of people are managed in an organized manner, generally by law enforcement agents, to prevent crowd crushes, riots, affray and fighting.

Ethics

Moral principles which take control of one's thinking when they conduct a certain activity – the mental question of right or wrong.

Gandhi's Salt March

A protest by Indians against the British Colonization heavily taxing salt in early 1930, when Mahatma Gandhi walked 240 miles in 23 days to collect salt from the coast

George Floyd protests

A series of protests breaking out in the United States of America after an innocent black man named George Floyd was killed in custody by a law enforcement officer in

Minneapolis.

Human Rights

A right that every person in the world is entitled to; a list of which are mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

'I have a dream' protest

A protest in 1963 to protest against racial inequality in USA – over 200,000 people attended this protest in Washington DC and Martin Luther King famously delivered his 'I have a Dream' speech in this protest

Law Enforcement

The actions performed by some individuals, especially those working for the government such as policemen and military who work to make sure the law is complied with – some examples of such actions include performing arrests, investigating crime scenes and defending territories.

Orange Revolution

Mass protests in Ukraine in 2004 as a result of the presidential election of 2004 which deemed Viktor Yanukovich to be president; many people believed it was rigged by corruption and this led to civil unrest.

Protest

A mass public gathering of people who are all assembling to express their opinion which is an objection, dissent or disagreement with something, usually a law or an election.

Protestant reformation

A revolution in Europe which began with a door of a German Church being nailed – it contained the Thirty Years War and drove European empires apart.

Riot

A disruption of peace by a crowd, one which usually tends to lead to violence

Riot Act

A law by the British Parliament in 1714 that states that groups of 12 people are illegally

gathered and need to be dispersed, otherwise facing the capital punishment – it was repealed in 1967

Riot shield

An equipment which is used by law enforcement officials to typically protect the body from head to knees from melee and projectiles in protests

South African Apartheid protests

A protest organized in 1950 by Nelson Mandela in retaliation to the racist Apartheid laws of South Africa – on June 26th, many people stayed at home to protest, and this method was used many times until freedom in 1994.

Stampeding

When a mass of people or animals that move suddenly in panic, generally causing harm and violence in the confusion

Storming of the Bastille

A key moment in the French revolution when, on July 14th 1789, civilians stormed into the Bastille castle and beheaded the local governor, thus liberating the castle

Tear gas

Gas placed in a canister which, when triggered, spreads outwards and causes irritation to one's eyes, and it is typically used to disperse rioters.

Tiananmen Square Massacre

A violent event occurring on June 4, 1989 in the Tiananmen Square in Beijing where protests for democratic reform were occurring and the Chinese military brought out tanks that fired on the protestors, reportedly leaving hundreds dead.

United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

A United Nations body which consists of 47 countries and has three sessions a year to pass resolutions to protect human rights. They investigate potential breaches of Human Rights in UN countries and try to minimize said breaches.

United Nations Peacekeeping Force (UNPKF)

A United Nations run body which helps countries move from conflict to peace by sending in groups of soldiers to interact with the civilians and guarding vulnerable countries against threats, especially extremists

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

A document passed by the United Nations General assembly on the 10th of December, 1948 in a summit in Paris – it provides a list of rights each human on the earth is entitled to and has to be adhered to in each UN member state.

Key Issues

Law Enforcement

Policemen and the military – those tasked with safeguarding the lives of citizens – are the ones primarily endangering it here. Police Brutality has often been called upon, especially recently after the death of George Floyd in Police Custody, as the main cause of protests going violent. In the recent George Floyd protests, 19 people died in a period of 14 days in Minneapolis alone; the Tiananmen Square massacre resulted in thousands of deaths and the Hong Kong protests have been called out as violent

Inexperienced/Incapable policemen

In May 2020, the killing of George Floyd was conducted by Exofficer Derek Chauvin who had a grudge against him, having apparently worked together at a nightclub. Other than him, there are many policemen and law enforcement agents, such as members from the UNPKF, who have a bad history, with lawsuits and allegations against them – and these people are still being allowed to work without inspection. Alongside that, many policemen are recruited for the job without sufficient skills and experience. An example for this is in the UK, where Boris Johnson wishes to have 20,000 new police officers in the country by the end of the year – resulting in an inexperienced task force. Without sufficient training, police officers might end up making the wrong decisions – and one wrong decision in a protest could lead to chaos. Majority of the policemen in certain regions, such as LEDCs, are not able enough to do their job, and this leads to protests getting violent

Lack of situational education

About one third of the police officers in the United States have a four year college degree (Gardiner). This emphasizes the issue above: most police officers are not capable of doing

their job. Nevertheless, police training often only covers how to drive patrol cars and how to deal with robberies, among other things. Military training covers weapon handling and war zones. Neither of these professions have sufficient amounts of training in crowd control in protests conducted by civilians, yet they are tasked with doing exactly that. This results in police/military officers taking rash decisions such as throwing tear gas in a crowd or beating them with melee weapons to push them away, thus increasing the chance of harm and violence.

