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Help

The Human Rights Council has three tools at its disposal. These are

- (i) a *complaints mechanism* "to address consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations" of human rights;
- (ii) the "*universal periodic review*" (UPR), which is an intergovernmental peer review process assessing States' compliance with the human rights treaties they are parties to, but also with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Charter, and the pledges and commitments made by the State concerned, including pledges made upon seeking membership in the Human Rights Council; and
- (iii) the *Special Procedures*, which are independent experts appointed to report to the Human Rights Council on certain thematic issues or on certain countries where the human rights situation is particularly problematic. In addition, the Human Rights Council may convene special sessions on issues requiring its urgent attention.



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