



# United Nations Human Rights Report 2020



# **United Nations Human Rights Report 2020**



## **Credits**

### **In memoriam**

UN Human Rights staff members, Habib Nasri, Malaz Wagialla Osman Wagialla and Willington Pinzón, who passed away in 2020.

With special recognition to staff members who lost loved ones in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and were unable to return home due to their deployment.

### **Prepared by**

Donor and External Relations Section, in consultation with the Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service, for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

### **Design and production by**

UNOG

### **Printed by**

UNOG

### **Photo cover page**

Saliou Dian Diaby, a student involved in Guinea's "Building Back Better" campaign, at an awareness-raising activity in Kipé, Conakry, on Children's Rights Day, 20 November 2020.  
© OHCHR-Guinea

*The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.*

# Table of contents

<b>Foreword by the High Commissioner</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>UN Human Rights in 2020</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Highlights of results</b>	<b>10</b>
• COVID-19 response and recovery: "Build Back Better"	12
• Implementing the OMP in 2020	24
<b>Management</b>	<b>78</b>
• Accountability and governance framework	80
• Results-based management	83
• Organizational development	86
<b>Funding</b>	<b>102</b>
• Funding overview in 2020	104
• Funding trends 2012-2020	112
• Funds administered by UN Human Rights	128
• Financial reports as at 31 December 2020	148
• Donor profiles	188
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>204</b>
• UN Human Rights organization chart	206
• UN Human Rights theory of change	207
• Progress in 2020 towards OMP targets for 2018-2021	208
• Abbreviations and acronyms	213
<b>Online</b>	
<b>UN Human Rights in the field</b>	<b>220</b>
• Africa	225
• Americas	293
• Asia-Pacific	337
• Europe and Central Asia	379
• Middle East and North Africa	413
<b>UN Human Rights at headquarters</b>	<b>448</b>
• Introduction	449
• Pillar results	470
• Organizational effectiveness results	502

## Foreword by the High Commissioner



© OHCHR

2020 was a harrowing year for people around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic raced across pre-existing fault lines in every society, exploiting and enlarging human rights gaps. From discrimination and inequalities in access to core rights and services, such as health care and social protections, to the censorship of criticism – which undermines sound policy and erodes public trust – lethal vulnerabilities have been created.

As we at the UN Human Rights Office stepped up our monitoring and developed new strategies, working methods and data-based analytic tools to anchor human rights in responses to the pandemic, it became obvious that our significant experience in combating discrimination and inequalities makes us highly qualified to help societies to not only recover from the immediate medical and socio-economic wounds – but also to repair key underlying weaknesses.

I am proud of the speed and efficacy with which we shifted to pandemic operations so that we could continue implementing almost all of our planned work – even in the face of budget restrictions – while also addressing the many new challenges posed by the global pandemic with respect to human rights.

This Annual Report outlines a wide variety of examples. We mapped the needs of groups with unequal access to social protection and health care in countries such as Serbia, Ukraine and other European States where vulnerable groups included Roma people, persons with disabilities, homeless people and LGBTI persons. In Serbia, we worked with national partners,

The COVID-19 pandemic raced across pre-existing fault-lines in every society, exploiting and enlarging human rights gaps.

including civil society, Roma representatives and government officials, to produce a deep dive assessment of over 700 Roma settlements – some of them lacking electricity, clean water and sewage systems. This could prove transformative, enabling both the United Nations and national authorities to step up delivery of targeted support.

We provided UN Country Teams across every region with support from development and economic and social rights experts to address the impacts of COVID-19, develop methodologies and present policy options aimed at enhancing revenue generation, social spending and social protection.

Our field presences monitored the situation of older persons and migrants, including many trapped at borders or held in migrant detention centres, for instance in Bolivia, Guatemala and Panama. We also advocated for better access to health care and crucial services for persons with disabilities.

Across nine countries in West Africa, we rapidly mapped differential and often intersectional vulnerabilities based on

gender in order to collect quality data and inform the adoption of human rights-based policy. We also worked with groups of *talibé* children in street situations, who were forced to beg and faced exposure to violence and COVID-19 infection, to integrate them into families or childcare.

In every region, we consistently advocated for medical experts, journalists, human rights defenders and the general public to be able to speak out without fear or censorship. Participation in public decisions is a right. It is also key to shaping better, more effective policies through frank and continuous feedback. And it is the only way to build public trust – which is crucial to navigating any crisis.

We supported increased engagement by civil society and key partners to ensure that any policy is better informed and more effective. Last year, 126 civil society organizations from across Somalia submitted a joint report for their country's third Universal Periodic Review, a coalition of 27 CSOs submitted the first alternative report on Jamaica and Rohingya groups living in the Cox's Bazar refugee camps issued the first UPR report on the situation of Rohingya people in Myanmar.

In Mexico, we helped to set up a Climate Justice Network with more than 25 civil society groups, which issued a joint proposal to the Ministry of Environment that included specific recommendations regarding the integration of human rights into the country's commitments under the Paris Agreement.

And globally, we developed and distributed extensive and practical policy and technical guidance to ensure that human rights are situated at the heart of the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts of States, UN partners, national human rights institutions and civil society. By embedding human rights recommendations within the UN's Common Country Analyses and Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and developing detailed checklists and other evidence-based tools, we helped to translate the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights into practical action – leveraging the full power of the UN family in support of life-saving human rights goals on the ground.

In these pages, you may be surprised to discover a wealth of human stories – stories that highlight the impact of our training programme for human rights defenders in Thailand; provide insights into our work with indigenous communities and business actors in Cambodia and with victims of torture in Lebanon; outline why we have strengthened a partnership with the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; and feature our efforts with WHO and Oxford University to launch a series spotlighting comprehensive sexuality education, contraception, maternal mortality and morbidity and violence against women.

You will also find people speaking out about the need to revisit and reform laws in Sudan; details about our work with Latin American judiciaries to dismantle harmful stereotypes about women and ensure that legal decisions are based

on facts and not beliefs about the roles of women and men; the importance of supporting Syrian civil society actors in their struggle to claim their rights; and how one woman in Kenya, whose child was suffering from lead poisoning, led her community to a groundbreaking court case that may durably alter conditions in communities poisoned by toxic chemicals from extractive industries.

For this – and more – we have many to thank, beginning with you, our donors. Last year, you contributed to our highest-ever level of voluntary financial support, and we, like those who benefit from our work, are truly grateful.

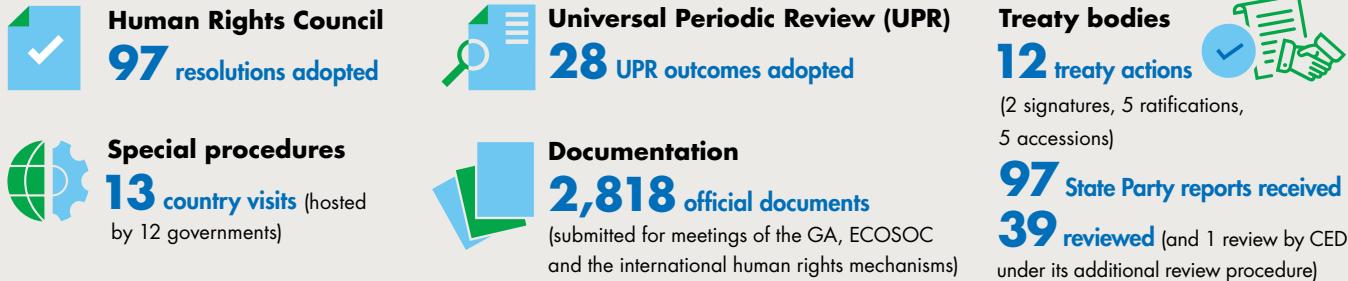
I am convinced that at this crucial moment in history, the work we do can help save societies, economies and individuals from shattering injustice. And I trust that we can continue to count on your support as we look to the future.

Thank you for standing up for human rights.

**Michelle Bachelet**  
High Commissioner for Human Rights  
May 2021

# UN Human Rights in 2020 Facts and figures

## MEMBER STATES COOPERATION



## PEOPLE-CENTRED



## CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

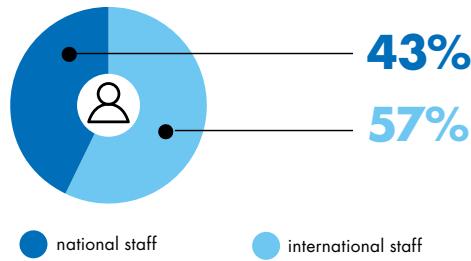


# Global presence in 2020

UN Human Rights is based in

**2** HQ locations + **92** field presences

## Staff distribution by category



**1,551** staff

**147** nationalities

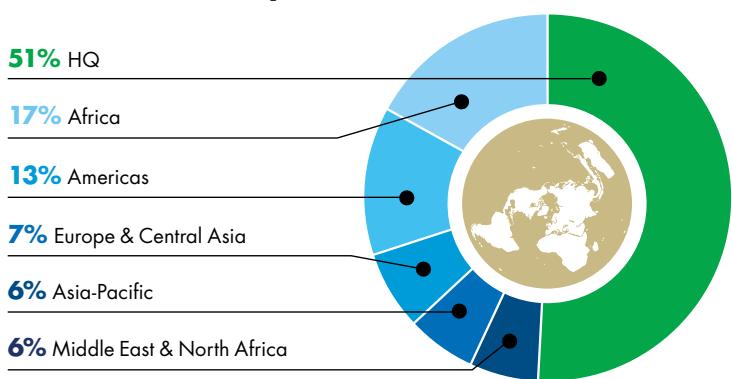
**501** staff in peace missions

**32** JPOs sponsored by **13** Member States

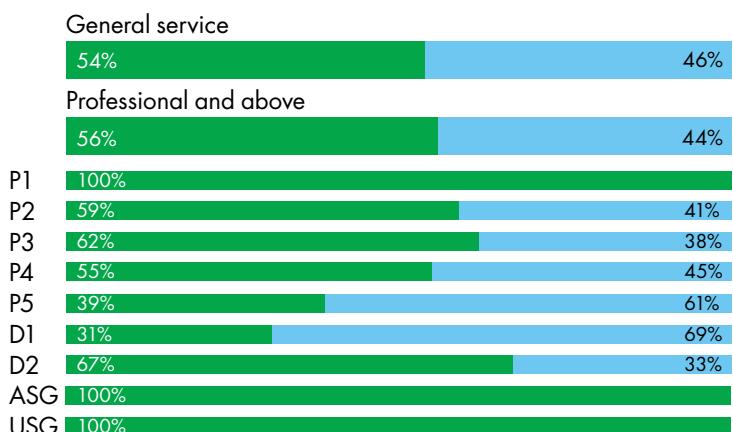
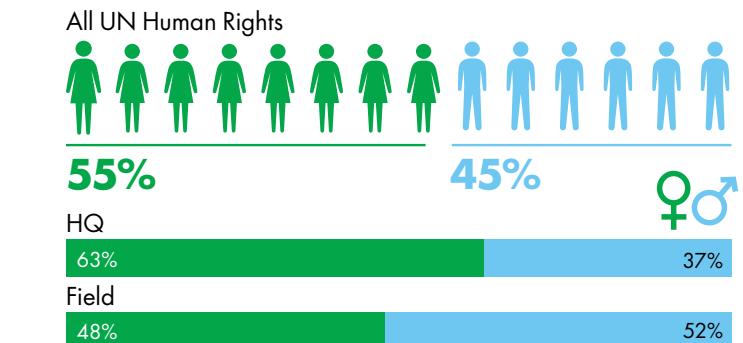
**139** UNVs sponsored by **34** Member States

Notes: The data include all UN Human Rights and UNDP-administered staff in the General Service, National Officer, Professional and higher categories on temporary, permanent, continuing and fixed-term appointments. Locally recruited staff in the General Service category are considered as national staff. HQ includes staff at the Geneva and New York locations.