Lawmaking

The reason most protests end up getting violent is because there are no strict laws preventing this from happening. There is statewise jurisdiction in the United States of America, however the crime is identified but there are no consequences. The agenda at hand is 'ethical methods of crowd control' – there are no ethical consequences mentioned.

Laws regarding Crowd Control

As mentioned above, in the United States Federal Law, violent protests are identified as a crime, but there are many other countries where this is an issue. An important factor to note here is 'Right to Protest'. Many treaties involve clauses on this, particularly the '1950 European Convention on Human Rights' and the '1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights'. The former encourages the Right to group together and advocate for something to happen, while the latter puts restrictions on war propaganda and religious, racial, etc. discrimination. However, the question is – at what extent of violence do protesters lose their Right to Protest? And what consequences should they face if the violence gets out of hand? The primary purpose of introducing laws for crowd control is to prevent violence, thus the framework has to have serious, yet ethical consequences.

Laws in General

Most of the well known riots in the past have been incited due to the public being against either a new law or an election result. Some examples are: The July 2020 riots in Russia against a law allowing Vladimir Putin to be president till 2036, Gandhi's Salt March against British taxation laws, The South African Apartheid protests, the 'I have a dream' against racist laws, the Tiananmen Square massacre seeking democratic reform and the Orange Revolution against the Ukrainian presidential election results. In some situations, laws proposed cater for the majority however the minority protest against them – such as the Brazilian right wing party and the 'Gilets Jaunes' in France. These protests are easy to

control and never turn violent. However, the lawmakers, in many situations, implement laws that are countered by the majority. These lead to crowds getting out of hand due to many people protesting and this turns violent. To prevent this from happening a change in the way laws are formed would be necessary, to include the public's opinion more.

Human Rights

When a protest gets violent, sometimes there are many basic human rights of the protestors that get violated. One of them has been discussed above – the Right to Protest. However, there are restrictions to that law such as racial/religious discrimination and violence, and those are broken in riots. But there are many other human rights that are violated

Ethics

One right involved is the right of freedom of expression, which is in Article 13 of the American Convention on Human Rights and Article 19 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. If a law enforcement agent starts violence at a protest, then they are violating the basic human rights of protest and freedom of expression of the people. Hence, while creating a legal framework that is ethical, using violence to control the crowd is not an option. Article 20 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights includes the right to 'Peaceful assembly and association' and Article 13 allows for 'Free movement within the country of residence' – This suggests that ethical frameworks for crowd control only need to occur in violent protests and need to be done as peacefully as possible while adhering to the Human Rights guidelines

Loss of Life

Loss of Life in protests mainly happens in two ways – stampeding and being killed by law enforcement. Frameworks need to be created to prevent both of these things from happening. The main reason stampedes occur at protests is due to them being caused by actions from the people sent to contain the crowd – by throwing tear gas, using riot shields aggressively and setting up blockades, for example. The loss of life at violent protests can easily be prevented by addressing all the key issues mentioned above, with ethics kept as the first priority

Current Crowd Control Methods

Currently, many policemen and other law-enforcement agents are tasked with riot control around the globe. In the past, they made use of whips and batons to control crowds but recently

more technologically advanced weapons are used such as tasers, tear gas, pepper spray and guns with rubber bullets. As riots get more violent, more violent crowd control methods are used, with policemen often using water cannons, policemen mounted on horses, violent dogs and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to disperse crowds. As they are tasked with dispersing mobs, they often use riot shields, riot helmets, gas masks and other appropriate attire to avoid being harmed in the crossfire. These weapons are non-lethal and rarely cause any direct casualties, however some of them such as tear gas and pepper spray cause harmful stampedes that can result in death. These are all used to intimidate the crowds and disperse them, however the crowds are not as ready and prepared as the policemen are and are often injured in stampedes. Despite being non-lethal, the current crowd control methods do cause violence and are hence due to be changed to form an ethical framework. In rare occasions, however, lethal weapons are used for this purpose and often leave hundreds dead. Some examples are: military tanks in the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989 and fire and guns in numerous other protests like the Boston Massacre, the Venezuelan Protests and the Tutarian massacre in India. There are numerous limitations with the current methods, such as the fact that they allow policemen to have the liberty to fire at will at times, but at times do not let them use riot shields or other weapons as self defense. Methods should be neither too nice nor too lenient and should take each party's views into account.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

