



Annex 1

Strengthening International Protection





ANNEX 1





Resolution on "Human Rights Defenders" adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, on 26 April 2000, during the 56th session

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998 by which the Assembly adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,

Reiterating the importance of this Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals, non-governmental organizations and groups play in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are often subjected to threats, harassment, insecurity, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial executions,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/2000/95) on mechanisms for the effective promotion and implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, submitted pursuant to Commission resolution 1999/66 of 28 April 1999;
2. Calls upon all States to promote and put into effect the Declaration;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint, for a period of three years, a special representative who shall report on the situation of human rights defenders in all parts of the world and on possible means to enhance their protection in full compliance with the Declaration; the main activities of the special representative shall be:



- a) To seek, receive, examine and respond to information on the situation and the rights of anyone, acting individually or in association with others, to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- b) To establish co-operation and conduct dialogue with Governments and other interested actors on the promotion and effective implementation of the Declaration;
- c) To recommend effective strategies to better protect human rights defenders and follow-up on these recommendations;
4. Urges all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in the performance of his or her tasks and to furnish all information in the fulfilment of his or her mandate upon request;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Representative with all necessary assistance, in particular the staff and resources deemed necessary to fulfil his or her mandate;
6. Requests the Special Representative to submit annual reports on his/her activities to the Commission and to the General Assembly and to make any suggestions and recommendations enabling him or her better to carry out his or her tasks and activities;
7. Decides to consider this question at its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled: "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights";
8. Recommends the following draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption

Résolution E/CN.4/RES/2000/61

On 18 August 2000, the Secretary General appointed Hina Jilani of Pakistan as his Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders, for a period of three years.

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Special Procedures of the United Nation's Commission on Human Rights to Human Rights Defenders¹

This year – and we have to be pleased – the role of human rights defenders and non-governmental organizations is to reassert all resolutions adopted by the Commission.

Also in this report, emphasis should be placed on the resolutions urging all to:

- advocate explicitly the strengthening of co-operation between organizations defending human rights and international community;
- provide a mandate for the protection of human rights defenders.

Special Procedures requesting the international community and States to support the action of human rights defenders and intensify collaboration with human rights organizations

All the procedures mentioned below can be used according to the type of violation perpetrated against human rights defenders.

The communications must be addressed to the Special Rapporteur or Working Group at the following address:

**High Commission of Human Rights
United Nations
CH - 1211 Geneva 10**

The name and e-mail addresses of the Rapporteurs are indicated underneath each section.

¹ Until the end of the 56th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights.



Country Specific Procedures

- Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (resolution 2000/15)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 5 Decides:

- e) To request the international community to support the Human Rights Field Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order to, in particular :
- vi) Strengthen its support for, and continue to expand co-operation with, human rights non-governmental organizations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ; and to facilitate the activities of the joint mission, including through voluntary funding ;
(*M. Roberto Garreton; e-mail : fhouel.hchr@unog.ch*)

- Special Rapporteur on Situation of human rights in Sierra Leone (resolution 2000/24)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 8 Decides :

- b) To request the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner and the international community to give all necessary assistance to the human rights section of the United Nations Mission to Sierra Leone to enable it to fulfill its mandate of reporting on violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in Sierra Leone and, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies, assist the Government of Sierra Leone in its efforts to address the country's human rights needs, including :
- ii) To strengthen its support for, and to continue and expand its co-operation with, human rights non-governmental organizations in Sierra Leone.

- Special Representative on the Human Rights Situation in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights (resolution 2000/19)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 7 Encourages the Government of Equatorial Guinea in its effort to have the Centre begin functioning as soon as possible, in co-ordination with the Office of the High Commissioner and in co-operation with international non-governmental organizations ;

§ 8 Calls upon the Government of Equatorial Guinea to ensure the independence and effectiveness of the National Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and to authorize, without any undue restriction, the public registration and freedom of activity of non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights and social affair ;
(*M. Gustavo Gallon; e-mail : bodoriso.hchr@unog.ch*)



- Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (resolution 2000/26)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

- § 4 Appeals once more to the international community to support the promotion and protection of human rights, to continue to support existing national democratic forces and non-governmental organizations in their efforts to strengthen civil society, and notes in this regard the opportunities afforded by the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe ;
(*M. Jiri Diensdier; e-mail: efflynn.hchr@unog.ch*)

