

**6068. Restore Freedom and Independence/Autonomy  
to the Land and People of Tibet**

WHEREAS, Isaiah prophesies (Isaiah 2:4, NIV) that in the last days (see also Micah 4:3):

*“He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore”*; and

WHEREAS, **The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church** expounds in Part IV, Social Principles, ¶ 165 (VI. The World Community), that “we commit ourselves as a Church to the achievement of a world community that is a fellowship of persons who honestly love one another. . . . The Church must regard nations as accountable for unjust treatment of their citizens and others living within their borders. . . . We affirm the right and duty of people of all nations to determine their own destiny. We urge the major political powers to use their nonviolent power to maximize the political, social, and economic self-determination of other nations rather than to further their own special interests. . . . We affirm our historic concern for the world as our parish and seek for all persons and peoples full and equal membership in a truly world community”;

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that The United Methodist Church support the people of Tibet and their struggle for independence and autonomy; and

**Be it further resolved**, that The United Methodist Church affirms the Dalai Lama’s 1987 Five Point Peace Plan; and

**Be it further resolved**, that The United Methodist Church support the United Nations’ efforts to protect the human rights of all Tibetans and to preserve the distinct religious, cultural, and linguistic heritage of the Tibetan people; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the general boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church continue to monitor this situation and provide opportunities for United Methodist church members to advocate for justice for the people of Tibet.

ADOPTED 2008

See Social Principles, ¶ 165A, B, and D.

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Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2008, pp 823-4

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