The United States of America (USA)

The USA has been involved in the most protests in the world, such as the 2020 George Floyd protests, Women's day protest, Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream' and the Boston Tea Party, to name a few. As per the United States Federal Jurisdiction, 'it's a crime when an individual "travels in interstate or foreign commerce or uses any facility of interstate or foreign commerce, including, but not limited to, the mail, telegraph, telephone, radio, or television, with intent" [to]: Incite a riot; Organize, promote, encourage, participate in, or carry on a riot; or Commit any act of violence in furtherance of a riot; or Aid or abet any person in inciting or participating in or carrying on a riot or committing any act of violence in furtherance of a riot.' (Findlaw).

In the Civil Rights Act passed in 1968, anti riot laws were introduced, however they allowed for law enforcement to use violence to control crowds. These laws are often called 'repressive' and 'unethical' and result in peaceful protests ending up violent with policemen inciting this violence. In May 2020 in Dallas, police used rubber bullets and tear gas to dissipate a crowd. The United States takes a violent approach to crowd control and most protests there end up being

violent.

The People's Republic of China

China has had many protests in the past such as the 1959 Tibetan Uprising, the Tiananmen Square Massacre of 1989 and the recent Hong Kong independence protests. The constitution of China states that the people have the freedom of speech, press etc. however these laws are currently being denounced. More recently, a law was passed in relation to Hong Kong that makes it a crime to undermine Beijing's authority in the territory. The law criminalises separatism, subversion, terrorism, foreign interference and "acts" that threaten national security. Chinese security and intelligence agencies will be able to set up bases in Hong Kong, and foreign judges may be barred from hearing cases under the new legislation' (Yan et al).

In the past, China has a history of using violence to counter protests, famously using military tanks in the Tiananmen Square Massacre of 1989 and using tear gas and riot shields in the Hong Kong protests. There are reportedly thousands of casualties in the former, while in the latter there have been many harmed protestors. Moreover, China has reportedly tried to censor the media and deny actions in terms of protestors, as the government repeatedly denies the Tiananmen Square massacre and doesn't let information about the situation in Hong Kong get out to the public. China, like the US, takes a violent approach.

United Nations Peacekeeping Force (UNPKF)

The UNPKF was formed in 1998 with the purpose of helping 'countries navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace' (UN). It does so by 'deploying troops and police from around the world, integrating them with civilian peacekeepers to address a range of mandates set by the UN Security Council and General Assembly.' (UN). Every single peacekeeping mission is authorized by the Security Council and they are usually deployed against nonstate actors and territorial disputes, but not crowd control. Nevertheless, they do have a system to cause innocent civilians minimal harm – they interact with them and try to evacuate them from the conflict zone to minimize civilian harm, and statistics have shown that the presence of the UNPKF reduces the risk of warfare being renewed and reduces casualties.

However, there have been many accusations of Human Rights violations against the peacekeeping troops, especially in CAR in 2015. The first lady of Mozambique even came out and said that there were multiple children being sexually exploited by UN soldiers. The alleged crimes include prostitution, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, murder and theft. Thus, being friendly with the citizens is a different approach that the UNPKF take, and it is successful in

reducing violence however it introduces new problems.

United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

As mentioned above, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was introduced by the UN's General Assembly in 1948 and now the UNHRC is the main body concerning human rights in the United Nations. A few articles in the UDHR relate to protests and crowd control. They include: 'Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.' – showing no person deserves a violent treatment; 'Article 13(1): Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.' – showing people can move everywhere and there is nothing as an illegal protest; 'Article 19: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.' – showing people can have an opinion that opposes others and can express it in protests; 'Article 20(1): Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.' – showing people can meet up and protest their view (Human Rights Council).

These are some, however there are many others that are being violated that cause protests in the first place. The UNHRC believes that people are entitled to their own opinions and can express them in assemblies wherever they want. Despite this, in many countries, protests get violent and this violates countless human rights.

The European Union (EU)

The EU, according to Statewatch, has the following riot laws: 'Give control of operations to the newly created EU "Task Force of Chief Police Officers"; Create mechanisms for "operational" cooperation; Legitimise the ongoing surveillance by "police and intelligence officers" (internal security services) of "persons or groups likely to pose a threat to public order and security"; Create national databases of "troublemakers" based on suspicion and supposition; Allow EU member states to pass laws to prevent people from going to protests in other countries if their names have been recorded as "suspects" or if they have been convicted of minor public order offences (ie: obstructing the highway)' – (Admin, 2001)

Despite the European Union having many protests in the past, such as the march of Bastille, the Orange Revolution and many others, the violence in these protests is rare and is generally incited by the civilians before being well contained – something which is rare in countries like the USA and China. Hence, this sophisticated approach seems to be working.

