



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
27 December 2019

Original: English

---

## Human Rights Council

### Forty-third session

24 February–20 March 2020

Agenda item 2

### Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

## Conclusions and recommendations of special procedures

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### I. Introduction

1. The Human Rights Council, in its decision 2/102, requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue their activities in accordance with all previous decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and to update the relevant reports and studies.

2. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2004/76, requested the Secretary-General to issue annually conclusions and recommendations of the special procedures so as to enable further discussion of their implementation. The Commission also requested the High Commissioner to continue to prepare a comprehensive and regularly updated electronic compilation of recommendations made by the special procedures by country, where such did not yet exist. In paragraph 29 of the annex to its resolution 65/281, the General Assembly provided that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) would continue to maintain information on special procedures in a comprehensive and easily accessible manner.

3. The Secretary-General draws the attention of the Human Rights Council to the conclusions and recommendations included in annual reports and the relevant addenda thereto, submitted by the special procedures to the Council in 2019 at its fortieth, forty-first and forty-second sessions and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.<sup>1</sup>

#### II. Conclusions and recommendations

4. In 2019, special procedure mandate holders presented 136 reports to the Human Rights Council. They also presented 46 reports to the General Assembly. The recommendations of special procedures are also available, searchable by country, in the Universal Human Rights Index.

---

<sup>1</sup> Available from [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org).



## A. Thematic reports

5. As illustrated by the list of themes addressed by special procedure mandate holders in their reports in 2019 (see annex), a variety of issues have been examined, and States and other stakeholders have been provided with advice on promoting and protecting human rights at the national, regional and international levels. In producing their reports, mandate holders have addressed specific recommendations not only to States and other actors but also to the United Nations, as their reports also relate to various aspects of the work of the United Nations.

6. Several reports related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. They included the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, which focused on the implementation of the right to education and of Goal 4 in the context of the growth of private actors in education (A/HRC/41/37); the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, which addressed the right to food in the context of the Goals (A/74/164); and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, which focused on civil society participation in the implementation of the Goals (A/74/349) and on practical recommendations for the participation of civil society in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/HRC/41/41/Add.2). The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia focused on the implementation of the Goals in Cambodia and specifically assessed those at risk of being left behind (A/HRC/42/60 and A/HRC/42/60/Add.1).

7. Access to justice was repeatedly addressed by different mandate holders. The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context looked into access to justice for the right to housing (A/HRC/40/61), while the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism addressed the right to access to justice for persons with albinism (A/HRC/40/62). The Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples looked more generally at the question of indigenous peoples and justice (A/HRC/42/37), while the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders addressed, *inter alia*, access to justice, in his report on impunity (A/74/159).

8. The gender perspective and women's human rights featured prominently, with, for example, a report on the gender dimensions of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/41/43). Moreover, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders addressed the situation of women human rights defenders (A/HRC/40/60), while the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination focused on the gendered human rights impacts of private military and security companies (A/74/244). The Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment addressed the relevance of the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to the context of domestic violence (A/74/148).

9. Furthermore, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences focused on a human rights-based approach to mistreatment and violence against women in reproductive health services, with a focus on childbirth and obstetric violence (A/74/137). The Working Group on discrimination against women and girls addressed women's deprivation of liberty (A/HRC/41/33). Lastly, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants produced two studies, one on the impact of migration on migrant women and girls (A/HRC/41/38) and another on good practices and initiatives on gender-responsive migration legislation and policies (A/74/191).

10. There was also a focus on prevention, with the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education who focused on the right to education and the prevention of atrocity crimes and mass or grave human rights violations (A/74/243). In this context, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence examined practical experiences of domestic reparation programmes (A/HRC/42/45) and addressed the question of apologies for gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law (A/74/147).