## Staff distribution by location at HQ and in the field



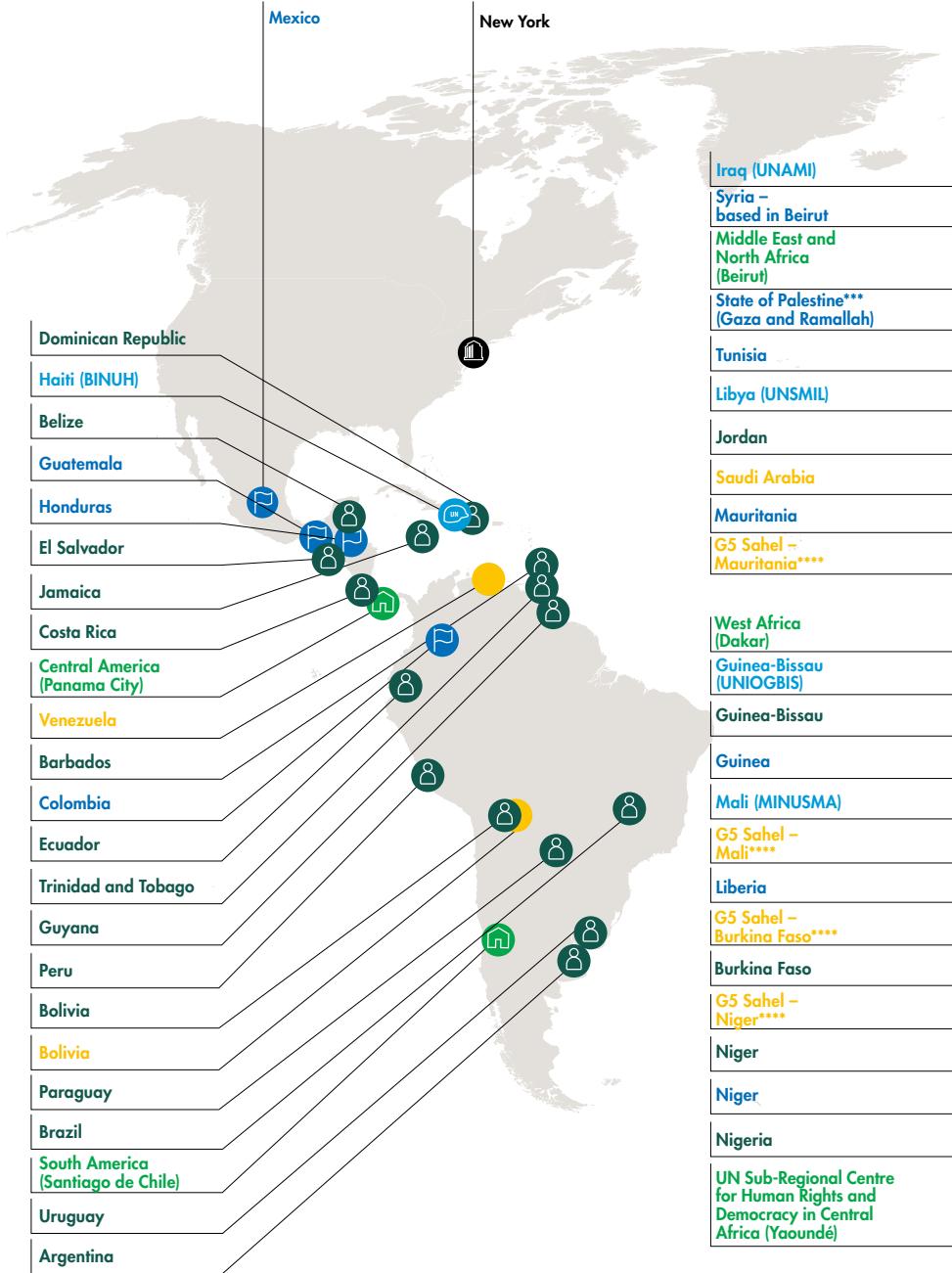
## Staff distribution by gender

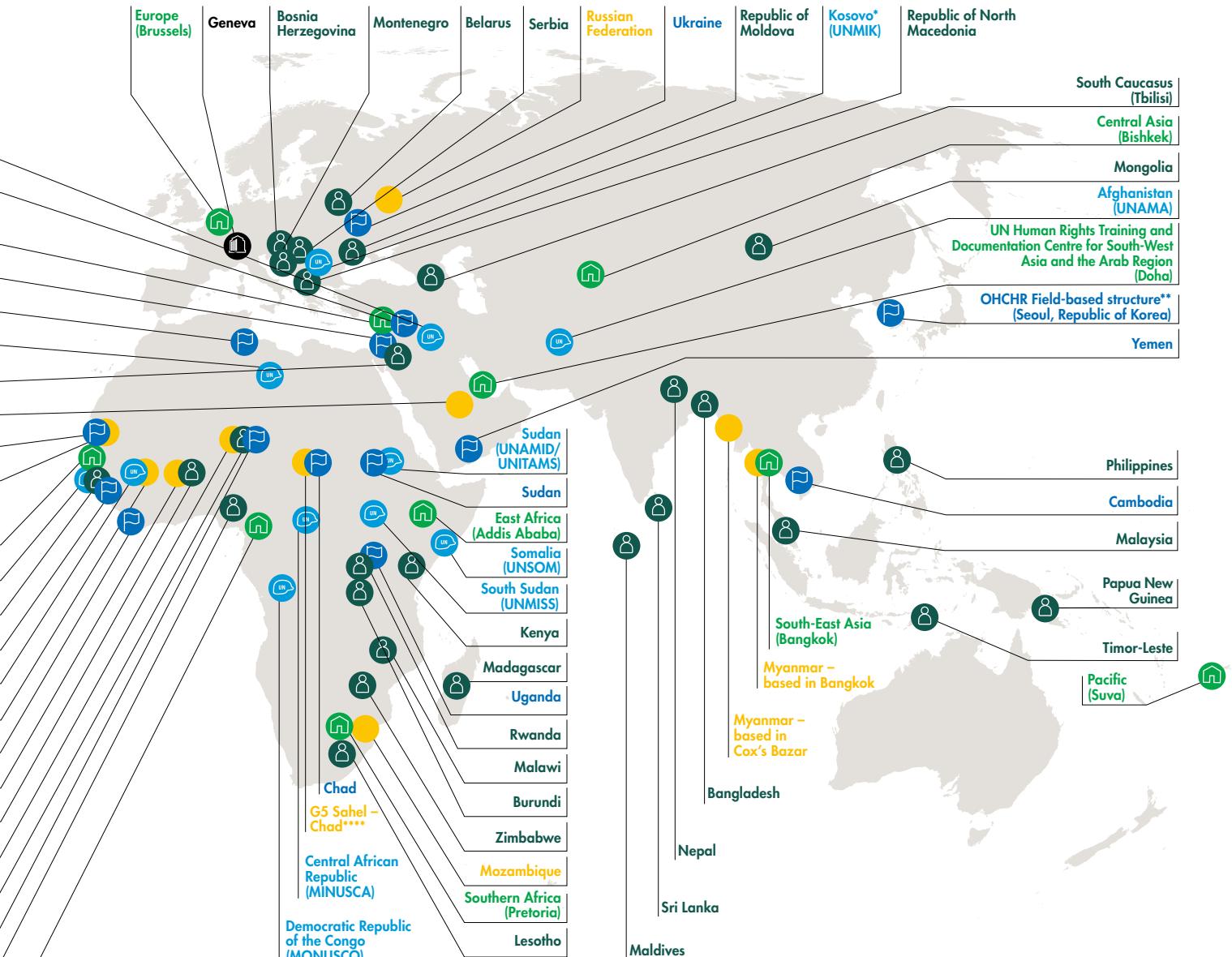


# UN Human Rights around the world in 2020



- 2** Headquarters
- 18** Country/Stand-alone Offices/  
Human Rights Missions
- 12** Regional Offices/Centres
- 12** Human rights components  
of UN Peace/Political Missions
- 43** Human Rights Advisers  
deployed under the  
framework of the UNSDG
- 7** Other types of field presences





\* Reference to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

\*\* Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.

\*\*\* Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

\*\*\*\*G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.





# Highlights of results

UN Human Rights team visiting Mayan weavers in Santiago Sacatepéquez, Guatemala. The Office purchased and distributed 3,000 masks featuring traditional weaving patterns to support local economic development, protect collective intellectual property rights and help fight COVID-19. © OHCHR

# COVID-19 response and recovery: “Build Back Better”

## Three lessons of COVID-19 – by the High Commissioner

Before we begin our discussion of the Office’s work on key aspects of the pandemic, let me outline what I see as the three lessons of COVID-19 to date.

### LESSON ONE

COVID-19 zeroed in on the social and economic fractures created by gaps in human rights protection. As a result of these fault lines, the pandemic moved through societies with accelerated speed, unmasking the profound fragilities created by discrimination and inequalities – not only for the individuals concerned, but for everyone. If those fractures had been fixed, the scale of the medical pandemic, and the vast socio-economic shocks it created, could have been less devastating. Long-standing failures to eradicate discrimination, address inequalities and prioritize the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights, made societies exceedingly vulnerable.

### LESSON TWO

The pandemic clearly demonstrated the powerful and effective protection that is afforded by human rights-based policies and measures. Some countries could count on pre-existing systems to deliver affordable and accessible health care

and well-established social protections to shield people from the worst impacts of the economic and social aftershocks. These investments provided practical, life-saving relief. Sound protection systems are not necessarily expensive or the reserve of wealthy countries. In 2017, ILO showed that a universal social protection scheme that includes allowances for all children, maternity benefits for all women with newborns, benefits for all persons with severe disabilities and universal old age pensions will cost an average of 1.6 per cent of a developing country’s GDP.<sup>1</sup>

Secretary-General Guterres has repeatedly emphasized that the UN’s COVID-19 response must be grounded in human rights because **human rights-based solutions are effective**. The New Social Contract must tackle the roots of inequality by combating discrimination, establishing universally accessible services, including quality education, and giving fair opportunities to all. In repairing the damage that has been done, we need to rebuild just, sustainable and environmentally friendly economies and respect for the human rights of every member of society.

<sup>1</sup> See Isabel Ortiz and others, *Universal social protection floors: costing estimates and affordability in 57 lower income countries*, ESS –Working Paper No. 58, Social Protection Department, ILO (2017).



© OHCHR

### LESSON THREE

Our world will be stronger and more resilient when we can count on **cooperation and solidarity between nations** that is based on mutual support. Without these international and multilateral bonds, the poorest will be set further back and everyone, to varying degrees, will suffer.

In the following section that is dedicated to our COVID-19 response, we summarize and give examples of the extensive body of work our teams undertook in 2020. We will continue this work and strive to do better, because delivering on human rights recommendations means helping to create more sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies in order to build a better future.

## Adapting to COVID-19: UN Human Rights in 2020

COVID-19 has hit societies at their core, with deep and devastating social, economic and political impacts. It has exacerbated existing gaps in human rights protection, leading to increased poverty, exclusion and violence and deepening inequalities. It has led to restrictions on fundamental freedoms and civic space. It has set back progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as key climate goals. As the pandemic surged forward, UN Human Rights ramped up its support to embed effective, human rights-based policies in pandemic responses by States, UN partners, UN Country Teams and other stakeholders. Our monitoring was strengthened to enable a clear focus on the vulnerable people who are most likely to be left behind. Detailed checklists and other evidence-based tools were created to contribute to easily adaptable and immediately effective policies. In every region, we delivered targeted, practical guidance and assistance. We also laid out pathways to ensure that as societies begin to rebuild from this crisis, their recovery efforts can focus on constructing more resilient systems – systems that advance people's rights and dignity and better protect everyone from harm, including harm resulting from climate change.

"With COVID-19, a fast-moving and global health crisis has collided with many slower, and more entrenched, political, social and economic crises around the world. The first lesson of the pandemic is its demonstration of the profound value of human rights-based approaches. Long-term discrimination and inequalities have severely undermined the resilience of all of society – and we need to address them, now."

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, ***Michelle Bachelet***



On 10 December 2020, UN Human Rights celebrated Human Rights Day by reaffirming the importance of placing human rights at the heart of the recovery to build back the world we want. © OHCHR

# Human rights at the heart of the response: Key figures

## GUIDANCE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT



**UN system guidance**  
**1 comprehensive UN-wide policy brief** (on COVID-19 and human rights)  
**18 focused UN policy briefs and technical documents** (on COVID-19 impacts on vulnerable groups and on thematic and geographical issues)



**UN Human Rights guidance**  
**12 targeted guidance notes** (with recommendations for governments, UN bodies and others)



**Socio-economic impacts of COVID-19**  
The Surge Initiative contributed operational advice to  
**59 countries** (on integrating ESCRs, SDGs and human rights-based macroeconomic analyses into responses)

## MONITORING AND REPORTING



**Data and analysis**  
**10 specific indicators developed** (to assess COVID-19 human rights impacts)



**Human rights trends and good practices**  
**1 COVID-19 information management tool created**



**Persons in detention**  
At least **267,500** people benefited from urgent releases/alternatives to detention

## AWARENESS-RAISING AND ADVOCACY



**Human Rights Day #RecoverBetter**  
**90 million** people reached



**Engagement by human rights mechanisms**  
**30 country infographics** (with recommendations)

**Human Rights Council**  
**1st virtual informal conversations** (with the HC and SPs); **1st decision undertaken by silent procedure**

**Treaty bodies**  
**5 detailed guidance notes, 8 legal opinions and 1 toolkit on treaty law and jurisprudence**

**Special procedures**  
**124 press releases, 206 communications, 15 reports and 13 tools**

## ADJUSTING WORKING METHODS



**Human Rights Council and UPR Working Group**  
Annual programme of work completed (remotely or in a hybrid format)



**Treaty bodies**  
**8** (out of 10) migrated their work online



**Human rights training**  
Approximately **58%** of workshops delivered online

# Our COVID-19 response: Examples of UN Human Rights actions

COVID-19 provided an unprecedented opportunity to work collectively to situate human rights principles at the heart of response and recovery efforts. UN Human Rights enhanced its monitoring, reporting and advocacy efforts to address human rights concerns during the crisis. It provided technical advice on laws and policies, issued thematic guidance notes and delivered virtual capacity-building. Field presences documented an array of promising practices that were adopted to alleviate the negative effects of the crisis, particularly those of a socio-economic nature, and could be used to build more equal, inclusive and sustainable societies.

## **SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE AND GROUPS**

The virus may not discriminate, but unequal societies do. Data collected in 2020 showed that people who were already left behind were more likely to be infected by and die of COVID-19. They were also the hardest hit by the socio-economic consequences of the crisis. UN Human Rights contributed to assessing the impacts of COVID-19 on different population groups, building disaggregated data sets and informing policy solutions, with a focus on consolidating accessible health care and social protection systems.



UN Human Rights organized an outdoor exhibition in Kyiv City Centre for Human Rights Day. The exhibition portrayed people in vulnerable situations during COVID-19 and those who helped them, such as this nurse from eastern Ukraine. © Zhenya Pedin

UN Human Rights mapped the needs of groups with unequal access to social protection and health care in Serbia, Ukraine and other European countries – including Roma people, persons with disabilities, homeless people and LGBTI persons. Field presences monitored the situation of older persons and migrants, including those trapped on the borders between two countries or held in centres for migrants in Bolivia, Guatemala or Panama. In West Africa, rapid gender assessments were carried out in nine countries to collect quality data and inform the adoption of sound policies. The Office advocated for inclusive social protection schemes and integrating lessons learned from the crisis into the European Union Green Paper on Ageing and the European Union Disability Strategy.

*A coordination mechanism created between Kyiv City authorities and civil society to address homelessness in the context of the pandemic compiled targeted recommendations that were issued in relation to the human rights impacts of COVID-19 in Ukraine. Stories of vulnerable people and those who helped them were released through key media outlets and on social media platforms to raise awareness about their situation.*



Ameriyah neighbourhood, Baghdad. Twenty murals ranging from 20 to 45 metres were painted on more than half a kilometre of walls in the city, raising awareness about COVID-19 and providing instructions on caring for ill family members at home. © OHCHR-Iraq

UN Human Rights produced a Guidance Note on COVID-19 and women's rights. It was used to raise awareness about gender-based violence (GBV) in countries such as Cambodia, Iraq and Syria and to advocate for support services and the availability of shelters during quarantines and lockdowns, for instance, in Liberia. The Office supported the creation/strengthening of hotlines in Latin America (Colombia, Costa Rica) and the provision of legal aid for GBV survivors (Mexico). In Cambodia, when 30,000 factory workers (mostly women) were subjected to quarantine, UN Human Rights provided support to create safe spaces for women and children in quarantine centres.