Development of Issue/Timeline

Date	Event	Outcome
1517	The protestant reformation	A religious revolution that split up catholic Europe – The ‘Thirty Year’s War’, a part of the reformation, cost Germany 2/5 th of their population and drove empires apart
1714	The ‘Riot Act’ is passed in Great Britain – it deems any group of over 12 people to be assembled against the law and be dissipated immediately	It caused many controversies as to the use of force and its impractical enforcement, so it was repealed with the Criminal Law Act of 1967
December 16, 1773	The Boston Tea Party	Over the course of three hours on Dec. 16, more than 100 colonists secretly boarded three British ships arriving in harbor and dumped 45 tons of tea into the water (Whipps, 2020). This was a key moment in the American Revolution
July 14, 1789	The Storming of the Bastille – The French Revolution	Civilians stormed the Bastille castle, beheaded the governor and took over the prison – this was a major moment in the French revolution

March – April, 1930	Mahatma Gandhi's Salt march – The British Raj	Mahatma Gandhi marches for 23 days and travels 240 miles to collect salt from the sea to protest the taxation of goods by the British. A perfect example of a protest ending a conflict non violently
3rd September 1953	European Convention on Human Rights comes into effect	Article 10 provides some more guidelines on the Right to freedom of expression, while Article 11 provides more guidelines on the Right to freedom of association.
16th December, 1966	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights is drafted	Article 18 – Freedom of belief, Article 19 – Freedom of expression, Article 21 – Freedom of association and assembly
June 4, 1989	The Tiananmen Square Massacre	Hordes of people stood in Beijing's Tiananmen Square to protest for reform. Then, military tanks were used to dissipate the crowd, and several hundred were killed. The Chinese Government tried to cover up this event, but it did not work.

November 9th, 1989	Berlin Wall Protests	The Berlin Wall had notoriously separated West and East Germany for 28 years, and after protests for the whole year, the East finally got rid of the wall and reunited Germany
2017 - Now	Protests in the United States	Unrest is increasing recently in the United States with protests such as the March for Science, the Women's March on Washington and the George Floyd protests occurring in this time period

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

The Riot Act

The Riot Act was passed in 1714 in the United Kingdom – at a time when there was unrest present. King George I pushed for the passing of this Act since it would earn him more electoral support. In short, it ‘allowed local officials to declare any gathering of more than 12 people “unlawfully, riotously, and tumultuously assembled.”’ (Enslin, 2018). If an official were then to say this out loud near protesters, they would have to leave within an hour, otherwise facing a punishment as bad as death. Although this did stop protests, it was considered to be unethical. At the time, there were no concepts of ‘rights’ but after many human rights related documents were passed, it was repealed in 1967.

Thus, the Riot Act was passed as a framework for crowd control, however it was not ethical as it did not take into consideration many rights such as the Right for Freedom of Expression and

Association hence it was considered unsuccessful and was repealed.

Human Rights Declarations

There were numerous human rights declarations passed which contained articles pertaining to crowd control. The most famous of these is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, drafted in 1945 – it involved articles such as: Article 5 – no punishment, Article 13 – people can move freely within the country they reside in, Article 19 – Freedom of Expression and Article 20 – Freedom of Assembly. There were many others, such as the European Convention on Human Rights in 1953 (Articles 9 to 11) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights in 1966 (Articles 18 to 22). They all state that the protestors have the right to be there and express their opinion.

However, these rights are being poorly implemented as often, law enforcement agents deprive protestors of these rights by inciting violence against them. Also, although these declarations benefit the ethical treatment of protestors, they also do not protect the policemen and if the violence is incited by the people, then they do not help. Thus, even these declarations are considered failures in the fact that they cannot help stop violence at riots.

New technologies

The current methods used by police for crowd control, such as tear gas, lasers and whips, are often considered too violent and too primitive since they cause stampedes and injuries. Even in some isolated events lethal weapons are used and these end up causing massacres. However, recently new technologically advanced crowd control mechanisms are being implemented and used. One of them is a 'net gun' which traps a group of people harmlessly in a net and is completely non lethal. This is often used for capturing animals to use for research and has guaranteed safety. There are other methods that can be used like stink bombs and foam bombs, both of which work like tear gas but do not affect the body severely like tear gas does. Stink bombs leave the crowd with a vulgar smell while the foam bomb leaves them covered in goo-like foam, both of which do not cause injury to the people affected. Another way that has been recently developed is Low Frequency Sound Cannons that send sound/ultrasound waves to disorientate the crowd. They are similar to the more effective Active Denial System that directs high energy electromagnetic radiation to the mob of people which causes boiling in the upper skin and disorientation of the nerve endings, resulting in pain for the mob which leads to them

dispersing. Dazzler lasers are also used as they blind rioters.