11. Several reports related to migration issues. The Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity looked at the criminalization or suppression of the rendering of humanitarian assistance to migrants and refugees who enter a State in an irregular manner (A/HRC/41/44). The focus of the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants was on the impact of migration on migrant women and girls (A/HRC/41/38) and on good practices and initiatives on gender-responsive migration legislation and policies (A/74/191).

12. The environment also featured prominently, with a report on climate change and poverty by the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights (A/HRC/41/39 and Corr.1) as well as a report on the right to development and disaster risk reduction by the Special Rapporteur on the right to development (A/74/163). The reports of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment focused on the right to breathe clean air (A/HRC/40/55) and on climate change (A/74/161).

13. Emerging issues such as the impact of new technologies on human rights were addressed in the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which looked into surveillance and human rights (A/HRC/41/35) and hate speech online (A/74/486); in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, which focused on surveillance and health data (A/74/277); in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, which looked at opportunities and challenges facing the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in the digital age (A/HRC/41/41); and in the report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, which addressed the impact of the use of digital technologies in social protection systems on the enjoyment of human rights (A/74/493).

## **B. Country reports**

14. Over the three sessions of the Human Rights Council, 62 country reports were presented by thematic mandate holders. The annex contains a detailed list of all the country reports.

15. Fifteen visit reports concerned African countries: Botswana (Special Rapporteur on minority issues), Cabo Verde (Special Rapporteur on the right to development), Chad (Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination), Egypt (Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context), Kenya (Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, and Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises), Lesotho (Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation), Morocco (Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance), Mozambique (Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons), Niger (Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants), Nigeria (Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children) and Tunisia (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, and Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association).

16. Seventeen visit reports concerned countries in the Asia-Pacific region: Bhutan (Working Group on Arbitrary Detention), Fiji (Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism), Indonesia (Special Rapporteur on the right to food), Kyrgyzstan (Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health), Lao People's Democratic Republic (Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, and Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights), Malaysia (Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Special Rapporteur

on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation), Nepal (Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences), Republic of Korea (Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context), Saudi Arabia (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism), Sri Lanka (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights), Thailand (Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises), Timor-Leste (Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples) and Viet Nam (Special Rapporteur on the right to food).

17. Nine visit reports relating to Eastern Europe were presented: Armenia (Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association), Georgia (Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity), Poland (Working Group on discrimination against women and girls), Republic of Moldova (Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders), Serbia and Kosovo<sup>2</sup> (Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment), Slovenia (Special Rapporteur on minority issues) and Ukraine (Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances).

18. Eight visit reports related to Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina (Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent), Ecuador (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples), Honduras (Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Working Group on discrimination against women and girls) and Uruguay (Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons).

19. Thirteen visit reports related to countries in the Group of Western European and Other States: Austria (Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination), Belgium (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent), Canada (Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences), France (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities), Ireland (Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material), Italy (Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences), the Netherlands (Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity), Sweden (Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, and Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance).

20. In addition, the following country mandate holders presented reports about the situation in the country they have been mandated to report on: Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Independent

<sup>2</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan.

21. The Sustainable Development Goals were covered in several recommendations in country reports. The Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material referred to them in regard to her visit to Malaysia (A/HRC/40/51/Add.3) and to the Lao People's Democratic Republic (A/HRC/40/51/Add.1). The Special Rapporteur on the right to food addressed the Goals in her conclusions following her visit to Viet Nam (A/HRC/40/56/Add.1), as did the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, following his visits to Ukraine (A/HRC/40/57/Add.1) and to Sri Lanka (A/HRC/40/57/Add.2), the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in regard to her visits to the Republic of Korea (A/HRC/40/61/Add.1) and to Egypt (A/HRC/40/61/Add.2), and the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, following her visits to Fiji (A/HRC/40/62/Add.1) and to Kenya (A/HRC/40/62/Add.3).