Thematic Special Procedures

- Special Rapporteurs on Thematic Procedures can also be reached at the following fax numbers:

41 22 917 90 06

41 22 917 90 03

- Special Rapporteur on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (resolution 2000/14)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

- § 55 Encourages the participation of non-governmental organizations in the World Conference and in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee and calls upon the Secretary-General of the World Conference to expedite arrangements for accreditations of non-governmental organizations, including those that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with Council arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the Council in its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996;
- § 56 Requests the High Commissioner to undertake appropriate consultations with non-governmental organizations on the possibility that they might hold a forum before and partly during the World Conference and, insofar as possible, to provide them with technical assistance for that purpose;
- § 64 Invites Governments to promote the participation of national institutions and local non-governmental organizations in the preparations and in regional meetings, and to organize debates in national parliaments on the objectives of the World Conference;
(*M. Maurice Glélé Ahanhanzo; e-mail: datcherbro.hchr@unog.ch*)

- Special Rapporteur on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (resolution 2000/45)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

- § 15 Stresses the conclusion and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur that States have an affirmative duty to promote and protect the human rights of women and must exercise due diligence to prevent all forms of violence against women;



- f) To establish and/or strengthen, at the national level, collaborative relationships with relevant non-governmental and community-based organizations, and with public and private sector institutions, aimed at the development and effective implementation of provisions and policies relating to violence against women, including in the area of support services to respond to the needs of women and girl survivors of violence, and to assist them in their full recovery and reintegration into society ;

(Mme Radhika Coornaraswanmy; e-mail : csaunders.hchr@unog.ch)

- Special Rapporteur on Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and Working Group on Minorities (resolution 2000/52)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

- § 15 Also calls upon States to facilitate the effective participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities in the work of the Working Group on Minorities, and invites the High Commissioner for Human Rights to seek voluntary contributions in this regard;



Special Procedures with Particular Reference to Human Rights Defenders

Country Specific Procedures

Special Rapporteur on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (resolution 2000/26)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

- § 3 Stresses the continuing problems of varying degrees of seriousness throughout the region :
- d) Lack of respect for freedoms of expression and association and for the freedom and independence of the media;
- § 12 Condemns the continued repression of the independent media, political opposition and non-governmental organizations, the seizing and destruction of the assets of independent media, the use of police intimidation, the use of technical means (jamming) against independent media, the imposition of fines upon individual journalists, the forceful repression of peaceful political opposition activities, and court cases directed against prominent opposition leaders, such as Zoran Djindjic, Vladan Batic, Goran Svilanovic and Milan Stojan Protic, leaders of the Alliance for Change, Social Democrat leader Vuk Obradovic and others for "verbal crimes";



§ 13 Also condemns the arbitrary administration of justice and application of the law, as evidenced by the detention, trial and sentencing of Dr. Flora Brovina and actions taken against other human rights activists;

(M. Jiri Diensdier; e-mail: eflynn.hchr@unog.ch)

• Special Rapporteur on Myanmar (resolution 2000/23)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 5 Expresses its grave concern:

a) At the increased repression of any form of public political activity, the arbitrary detention, the imprisonment and the systematic surveillance of those exercising their rights to freedom of thought, expression, assembly and association, as well as the harassment of their families;

§ 6 Deplores:

f) The escalation in the persecution of democratic group activists, including elected representatives to the Parliament, students, trade unionists and members of religious orders, for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of movement, expression, assembly and association, and the Government's use of intimidatory measures to force elected representatives and National League for Democracy members to resign from their positions and to close their party offices;

(M. Paulo Sefgrio Pinheiro; e-mail: pzivcovic.hchr@unog.ch)

• Special Rapporteur on the Democratic Republic of Congo (resolution 2000/15)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 2 Expresses its concern:

c) At the preoccupying situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the eastern parts of the country, and the continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, often with impunity, in particular:

iii) At the occurrence of cases of summary or arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, beating, arbitrary arrests and detention without trial, including of journalists, opposition politicians and human rights defenders and people who have co-operated with United Nations mechanisms, and reports of sexual violence against women and children and the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers;

e) At the harassment and persecution of human rights defenders and their organizations ;