All these new technological methods do have some negatives, such as the fact that they are not 100% ethical and that they can possibly be interfered with by 3rd parties since they involve technology. But, in the grand scheme of things, they are less harmful and more efficient than the current methods, and the protests in which they are used are proven to be less violent. These new methods are certainly considered a successful method and should be considered a key figure moving forward

Possible Solutions

Police Training and Scanning

As mentioned in the 'Key Issues' section, law enforcement and law enforcement agents are a major hindrance to ethical crowd control in that they are incapable and inexperienced. An incapable policeman with a vendetta caused the George Floyd protests, rash action by the Chinese military caused the TS massacre, and only one third of policemen in the USA have a college degree. This can be solved with some simple solutions such as: background checks to policemen which would identify the policemen with inadequate experience or a bad history to strip them of their job and prevent incidents like the Summer 2020 violent protestors in the USA; a change to the training programs for policemen to include crowd control, with less violent features and a greater focus on ethics; and a possible revamp to the policeman training course to change their point of view on things and make it less violent. If these happen, there will be significant reductions in the amount of law enforcement induced violence in protests, and if there is rioter induced violence then the policemen will be well trained to control the crowd with minimal violence.

A new 'Riot Act'

Although the British Riot Act was unsuccessful and repealed, it had good intentions – to impose consequences on protestors. However, there were 2 issues – the fact that it went against the Right to Assembly and considered non violent protests against the law; and the fact that the consequences for protestors (Capital Punishment) were too harsh. This made it 'unethical', but, without it there were spikes of protestor induced violence and people were injured. However, another, less violent Riot Act could be recommended to keep protestors non violent and in line.

There would have to be many changes from the original riot act such as: defining a protest, stating that consequences would only be taken if the protest got violent, making consequences less violent and factoring in enforcement of this act. This would, coupled with other solutions, stop both law enforcement and protestor induced violence.

Weapon Laws

Currently there are a few primary weapons used in protests by law enforcement agents and protestors. Some used by the former include: rubber bullets, blockades, riot shields and tear gas. All of these induce violence at protests and either cause injury or stampeding. Some new legislation restricting the use of all of these, and enforcement of these laws, would be sufficient if recommended. However, the issue is in the protestors having harmful weapons such as guns (where guns are permitted) and knives. Reducing the supply of these harmful items would be needed by using methods such as stricter gun laws and cutting off black markets.

Riot Related Aid

Although there have been more riots in MEDCs than LEDCs (In between 2000 and 2006, there were 52 MEDC protests and 16 LEDC protests), the riots in LEDCs are more deadly, with there being: riots due to corrupt lawmaking, violence in the riots due to policemen and civilians being inadequately trained, and more deaths due to poor healthcare systems. Some examples of deadlier riots in LEDCs include the Rwandan Genocide, the Gaza Strait protests and the Summer 2020 protests in Belarus. All these problems stem from one major issue – lack of money to spend. Some examples of countries facing issues like these are Nigeria, Venezuela, Iran and Palestine. With economies suffering, especially post COVID 19, they need aid to improve healthcare, crowd control and police knowledge. Aid packages can come from MEDCs, other LEDCs and even the UN. Both bilateral and multilateral aid will help, with humanitarian aid in times of need also being useful. This will certainly help prevent the loss of life and will also improve international relations.

People's input in legislation

Most protests start because of laws or elections that did not go the way of the people, for example the Orange Revolution or the South African Apartheid protests. Some of these even happen in democracies where the whole population of the country should get a say in elections and lawmaking. Ways to prevent protests – as prevention is better than cure – should be

suggested and the best way is to have the people get their own say, for example a split in lawmaking between the president, the government and the people – which would be different for, for example, bills, defense laws and family laws as the people should have less say in military laws but more say in family laws. Giving some of the power to the people might seem anarchist, however it would reduce corruption and also reduce riots and civil unrest.

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Appendix

I. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights – can be referred hen seeing what is 'ethical' and what isn't: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/UDHR/Documents/UDHR_Translations/eng.pdf

II. List of General Assembly resolutions – to see what action has already been taken: <https://research.un.org/en/docs/ga/quick/regular/74>