22. Furthermore, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association included the Sustainable Development Goals in his recommendations to Tunisia (A/HRC/41/41/Add.3) and to Armenia (A/HRC/41/41/Add.4), as did the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity in his reports on the Netherlands (A/HRC/41/44/Add.2) and on Sweden (A/HRC/41/44/Add.1), as well as the Special Rapporteur on the right to development following his mission to Cabo Verde (A/HRC/42/38/Add.1). The 2030 Agenda was also addressed by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in her report on Italy (A/HRC/42/44/Add.1), by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation after his visit to Lesotho (A/HRC/42/47/Add.1), by the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent following visits to Belgium (A/HRC/42/59/Add.1) and to Argentina (A/HRC/42/59/Add.2), and by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia following her visits to that country (A/HRC/42/60 and A/HRC/42/60/Add.1).

23. The question of migration featured in the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, following her visit to Malaysia, of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in his report on Serbia and Kosovo (A/HRC/40/59/Add.1), of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, after her visit to the Republic of Korea, of the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, following its visit to Honduras (A/HRC/41/33/Add.1), and of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in the context of his visits to Kyrgyzstan (A/HRC/41/34/Add.1) and to Canada (A/HRC/41/34/Add.2). Migration was naturally omnipresent in the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants following his visit to the Niger (A/HRC/41/38/Add.1).

24. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences further addressed migration in her report on her visit to Canada (A/HRC/41/42/Add.1), as did the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises after its visit to Thailand (A/HRC/41/43/Add.1), the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity in his report on the Netherlands and Sweden, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, following her visit to Nigeria (A/HRC/41/46/Add.1), as well as the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in her reports on Morocco (A/HRC/41/54/Add.1) and on the United Kingdom (A/HRC/41/54/Add.2). Migration was also covered by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in her report on Italy, by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, in its report on its visit to Austria

(A/HRC/42/42/Add.2), and by the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent following visits to Belgium and Argentina.

25. Conclusions and recommendations on the environment were made by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food following her visit to Viet Nam, by the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights in his report on his visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic (A/HRC/41/39/Add.2 and Corr.1), by the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises after its visits to Thailand and to Kenya (A/HRC/41/43/Add.2), and by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in her reports on Ecuador (A/HRC/42/37/Add.1) and on Timor-Leste (A/HRC/42/37/Add.2).

26. Lastly, several special procedure mandate holders presented reports on follow-up to visits. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression made recommendations within the follow-up to the visits to Côte d'Ivoire (2004), Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory (2011), Honduras (2012), Japan (2016) and Turkey (2016) (A/HRC/41/35/Add.2). The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances presented a report on the follow-up to visits to Peru and Sri Lanka (A/HRC/42/40/Add.1). The Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation produced four separate reports on follow-up to visits to Portugal, El Salvador, Botswana and Tajikistan (A/HRC/42/47/Add.3-Add.6).

### **C. Communications reports**

27. The special procedure mandate holders presented three communications report, one at each session of the Human Rights Council. The March report contained communications sent by all mandate holders between 1 June and 30 November 2018 (A/HRC/40/79), the June report contained the communications that had been sent by all mandate holders between 1 December 2018 and 28 February 2019 (A/HRC/41/56) and the September report contained the communications sent by all mandate holders between 1 March and 31 May 2019 (A/HRC/42/65).

28. Several mandate holders also presented reports containing observations on communications sent and responses received: the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (A/HRC/40/60/Add.1 and Corr.1), the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (A/HRC/41/36/Add.1) and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (A/HRC/41/41/Add.1).

### **D. Other reports**

29. The Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures presented the report on the twenty-fifth annual meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives, independent experts and Chairs of working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including updated information on special procedures (A/HRC/40/38). The report was accompanied by an addendum with relevant facts and figures (A/HRC/40/38/Add.1). The report contains information on what has been achieved by mandate holders individually and as a system in 2019.

30. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues presented a report containing the recommendations made at the eleventh session of the Forum on Minority Issues, which was held on 29 and 30 November 2018 and considered the theme "Statelessness: a minority issue" (A/HRC/40/71).