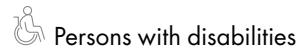
*Standard operating procedures (SOPs) on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) were developed and disseminated in Liberia during lockdown. In Baghdad, 20 murals were painted across the city to increase public awareness regarding human rights concerns that emerged with the spread of COVID-19, such as an increase in the prevalence of GBV and stigma and discrimination directed towards sick persons.*



UN Human Rights staff visiting a childcare facility in the Gambia for children who were removed from the streets. © OHCHR

In Western Africa, UN Human Rights worked with talibé children in street situations, where they were forced to beg and faced exposure to violence and COVID-19 infection, to integrate them into a family environment. The Office and its partners provided support to childcare facilities and families in six countries. At the global level, the Office collaborated with ILO and others to conduct an online survey on youth and COVID-19, which indicated that actions undertaken by youth during the pandemic were key to supporting vulnerable groups, fighting misinformation and saving lives. In Serbia, the Office and a local partner reached 800,000 people through an online campaign to raise the awareness of youth on the human rights impacts of COVID-19.

*More than 2,000 talibé children were reintegrated into their families and 3,000 children were provided with support in childcare facilities (in the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal).*



The Head of the UN Human Rights Regional Office for the Pacific with Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, members of the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation and other partners celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2020. The theme was "Building Back Better." © OHCHR

UN Human Rights engaged with many stakeholders for an inclusive COVID-19 response to address concerns linked to access to health care and the disruption of services for persons with disabilities. The Office raised the awareness of authorities and offered technical assistance, including in Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Montenegro, the Russian Federation, Togo and in the Pacific region. In Guinea, theatre performances were organized with three coalitions of organizations of persons with disabilities to raise awareness about the impacts of COVID-19 on this group of individuals.

*A protocol developed to ensure the full accessibility of virtual hearings held by the Constitutional Court of Guatemala on COVID-19 and persons with disabilities was disseminated for use by other public authorities.*

## PROTECTING PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

A vibrant civil society is essential to building back better. In the context of COVID-19, UN Human Rights helped to ensure that all affected people were informed and able to participate in shaping policies that impact on their lives. The Office took steps to protect civic space and human rights defenders (HRDs). It also recalled the importance of ensuring data protection and privacy while using new technologies, such as COVID-19 contact tracing applications.



In December 2020, UN experts expressed alarm at the 'naming and shaming' of COVID-19 victims in Cambodia, noting that the publication of personal information about individuals who had tested positive is a breach of privacy. © OHCHR

By using new technologies and through remote monitoring, UN Human Rights documented hundreds of COVID-19-related incidents of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, religious intolerance, hate speech and incitement to hatred in over 50 countries. The Office ran campaigns to counter false or misleading information as the pandemic set off a wave of disinformation that fueled fear, prejudice and posed risks to public health, including in Cambodia and in the Middle East and North Africa region. In Southern Africa, the Office engaged actors with different opinions in public debates about the crisis.



*In the context of increasing disinformation, the Office created a dedicated COVID-19 web page to disseminate information in Cambodia, in Khmer and English. In Liberia, UN Human Rights supported awareness-raising by civil society on COVID-19 and human rights through radio spots and on social media platforms.*



On Human Rights Day, in Conakry, the Head of UN Human Rights met with defenders of the rights of persons with albinism. © OHCHR

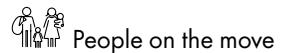
UN Human Rights engaged in advocacy to support the ability of experts, medical professionals, journalists and **human rights defenders** to speak without fear or censorship. Across all regions, the Office built the capacities of CSOs and national human rights institutions (NHRIs) to integrate human rights into activities aimed at curbing the spread of the virus and its negative impacts. In cooperation with the NHRIs in Morocco, and with contributions from NHRIs in Jordan, Mauritania and the State of Palestine,<sup>2</sup> the Office organized a training on the role of NHRIs in MENA countries to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in the context of COVID-19.

*Provisions to limit freedom of expression in the context of COVID-19 were repealed from emergency decrees that were adopted in Bolivia. In a landmark development, spearheaded by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and UN Human Rights, the UN adopted a system-wide Guidance Note on the promotion and protection of civic space.*



As the Bolivian Government closed its borders on 25 March 2020, UN Human Rights ensured the application of a human rights-based approach to assistance provided to migrants at the Tata Santiago quarantine camps at the border with Chile. © OHCHR

UN Human Rights contributed to making **information accessible and available for all** – in multiple languages, including in indigenous languages, and accessible formats for persons with disabilities, for instance in the Gambia, Mexico, the Republic of Moldova, Tanzania and Tunisia. In several countries, such as the Central African Republic, Colombia, Honduras, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, the Republic of Moldova, the State of Palestine, Thailand, Uganda and Ukraine, media campaigns took place to raise awareness on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights, with a focus on groups such as HRDs, migrants, domestic workers and persons with albinism.



*In Honduras, the advocacy campaign to prevent discrimination against migrants and returnees in the context of COVID-19 reached 255,000 Facebook users and produced 325,000 impressions. The Office at headquarters organized 19 global webinars on human rights-based responses to COVID-19.*

<sup>2</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

## ADDRESSING SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

As emergency measures were adopted by many countries, UN Human Rights raised awareness to ensure that restrictions were necessary and proportionate and that they were applied fairly and humanely, with a focus on safeguarding public health. The Office called for immediate action to be taken to prevent COVID-19 from sweeping through places of detention and confinement, including immigration and pretrial detention facilities.



Senior police officers from the Police Special Response Unit and the Human Rights Cell during a human rights training facilitated by UN Human Rights on the prevention of torture and use of excessive force, including in the context of enforcing states of emergencies, at the Fiji Police Academy, in October 2020. © OHCHR

UN Human Rights monitored law enforcement and assessed the legality and proportionality of emergency measures to ensure that they did not unnecessarily limit the rights to freedom of expression or assembly and were not applied indiscriminately. The Office delivered technical assistance and training on various topics, including the role of prosecutors, police conduct in enforcing curfews and emergency restrictions, assessing legal aspects of restrictions and reporting on violations of measures (for instance in Angola, Fiji, Georgia, Guinea, Honduras, Maldives, the State of Palestine and Zambia).

*Revised regulations related to court hearings were adopted in Ukraine to allow remote participation, thereby ensuring access to justice during the pandemic. Guidance Notes on access to justice and the deprivation of liberty in the context of COVID-19 were widely distributed among judges, prosecutors and lawyers and in detention centres in the State of Palestine.*



Mobile court session of the Makamba High Court, in Burundi, in May 2020. © OHCHR

UN Human Rights and the High Commissioner for Human Rights called on governments to explore options for release and alternatives to detention to mitigate the risk of contagion in **places of detention**, with a focus on the release of those who were most vulnerable, including children and persons with health conditions, low-risk profiles or imminent release dates and those detained for offences not recognized under international law. In Chile, the Attorney General urged prosecutors to consider alternatives to pretrial detention. In Mexico, an amnesty law was adopted by the Congress.

*Seven mobile court sessions were held in Burundi, resulting in the expedition of 206 cases and the release of 89 detainees, including seven women and one child. UN Human Rights advocacy efforts contributed to the release of detainees in many countries around the world, including 30,000 in the Southern Africa region, 17,500 in Iraq, 7,700 in Sudan, 3,900 in Libya, 2,773 in Honduras, 2,710 in Senegal and 1,326 in Somalia.*

## REDUCING NEGATIVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACTS

As it became clear that the crisis would have long-lasting and profound effects on people's lives, UN Human Rights worked to address inequalities and ensure rights-based approaches were applied to COVID-19 responses and recovery efforts. The Office advocated for fiscal stimulus and social protection packages aimed at those least able to cope with the crisis, with a view to building back better and advancing human rights, implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and protecting the right to a healthy and sustainable environment.



Kirkuk, Iraq – In July and August, 140 volunteers distributed 28,500 posters across 18 governorates with human rights awareness messages.

© OHCHR-Iraq

To combat the increase in inequalities generated by the pandemic, UN Human Rights enhanced its work on **economic, social and cultural rights** (ESCRs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its **Surge Initiative**. Support from ESCR and development specialists was provided to field presences to address the impacts of COVID-19 on those rights and to engage with UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs), in line with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and his vision for a New Social Contract. The Office designed surveys, undertook analyses, developed methodologies and presented policy options to curb inequalities aimed at enhancing revenue generation, social spending and social protection, for instance in Argentina, Cameroon, Madagascar, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Tunisia and Ukraine.

*The Surge Initiative contributed guidance to 59 countries, including through 27 seed funded projects and 30 UNCT COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessments (SEIAs) and Socio-Economic Response Plans (SERPs). The seed funded projects were initiated to reinforce human rights-based analyses, the use of disaggregated data and the formulation of policy options to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups.*

## INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UN RESPONSE

COVID-19 exposed and exacerbated inequalities within and among countries, necessitating an increase in international cooperation. UN Human Rights supported the UN system in applying a human rights-based approach (HRBA), including in relation to the right to development, in its response to COVID-19 and in Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs).



In Ukraine, Alla, an 85-year-old woman with a disability, lost her pension bank card and had to travel to government-controlled territory to get a new one. She was stuck in 'the grey zone' because she did not have a smartphone to install the 'Act at Home' self-isolation application that is required to enter the territory. © OHCHR

At the request of the UN Crisis Management Team, UN Human Rights developed 10 thematic human rights indicators to support immediate UN socio-economic, health and humanitarian responses to COVID-19 and address issues of discrimination and inequality. The Office helped UNCTs and UN partners integrate an HRBA into their policies and programmes, for instance in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan and Uruguay. The indicators were also used to collect data for CCAs and UNSDCFs and as a basis for advocacy with governments.

*The Office developed a Checklist for a Human Rights-Based Approach to Socio-Economic Country Responses to COVID-19 in cooperation with UNDP and the UN Development Coordination Office. The Checklist, which contains suggested actions, tools and resources, was used by UNCTs to integrate human rights into socio-economic impact assessments, responses and recovery plans and to ensure that No One was Left Behind.*



A meeting of the Human Rights Council during the pandemic. © OHCHR

UN Human Rights provided advice to ensure human rights were integrated into SERPs in the context of COVID-19. The Office stepped up its efforts to mainstream the right to development, highlighting the need for international solidarity on issues such as access to medicine, medical equipment and vaccines, closing digital divides, climate action, financing for development and global governance. In West Africa, the UN Regional Gender Group, led by UN Human Rights, provided guidance to the UNCTs on the gender dimensions of the pandemic.



*A panel discussion held at the forty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council on COVID-19 and the right to development enabled the exchange of good practices of global solidarity during the pandemic, such as South-South cooperation to deploy health-care professionals and ensure access to essential medical products. Within the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) Task Team on Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda, UN Human Rights coordinated a review of 109 SERPs in terms of human rights mainstreaming.*

## Voices from UN Human Rights staff in the field



"When it comes to work, [physical] distancing has a huge impact. Human rights work is all about the people and the bonds we create," said Ricardo Neves, a UN Human Rights staffer working in Mexico. Amid the pandemic, the Office continued to shed light on the situation faced by HRDs and journalists by supporting national protection mechanisms and assisting all of those affected by emergency measures. A total of 51 HRDs from 13 States took part in an awareness-raising campaign that reached 340,000 Facebook users.



"COVID-19 exacerbated all of the issues we had pointed out before the pandemic: the intersectionality of certain factors like poverty, level of education and the lack of access to health services," said Nwanneakolam Vwede-Obahor, former Head of the UN Human Rights East Africa Regional Office. The Office addressed issues linked to stigmatization and discrimination, monitored states of emergency with CSOs partners and worked on risk communication and community engagement.



"This has been an enormous learning experience, especially in fulfilling the unique mandate that UN Human Rights has in the field: to ensure that human rights are not forgotten, even in these restrictive times and in states of emergency across the globe," said Milan Markovic, Human Rights Adviser in Serbia. The Office closely monitored the restrictive measures adopted during the pandemic, in collaboration with local organizations, and advocated with the Government to mitigate the impact of restrictions on vulnerable groups.



"The restrictive measures adopted to fight COVID-19 in Iraq heightened the risk of domestic violence, while at the same time substantially reduced the ability of victims to report abuse and seek effective shelter, support and access to justice," said Danielle Bell, Head of UN Human Rights in Iraq. The Office redoubled its advocacy efforts to contribute to the protection of women against violence and increase accountability, including through the adoption of the Anti-Domestic Violence Law.



"Since the outbreak of COVID-19, we have seen a diminishing of the civic and democratic space in Cambodia where freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association are being met with a deepening intolerance of dissent and repression by the Government," said Sally Soen, a UN Human Rights staffer in Cambodia. The Office developed ways to support and protect HRDs and CSOs, such as maintaining direct contacts with them through secure communication platforms or by increasing its advocacy with the Government for the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms.

## COVID-19 Tracker: Leveraging information to build back better

In 2020, the COVID-19 crisis cast a long shadow over human rights across the globe and required UN Human Rights to increase its situational awareness around the many human rights concerns that arose. The Office took proactive steps to track COVID-19-related issues of concern and transform itself into an organization that employs technology to effectively work with data and develop analytics. This resulted in enhanced collaboration across UN Human Rights and informed strategic decision-making.

### EARLY PHASE AND BUILDING THE TRACKER

At the onset of the crisis, human rights concerns were quickly emerging. The UN Human Rights Emergency Response Section immediately began monitoring the media and analysing secondary data to identify trends and design data visualizations for the internal COVID-19 Task Force.

As information needs evolved, the team adapted its work. “We failed fast, learned and altered our approach as required,” noted Mark McCarthy, Head of the Information Management and Data Analytics Unit. The team set up a prototype COVID-19 Tracker, which was initially used to store data from open source media monitoring efforts and field inputs for the UN Operations and Crisis Centre (UNOCC). Three areas were defined to capture and organize information: issues of concern (trends, risks, early warning); mitigating measures undertaken

by governments and others; and actions undertaken by UN Human Rights.

Building this tool was central to supporting integrated analysis as mandated by the Secretary-General’s Prevention Platform. The Tracker provided human rights officers and content experts with a structured way to gather, extract and analyse data. It also enabled the Office to produce two-page visual snapshots with regional information on key human rights concerns, which were prominent contributions used by the Crisis Management Team that was hosted by WHO.

### EMBEDDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN COVID-19 RESPONSES

By December, the Tracker had identified over 3,100 issues of concern, 1,900 mitigating measures and 1,050 UN Human Rights actions related to the pandemic.

The data were leveraged to provide case samples, enhance the Office’s reporting and respond to a wide range of requests from various partners. For instance, “This helped to draft a UN Human Rights report on COVID-19 for the March 2021 session of the Human Rights Council,” said Human Rights Officer Chitralekha Massey. Further, it was used by UN Human Rights to encourage States, UN partners and other stakeholders to incorporate human rights into their pandemic responses.

This innovative tool made it possible for UN Human Rights to track a global situation in near real-time, for the first time. It improved internal access to information and fostered cooperation. It also supported evidence-based decision-making and engagement with external actors. Moreover, the Tracker highlighted good practices that could be replicated across countries to mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on human rights and build back better.

