The Civil Rights Congress was founded in Detroit, Michigan in 1946. It was formed from a merger of three groups, the International Labor Defense, the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, and the National Negro Congress. Its Director was William L. Patterson.

One of the most notable things the CRC did was present the petition of We Charge Genocide: The crime of government against the Negro people. This petition was written by the CRC and presented to the United Nations at meetings in December 1951.

This document pointed to the definition of genocide stated by the UN convention of the prevention and punishment of genocide, as any acts committed with the intent to destroy a group in whole or in part.

The US state department forced William L. Patterson to surrender his passport after presenting the petition to the UN. The petition was also presented through Paul Robeson, who together with others signed the petition and handed the document to UN officials in New York City.

The CRC ultimately disbanded in 1956, but helped play an important role in the overall civil rights movement.
As communists, we hold true and defend all our civil liberties, which we've gained through struggle, up until now in our country, and we aim to expand our civil liberties to those which other countries have gained.

1. Such as the right to work which was afforded to all in the Soviet Union, no one should be jobless and worrying about tomorrow.

2. The right to free healthcare which all Developed countries have, every one gets sick, therefore every one should get taken care of.

3. We need the right to free education just as they have won in Cuba, where anyone can learn in the field of their choice.

4. No one should be homeless, we all need somewhere to rest and feel safe, housing must be a right for all just as it is in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

5. Workers need the right to leisure and paid vacations, where you can enjoy your life and spend much needed time with your family and explore this beautiful world, the same they've gained in France during “le Front populaire”.

6. Clean air and the right to a healthy environment must be fought for in our country, how can we enjoy any of our civil liberties without this basic human rights

Claudia Jones, Mrs. Patterson, and Paul Robeson present We Charge Genocide to the UN