31. The Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, presented a report entitled "Guiding principles on human rights impact assessments of economic reforms" (A/HRC/40/57).

32. The Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights presented a report to mark the tenth anniversary of the mandate and took the opportunity to suggest strategies for advancing cultural rights during the next decade (A/HRC/40/53).

33. The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism presented a report on a round table on human rights and albinism which focused on seeking consensus and priorities on advocacy and research (A/HRC/40/62/Add.2).

34. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression presented a report giving an overview of submissions received for the preparation of his thematic report on surveillance and human rights (A/HRC/41/35/Add.3), as well as a summary of an expert consultation held as part of the preparation of the thematic report (A/HRC/41/35/Add.4).

35. The Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises presented a report describing the proceedings and thematic recommendations of the seventh Forum on Business and Human Rights, held from 26 to 28 November 2018 in Geneva (A/HRC/41/49). The title of the 2018 Forum was “Business respect for human rights – building on what works”.

36. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons presented a report on the global and national activities under the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (A/HRC/41/40/Add.1).

37. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences presented a report on the 25 years of the mandate: an analysis of its evolution, current challenges and the way forward (A/HRC/41/42 and Corr.1).

38. The Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance presented a report on combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, with a specific analysis of efforts by contemporary Nazi, neo-Nazi and other extremist groups to recruit and radicalize young people (A/HRC/41/55) and another report on antisemitism within this same framework (A/74/253).

39. The Special Rapporteur on the right to development presented a report on guidelines and recommendations on the practical implementation of the right to development (A/HRC/42/38).

40. The Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes presented a report on principles on human rights and the protection of workers from exposure to toxic substances (A/HRC/42/41).

41. Finally, the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights presented elements for a draft General Assembly declaration on unilateral coercive measures and the rule of law (A/HRC/42/46/Add.1).

### **III. Human Rights Council sessions overview**

#### **A. Fortieth session of the Human Rights Council**

42. At the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council, the following 19 special procedure mandate holders – 14 holders of thematic mandates and 5 holders of country mandates – presented their annual reports:

- Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief
- Special Rapporteur on the right to food
- Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment
- Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
- Special Rapporteur on minority issues

- Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material
- Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights
- Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights
- Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
- Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism
- Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy
- Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.

43. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea participated in the enhanced interactive dialogue on Eritrea, and the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic participated in the high-level interactive dialogue on the Central African Republic.

## **B. Forty-first session of the Human Rights Council**

44. At the forty-first session of the Human Rights Council, the following 19 special procedure mandate holders – 17 holders of thematic mandates and 2 holders of country mandates – presented their annual reports:

- Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights
- Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
- Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers
- Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons
- Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
- Special Rapporteur on the right to education
- Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
- Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants
- Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children
- Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences
- Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity
- Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Working Group on discrimination against women and girls



- Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises
- Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members
- Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea.

45. The Council heard oral updates from the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic.

### **C. Forty-second session of the Human Rights Council**

46. At the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council, the following 16 special procedure mandate holders – 12 holders of thematic mandates and 4 holders of country mandates – presented their annual reports:

- Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
- Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes
- Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
- Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
- Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
- Special Rapporteur on the right to development
- Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences
- Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence
- Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
- Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
- Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
- Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan.

47. The Council heard an oral update from the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar.

## Annex

### Overview of reports presented by special procedure mandate holders in 2019

---

#### *Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/59) – Report of the Working Group on its twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions, on the theme of data for racial justice

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/59/Add.2 and A/HRC/42/59/Add.1) – Missions to Argentina and Belgium

General Assembly (A/74/274) – Addressing negative racial stereotypes and stereotyping of people of African descent

---

#### *Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/62) – Right to access to justice for persons with albinism

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/62/Add.2) – Round table on human rights and albinism: seeking consensus and priorities on advocacy and research

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/62/Add.1 and A/HRC/40/62/Add.3) – Missions to Fiji and Kenya