“The Tracker enabled UN Human Rights to gather and provide timely information and analysis on the human rights impacts of COVID-19 and the required responses by all relevant stakeholders. It also helped to illustrate the Office’s key message that a human rights approach is indispensable to overcoming the crisis,” concluded Reem Mazzawi, Human Rights Officer at the UN Human Rights Executive Office.



COVID-19 Tracker interactive dashboard with a view of a UN Human Rights actions data set. © OHCHR

## Implementing the OMP in 2020

The priorities, strategies and targets of UN Human Rights are set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021. The Plan provides a robust results framework and is based on six Pillars, four Shifts and three Spotlights. This framework remained relevant throughout the COVID-19 crisis and simultaneously provided the needed

flexibility to respond to changing circumstances. This led to the decision to extend the current OMP until 2023 and to update some elements. Extending and updating the OMP will ensure that results continue to be consolidated while providing us with the opportunity to re-calibrate our focus in response to the human rights impacts of the COVID-19 crisis

and ensuring that important initiatives such as the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, the Common Agenda and other recent developments are included. This extension will also align future OMP cycles with the High Commissioner's mandates.

### **The Secretary-General's Call to Action: Human rights at the centre of the United Nations**

The Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights has been a key catalyst for the Office, which is co-leading the implementation of the initiative with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG). UN Human Rights played a central role in launching strategic initiatives across all seven thematic areas, which are backed by an extensive institutional architecture that includes 35 UN entities. The UN's expertise and operational reach will ensure that the Call to Action achieves its transformative potential and facilitates the realization of practical results for people around the world. This necessitates a strengthening of the UN leadership on human rights across the system, particularly at the country level. To that end, Assistant Secretary-General Brands Kehris and Volker Türk, Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination, worked together to spearhead regional dialogues with Resident Coordinators in order to further advance the objectives of the Call to Action. Efforts to generate the collective engagement of the UN system were accompanied by outreach to Member States and civil society to raise awareness about the Call to Action and to ensure that it will be implemented in a collective manner and will bring about actual human rights improvements with real impact for all people.

## OMP 2018-2021 at a glance



# Overview of progress made towards achieving OMP results in 2020

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic generated significant challenges in terms of programme delivery and demands for working on new and pressing issues. The data that follow are based on self-assessments undertaken by 115 reporting entities regarding their level of progress, notably in reference to a shift, a spotlight population or the country results that were set as targets for 2021.

## **REPROGRAMMING TO RESPOND TO THE PANDEMIC**

UN Human Rights found creative solutions to continue implementing its planned work in the context of COVID-19. In fact, the challenges posed by the global pandemic to the respect for and observance of human rights led to the reprioritization of its work to address new concerns. It also resulted in the adoption of new working methods and a new focus within existing work streams. The Office provided extensive policy and technical advice to ensure that human rights were situated at the heart of the response and recovery efforts of States, UN partners, NHRIs, civil society and others and that targeted actions were implemented to support vulnerable groups.

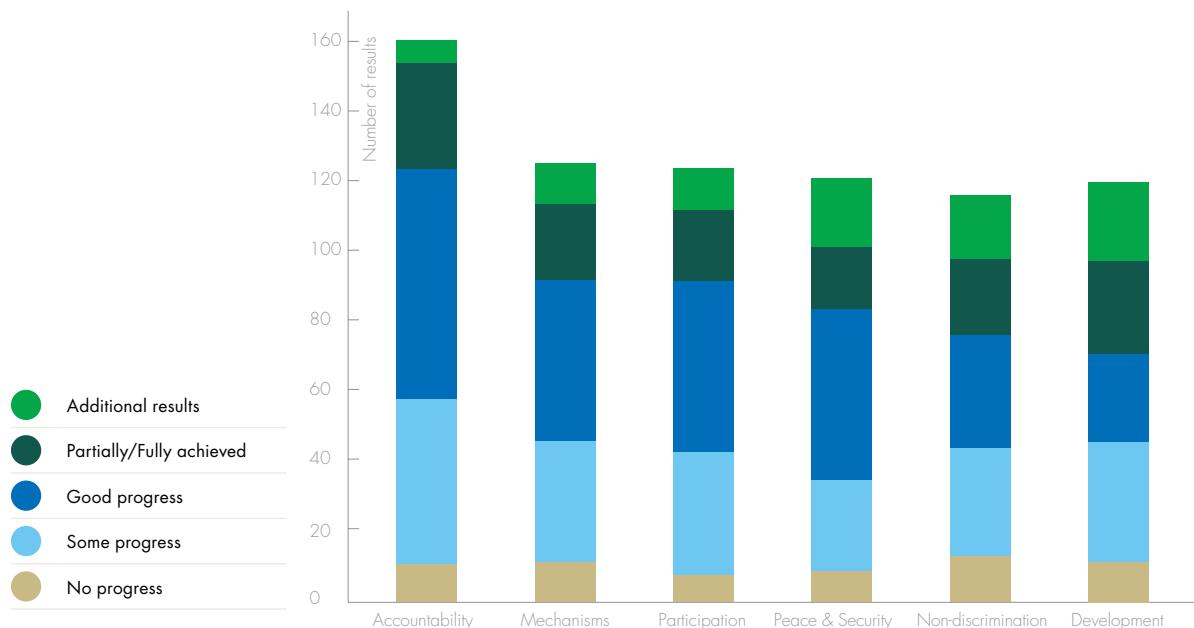
Various activities of the international human rights mechanisms were particularly affected, such as country visits by special rapporteurs and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT) and the reviews of State Party reports by the human rights treaty bodies. In lieu of country visits, the special procedures followed up on reports related to previous visits, engaged with HRDs and other stakeholders and drafted thematic reports with an emphasis on trends and new challenges. The human rights treaty bodies held online sessions, including several that facilitated the delivery of testimonies by victims or their families, to maintain the consistent protection of rights-holders. Across the organization, a number of meetings, briefings, consultations and trainings were held virtually or in hybrid forms, as feasible. Despite the many challenges of online meetings, such as lack of equipment/connectivity of partners, poor IT literacy or fears of surveillance, the meetings offered the potential for much broader participation, irrespective of the location of participants. Movement and travel restrictions significantly affected the capacity of UN Human Rights to carry out field monitoring missions to collect data, document and report alleged human rights violations. The

Office adapted by increasing its remote monitoring and support to local partners for the monitoring and investigation of situations of concern.

## **PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY RESULTS**

From the updates on progress made towards the achievement of country results, we note that the number of results reported as partially or fully achieved continued to increase in 2020, with positive signs that the results set for 2021 would be achieved (from 105 in 2019 to 139 in 2020). The results for which no progress or some progress was reported were related to funding and staffing constraints, challenges emanating from complex political contexts and COVID-19 (from 29 in 2019 to 60 in 2020). On the other hand, the year 2020 saw a higher number of reported “additional results” (from 39 in 2019 to 77 in 2020), demonstrating that reprogramming enabled the Office to effectively adapt to the circumstances generated by the pandemic. The Development, Peace and Security and Non-discrimination Pillars saw a higher increase in the number of additional results.

## Progress reported under each pillar in 2020



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO SHIFTS AND SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Four shifts are identified in the 2018-2021 OMP, contributing to: (1) the prevention of conflict, violence and insecurity; (2) the expansion of civic space; (3) a broadening of the global constituency for human rights; and (4) the exploration of emerging human rights concerns identified as “frontier issues.” This last shift has five sub-thematic categories, namely, climate change, digital space and emerging technologies, corruption, inequalities and people on the move.

The spotlight populations identified in the OMP are women, youth and persons with disabilities.

“Prevention” and “civic space” were the major shifts selected by reporting entities in 2019-2020. Unlike the situation in 2019, there was a significant increase in the selection of the “inequalities” and “global constituency” shifts in 2020.

As in previous years, “women” was the most commonly selected spotlight population. This was followed by “persons with disabilities” and “youth.”

Specific results related to the shifts and spotlight populations are highlighted throughout the report.



## Mechanisms (M)

Increasing implementation of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms



### HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC) AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)

#### HRC panels

**14 discussions held** (including on COVID-19 and the right to development, climate change, the rights of persons with disabilities and the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration)



#### UPR mid-term reports

**7 documents submitted** (on the implementation of recommendations issued during the 2nd and 3rd UPR cycles)

### TREATY BODIES

#### Experts

**172** treaty body experts

#### Recommendations

**39 concluding observations** (and 142 lists of issues prepared)

#### General comments

**4 new comments** (on trafficking in women and migration; science and economic, social and cultural rights; racial profiling; and peaceful assembly)

#### Individual complaints

**317 new communications registered** (by 8 treaty bodies, with 239 views and decisions adopted)

#### Capacity-building

**2,446 State officials trained** (to engage with the treaty bodies, with participants from 61 countries)

### SPECIAL PROCEDURES

#### Special procedures mandates

**44 thematic**  
**11 country-specific**

#### Standing invitations Extended by **127 States** (to thematic mandates)

#### Reports

**166** presented to the General Assembly/  
HRC (64 on country visits)

#### Communications

**681 communications sent** (to 152 States and 76 non-State actors)  
**433 replies received**

### REPORTING AND FOLLOWING UP ON RECOMMENDATIONS

#### National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up

**46 newly established and/or strengthened**

## Children's rights in the Pacific: An historic treaty body session in Samoa

"For many years, we spoke and dreamed of holding a session outside Geneva," said Luis Pedernera, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC). "This week, that dream became a reality. It's an historic moment," he said of the Committee's extraordinary outreach session that was held in Samoa, in March. During the session, the Committee met with government officials, UN entities, civil society, NHRIs and children to discuss the situation of children's rights in the Pacific.<sup>3</sup>

Like all other UN human rights treaty bodies, the Committee usually meets in Geneva, Switzerland. Yet, the Pacific is the region most adversely affected by its remoteness from Geneva. Since 2016, six of the seven State Party reviews from the region have been conducted via video link. During the 2020 consultations on the treaty body system's review process, participants stressed the importance of regional sessions to increase domestic stakeholder accessibility, enhance the visibility of the treaty body system and more closely interact with national and regional human rights systems.

The CRC session in Samoa represents the first regional-level session held by a UN human rights treaty body, the first time

an official meeting of the Committee was moderated by children and the first time that sign language interpretation was used for all meetings.

During the session, the Committee reviewed the situation of the rights of the child in the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and Tuvalu and held a preparatory meeting for a future review of Kiribati, enabling State Party delegations to hold in-person, constructive dialogues with the Committee. In addition, the Committee met with a broad range of stakeholders, including more than 100 children and passionate child HRDs, to discuss pressing issues in the region, such as climate change and child

rights to participation, education, health and freedom from violence.

Audrey, 16 years old, moderated a discussion on children's right to health and explained that the session taught her that children's views matter. "During this session, we learned that we have the right to be heard [and that] children's opinions, perspectives and problems should be voiced."

Chair Luis Pedernera added, "We hope [the children] were able to understand how much the Committee appreciates their contributions and that this is just the beginning of strong and meaningful participation of children from the region in our work."



Child moderator during the official session dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. © OHCHR

<sup>3</sup> The session was co-organized by UN Human Rights with the Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) of the Pacific Community (SPC), the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and UNDP in Samoa, the Government of Samoa and UNICEF Pacific, with financial support from the RRRT SPC and its donors (Australia, New Zealand, Sweden and the United Kingdom), the Government of Samoa and the RCO in Samoa.

# Highlights of pillar results

## Mechanisms (M)

The international human rights mechanisms – composed of the Human Rights Council (HRC), with its special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), and the treaty bodies – are the backbone of UN Human Rights' work. Their analyses, monitoring and interactions with States and stakeholders

help to identify strengths, weaknesses, gaps and opportunities in relation to all rights. Through their actions and recommendations, they provide the basis for engagement with States and other actors and support duty-bearers to comply with their obligations and rights-holders to claim their rights. UN Human Rights

provides secretariat support to these mechanisms and supports States in honouring their obligations. Through their procedures and country visits, the international human rights mechanisms give a voice to vulnerable persons and groups at the national level.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### M1 – NATIONAL MECHANISMS for REPORTING and FOLLOW-UP

National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

**Spotlights:** Disabilities Women Youth

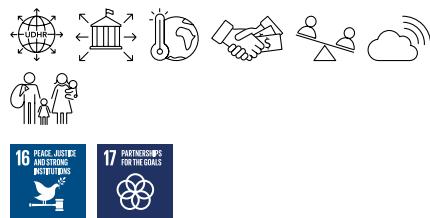
UN Human Rights, through its Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme and its field presences, provided technical assistance to support the **establishment or strengthening of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs)** in Benin, Botswana, Cambodia, Egypt, Eswatini, Haiti, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Namibia, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela. In particular, support from the Office to Eswatini and to Tonga resulted in the official establishment of NMRFs in 2020. In Sudan, in July, a draft ministerial decree and a road map on the creation of an NMRF were prepared. In August, Peru adopted an intersectional protocol to improve the inter-institutional coordination for the implementation of its international human rights obligations and to facilitate collaboration with civil society. This instrument will pave the way for the creation of an NMRF.

In the Republic of Moldova, Thailand and Uzbekistan, UN Human Rights supported the roll-out of the **National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD)**. In Tunisia, the Office supported the creation of the [NMRF website](#), which will host the NRTD and facilitate interactions with CSOs.

UN Human Rights provided extensive technical assistance in various countries for the **submission of State reports to the international human rights mechanisms**. A number of long overdue State Party reports were submitted with support from the Office, including Côte d'Ivoire's initial report under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), Guinea's initial report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and Somalia's initial report under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Somalia also submitted its UPR mid-term report.

## M2 – ENGAGEMENT with human rights MECHANISMS

Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.



UN Human Rights supported the increased engagement of stakeholders with the UPR Working Group. For instance, with support from the Office, 126 CSOs from across Somalia submitted a joint report for their country's third UPR review and a coalition of 27 CSOs submitted a first alternative report on Jamaica. These efforts resulted in the submission of a first report by Rohingya civil society groups in the Cox's Bazar refugee camps on the situation of Rohingya people in Myanmar. In addition, UN Human Rights offered assistance for the submission of joint UNCT reports for UPR reviews.

In the Republic of North Macedonia, the Office supported a network of CSOs that are active in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) to submit a 'spotlight report' to complement the country's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) report. The Office also provided technical assistance on the role of CSOs in the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in South Africa, including by supporting the drafting of a research paper by the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF) on the subject.