§ 4 Calls upon the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo:

g) To remove the restrictions that still affect the work of non-governmental organizations and to promote human rights awareness, including by strengthening Cupertino with civil society including human rights non-governmental organizations;

(M. Roberto Garreton; e-mail: fhouel.hchr@unog.ch)



- Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in Sudan (resolution 2000/27)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 2 Expresses its deep concern:

- b) At continuing violations of human rights in areas under the control of the Government of the Sudan, in particular:
- ix) Severe restrictions on the freedoms of religion, expression, association and peaceful assembly;
- x) The widespread use of torture and arbitrary detention without trial, in particular of political opponents, human rights defenders and journalists, as well as acts of intimidation and harassment against the population by the security organs;
(*M. Gerhard Baum; e-mail: gpaffarelli.hchr@unog.ch*)

Thematic Special Procedures

- Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions (resolution 2000/31)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 12 Requests the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out her mandate:

- d) To continue to pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions of children and to allegations concerning violations of the right to live in the context of violence against participants in demonstrations and other peaceful public manifestations or against persons belonging to minorities;
- e) To pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions where the victims are individuals carrying out peaceful activities in defence of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
(*Mme Asma Jahangir; e-mail: hstenman.hchr@unog.ch*)

- Special Rapporteur on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression (resolution 2000/38)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

Deeply concerned at numerous reports of detention, as well as discrimination, threats and acts of violence and harassment, including persecution and intimidation, against professionals in the field of information,

- § 3 Expresses its continuing concern at the extensive occurrence of detention, long-term detention and extrajudicial killing, persecution and harassment, including through the abuse of legal provisions on criminal libel, of threats and acts of violence and of discrimination directed at persons who exercise the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information, and the intrinsically linked rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, peaceful assembly and association and the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, as well as persons who seek to promote the rights affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political



Rights and seek to educate others about them or who defend those rights and freedoms, including legal professionals and others who represent persons exercising those rights;

§ 10 Appeals to all States:

- a) To ensure respect and support for the rights of all persons who exercise the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information regardless of frontiers, the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, peaceful assembly and association and the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, or who seek to promote and defend these rights and freedoms, and, where any persons have been detained, subjected to violence or threats of violence or to harassment, including persecution and intimidation, even after their release from detention, for exercising these rights as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other relevant human rights instruments, to take the appropriate steps to ensure the immediate cessation of these acts and to create conditions under which these acts may be less liable to occur;
- b) To ensure that persons seeking to exercise these rights and freedoms are not discriminated against, particularly in such areas as employment, housing and social services, and in this context to pay particular attention to the situation of women;
(M. Abid Hussain; e-mail: manstett.hchr@unog.ch)

• Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (resolution 2000/37)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

Deeply concerned, in particular, by the increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world and by the growing number of reports concerning harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

§ 2 Stresses the importance of the Working Group and encourages it, in the execution of its mandate:

- f) To pay particular attention to cases of disappearance of persons working for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms wherever they occur, and to make appropriate recommendations for preventing such disappearances and improving the protection of such persons;
(President: M. Ivan Tosevski; e-mail: mdelalama.hchr@unog.ch)

• Working Group on the Question of Arbitrary Detention (resolution 2000/36)

The Commission on Human Rights, (...)

§ 1 0 Also notes with concern the comments by the Working Group on the situation of human rights defenders;

(President: M. Simal Miguel; e-mail: mdelalama.hchr@unog.ch)



Declaration on Human Rights Defenders adopted by United Nations General Assembly, on 9 December 1998

General Assembly resolution 53/144

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the observance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons in all countries of the world,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/7 of 3 April 1998, (*see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement n° 3 (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.*) In which the Commission approved the text of the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/33 of 30 July 1998, in which the Council recommended the draft declaration to the General Assembly for adoption,

Conscious of the importance of the adoption of the draft declaration in the context of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Resolution 217 A (III),

1. Adopts the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, annexed to the present resolution;
2. Invites Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts to disseminate the Declaration and to promote universal respect and understanding thereof, and requests the Secretary-General to include the text of the Declaration in the next edition of "Human Rights : A Compilation of International Instruments".