General Assembly (A/74/190) – Albinism worldwide

---

#### *Working Group on Arbitrary Detention*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/39) – Annual report

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/39/Add.1) – Mission to Bhutan

---

#### *Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/43) – Gender dimensions of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/49) – Seventh session of the Forum on Business and Human Rights

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/43/Add.2 and A/HRC/41/43/Add.1) – Missions to Kenya and Thailand

General Assembly (A/74/198) – Policy coherence on business and human rights in practice

---

#### *Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/53) – Cultural rights: tenth anniversary report

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/53/Add.1) – Mission to Malaysia

General Assembly (A/74/255) – Importance of public spaces for the exercise of cultural rights

---

#### *Special Rapporteur on the right to development*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/38) – Guidelines and recommendations on the practical implementation of the right to development

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/38/Add.1) – Mission to Cabo Verde

General Assembly (A/74/163) – Right to development and disaster risk reduction

---

---

*Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/54) – Disability-specific forms of deprivation of liberty

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/54/Add.1) – Mission to France

General Assembly (A/74/186) – Rights of older persons with disabilities

---

*Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/40) – Annual report

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/40/Add.2) – Mission to Ukraine

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/40/Add.1) – Follow-up on the visits to Peru and Sri Lanka

General Assembly (seventy-fourth session) – Interactive dialogue only

---

*Special Rapporteur on the right to education*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/37) – Implementation of the right to education and Sustainable Development Goal 4 in the context of the growth of private actors in education

General Assembly (A/74/243) – Right to education and the prevention of atrocity crimes and mass or grave human rights violations

---

*Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/55) – Right to breathe clean air

General Assembly (A/74/161) – Climate change

---

*Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/36) – Investigation of, accountability for and prevention of intentional State killings of human rights defenders, journalists and prominent dissidents

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/36/Add.1) – Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies received

General Assembly (A/74/318) – Application of the death penalty to foreign nationals and the provision of consular assistance by the home State

---

*Special Rapporteur on the right to food*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/56) – Right to food for fishery workers

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/56/Add.3, A/HRC/40/56/Add.2 and A/HRC/40/56/Add.1) – Missions to Argentina, Indonesia and Viet Nam

General Assembly (A/74/164) – Sustainable Development Goals

---

*Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/57) – Guiding principles on human rights impact assessments of economic reforms

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/57/Add.2 and A/HRC/40/57/Add.1) – Missions to Sri Lanka and Ukraine

General Assembly (A/74/178) – Responsibility for complicity of international financial institutions in human rights violations in the context of retrogressive economic reforms

---

---

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/35) – Surveillance and human rights  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/35/Add.1) – Mission to Ecuador  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/35/Add.2) – Follow-up report on country visits  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/35/Add.3) – Overview of submissions received  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/35/Add.4) – Summary of a consultation of experts  
General Assembly (A/74/486) – Hate speech online

---

*Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/41) – Opportunities and challenges facing the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in the digital age  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/41/Add.2) – Civil society participation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/41/Add.1) – Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies received  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/41/Add.4 and A/HRC/41/41/Add.3) – Missions to Armenia and Tunisia  
General Assembly (A/74/349) – Impact of violations to the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association on sustainable development

---

*Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/41) – Principles on human rights and the protection of workers from exposure to toxic substances  
General Assembly (A/74/480) – The duty to prevent exposure

---

*Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/34) – The critical role of the social and underlying determinants of health in advancing the realization of the right to mental health  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/34/Add.2 and A/HRC/41/34/Add.1) – Missions to Canada and Kyrgyzstan  
General Assembly (A/74/174) – Health-care workers

---

*Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/61) – Access to justice for the right to housing  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/61/Add.2 and A/HRC/40/61/Add.1) – Missions to Egypt and the Republic of Korea  
General Assembly (A/74/183) – Right to housing for indigenous peoples

