



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



| SUBJECT    | Discriminatory Practices                        |               |            |
|------------|---|---------------|------------|
| Society    | IARC  | Country:      | Israel     |
| Committee: | C3  | Paper number: | CT08_C3_35 |
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## **Introduction**

Radio Amateur activity is a special hobby and it always has had unique principles and procedures in the international arena. This special spirit of Radio Amateurs was always kept upright in all HF operations and DX expeditions.

Regrettably this esteemed notion has been collapsing in the latest years.

## **Background**

In the past few years we have been witness to a number of special radio amateur activities, implicated by political misdoing. To the surprise of many, certain amateurs, residing in European Countries have denied the participation, contest points and DXCC award opportunities, from some amateurs of another country.

Here are some examples that will show that discrimination knows no boundaries:

The license for a special 5A7A operation was granted even though it included a prohibition that no contacts are to be made with 4X-4Z stations. The organization willingly accepted this biased demand.

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

Another case happened in the DARC operation for the football cup 2006, with 26 special stations to be worked for the special award. DL-operators in this event bluntly refused to enter their 4X comrades in their log books, thus preventing 4X amateurs from obtaining the needed QSL cards in order to apply for the special award.

A third event of the sort was in November 2007 with the latest Greek expedition to YK9SV Arward Island. The same pattern, no 4X-4Z amateurs in the log, was repeated.

Deeds of this kind should not be rewarded! To the contrary, they should be banned and discouraged. If DXCC credit will not be recognized for such an event, it will be made much less attractive and ineffective.

## **Key points for a proposal**

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

Obtaining a license to operate with a prohibition of contacting certain entities during a contest or special event, should be deemed discriminatory and thus be banned.

## **Recommendations**

It is recommended:

That IARU Region 1 takes a positive decision of the above that will determine that any discrimination will lead to cancellation of the contest or special event recognition.

That contests and special events organizers and societies will be informed that disqualification of the event is forthcoming in case of discriminatory violation.

That no country recognition or any other credit will be achieved, for such operations, DX-expeditions or special events.