85th plenary meeting, 9 December 1998



The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the observance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons in all countries of the world,

Reaffirming also the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights Resolution 2200 A (XXI) - annex, as basic elements of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the importance of other human rights instruments adopted within the United Nations system, as well as those at the regional level,

Stressing that all members of the international community shall fulfil, jointly and separately, their solemn obligation to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinctions based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and reaffirming the particular importance of achieving international co-operation to fulfil this obligation according to the Charter,

Acknowledging the important role of international co-operation for, and the valuable work of individuals, groups and associations in contributing to, the effective elimination of all violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of peoples and individuals, including in relation to mass, flagrant or systematic violations such as those resulting from apartheid, all forms of racial discrimination, colonialism, foreign domination or occupation, aggression or threats to national sovereignty, national unity or territorial integrity and from the refusal to recognize the right of peoples to self-determination and the right of every people to exercise full sovereignty over its wealth and natural resources,

Recognizing the relationship between international peace and security and the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and mindful that the absence of international peace and security does not excuse non-compliance,

Reiterating that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and should be promoted and implemented in a fair and equitable manner, without prejudice to the implementation of each of those rights and freedoms,

Stressing that the prime responsibility and duty to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms lie with the State,

Recognizing the right and the responsibility of individuals, groups and associations to promote respect for and foster knowledge of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels,



Declares :

Article 1

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to promote and to strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels.

Article 2

1. Each State has a prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms, inter alia, by adopting such steps as may be necessary to create all conditions necessary in the social, economic, political and other fields, as well as the legal guarantees required to ensure that all persons under its jurisdiction, individually and in association with others, are able to enjoy all those rights and freedoms in practice.
2. Each State shall adopt such legislative, administrative and other steps as may be necessary to ensure that the rights and freedoms referred to in the present Declaration are effectively guaranteed.

Article 3

Domestic law consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and other international obligations of the State in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms is the juridical framework within which human rights and fundamental freedoms should be implemented and enjoyed and within which all activities referred to in the present Declaration for the promotion, protection and effective realization of those rights and freedoms should be conducted.

Article 4

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be construed as impairing or contradicting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations or as restricting or derogating from the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2 the International Covenants on Human Rights³ and other international instruments and commitments applicable in this field.

Article 5

For the purpose of promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, at the national and international levels :

- a) To meet or assemble peacefully ;
- b) To form, join and participate in non-governmental organizations, associations or groups ;
- c) To communicate with non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations.



Article 6

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others:

- a) To know, seek, obtain, receive and hold information about all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including having access to information as to how those rights and freedoms are given effect in domestic legislative, judicial or administrative systems;
- b) As provided for in human rights and other applicable international instruments, freely to publish, impart or disseminate to others views, information and knowledge on all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- c) To study, discuss, form and hold opinions on the observance, both in law and in practice, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, through these and other appropriate means, to draw public attention to those matters.

Article 7

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to develop and discuss new human rights ideas and principles and to advocate their acceptance.

Article 8

1. Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to have effective access, on a non-discriminatory basis, to participation in the government of his or her country and in the conduct of public affairs.
2. This includes, inter alia, the right, individually and in association with others, to submit to governmental bodies and agencies and organizations concerned with public affairs criticism and proposals for improving their functioning and to draw attention to any aspect of their work that may hinder or impede the promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Article 9

1. In the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the promotion and protection of human rights as referred to in the present Declaration, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to benefit from an effective remedy and to be protected in the event of the violation of those rights.
2. To this end, everyone whose rights or freedoms are allegedly violated has the right, either in person or through legally authorized representation, to complain to and have that complaint promptly reviewed in a public hearing before an independent, impartial and competent judicial or other authority established by law and to obtain from such an authority a decision, in accordance with law, providing redress, including any compensation due, where there has been a violation of that person's rights or freedoms, as well as enforcement of the eventual decision and award, all without undue delay.



3. To the same end, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, inter alia:
 - a) To complain about the policies and actions of individual officials and governmental bodies with regard to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, by petition or other appropriate means, to competent domestic judicial, administrative or legislative authorities or any other competent authority provided for by the legal system of the State, which should render their decision on the complaint without undue delay;
 - b) To attend public hearings, proceedings and trials so as to form an opinion on their compliance with national law and applicable international obligations and commitments;
 - c) To offer and provide professionally qualified legal assistance or other relevant advice and assistance in defending human rights and fundamental freedoms.
4. To the same end, and in accordance with applicable international instruments and procedures, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to unhindered access to and communication with international bodies with general or special competence to receive and consider communications on matters of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
5. The State shall conduct a prompt and impartial investigation or ensure that an inquiry takes place whenever there is reasonable ground to believe that a violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms has occurred in any territory under its jurisdiction.