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/60) – Situation of women human rights defenders  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/60/Add.1 and Corr.1) – Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies received  
Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/60/Add.2 and A/HRC/40/60/Add.3) – Missions to Honduras and the Republic of Moldova

General Assembly (A/74/159) – Impunity for human rights violations committed against human rights defenders

---

*Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/48) – Exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly by judges and prosecutors, both offline and online

General Assembly (A/74/176) – Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary

---

*Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/37) – Rights of indigenous peoples and justice

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/37/Add.1 and A/HRC/42/37/Add.2) – Missions to Ecuador and Timor-Leste

General Assembly (A/74/149) – The right of indigenous peoples to autonomy or self-government

---

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/40) – Internal displacement and the role of national human rights institutions

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/40/Add.1) – Global and national activities under the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

General Assembly (A/74/261) – Internally displaced children

---

*Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/48) – Public participation and decision-making in global governance spaces and its impact on a democratic and equitable international order

General Assembly (A/74/245) – Public participation and decision-making in global governance spaces and its impact on a democratic and equitable international order

---

*Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/44) – Criminalization or suppression of the rendering of humanitarian assistance to migrants and refugees who enter a State in an irregular manner

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/44/Add.2 and A/HRC/41/44/Add.1) – Missions to the Netherlands and Sweden

General Assembly (A/74/185) – Global refugee protection and human rights-based international solidarity

---

*Special Rapporteur on the elimination of the discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/47) – Stigmatization as dehumanization: wrongful stereotyping and structural violence against women and children affected by leprosy

---

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/42) – Relationship between private military and security companies and the extractive industry from a human rights perspective

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/42/Add.2 and A/HRC/42/42/Add.1) – Missions to Austria and Chad

---

---

General Assembly (A/74/244) – Gendered human rights impacts of private military and security companies

---

---

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/38) – The impact of migration on migrant women and girls: a gender perspective

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/38/Add.1) – Mission to Niger

General Assembly (A/74/191) – Good practices and initiatives on gender-responsive migration legislation and policies

---

*Special Rapporteur on minority issues*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/64) – Update on activities

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/71) – Recommendations of the Forum on Minority Issues at its eleventh session on the theme “Statelessness: a minority issue”

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/64/Add.2 and A/HRC/40/64/Add.1) – Missions to Botswana and Slovenia

General Assembly (A/74/160) – Concept of a minority in the United Nations system

---

*Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/43) – Human rights protection of older persons in emergency situations

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/43/Add.2 and A/HRC/42/43/Add.1) – Missions to Mozambique and Uruguay

General Assembly (seventy-fourth session) – Interactive dialogue only

---

*Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/39 and Corr.1) – Climate change and poverty

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/39/Add.2 and Corr.1, and A/HRC/41/39/Add.1) – Missions to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

General Assembly (A/74/493) – Impact of the use of digital technologies in social protection systems on the enjoyment of human rights

---

*Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/63) – Security and surveillance, a gender perspective on the right to privacy, and privacy and health data

General Assembly (A/74/277) – Recommendation on the protection and use of health-related data

---

*Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/54) – Global extractivism and racial equality

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/55) – Contemporary manifestations of Nazism and neo-Nazism

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/54/Add.1 and A/HRC/41/54/Add.2) – Missions to Morocco and the United Kingdom

General Assembly (A/74/321) – Human rights obligations of Member States in relation to reparations for racial discrimination rooted in slavery and colonialism

General Assembly (A/74/253) – Antisemitic violence and related acts of racism and intolerance

---

---

*Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/58) – Freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/58/Add.1) – Mission to Tunisia

General Assembly (A/74/358) – Combating antisemitism to eliminate discrimination and intolerance based on religion or belief

---

*Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/51) – Sale and sexual exploitation of children in the context of sports

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/51/Add.2, A/HRC/40/51/Add.1 and A/HRC/40/51/Add.3) – Missions to Ireland, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Malaysia