Advocacy efforts by UN Human Rights and its partners contributed to the recognition of the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) to examine individual complaints in Mexico. This represents a major breakthrough for the application of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED). Furthermore, the Mexican Senate ratified the Escazú Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, a valuable tool to support HRDs in their struggle against the degradation of the environment.

In April, UN Human Rights supported the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to issue a set of indicators to guide governments when designing and implementing measures to tackle the spread of COVID-19. The indicators were developed taking into account 185 submissions received from representatives of governments, CSOs, women, indigenous communities, youth groups and trade unions from 79 countries.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child, with support from the Office, launched a web page for children that provides a simple overview of the Committee's mandate and activities and information on how children can share their views and contribute to its work. A child safeguarding procedure was adopted to ensure a safe environment for engagement with children.

In Mozambique, UN Human Rights provided guidance to organizations of persons with disabilities and older persons to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. As a result, umbrella organizations representing these groups submitted their first report in anticipation of the country's third UPR cycle. In the State of Palestine,<sup>4</sup> the Office coached disability counsellors and disability outreach staff in selected CSOs on the application of an HRBA to disability and identified connections between provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

<sup>4</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

### M3 – USE of MECHANISMS’ RECOMMENDATIONS

Policymakers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms.



The Working Group on discrimination against women and girls and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences advocated for the decriminalization of abortion, including through country visits, recommendations, letters and amicus curiae briefs. In December, **Argentina** adopted a **law legalizing abortion** in the first 14 weeks of pregnancy and the **Republic of Korea** decriminalized abortion.

In **Uzbekistan**, the **Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** was adopted and signed in October and came into force in January 2021, in line with the country's UPR action plan. As a follow-up to the Human Rights Committee's concluding observations, UN Human Rights supported the drafting of an **NGO Code** by civil society experts, which was shared with the Parliament and the Government. A number of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms were incorporated into the **National Human Rights Strategy**, which was adopted in June.

On 16 June, the Supreme Court of **Spain** handed down a **judgment** on the issue of **age determination** of **unaccompanied migrant children**. In the ruling, the Court cited the views of CRC in its Communications No. 16/2017 and 22/2017, which establish that identity documents should be considered valid unless they have been challenged through judicial means. The Supreme Court also followed the Committee's reasoning that: 1) the person who alleges to be under the age of 18 should be considered as a child until proof to the contrary is obtained; 2) an individualized assessment of age needs to be conducted in light of the circumstances of each case; 3) when a person holds an identity document, s/he cannot be treated as an undocumented migrant; 4) a refusal to undergo medical tests to determine that person's age cannot in itself be considered proof that the person is an adult; and 5) the physical appearance of a person cannot prevail over identity documents, unless those documents are proven to be invalid.

In May, the President of **Chad** enacted **anti-terrorism legislation** that **abolished** the previous dispositions that allowed the **death penalty**. As an outcome of the country's third UPR cycle, the Government committed to abolishing the death penalty and ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR-OP2).

In **Mexico**, UN Human Rights provided legal advice to the Supreme Court, tribunals, prosecutors and the NHRI, contributing to the enhanced **use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court** proceedings and decisions, including in relation to seven emblematic cases in 2020. For instance, in the case of Misael Zamora, an HRD working on environmental issues and the rights of indigenous peoples, the charges against him were withdrawn after UN Human Rights submitted a legal brief that outlined relevant international human rights standards.

## M4 – DEVELOPMENT of INTERNATIONAL LAW

International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).



On 4 November, the **Human Rights Committee** adopted a **landmark decision**, which found **Italy** responsible for the death of 200 **migrants** in the Mediterranean Sea in 2013. The events occurred in international waters and involved an Italian naval ship and a nearby sinking boat carrying more than 400 adults and children. The Committee found that Italy failed to **protect the life of the victims**. It also considered that although the victims were not on Italian territory, they had established a special relationship of dependency with Italy when the first distress calls were made by the victims to Italian authorities, due to their proximity to the Italian coast and because they were affected by the decisions of the Italian authorities that were reasonably foreseeable in light of Italy's relevant legal obligations. The Committee called for an independent and timely investigation.

In May, the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants published a **Joint Guidance Note on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the human rights of migrants**. The Guidance Note urges States to set up mechanisms to review the use of immigration detention in order to reduce the number of people being held to the lowest possible level and to secure the immediate transfer of families with children and unaccompanied or separated children from immigration detention facilities to non-custodial and community-based alternatives, with full access to rights and services. They are also urged to ensure the inclusion of migrants in economic recovery policies.

With support from UN Human Rights, the **human rights treaty bodies** issued **four new general comments and recommendations**: 1) General Recommendation No. 38 on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)); 2) General Comment No. 25 on science and economic, social and cultural rights (Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)); 3) General Recommendation No. 36 on preventing and combating racial profiling by law enforcement officials (Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)); and 4) General Comment No. 37 on article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights – Right of peaceful assembly (Human Rights Committee).

## M5 – EFFECTIVENESS of international human rights MECHANISMS

International human rights mechanisms are increasingly effective in promoting and protecting human rights.



In November, UN Human Rights supported the **first hybrid session** of the **UPR Working Group**, during which pre-recorded video statements and online connections with the capitals were introduced. Despite the challenging circumstances caused by COVID-19, including the implications of the digital adaptation, the thirty-sixth session of the UPR Working Group was a success. A total of 250 delegates from capitals participated in the session and interacted with an average of 100 States. The hybrid format enabled an enhanced participation of delegates from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A **video** was produced to showcase this success.

Joint efforts and advocacy undertaken by the mandates on the sale and sexual exploitation of children and on the right to privacy contributed to the **European Parliament's** adoption of **legislation**, allowing a temporary derogation from certain provisions of the Privacy and Electronic Communications Directive 2002/58 with regard to the use of technologies for the processing of personal and other data to **combat child sexual abuse online**.

UN Human Rights facilitated the **virtual engagement of international human rights mechanisms in 65 interactive dialogues** that were held in the **Third Committee** at the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly. This resulted in the adoption of more than 37 human rights-related resolutions. Moreover, the Office supported the organization of virtual meetings between special procedures country mandates and Member States, CSOs, victims and other interlocutors.



**Shifts:** Climate change



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

## Preventing enforced disappearances and locating victims during the COVID-19 pandemic

On 4 May, as part of the opening of the eighteenth session of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, María Nohemí Barbosa recounted the story of her son, John Alexander, who went missing in Mexico in 2014. Due to COVID-19-related restrictions, this was the first time that a human rights treaty body had opened a virtual session.

Committee Chair Mohammed Ayat noted that organizing a virtual session presented challenges. No simultaneous interpretation was available and the 10 Committee members were based in multiple time zones, from Peru to Japan. Nonetheless, “victims of enforced disappearance must know that, while the pandemic can make some situations more difficult, the Committee is still available to assist.”

At the end of the year, CED registered its 1,000th urgent action request. December also marked the tenth anniversary of

the Convention’s entry into force, which established the urgent actions procedure.

“Behind each urgent action request, there is a human tragedy. The family of the victim suffers from the absence of their loved one and from the uncertainty as to whether the victim is still alive. As time passes, the chance of finding the person alive reduces and the grief increases,” said the Committee.

Among registered cases, 49 per cent relate to disappearances in Iraq and 42 per cent relate to disappearances in Mexico. Families, relatives and representatives of disappeared persons can submit a request to CED after reporting the disappearance to relevant national authorities. The urgent action procedure provides support to people seeking justice at the international level and to States in the fight against enforced disappearances.

In the context of the pandemic, UN Human Rights undertook actions to prevent enforced disappearances. In Mexico, many state governments ordered the immediate cremation of bodies without guaranteeing the right to identity of the deceased. The Office collaborated with WHO and the ICRC and offered technical assistance to the Ministries of Health and the Interior, resulting in the adoption of national standards that prioritize the decisions of families on the safe and dignified disposal of human remains. “Now, there are guidelines so that no one is cremated without being identified or offering their families the possibility to claim the body,” noted Gabriela Gorjón, Public Information Officer at UN Human Rights in Mexico.

Through the urgent action procedure, 90 persons had been located by the end of 2020, including in Argentina, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cuba, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Togo. For instance, the procedure was successfully used to secure the swift release of three land defenders, from an indigenous community in Chiapas, Mexico, who were disappeared on 8 June.

“The Convention on Enforced Disappearances is clear: no exceptional circumstances can be invoked to justify enforced disappearances,” said Ibrahim Salama, Chief of the Human Rights Treaties Branch of UN Human Rights. “This principle also applies during the pandemic.”



UN Human Rights staff in Mexico accompanying the Missing Persons Search Brigade in Poza Rica, Veracruz, in February 2020. © OHCHR-Mexico

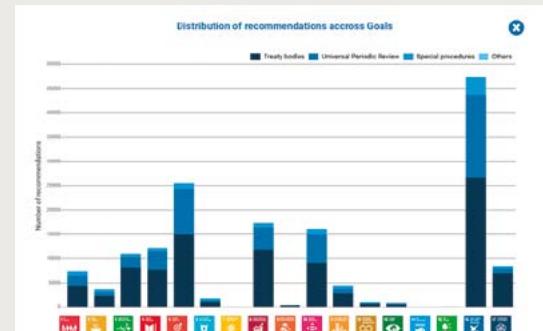
## A revamped Universal Human Rights Index

With almost 50,000 unique visitors every year, the [Universal Human Rights Index \(UHRI\)](#) has long been a central gateway to the work of the international human rights mechanisms. In October, UN Human Rights launched a new version of the tool with a revamped interface and extended functionalities. More than 180,000 observations and recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR, which are aligned with the SDGs, are now available online.

“The UHRI provides easy access to human rights recommendations and leverages synergies with the 2030 Agenda,” said Jonas Grimheden, Programme Manager at the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). “The database offers a new user-friendly design, making it easy to find [and export] data in just a few clicks,” he added, underlining that data-sharing is facilitated by the open source technology that supports the tool.

Hanae Hanzawa, a UN Human Rights staffer in Bangkok, Thailand, recognizes its huge potential. “As a human rights trainer, I use the UHRI often and with its various thematic filters, I can easily find the recommendations I am looking for,” she explained. By harnessing the power of machine learning, automatic text classification algorithms help to categorize content against themes and SDGs, which enables users to efficiently search the database. “[The UHRI] is respected among academics, human rights lawyers and practitioners as being a first-class database to find country-specific observations and recommendations of authority and reliability,” confirmed Anne Charbord, lecturer at the Paris School of International Affairs.

The experience gained and the partnerships built during the course of this innovation project will undoubtedly help to promote the digital shift in other areas of the work of UN Human Rights. It will also ensure the long-term sustainability of the UHRI as new documents and recommendations are issued each year.



UHRI home page (left) and SDGs chart (right). © OHCHR

# Development (D)

Advancing sustainable development through human rights



## 2030 AGENDA



### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

**4 SDG indicators** (for which UN Human Rights is responsible in terms of methodology, data compilation and dissemination)



### High-level Political Forum

**91 Voluntary National Review (VNR) processes supported** (with guidance on integrating human rights data and analyses – 47 VNRs submitted in 2020 and 44 in 2021)



### Right to development and SDGs

**214 persons completed the UN Human Rights e-course** (from 83 countries)

## HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION



### UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks

**1 UN system-wide guidance on Common Country Analysis (CCAs) and Cooperation Frameworks** (that applies a human rights lens and integrates human rights content)



### UN system at the global level

**37 UN policies/programmes integrated a human rights approach**



**In the field, human rights mainstreaming support to**  
**170 RCOs/UN Country Teams**  
**400 other UN partners**  
**1,100 government counterparts**



**Submissions for Universal Periodic Reviews (UPR) from**  
**15 UN Country Teams** (joint submissions)  
**53 UN entities**

## ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



### Climate change, environment, toxics and human rights

**43 UPR recommendations issued** (41 of which were supported by the State under review)



### Preventing business-related human rights abuses

**Over 3,700 participants in the 9th Forum on Business and Human Rights** (from 140 countries, including 200 speakers in 28 sessions)

## A cornerstone in due diligence policies: The voice of human rights defenders

Just weeks after completing a two-week human rights training programme that was organized by UN Human Rights, in Bangkok, Panachai Chanta was employing the skills he had learned and making a concrete impact on the ground. Returning to the northern province of Mae Hong Son, where the local farming community was trying to halt a development project, Panachai led talks with local authorities to stop construction, which was allegedly planned without the consent of the community or any form of public hearing.

“The knowledge that I gained from the Human Rights Defenders School helped me to constructively negotiate with them,” he said. “I told local officials that indigenous peoples have the right to lands and territories that they have traditionally owned and occupied, according to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which was adopted by Thailand and 142 other Member States. I also cited the relevant Cabinet’s resolution on this issue.” Following these negotiations, all parties agreed to halt the project.

UN Human Rights first launched this training programme in 2014. Since then, the Office has equipped over 100 Thai human rights professionals and activists with skills and knowledge that can strengthen their work.

In order to pursue this objective across the region, UN Human Rights and the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises organized the first UN Pacific Forum on Business

and Human Rights. Held in a hybrid format in Suva, in December, the Forum featured sessions on various issues, including climate change and climate justice, the extractive industries, pollution, modern slavery, corruption, HRDs, entrepreneurship and the SDGs. Central to the discussion was a strong recommendation that companies consistently undertake human rights due diligence and consult with HRDs before initiating business activities.

“Human rights and human rights defenders need to be a priority for both States and businesses,” said Mary Lawlor, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders during the annual UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, held in November. To this end, she urged companies that are launching projects to engage with potentially affected communities and HRDs at the earliest possible stage and called on States to collaborate with HRDs during legislative processes.

“[Companies] have to keep the door open, even if objections of the defenders might render a project more costly, less profitable or even unviable. Free, prior and informed consent by the community is a must,” she emphasized.



Panachai Chanta, Coordinator of the Centre on Health Security and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, participating in an HRD training programme organized by UN Human Rights in Thailand. © OHCHR/Todd Pitman

# Highlights of pillar results

## Development (D)

UN Human Rights supports efforts to advance economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development. It helps to address human rights gaps in development and economic policies and

regulations. It takes steps to strengthen the accountability of duty-bearers in the public and private sectors and the participation of rights-holders, including those left furthest behind. The Office

promotes the achievement of rights-based Sustainable Development Goals and the overall integration of human rights into the work of the UN Development System.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

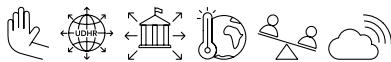
#### D1 – BUSINESS and human rights

Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



#### D2 – GUIDING PRINCIPLES on Business and Human Rights

Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

**Spotlights:** Disabilities Women Youth

UN Human Rights provided mediation support to **indigenous communities and business actors** in **Cambodia**. In August, an agreement on communal land was reached between a rubber company and three Bunong indigenous communities in Mondulkiri Province and Socfin. Due to the Office's intervention, over 500 hectares of land were returned to the indigenous communities, including sacred forests, spirit forests, cemeteries and reserve lands, which were located in the economic land concessions managed by the company. With the development of maps and the marking of the returned areas, the communities will be able to apply to have their land registered under the **communal land titling** (CLT) process, thus securing their land tenure.