Article 10

No one shall participate, by act or by failure to act where required, in violating human rights and fundamental freedoms and no one shall be subjected to punishment or adverse action of any kind for refusing to do so.

Article 11

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to the lawful exercise of his or her occupation or profession. Everyone who, as a result of his or her profession, can affect the human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of others should respect those rights and freedoms and comply with relevant national and international standards of occupational and professional conduct or ethics.

Article 12

1. Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to participate in peaceful activities against violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
2. The State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or de jure adverse discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in the present Declaration.



3. In this connection, everyone is entitled, individually and in association with others, to be protected effectively under national law in reacting against or opposing, through peaceful means, activities and acts, including those by omission, attributable to States that result in violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as acts of violence perpetrated by groups or individuals that affect the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Article 13

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to solicit, receive and utilize resources for the express purpose of promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms through peaceful means, in accordance with article 3 of the present Declaration.

Article 14

1. The State has the responsibility to take legislative, judicial, administrative or other appropriate measures to promote the understanding by all persons under its jurisdiction of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.
2. Such measures shall include, inter alia:
 - a) The publication and widespread availability of national laws and regulations and of applicable basic international human rights instruments;
 - b) Full and equal access to international documents in the field of human rights, including the periodic reports by the State to the bodies established by the international human rights treaties to which it is a party, as well as the summary records of discussions and the official reports of these bodies.
3. The State shall ensure and support, where appropriate, the creation and development of further independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all territory under its jurisdiction, whether they be ombudsmen, human rights commissions or any other form of national institution.

Article 15

The State has the responsibility to promote and facilitate the teaching of human rights and fundamental freedoms at all levels of education and to ensure that all those responsible for training lawyers, law enforcement officers, the personnel of the armed forces and public officials include appropriate elements of human rights teaching in their training programme.

Article 16

Individuals, non-governmental organizations and relevant institutions have an important role to play in contributing to making the public more aware of questions relating to all human rights and fundamental freedoms through activities such as education, training and research in these areas to strengthen further, inter alia, understanding, tolerance, peace and friendly relations among nations



and among all racial and religious groups, bearing in mind the various backgrounds of the societies and communities in which they carry out their activities.

Article 17

In the exercise of the rights and freedoms referred to in the present Declaration, everyone, acting individually and in association with others, shall be subject only to such limitations as are in accordance with applicable international obligations and are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

Article 18

1. Everyone has duties towards and within the community, in which alone the free and full development of his or her personality is possible.
2. Individuals, groups, institutions and non-governmental organizations have an important role to play and a responsibility in safeguarding democracy, promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and contributing to the promotion and advancement of democratic societies, institutions and processes.
3. Individuals, groups, institutions and non-governmental organizations also have an important role and a responsibility in contributing, as appropriate, to the promotion of the right of everyone to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights instruments can be fully realized.

Article 19

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be interpreted as implying for any individual, group or organ of society or any State the right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of the rights and freedoms referred to in the present Declaration.

Article 20

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be interpreted as permitting States to support and promote activities of individuals, groups of individuals, institutions or non-governmental organizations contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.



Ratification of the principal regional and international human rights instruments



