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11/07/2018

Examine the functions of United Nations Human Rights Council and discuss the impact of recent withdrawal of US from UNHRC.

United Nations Human Rights Commission is an inter-governmental body within United Nations. It is responsible for strengthening promotion and protection of human rights around globe and for addressing situations of human rights violations and make recommendations on them. Members of the Council work to engage countries on improving human rights.

In this regard it is criticised that the Commission is made up of states which is known for their human rights violations like Saudi Arabia, Philippines, and Pakistan. UNHRC does not have authority to take action but can exert significant pressure on violating country. It can also set up special rapporteurs with mandate to investigate and report human rights violations and abuses.

Impact of US Withdrawal:

i) US decision to withdraw will make the country in participating in key global initiative to protect human rights.

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2) It will have difficult consequences for America's International standing and for its legacy on human rights.

3) It will make it more difficult to advance human rights priorities and aid victims of abuse around the world.

4) The decision by US is seems to ignoring the suffering of civilians in Syria and ethnic minorities in Myanmar.

The united states should be leading the world on Human rights. Given the state of Human rights in today's world US should be stepping up, not stepping down.

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