UN Human Rights collaborated with the World Economic Forum Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality (PGLE) to disseminate the Standards of Conduct for Business on Tackling Discrimination against LGBTI people and to build tools to advance their implementation. The Office finalized a **guide for LGBTI HRDs on engaging with the private sector** and supported the development of a gap analysis tool to help businesses measure their performance in implementing the Standards of Conduct.

In **Colombia**, the Presidential Council on Human Rights (PCHR) approved the **second National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights** in December. UN Human Rights provided technical assistance during the formulation process, including for the organization of dialogue spaces with unions, business associations and academia. A baseline on business and human rights was successfully included in the Action Plan, which UN Human Rights had developed with two universities in Bogotá (Universidad Javeriana and Universidad del Rosario). The Office also provided technical assistance to the Mining and Energy Planning Unit to design a tool for mapping human rights risks in the mining and energy sectors.

In the **Russian Federation**, UN Human Rights raised awareness on the risks of **business-related human rights abuses in the context of COVID-19**, particularly with regard to decent work and social protection. The Office strengthened its partnership with two major representatives of the business sector, namely, the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RUIE) and the UN Global Compact National Network. Together, they co-organized a videoconference to mark UN75 and Human Rights Day on the topic "Respect for human rights as a corporate responsibility indicator." A total of 122 participants discussed challenges requiring better regulation and the effective enforcement of rules.

### D3 – LAND and HOUSING laws/policies

State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.



In Kenya, UN Human Rights assisted the **Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples** to prepare for her appearance as an expert witness in the **reparation proceedings in the Ogiek rights to land and housing case** that was before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. The testimony of the Special Rapporteur focused on the issue of reparations for the Ogiek community, related international standards and good practices. The Government's Task Force that is mandated to implement the Court's judgment drafted its final report on the implementation of the decision.

UN Human Rights and the **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia** undertook consistent advocacy with local authorities regarding the planned **evictions of ethnic Vietnamese communities** in Kampong Chhnang province. The Office successfully intervened to stop the demolition of homes belonging to families of ethnic Vietnamese, leading to a postponement of the relocation of almost 1,000 families. UN Human Rights called on the Government to complete the planned resettlement site before relocating the families and to ensure that the people were in agreement with the plan, as required by international human rights standards.

The UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for **South-West Asia and the Arab Region** reviewed the publications **Land and human rights: Standards and application** and **Land and human rights: Annotated compilation of case law**. These publications provided the sector with short, user-friendly guides on applicable international human rights law, international humanitarian law and criminal law standards. Furthermore, in October, UN Human Rights and UN Women published the 2nd edition of **Realizing women's rights to land and other productive resources**, which links the issue with the achievement of the SDGs and more systematically integrates the latest guidance from the international human rights mechanisms.

### D4 – HEALTH POLICIES and human rights

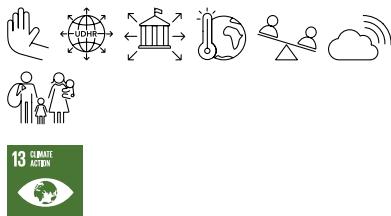
Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants.



UN Human Rights expanded the global constituency for **sexual and reproductive health and rights** through awareness-raising on relevant international standards. For instance, the Office partnered with WHO and the Oxford University to launch the [Right to A Better World series](#) on 18 November, targeting practitioners and students. The series consists of four episodes, namely, comprehensive sexuality education, contraception, maternal mortality and morbidity and violence against women. In each episode, which is approximately 20 minutes long, human rights experts and advocates from around the world share stories on their professional struggles and successes. The Office also updated its [information series on sexual and reproductive health and rights](#) to reflect the latest standards.

## D5 – ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE policies

Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected with access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies.



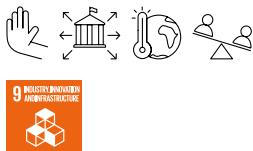
In **Mexico**, UN Human Rights promoted the establishment and functioning of a **Climate Justice Network** with more than 25 CSOs, which met regularly to share information on key issues like air quality, impact studies and the implementation of the **Escazú Agreement**. This work led to the submission of a joint proposal to the Ministry of Environment, with specific recommendations on the rights of indigenous peoples, rural people and people of African descent, the right to a healthy environment, due diligence and the integration of human rights and gender approaches into Mexico's Nationally Determined Contribution, pursuant to the Paris Agreement.

In the **ASEAN region**, UN Human Rights, UNEP and UNICEF co-organized a virtual expert group meeting on **policy guidance** for promoting and protecting **children's rights to a healthy environment**, with the participation of a CRC member and the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment. Moreover, the Office partnered with UNEP to produce a regional study on the impacts of COVID-19 on environmental rights.

With technical support from UN Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment issued 40 communications and 25 press releases concerning **environmental protection and human rights**. His report to the General Assembly focused on the need for urgent action to conserve, protect and restore the biosphere on which all species depend. It further illustrated the devastating impacts of COVID-19 and the crucial role of human rights in catalysing action to safeguard nature.

## D6 – HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT assessment

Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.



UN Human Rights worked at the UN inter-agency level to **mainstream human rights into the new UN guidance on transformative economies**. This resulted in recommendations that the UN pay particular attention to the political economy and identify potential winners and losers in economic restructuring, with explicit references to the full respect for human rights, including ESCRs, and the duty to avoid retrogression in times of crisis.

The new safeguards of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and IDB Invest explicitly require human rights due diligence, and the IDB safeguards include a self-standing gender equality safeguard, the first of its kind for any **multilateral development bank** (MDB). UN Human Rights continued to work in partnership with the MDBs and their Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) to strengthen banks' operational **strategies and policies, reprisals and accountability procedures**. The Office's submissions to the World Bank Group's Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence 2020-2021 led to the recognition that human rights abuses and violations are among the causes of conflict and opened entry points for operational engagement. UN Human Rights' advocacy contributed to positive outcomes in operational and reprisals policies and procedures for the IDB, IDB Invest, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the European Investment Bank.

## D7 – HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION in implementing the SDGs

States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these activities and integrates human rights into its own development work.



Through its **Surge Initiative**, UN Human Rights operationalized the Secretary-General's Call for a New Social Contract, building an understanding of opportunities and entry points related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the reform of the UN Development System, including through rights-based and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) analyses, research and advice on how to implement the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. This work enabled UN Human Rights field presences to enhance their **local engagement related to ESCRs** and the implementation of the SDGs. The Office provided technical advice on addressing inequalities and discrimination and integrating human rights analyses into UN development processes, including in 65 CCAs and/or UNSDCFs. For example, in **Cambodia**, UN Human Rights contributed to prevention efforts through the creation of a UNCT early warning dashboard, featuring an indicators framework that encompasses all rights, SDG indicators and risk factors. In **Kenya**, UN Human Rights provided support to the Human Rights Adviser (HRA) and a network of 24 Social Justice Centres to undertake a human rights assessment of inequality in access to water in 24 informal settlements and communities in Nairobi, Kisumu and the coastal regions. The assessment provided evidence to support the advocacy efforts of CSOs as the COVID-19 crisis began and informed the Government's response regarding the suspension of utility bills, the provision of water to informal settlements and a moratorium on evictions during the pandemic.

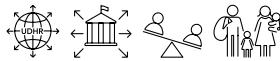
In the context of COVID-19, UN Human Rights provided **extensive advice to UN partners** to ensure the **integration of human rights into response and contingency plans**. For instance, in **Zimbabwe**, the Office prepared a checklist of international human rights standards to inform UN activities, which is available in accessible formats for persons with disabilities. In the **Bahamas** and **Jamaica**, UN Human Rights supported the design of a matrix that links the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms with the SDGs, facilitating their integration into the response plans of the UN and the respective governments.

The High Commissioner sent letters to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the 51 countries that underwent a **Voluntary National Review** in 2020 and to the 44 countries that will undertake a VNR in 2021. The letters encouraged countries to **integrate human rights considerations** into their VNR reports and were accompanied by a country-specific document providing guidance and hyperlinks to tools such as the UHRI and the NRTD. The UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs made reference to these tools in its annual *Knowledge Exchange Booklet on Approaches and Tools for the 2021 VNRs*.

With a view to ensuring the mutual reinforcement of the SDGs and CRPD, UN Human Rights concluded a four-year project to develop an **SDG-CRPD resource package** to ensure that all actions undertaken to implement the SDGs are inclusive of persons with disabilities. The package, which was jointly developed with organizations of persons with disabilities, with funding from the European Union (EU), includes policy guidelines, human rights indicators related to the Convention, data source guidance, training materials and videos.

## D8 – DISAGGREGATED human rights DATA

National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.



UN Human Rights provided assistance in relation to the signature and implementation of Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) on a **Human Rights Approach to Data** in several countries. In **Uganda**, a MoU was signed, in 2019, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by the Office of the Prime Minister, the Uganda Human Rights Commission, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and the National Planning Authority. UN Human Rights provided technical support to develop a road map aimed at advancing the implementation of the MoU. The road map will serve as an important monitoring and accountability tool between the four institutions. In **Albania, Kosovo<sup>5</sup>** and **Liberia**, new MoUs were signed in 2020. As a first step in Kosovo, the Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo (OIK) incorporated the SDGs into its five-year strategy. In October, a joint working group, which included representatives of OIK and the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), met for the first time to discuss the indicators and modalities of cooperation between the two entities, with a focus on the planned 2021 census (see feature story on p. 381 of the online report).

To support the **compilation of data for SDG Indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1 on discrimination**, UN Human Rights collaborated with approximately 200 national statistics offices and developed a pioneering compendium of survey questions to support disaggregation by multiple characteristics (such as sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, socio-economic status, disabilities) in international and national censuses and surveys. This set of sample questions and technical guidance are being implemented in partnership with UNDP and UNODC under the SDG 16 Household Survey Initiative. For the first time, UN Human Rights reported data on **SDG Indicator 16.1.2 on civilian deaths in armed conflict**, which was disaggregated by sex, age and cause of death.

In **Mexico**, the National Council on Social Policy Evaluation (CONEVAL) increased the **integration of human rights** into its **evaluation models**, referencing human rights norms and exploring how to strengthen statistical data on vulnerable groups. UN Human Rights collaborated with the Human Rights Programme of the National Autonomous University of Mexico to support this process, including by delivering an in-depth training course on human rights indicators and SDG measurement frameworks for 35 staff members of CONEVAL.

 UN Human Rights collaborated with UN Women, UNICEF and national institutions to undertake a **COVID-19 rapid gender assessment in West Africa**, ensuring the integration of HRBA and LNOB analyses. The reports provide evidence regarding the impacts of the pandemic on women and men across the region and aim to inform decision-making. The evidence will also ensure a better understanding of the socio-economic effects of the crisis on societies, at the individual level (violence, discrimination, loss of income, psychological health, time spent on household chores) and at the household level (coping strategies, expenses for children). This reflected solid inter-agency collaboration and provided UN Human Rights with the opportunity to generate the raw data that are needed to undertake quantitative and qualitative human rights assessments. The reports and the related database are now available for Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Senegal.

<sup>5</sup> All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

## Calling for people-centred policies in Serbia, with a focus on ESCRs

In 2020, UN Human Rights increased its advice on the application of an HRBA to economic policies and practices through its Surge Initiative. Emphasis was placed on building back better in the context of COVID-19 and leveraging the human rights obligations of States to reduce inequalities and ensure inclusive social and economic systems.

Serbia was one of the countries that received the support of the Surge Initiative, a field-driven initiative composed of human rights and development specialists. Within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, the objective was to increase the realization of ESCRs through tailored research and advice on development, economic and fiscal policy options at the country level.

UN Human Rights and its national partners, including representatives of Roma communities, CSOs and government stakeholders, led a real-time mapping exercise of needs and risks in substandard Roma settlements. This provided the first compilation of cross-checked information on over 700 settlements with approximately 170,000 inhabitants, which identified health risks and assessed access to electricity, clean water and sewage infrastructure and gathered data on sustainable sources of income.

These activities offered detailed information on the human rights impacts of COVID-19 on select Roma communities and directly informed the UNCT's analysis of vulnerable groups, enabling their inclusion in the UN SERP. It also contributed to the enhanced delivery of



A Roma settlement near the industrial zone in the city of Novi Sad, Serbia. © Vojin Ivković

support to Roma and other inhabitants, including through the timely allocation of government resources and emergency aid.

ESCRs can determine whether people will live or die or if societies will become more resilient or fall apart. Consequently, all human rights need to be integrated into all policies, programmes and processes. “It is important that we see ESCRs as essential rather than luxuries,” said Todd Howland, Chief of the Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch at UN Human Rights.

As noted by Françoise Jacobs, Resident Coordinator in Serbia, “The rippling effects of the pandemic” prevented many people from enjoying their essential rights, such as access to work, education, safe water and electricity, thereby threatening their “health, well-being and prosperity.”

By gaining a deeper understanding of the situation of vulnerable Roma persons, the Government, the UN and other partners are better able to provide assistance.

While this work is still in its early days, there are promising signs that the approach is working. In addition to the pandemic, the world is facing a panoply of risks, including economic upheaval, potential human rights violations, the dismantling of health care systems and the long-term disenfranchisement of groups that are being left behind. The Office’s expertise in ensuring that ESCRs are central to development and humanitarian efforts can help pave the way for respecting, protecting and fulfilling key human rights, reducing inequalities and preserving the dignity of people left behind when a crisis hits.



## We are all in the same storm: Making COVID-19 vaccines available to all

On 17 September, during the HRC's biennial panel on the right to development, Dr. Maria Mercedes Rossi reminded participants, "We are all in the same storm, but travelling on different boats." The discussion was focused on strengthening international cooperation in the fight against COVID-19.

As a representative of the CSO Association Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Dr. Rossi noted that our capacity to face and overcome emergencies is linked to factors beyond our control and choice, such as our birthplace, our family income, our access to safe dwellings and caring neighbourhoods, the level of pollution around us, the preparedness of public health systems and our access to them and the integrity of our leaders and their interest in common goods.

