



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1
General Conference - 16th to 21st November 2008 - Cavtat, Croatia



SUBJECT	Discriminatory Practices		
Society	IARC	Country:	Israel
Committee:	C3	Paper number:	CT08_C3_35
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Introduction

Amateur radio, as a hobby utilizing internationally defined segments of the radio spectrum, is based upon a concept which promotes the state-of-the-art in wireless communications and enhances international goodwill. Consistent with these operating principles and the basic tenets defining our hobby, it is recommended that fair and ethical principles and procedures for HF operations, especially international DX-expeditions, contests and special event operations are conducted in the aforementioned spirit and intent of Amateur Radio whereas;

Amateur radio operators should refrain from any political involvement, statements or participation which discriminates against amateur radio operators from other nationalities, races, religions, colors or creeds.

Background

In the past few years a number of special radio amateur activities have taken place in which political implications have come to the forefront. To the surprise of many, certain amateurs, residing in European countries have blatantly denied participation of amateurs of another country via on-the-air refusal of two-way contacts. This discriminatory action has resulted in failed opportunities to capture valuable contest points as well as DXCC and other special awards credits.

It seems that discrimination knows no boundaries.

The license for a special 5A7A operation (Nov.2006) was given under the specific condition which prohibited contact with 4X-4Z stations.

This discriminatory prohibition prevented 4X amateurs from making contacts with the 5A7A operators and obtaining needed QSL cards necessary for DXCC awards. Additionally they were robbed of valuable points for the CQ WW Contest conducted during that same time frame.

The 5A7A organizers willingly accepted this biased demand in exchange of an operating license, as dictated by the authorities of the host country.

The President of IARC personally requested from the ARRL - DXCC desk that this operation not be recognized and accepted for DXCC credit.

Injustice of this kind should not be rewarded. To the contrary, it should be discouraged. In the event that DXCC credit is not granted for such a special event, it makes the operation less attractive.

And last but not least, the latest Greek expedition to YK9SV on Arwad Island in November 2007, repeated the same discriminatory pattern.

With the operators bluntly stating, "We follow the 5A7A operation"
Again no 4X-4Z amateurs found their way into the YK9SV log.

Key points and proposal

Therefore it is proposed that IARU Region 1 discusses the fundamental principles and the basic rights and / or obligation to contact any amateur radio station during contests and / or special events, regardless of location, country, color or religion.

Obtaining a license to operate with these prohibitions on contacting certain entities during contest or special events, should be seen as ***discriminatory***.

Recommendations

It is recommended that IARU Region 1 takes a positive action to address and rectify this matter, such as:

- That deliberate, willful discrimination will lead to cancellation of contest / special event recognition.
- That contests and / or special event organizers and Societies are informed that; disqualification of the event is forthcoming in case of a violation.
- That no country recognition or any other credit is achieved, for such operations, DX-expeditions or other on the air special event activities.
- That IARU Region 1, shall censure and denounce such discriminatory actions.