General Assembly (A/74/162) – Safeguards for the protection of the rights of children born from surrogacy arrangements

---

*Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/45) – Data collection and management as a means to create heightened awareness on violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/45/Add.1 and A/HRC/41/45/Add.2) – Missions to Georgia and Mozambique

General Assembly (A/74/181) – Discriminatory laws and sociocultural norms

---

*Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/44) – Contemporary forms of slavery

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/44/Add.1) – Mission to Italy

General Assembly (A/74/179) – Child slavery

---

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/52) – Impact of measures to address terrorism and violent extremism on civic space and the rights of civil society actors and human rights defenders

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/52/Add.5, A/HRC/40/52/Add.4, A/HRC/40/52/Add.2, A/HRC/40/52/Add.3 and A/HRC/40/52/Add.1) – Missions to Belgium, France, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Tunisia

General Assembly (A/74/335) – Role of “soft law” and new institutions in the creation, enforcement, oversight and regulation of counter-terrorism measures

---

*Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/59) – Relationship between corruption and torture or ill-treatment

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/59/Add.2, A/HRC/40/59/Add.1 and A/HRC/40/59/Add.3) – Missions to Argentina, Serbia and Kosovo<sup>3</sup> and Ukraine

---

<sup>3</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).



---

General Assembly (A/74/148) – Relevance of the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to the context of domestic violence

---

*Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/46) – Innovative and transformative models of social inclusion of survivors of trafficking in persons into societies

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/46/Add.1) – Mission to Nigeria

General Assembly (A/74/189) – Access to remedy for victims of trafficking for abuses committed by businesses and their suppliers

---

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/45) – Practical experiences of domestic reparation programmes

General Assembly (A/74/147) – Apologies for gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law

---

*Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/46) – Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/46/Add.1) – Elements for a draft General Assembly declaration on unilateral coercive measures and the rule of law

General Assembly (A/74/165) – Legal issues arising from the practice of actual blockades and economic sanctions amounting to de facto blockades

---

*Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/42 and Corr.1) – Twenty-five years of the mandate: an analysis of its evolution, current challenges and the way forward

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/42/Add.1 and A/HRC/41/42/Add.2) – Missions to Canada and Nepal

General Assembly (A/74/137) – A human rights-based approach to mistreatment and violence against women in reproductive health services with a focus on childbirth and obstetric violence

---

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47) – Human rights to water and sanitation in spheres of life beyond the household with an emphasis on public spaces

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47/Add.5) – Follow-up on the visit to Botswana

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47/Add.4) – Follow-up on the visit to El Salvador

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47/Add.3) – Follow-up on the visit to Portugal

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47/Add.6) – Follow-up on the visit to Tajikistan

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/47/Add.1 and A/HRC/42/47/Add.2) – Missions to Lesotho and Malaysia

General Assembly (A/74/197) – Megaprojects and the right to water and sanitation

---

*Working Group on discrimination against women and girls*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/33) – Women deprived of liberty

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/33/Add.1 and A/HRC/41/33/Add.2) – Missions to Honduras and Poland

---

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/52) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

General Assembly (A/74/196) – Structural conditions that hamper the conduct of elections

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/60) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country and an analysis of Cambodia and the Sustainable Development Goals

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/60/Add.1) – Assessing protection of those at risk of being left behind

---

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/61) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/66) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

General Assembly (A/74/275 and Rev.1) – Overview of recent developments in the human rights situation in the country

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/41/53) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/67) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country, with a focus on the execution of child offenders

General Assembly (A/74/188) – Situation of ethnic and religious minorities

---

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/77) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/68) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

General Assembly (A/74/342) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

---

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/40/73) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, with a focus on access to natural resources and environmental degradation

General Assembly (A/74/507) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967

---

---

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/62) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

General Assembly (A/74/166) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country (Human Rights Council report transmitted to the General Assembly)

---

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan*

---

Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/63) – Annual report on the situation of human rights in the country

---

---