In December, in the [Guidance Note on human rights and access to COVID-19 vaccines](#), UN Human Rights asserted that COVID-19 vaccines must be treated as global public goods, not as marketplace commodities that are only available to countries and individuals who can afford them. In its General Comment No. 25, CESCR argues that access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies is an essential dimension of the rights to health and development and that everyone is entitled to scientific progress to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health.

Dr. Rossi remembers a time when she worked as a doctor in Zambia and antiretroviral treatment was not yet available. "I had an eight-year-old patient, Martin, in the last stage of HIV infection. I [asked him at the hospital]

"What should I bring when I come back tomorrow? Some fruit? A drink?" He replied: "Dr. Maria, bring me the medicine!" Linking Martin's story to the COVID-19 crisis, she urged countries to unlock international solidarity and the right to development for the benefit of all humanity, underlining that Martin's story mirrors the situation for millions of people around the world, highlighting the urgent need for universal, just and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.

In November, a group of special procedures mandate holders issued a [joint statement](#) to emphasize that COVID-19 requires a concerted and principled response based on the fundamental human rights-based principles of international solidarity, cooperation and assistance. "There is no room for nationalism or profitability in decision-making about access to vaccines," they said.

Dr. Rossi has been collaborating with UN Human Rights for more than 10 years, contributing to activities related to the right to development, including the UN Human Rights capacity-building module on the right to development and SDGs. She urges the international community to commit to making the vaccine widely available to prevent global threats and address inequalities, noting that the right to development should be legally binding and that international solidarity should be recognized as a right.



Maria Mercedes Rossi has championed the struggle to advance the right to development at the UN and reinforce international solidarity. © Photo courtesy of Maria Mercedes Rossi



In February, UN Human Rights staff conducted a mission to Lomas del Diamante, an irregular human settlement in the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in order to monitor and document the living conditions of residents and their access to economic, social and cultural rights. The 400 families living in the community face uncertainty about land tenure and fear mass evictions that would enable the State to construct a proposed large-scale housing project.  
© OHCHR

## Peace and Security (PS)

Preventing violations and strengthening protection of human rights, including in situations of conflict and insecurity



### CONFLICT PREVENTION, EARLY WARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY



**Emergency deployments**  
**13 staff members deployed** (in 8 countries with deteriorating human rights situations)



**Emergency Response Teams**  
**3 teams established** (to work on risk analysis, early warning and response coordination in Africa (West and Southern Africa) and the Asia-Pacific region)



**Humanitarian development nexus**  
**1 UN Regional Humanitarian Country Team supported** (to integrate human rights into the Syria responses)



**Independent investigations**  
**8 commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions supported** (on situations in Burundi, the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen)

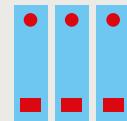


**Transitional justice**  
**Over 30 processes and mechanisms supported** (in more than 20 countries)

### PEACE OPERATIONS



**Role of human rights components**  
**1 comprehensive study** (documenting the support they provide to the implementation of the mandates of UN peace operations)



**Public reporting**  
**13 reports by human rights components** (of 8 UN peace operations)



**Human Rights Due Diligence Policy**  
**10 UN peace operations and 2 regional frameworks supported** (AU-UN Partnership on Peace and Security and the G5 Sahel Compliance Framework)

## One step forward in Sudan

Sudan is in the aftermath of a revolution. Although significant change has taken place since the 30-year regime of General Omar al-Bashir was ousted in April 2019, many challenges remain. UN Human Rights is strengthening the capacities of journalists, lawyers and government officials to face their country's new realities.

As journalist Hussein Saad walked off a plane from Kampala in July 2015, he reflected on what he had learned at a workshop on transparency and corruption and looked forward to applying this new knowledge in his writing about human rights and peace in Sudan.

He had just cleared customs when he was suddenly stopped and whisked off to Khartoum North's political security headquarters. He was charged and placed under house arrest for three months. "That would not happen today," Mr. Saad said. "Now, the security apparatus does not interfere and I am no longer arrested for my work. Press freedom is much improved."

The ability to write as a journalist without interference or fear is a strong indication of how things have changed since tens of thousands of Sudanese took to the streets at the end of 2018. This pressure was maintained for six months until they toppled the Government. Sudan is undeniably more open and tolerant.

Many are encouraged by the visible changes, others express frustration at the seemingly slow pace of progress.

Salih Mahmoud is the Deputy of the Darfur Bar Association and a recipient of the Sakharov Prize for his outstanding human rights work in Darfur defending victims of ethnic violence. "Too much force is used against demonstrators and detainees are dying in custody," he said. While Mr. Mahmoud notes that impunity still reigns, he is encouraged by the absence of war and believes the presence of UN Human Rights augurs well for the future of Sudan. In September 2019, UN Human Rights signed an historic agreement with the transitional government to establish offices across Sudan.

"So far, things are very positive but the keys to progress are a robust constitution that respects the universality of human rights and fair elections," said Mazen Shaqoura, Head of the UN Human Rights Office start-up team in Sudan. He continued, "Most aspects of law need to be revisited through legal reform and Sudan needs to come into line with international principles and legislation." A transitional justice process is also argued to be essential to secure accountability and reparations for victims of violence.

This requires political will and a robust civil society that is equipped with the tools to advocate for change. UN Human Rights is providing a series of training workshops for civil society groups and activists.

"We are learning about the importance of human rights terminology and how to monitor and document human rights issues," said Hussain Saad, who can continue reporting on inequalities and injustices without fear of arrest.



December 2020: UN Human Rights Sudan Country Office team (left); Hussein Saad (centre); and Salih Mahmoud (right). © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Peace and Security (PS)

Maintaining international peace and security is one of the fundamental purposes of the UN Charter. Situations of conflict and insecurity invariably result in violations of human rights, which are often among the root causes of conflict and insecurity. UN Human Rights has a global mandate to promote and protect human rights and a specific responsibility

to mainstream human rights throughout the work of the UN. When violence and conflict occur, the promotion and protection of human rights is not only essential for the protection of rights-holders, especially civilians, it also holds the key to rebuilding peace under the rule of law and preventing reoccurrence. Human rights are a powerful tool for conflict

prevention. They provide a sound basis for addressing issues of concern, which, if left unaddressed, can lead to conflict. As a result, human rights mechanisms can support early warning and accountability and inform UN peace and security efforts.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### PS1 – PROTECTION of CIVILIANS, CONFLICT and PEACE

**Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians.**



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

#### Spotlights:

During 2020, the Office prepared 12 monthly updates and 24 biweekly reports on the **human rights situation in Yemen**. The findings of human rights monitoring activities were shared with key protection actors and contributed to the development of **14 advocacy initiatives**, including statements and press briefings that were issued by the High Commissioner and the special procedures.

UN Human Rights published two quarterly notes on **trends of human rights violations and abuses attributed to Malian Defence and Security Forces, G5 Sahel forces as well as armed groups**, documenting 1,230 human rights violations and abuses. The documented cases and recommendations on actions for addressing them were brought to the attention of relevant authorities. As a result, the Malian military authorities opened investigations in relation to 17 cases. Moreover, the implementation of six protection projects enabled the temporary and **safe relocation of 253 victims** and/or witnesses (35 women, 218 men) and the extension of support to Malian police investigators on interviewing complainants.

Through **methodological guidance** and support to commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and other **mandated investigative bodies**, UN Human Rights contributed to the enhanced cross-fertilization of investigative methods and peer learning of these mechanisms. For example, the Office facilitated start-up workshops for the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the UN Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen.

## PS2 – Counter-TERRORISM and preventing VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.



Through its report on terrorism and human rights (A/HRC/45/27), UN Human Rights provided detailed **guidance** to Member States on the international human rights parameters governing **criminal accountability processes for terrorism-related offences**. The guidance highlights that such processes should be victim-centred and comply with due process and fair trial guarantees as prerequisites to closing the impunity gap and respecting the rights of victims to an effective remedy and reparations.

In June, the **G5 Sahel Joint Force Commander** adopted the **standard operating procedures on the conduct of internal investigations**, representing an important step towards ensuring accountability as it provides for internal investigations when members of the Joint Force are suspected of violations of international human rights law and/or international humanitarian law. The SOPs also require that UN Human Rights be informed when a commission of inquiry is constituted. Furthermore, the Office and the Centre for Civilians in Conflict supported the Joint Force to establish its internal Civilian Casualty and Incidents Tracking and Analysis Cell, which will enable the Joint Force to ascertain the circumstances of and responsibility for casualties and violations.

In **Nigeria**, **15 human rights monitors from the National Human Rights Commission** were **deployed**, in conjunction with human rights officers from UN Human Rights, to Benue state, which is one of the states that is most affected by clashes between herders and farmers. The monitors reported 8,131 human rights violations and referred 6,002 cases to relevant authorities. As a result, **3,691 cases were positively resolved** by government agencies.

## PS3 – HUMAN RIGHTS protection in PREVENTION/RESPONSE

Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.



In July, the **CEDAW Committee** adopted an emblematic decision on a **case against Bosnia and Herzegovina for conflict-related sexual violence** (CRSV). The victim was raped by a military officer, in 1995, during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in a village that was under the control of the Bosnian Serb forces. This case is of great importance as it is the first case adopted by CEDAW that addresses sexual violence during conflict and because it requires the State to recognize the plaintiff as a civilian victim of armed conflict and provide her with adequate reparations.

UN Human Rights supported the preparations for the **Security Council Open Debate on “Peace Operations and Human Rights,”** during which the High Commissioner delivered a statement stressing that peace operations are a powerful tool to promote and protect human rights, effectively highlighting human rights as a cross-cutting issue at the Security Council. She also called on States to provide strong political and financial support to these operations.

UN Human Rights reviewed the final draft of the **Ukraine National Strategy for the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts until 2030**, which it had been advocating for since 2018. The Strategy was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers at the end of the year and submitted to the President's Office for final endorsement.

With support from UN Human Rights, the **Network of National Human Rights Institutions in West Africa** undertook its first **electoral observation missions** to Burkina Faso, Ghana and Liberia. This contributed to increased collaboration among members of the Network and a positive outcome related to the protection of human rights in the context of elections for the countries concerned.



Shifts:

Climate change



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

UN Human Rights participated in meetings of the **UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Ethiopia** and deployed a surge capacity team, in December, to respond to the conflict in the **Tigray region**.

UN Human Rights supported the integration of a human rights, victim-centred approach into the **UN Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)**. In addition, the Office supported the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate (OVRA) in the mapping of services available to victims of SEA by UN entities and external parties in 13 countries. The public reports that were subsequently issued paved the way for new initiatives. In June, the Office, OVRA and UNICEF jointly conducted a technical consultation to identify ways to improve legal assistance for victims of SEA, leading to the development of a road map to enhance progress in this area. UN Human Rights also contributed to the finalization of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee ([IASC](#)) Learning Package on Protection from Sexual Misconduct for UN partner organizations and the development of guidance on PSEA for Resident Coordinators. Throughout the year, the Office investigated and publicly reported on allegations of SEA against non-UN international forces operating under a UN Security Council mandate and followed up with Member States and the regional forces concerned.

#### **PS4 – Transitional JUSTICE and ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Justice mechanisms, including for transitional justice, provide increased accountability for conflict-related violations.**



In the **Central African Republic**, significant progress was achieved in the transitional justice process with the **adoption of Law No. 20-009**, which established the **Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission**. UN Human Rights collaborated with UNDP and experts from the International Center for Transitional Justice to help elaborate the draft law by providing technical support to relevant authorities and institutions, including the Steering Committee that was tasked with drafting the law.

In **Kenya**, in order to implement the recommendations of the report entitled ***Breaking cycles of violence***, the Office developed the capacity of HRDs and members of the Survivors' Network to address instances of **gender-based violence**. This support led to the **assistance of 555 survivors** (477 women, 78 men) who accessed safe shelters and medical and psychosocial services.

Following the decision of the Government of **Tunisia** to publish the **final report of the Truth and Dignity Commission** in the Official Gazette, the Minister for Human Rights requested support from UN Human Rights to organize an information campaign in July. The campaign included key messages on the value of transitional justice, which were shared on social media platforms. The Office facilitated online discussions with CSOs regarding their role to support the Government in designing an action plan to implement the recommendations contained in the report.

UN Human Rights followed up on emblematic cases within the military justice system to enhance the protection of civilians and improve the **fight against impunity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**. In 2020, more than 20 meetings were organized with judicial authorities to discuss technical aspects of judicial cases. This included designing a proper prosecutorial strategy and developing and implementing judicial **protection measures** for the benefit of **victims and witnesses**. The Office also participated in the drafting of the Peace Accord Agreement between the Government and Forces de résistance patriotique de l'Ituri (FRPI) to ensure its alignment with international law standards, including the right to justice, truth and compensation for victims.

In **Sudan**, UN Human Rights advocated for the swift establishment of the **Transitional Justice Commission** (TJC). It provided the Ministry of Justice with technical advice to lead a participatory process to draft the **TJC Law**, including by facilitating consultations with representatives of CSOs, academia and national and international lawyers. In December, the Ministry adopted a final draft that addresses the concerns raised by civil society and incorporates the Office's recommendations on the independence and composition of the TJC.

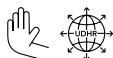
## PS5 – INFORMATION and EARLY WARNING

**Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.**



## PS6 – HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE POLICY

**United Nations' support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.**



UN Human Rights **Emergency Response Teams** (ERTs) made good progress in strengthening **human rights risk analysis** in support of UNCTs, in line with the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative and the prevention agenda. In 2020, the ERT in the Regional Office for **South-East Asia** was closely involved with strengthening human rights risk analysis in the CCAs for a number of countries, including Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam. Through its ERT in **Southern Africa**, UN Human Rights provided human rights inputs and risk analysis to various CCAs and VNR processes in the region, with a focus on the most vulnerable groups. The Office provided human rights inputs regarding specific country situations in Madagascar, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The ERT in the Regional Office for **West Africa** played a key role in gathering and analysing information on potential human rights violations in the context of COVID-19 that informed the Office's regional reports and snapshots. The ERT also created an interactive dashboard to maintain an almost real-time overview of COVID-19-related developments in the region.

In February, during the regional round of the Oxford University moot court competition, which was held in Lebanon, UN Human Rights rolled out components of the **#Faith4Rights toolkit**, with a focus on ethnic and religious minorities and human rights. Participants, including youth and university students, discussed the **Rabat Plan of Action** and the human rights duties of religious leaders. During the discussions, the Office identified youth participants who could further engage with these initiatives.