ESTADOS/ETATS/ STATES	ICESCR	ICCPR	OP1	CAT	CAT*	ICERD	ICERD ^b	CEDAW	CEDH	CEDH ^c	CEDH-P7	ACHPR	ACHR	ICPPT	ICFDP
ALGERIA/ALGERIE/ALGERIA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X			
ARGENTINA/ARGENTINE	X	X	X	X	X	X		X					X	X	X
BANGLADESH	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	X
BOLIVIA/BOLIVIE/BOLIVIA	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	X
BRAZIL/BRESIL/BRAZIL	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	
BURKINA FASO	X	X	X	X		X		X				X			
CAMEROON/CAMEROUN/ CAMEROON	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X			
CHAD/TCHAD/CHAD	X	X	X	X		X		X				X			
CHILE/CHILI/CHILE	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	
COLOMBIA/COLOMBIE/															
COLOMBIA	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	
CONGO	X	X	X	X		X		X				X			
CONGO (Rep. Dem.)															
CONGO (Rep Dem.)															
CONGO (Dem. Rep.)	X	X	X	X		X		X							
COREA (Rep.)															
COREE (Rép.)															
KOREA (Rep.)	X	X	X	X		X		X							
CROACIA/CROATIE/CROATIA	X	X	X	X		X		X			X				
CUBA															
ECUADOR/EQUATEUR/ECUADOR	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	
EGYPTO/ EGYPT/ EGYPT	X	X	X	X		X		X				X			
EL SALVADOR	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	
FILIPINAS/PHILIPPINES/															
PHILIPPINES	X	X	X	X		X		X							
GEORGIA/GEORGIE/GEORGIA	X	X	X	X		X		X			X				
GRECIA/GREECE/GREECE	X	X	X	X		X		X			X				
GUATEMALA	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	X
ISLA MAURICIO/ILE MAURICE/ MAURITIUS ISLAND	X	X	X	X		X		X				X			
INDIA/INDE/INDIA	X	X	X	X		X		X							

Ultima confirmacion/ Situation au/ Last updated : 22/02/2001 - Sitio web/ Site web/ Website :

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(Organization of African Unity)
 (Organization of American States)
 (Comision Interamericana de Derechos Humanos)



ESTADOS/ETATS/ STATES	ICESCR	ICCPR	OP1	CAT	CAT ^a	ICERD	ICERD ^b	CEDAW	CEDH	CEDH ^c	CEDH-P7	ACHPR	ACHR	ICPPT	ICFDP
INDONESIA/INDONESIE//INDONESIA				X		X		X							
IRAN	X	X				X									
ISRAEL	X	X		X		X		X							
JORDANIA/JORDANIE/JORDAN	X	X		X		X		X							
KIRGUISTAN/KIRGHIZISTAN/															
KYRGYZSTAN	X	X	X			X		X							
LIBANO/LIBAN/LEBANON	X	X		X		X		X							
LIBIA/LIBYE/LYBIA	X	X	X			X		X			X				
MALASIA/MALAYSIE/MALAYSIA															
MARRUECOS/MAROC/MOROCCO	X	X		X		X		X							
MEXICO/MEXIQUE/ MEXICO	X	X		X		X		X					X	X	
NAMIBIA/NAMIBIE/ NAMIBIA	X	X	X			X		X			X				
NEPAL	X	X	X			X		X							
NICARAGUA	X	X	X			X		X					X	X	
NIGERIA	X	X				X		X				X			
PAKISTAN						X		X							
PALESTINO/PALESTINE/ PALESTINE															
PERU/PERO U/PERU	X	X	X	X		X	X	X					X	X	
RUSIA/RUSSE/RUSSIA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X				
RUANDA/RWANDA/RWANDA	X	X				X		X				X			
SUDAN/SOUDAN/SUDAN	X	X				X		X				X			
TOGO	X	X	X			X		X				X			
TUNEZ/TUNISIE/TUNISIA	X	X		X		X		X				X			
TURQUIA/TURQUIE/TURKEY				X		X		X	X						
UGANDA/UGANDA/UGANDA	X	X	X			X		X							
UZBEKISTAN/OUZBEKISTAN/															
UZBEKISTAN	X	X	X	X		X		X							
UZBEKISTAN	X	X	X	X		X		X							
VENEZUELA	X	X	X	X		X		X					X	X	X
VIETNAM	X	X				X		X							
YEMEN	X	X		X		X		X							
YUGOSLAVIA (Rep. Fed.)															
YUGOSLAVIE (Rép Fed.)															
YUGOSLAVIA (Fed. Rep.)	X	X		X		X		X							
ZIMBABWE	X	X				X		X				X			



List of abbreviations

International instruments

ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
OP1	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
CAT	Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CATa	Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications of individuals (art.21 -22 CAT)
ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICERDb	Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications of individuals (art 14 ICRED)
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women

Regional instruments

Council of Europe

CEDH	European Convention on Human Rights
CEDHc	Declaration regarding article 25 of the European Convention (rights of individual recourses)
CEDH P 7	Protocol N° 7 to the European Convention (recognition of news rights)

Organization of African Unity

ACHPR	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
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Organization of American States

ACHR	American Convention on Human Rights
ICPPT	Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture
ICFDP	Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons