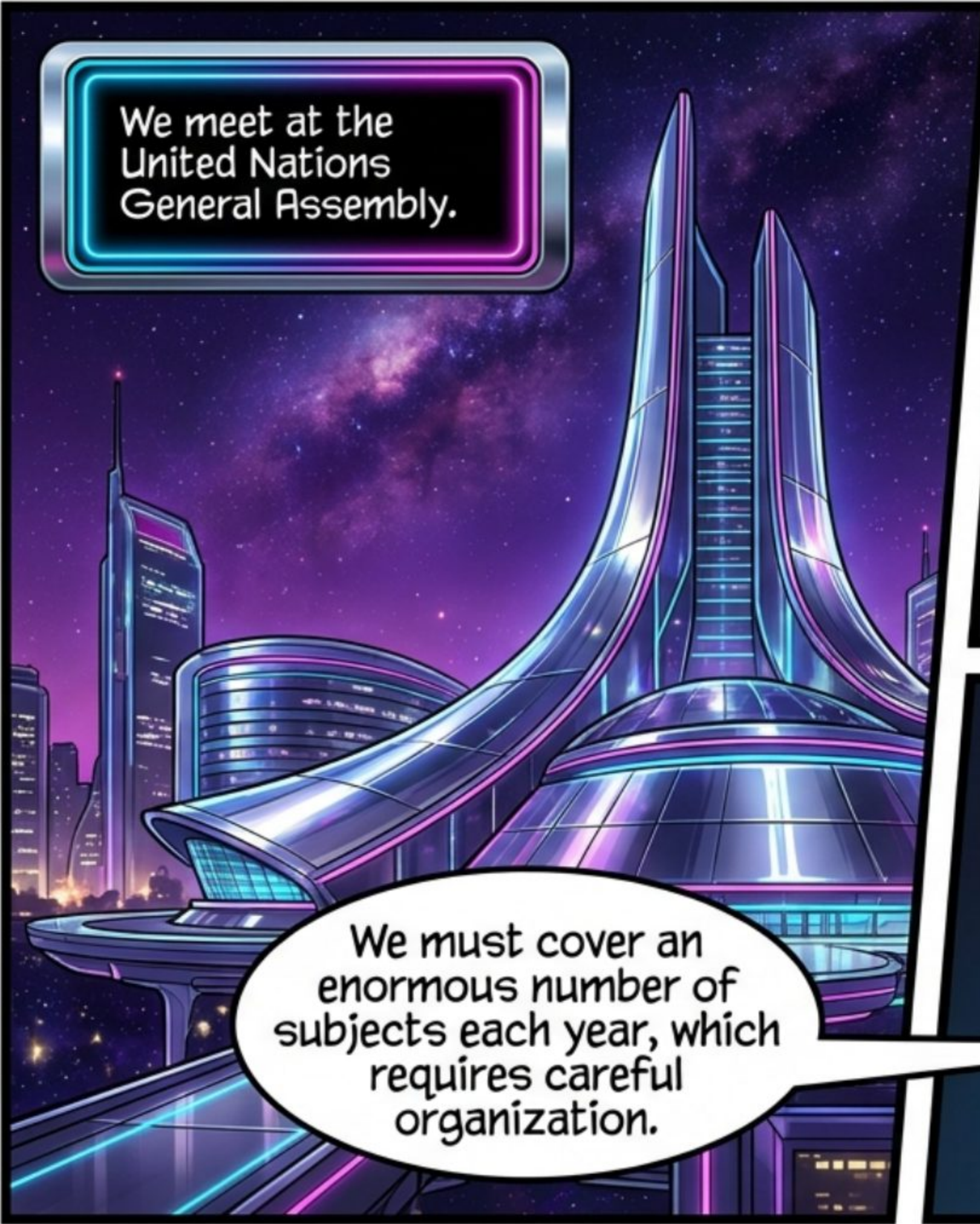


HMDC Presents . . .

SOCHUM





We meet at the
United Nations
General Assembly.

We must cover an
enormous number of
subjects each year, which
requires careful
organization.



Every member country
of the United Nations
holds a seat and a
vote here.

**193 MEMBER
STATES**



The workload is immense.

The General Assembly divides its work among six main committees.



We do this because studying every subject together takes too much time.



We are assigned to the Third Committee, which has a specific focus.





We enter the Third Committee.

This is SOCHUM,
which is the short name
for the Social, Humanitarian,
and Cultural Committee.



We study
human rights and the
social questions which
shape daily life.



This work is highly
desirable because it helps
ordinary people.

We have a clear mission.

Our purpose
is to discuss how we
can protect human
dignity.



We also study
how to improve the
conditions in which
people live.

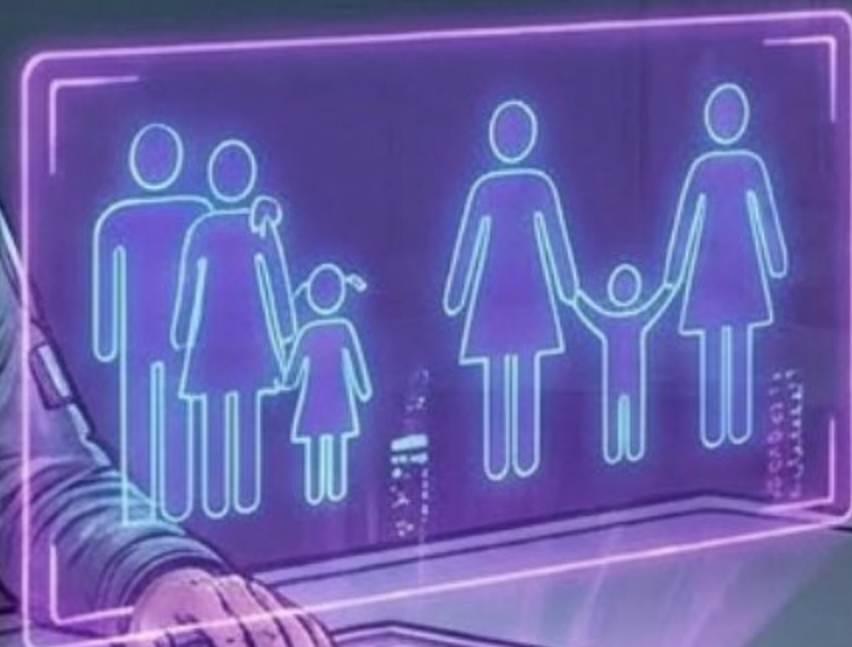


We do this because
unsafe living conditions
harm human development.



We examine a wide range of matters.

We study the advancement of women and the protection of children.



We work to eliminate racism and racial discrimination, because these actions harm society.

We also examine the treatment of refugees and the rights of Indigenous peoples.



Source: United Nations

A woman with short blonde hair, wearing a dark tactical uniform with shoulder pads, is leaning forward and looking intently at a glowing, futuristic screen. The background is dark and industrial.

We focus on social development.

Our agenda includes questions about youth, the family, and ageing.

A man with short brown hair, wearing a dark tactical uniform, is standing and interacting with a large, glowing blue screen. He is pointing at the screen with his right hand. The screen displays a cityscape and various data points.

We also study crime prevention and international drug control.

A man with short brown hair, wearing a dark tactical uniform, is sitting and interacting with a large, glowing blue screen. He is gesturing with his right hand towards the screen. The screen displays a cityscape and various data points.

This shows how wide our range of concern truly is.

We are a genuine part of the United Nations.

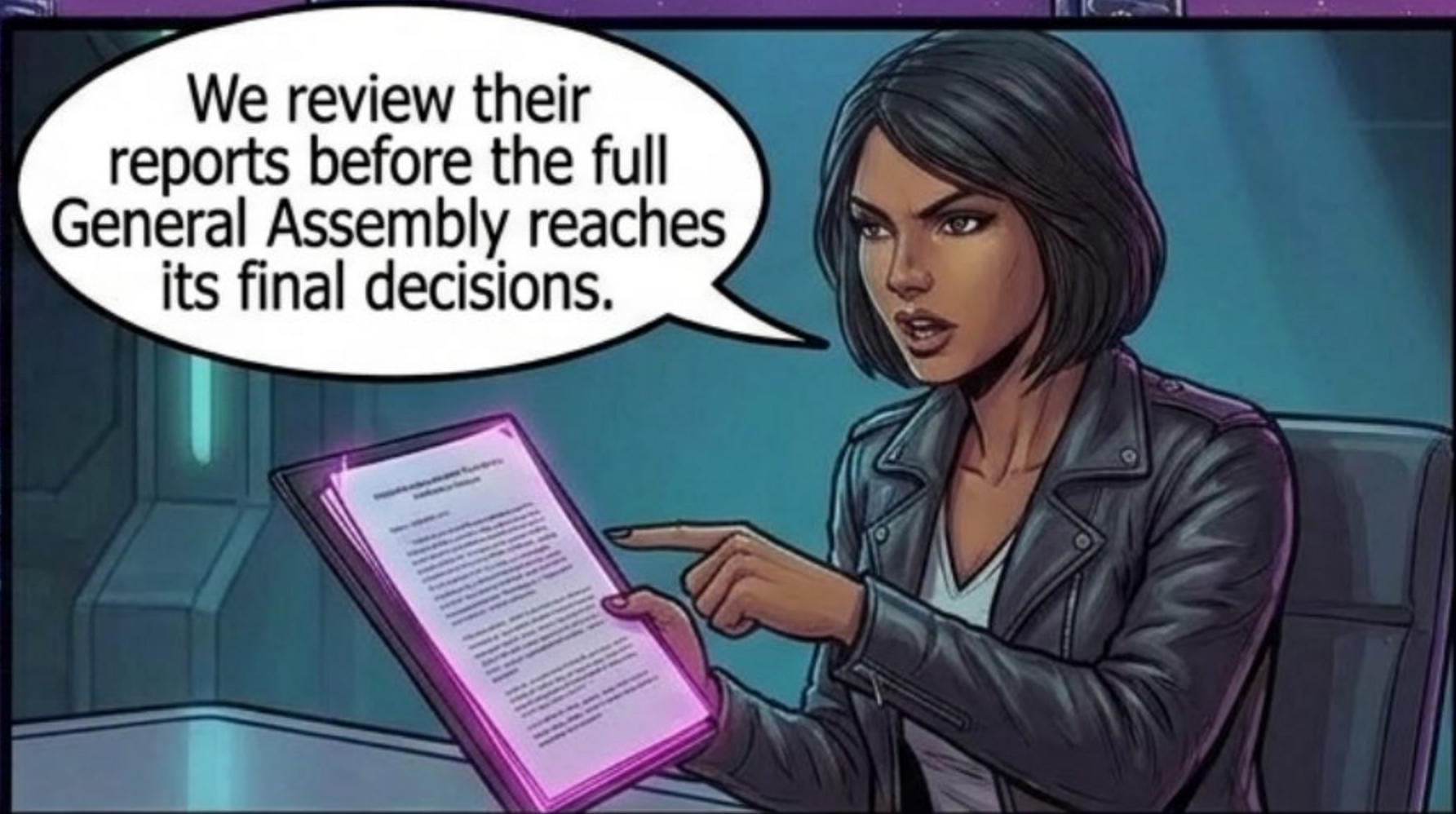
SOCHUM is a committee of the whole membership, which means all states take part.



We work closely with the Human Rights Council and independent experts.



We review their reports before the full General Assembly reaches its final decisions.



We take specific actions.

We study human rights problems and listen carefully to experts.

Then we write resolutions, which are documents that record our shared position.

We only record the position of the countries which vote for them.

We must understand our limits.

These resolutions are not laws, which means they cannot force a government to act.

Yet they still influence how governments behave.

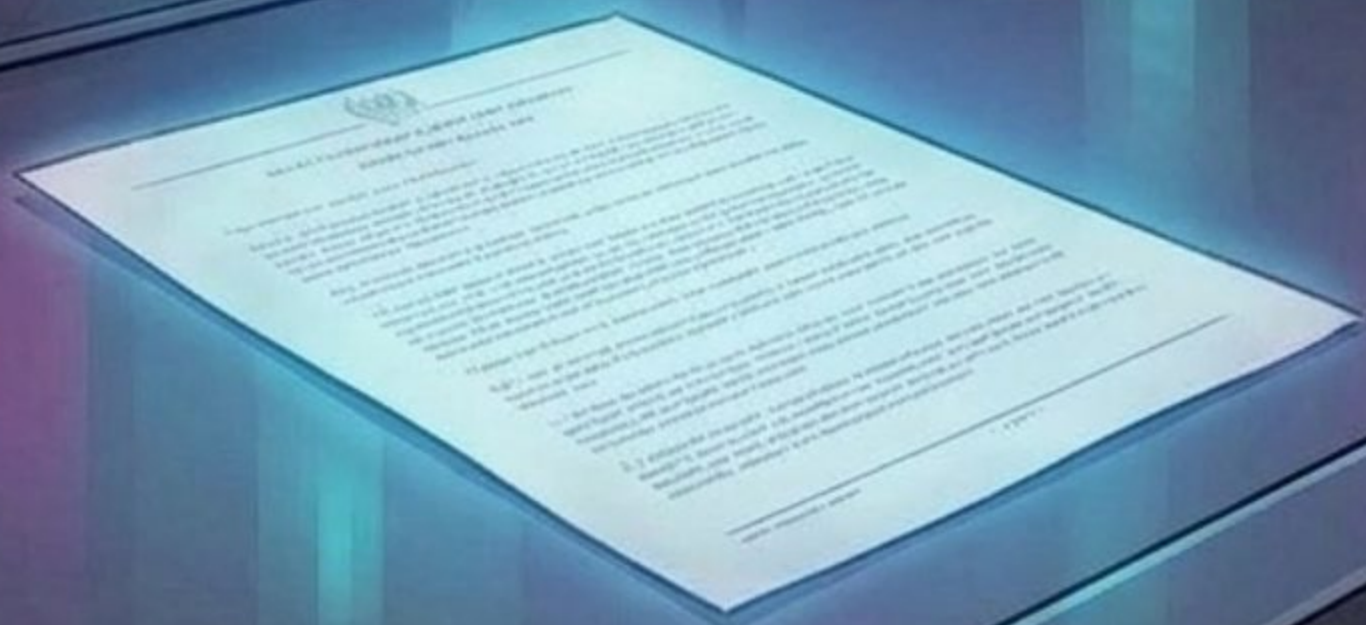
They have influence because they show what most of the world believes is desirable.

We shaped human history.

The Third Committee reviewed the draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



DECEMBER 1948



We did this before the General Assembly adopted that historic document, which helped the world.



We play a specific role.

In this committee,
each delegate
represents one
assigned country.

We must speak
for the official view
of that country.

We must do this
even when the official
view differs from a
personal opinion.

We communicate our positions.

Delegates give speeches to explain what their country believes is desirable.



We ask one another questions to clarify facts.

Asking questions helps us understand why a policy is correct or incorrect.



We build alliances.

We form groups
with countries which
share our aims.



Working together
helps us combine our
ideas into one plan.



This is desirable
because larger groups
have more influence in
the voting stage.



We carefully manage words.

We negotiate the exact wording of our resolutions.

Complete align at
expentia aunt of our
resolutions.

We change the words until enough countries can support the document.

Compromise helps us succeed, because rigid demands cause negotiations to fail.

We develop new skills.

Through this process,
we learn to research
and to listen carefully.



We learn to build
agreement with people
who begin from very
different starting points.

This work is
difficult, but finding
shared answers is
deeply desirable.



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This program is designed to assist our students in understanding, research, and preparation for the upcoming forensics events. If you have any questions, please ask your coach or contact Coach Bill at billeddy@gmail.com