UN Human Rights continued to provide support and guidance for the implementation of the **Human Rights Due Diligence Policy** (HRDDP). Enhanced advocacy and guidance from the Office resulted in an increased application of the Policy in non-mission settings and a more consistent application in mission settings. UN Human Rights engaged with a greater number of UNCTs, notably in relation to the development of **SOPs, risk assessments and mitigation measures**, including in Bangladesh, Belarus, the Gambia, Jamaica, Jordan, Maldives, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. UNCTs in Burkina Faso and Malawi requested technical advice from the Office, which led to an improved application of the HRDDP. In Burkina Faso, for example, UN Human Rights assisted the UNCT with drafting standard operating procedures on the HRDDP and establishing a Task Force. Support was also provided for the creation of a regional HRDDP coordination structure in the Sahel region, which is planned to begin operating in 2021. In Mali, UN Human Rights conducted 68 risk assessments on MINUSMA's support to non-UN security forces and established a mechanism to follow up on the mitigation measures recommended for cases that were reviewed between October 2019 and December 2020.

UN Human Rights established an online **community of practice among HRDDP practitioners in UN peace operations** to promote and share lessons learned and good practices. Six virtual meetings were held to discuss issues such as HRDDP implementation during COVID-19, working with UNCTs in UN peace operations and HRDDP mitigation measures.



**Shifts:** Climate change



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

# Non-discrimination (ND)

Enhancing equality and countering discrimination



## LAWS, POLICIES AND PRACTICES



### Combating discrimination in all its forms

**400** participants in the 13th session of the Forum on Minority Issues (with a focus on hate speech, social media and minorities)



### Acting upon complaints:

#### Women

**72** communications

(sent by the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls)

#### People of African descent

**11** communications (sent by the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent)

## CAPACITY-BUILDING



### Fellowship Programmes: Training provided to

**27** persons of African descent (21 women and 6 men from 12 countries)

**20** indigenous persons (13 women and 7 men from 17 countries)

**14** persons from minority groups (5 women and 9 men from 14 countries)

**1** transgender person

## CALL FOR EQUALITY AND TOLERANCE



### Public campaigns: Actions taken by people in response to UN Human Rights social media posts

#### Racism #FightRacism

**900** engagements (with 65,000 views)

#### Gender equality #ChangeTheStory

**7,900** engagements (with 274,000 views)

#### Albinism #MadeToshine

**1,600** engagements (with 64,000 views)

#### Migrants #Standup4Migrants

**18,000** engagements (with 1,500,000 views)



### International Decade for People of African Descent

Over **1,500** persons and organizations engaged (in activities to address the root causes of racial discrimination)

## #StandUp4Migrants: Changing the narrative on migration

How we perceive and speak about migrants and migration – the narrative – plays a fundamental role in guaranteeing equality and the human rights of migrants. In 2020, UN Human Rights launched a campaign with a toolbox, urgently calling for the transformation of stories of hate and division into stories of hope and inclusion.

UN Human Rights has taken steps to understand the impacts of harmful narratives and find available solutions by working with a broad range of partners, including migrants and migrant rights defenders as well as representatives from the media, creative arts, business, advertising, academia, civil society, international organizations and Member States. In addition, the Office convened expert meetings, facilitated the exchange of experiences and raised public awareness through animated video stories.

Throughout this process, partners called for UN Human Rights to provide tools and inspiring examples that could benefit others. Building on the publication *Seven Key Elements on Building Human Rights-Based Narratives on Migrants and Migration*, UN Human Rights and its global partners developed an interactive online toolbox that provides ideas, downloadable activities and inspiration for shifting narratives on migration.

“We need stories that show that the values we hold in common are stronger than what divides us,” said the High Commissioner during the launch of the toolbox, on the occasion of International Migrants Day. “Stories that inspire and

connect us, rather than tear us further apart; stories that paint a hopeful picture of the future we share; and stories told by migrants themselves.”

The **toolbox** is a seven-step guide to rethink and change the stories being told about migration. It helps to: 1) define a positive and hope-based vision; 2) identify **shared values** to engage target audiences; 3) use the power of **storytelling** to humanize migrants; 4) bring the stories and vision to life in the **local context**; 5) **find common ground** to move forward on intractable issues; 6) find new allies; and 7) uphold the “**Do No Harm**” principle.

In December, UN Human Rights launched the **#StandUp4Migrants campaign** to illustrate the toolbox in action. The campaign emphasizes what we have in common as human beings, one story

at a time. Leo Johnson, for example, fled war at the age of 15 and arrived in Canada after spending eight years in refugee camps. “I just didn’t think I could fit within that society, because people assumed that I was a certain way. Over time, I told myself that I had two options. I could either choose to be a victim of my circumstances or I could choose to be a champion of possibilities.” He decided to call both Canada and Liberia home. Leo participated in the UN Human Rights Fellowship for People of African Descent and now leads an organization which helps refugees, migrants and marginalized people in Canada and in Liberia.

In 2021, UN Human Rights will work with local partners to further implement the toolbox and contextualize the campaign.



Visual created for the interactive online toolbox developed by UN Human Rights and partners. © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Non-discrimination (ND)

Enhancing equality and non-discrimination for all is at the core of international human rights law. With a call to Leave No One Behind, the 2030 Agenda has created an ‘equality’ momentum. Taking advantage of this opportunity, UN Human Rights seeks to remove the

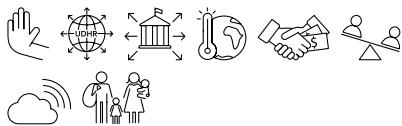
structural barriers that exacerbate and perpetuate discrimination, exclusion and inequalities. The Office supports efforts aimed at strengthening the laws, policies, institutions, practices and attitudes that are conducive to equality and non-discrimination. It strives to increase

public support for diverse and inclusive societies and enhance coherent and rights-based UN responses to exclusion and discrimination. The SDGs provide a common reference for this work, including through linkages with economic, social and cultural rights.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### ND1 – NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS to combat DISCRIMINATION

Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms and responsible authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

**Spotlights:** Disabilities Women Youth

In **Georgia**, the **Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, which is largely in line with international standards, was approved on 14 July. UN Human Rights provided assistance and guidance during the drafting process, conducted a study on the extent to which existing legislation protected the rights of persons with disabilities and developed recommendations for the Government and the Parliament. In **Timor-Leste**, various ministries made efforts to better integrate disability, such as the **Ministry of Public Works**, which issued a **regulation** stipulating that all public and private buildings must accommodate persons with disabilities. In **Serbia**, UN Human Rights facilitated the consultative process that led to the adoption of the **new National Strategy for the Improvement of the Position of Persons with Disabilities** and its action plan. The Office also supported the work of the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations in **Peru**, which drafted **legislation** on the protection of persons with disabilities in **COVID-19 responses**, adopted as Legislative Decree No. 1468.

UN Human Rights continued to **combat racism and discrimination against people of African descent**. On 13 March, the Human Rights Council held a debate on the mid-term review of the International Decade for People of African Descent. In the **European Union**, the Office advocated for the adoption by the European Commission of the 2020-2025 Anti-Racism Action Plan and promoted the International Decade, including through the organization of a series of four webinars on the rights of girls and women of African descent in the EU. On 2 December, the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery was commemorated at the European level for the first time and the High Commissioner for Human Rights delivered a keynote address at the European Parliament. In the **Americas**, under the auspices of the Vice-President of Costa Rica, UN Human Rights and UNFPA organized a dialogue among Afrodescendant leaders, experts and governments on the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on people of African descent. In Peru, UN Human Rights supported the development of a national policy on Afro-Peruvian persons by the Ministry of Culture, including by analysing their access to work.

 With support from the Office, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences collected 270 submissions on the increase in **violence against women in the context of COVID-19**. The Special Rapporteur encouraged Member States to maintain services and adopt specific protection measures during the pandemic.

---

The Office engaged in advocacy during the drafting of the **European Commission's "Roma Strategic Framework** for Equality, Inclusion and Participation for 2020-2030." The new EU Framework makes linkages with the SDGs and incorporates a monitoring framework that is based on human rights indicators.

---

 UN Human Rights strengthened legal, political and institutional frameworks for the **protection of the rights of youth and children**. In **West Africa**, UN Human Rights advocated for an integrated system for the protection of child victims of abuse and exploitation. Two national steering committees, established in Mali and Senegal, elaborated national action plans for the removal of children from the streets.

## ND2 – JUSTICE SYSTEMS investigate DISCRIMINATION

Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.




---

 With the support of UN Human Rights, **CEDAW** adopted **General Recommendation No. 38 (2020) on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration**. The text incorporated inputs from 120 contributions, regional consultations and three expert group meetings. This guidance will enhance the capacity of justice systems to monitor and investigate human rights violations and provide redress to victims of trafficking.

---

Following the adoption of Human Rights Council resolution 43/1 on systemic **racism in law enforcement against Africans and people of African descent**, UN Human Rights provided support to the mandated work, including through research and analysis, and by laying the foundation for four regional consultations that took place in early 2021.

---

In **Somalia**, UN Human Rights, the Somali Women and Child Care Association and the Somali Women and Child Cluster, with the support of the United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, carried out advocacy to urge the Federal Parliament to withdraw the Sexual Intercourse-Related Crimes Bill and instead table the 2018 Sexual Offences Bill. They co-organized a high-level meeting with representatives from the Office of the President, key ministries, the Office of the Attorney General, women and youth groups, religious leaders, traditional elders, academia, media and others. As a result, the adoption of the **Sexual Intercourse-Related Crimes Bill** was **put on hold**.

---

In **Georgia**, UN Human Rights advocated for better **protection of the rights of religious minorities**. The Office monitored the case of three high school graduates who were scheduled by the Ministry of Education to take the National Graduation Exam on a day that their religion prohibits work. The Office carried out targeted advocacy with State authorities and worked closely with defence lawyers who filed an urgent case in the local court. In a groundbreaking decision, the court compelled the Ministry of Education to administer the test to the students on an alternative date.

## ND3 – WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION and PROTECTION

Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.



UN Human Rights engaged in the **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign** in various locations. In the **State of Palestine**<sup>6</sup>, the Office partnered with the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the UNCT to organize the largest campaign to date. In addition, the Office enhanced its monitoring of gender-related killings by undertaking a mapping of key actors and issues and training women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in both Gaza and the West Bank, which resulted in the creation of a core group of activists in Gaza. A total of 47 representatives from State institutions, NHRIs and CSOs from 13 **Arab countries** also participated in a virtual panel discussion on “The role of national bodies and mechanisms concerned with combating violence against women in the Arab region.” In **East Africa**, the Office organized a virtual policy dialogue under the theme “Ending violence against women and girls: Action to guarantee women’s safety in Africa,” which resulted in commitments from African Union (AU) member states to integrate gender equality and women’s rights into COVID-19 recovery efforts.

In **Liberia**, UN Human Rights provided support to the Human Rights and Protection Department of the Ministry of Justice and CSOs to organize broad public discussions about SGBV, which were followed by three days of anti-rape protests. The Government convened a conference entitled “National call to action: Inclusive involvement to fight rape and sexual and gender-based violence in Liberia” to validate the **National Road Map on Rape and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence**. The President declared rape and all forms of SGBV as a national emergency. The Office supported the **review of customary law** to identify discriminatory regulations that fail to take gender into account. It also engaged with the Law Reform Commission and the Legislative Drafting Bureau to integrate an HRBA into revisions of the Rape Law, the Domestic Violence Act and the Inheritance Law.

In **Iraq**, UN Human Rights highlighted challenges faced by children and young adults who lived under ISIL occupation between 2014 and 2017, including in relation to gender norms, poverty, protection and trauma. The Office called for an **enabling environment for girl’s education** in two public reports that focus on the legacy of ISIL territorial control on access to education by adolescents. The reports were issued in February 2020 and January 2021, respectively.

## ND4 – ERADICATING HARMFUL NORMS

Judicial institutions, media and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms with a view to their eradication.



UN Human Rights strengthened the capacity of the judiciary to address and dismantle harmful stereotypes and protect **women’s human rights** to ensure that decisions are based on facts, rather than beliefs about the roles of women and men. In **Uruguay**, the Office has been working to eradicate **judicial gender stereotyping** since 2018. As a result, two guides were published for the judiciary and the Office of the Prosecutor on gender stereotypes and international standards relating to women’s access to justice. In June, UN Human Rights developed the capacities of 80 judges and prosecutors to use the guides and the Supreme Court issued an internal resolution that requests judges to use the guide for the judiciary as a key resource when ruling on cases related to GBV.

Under the **UN Free & Equal campaign**, UN Human Rights sought to **advance the human rights of LGBTI persons** through activities in 13 countries. In **Brazil**, for example, the Office disseminated three videos on LGBTI persons in the workplace and other web articles on social inclusion, reaching more than one million people. On the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (17 May), two thematic campaigns were launched at the global level in all UN languages and in Portuguese on **LGBTIQ+ youth homelessness** and breaking the silence around discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons. The Office developed social media toolkits on

<sup>6</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

LGBTIQ+ inclusion in COVID-19 prevention and recovery efforts and organized two high-level UN events with the UN LGBTI Core Group, in New York. At the European level, the Office contributed to meetings of the European Governmental LGBTI Focal Points Network and advocated for the inclusion of international human rights standards in the European Commission's first LBGTI Equality Strategy, which was adopted in November.

---

 On the occasion of **International Women's Day**, UN Human Rights partnered with WikiMedia to address **stereotypes about WHRDs** and create content on less well-known defenders who have made important contributions to their societies. A total of 72 competitors made edits in 36 languages and 3,224 articles were created or improved.

---

## ND5 – DIGITAL SPACE

Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space.



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

## ND6 – MIGRATION

The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

UN Human Rights raised awareness about, monitored and reported on the **human rights protection gaps faced by migrants** and monitored the situation at borders. It also assisted States and other stakeholders with the implementation of human rights-based migration governance measures, including in relation to COVID-19 and the human rights of migrants. The Office monitored the situation of **refugees and other migrants from Venezuela in host countries** and provided technical assistance to national actors. In Peru, for instance, the Office and UNIC issued communication materials to prevent the illegal evictions of Venezuelan migrants and refugees. Moreover, UN Human Rights provided support to the Ombudsperson's Office to discuss the situation with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The Office also issued public statements on the detention and deportation of Venezuelan migrants from Trinidad and Tobago, including persons registered as asylum seekers, some of whom were children.

---

In the EU, UN Human Rights consistently advocated for the creation of an **independent human rights monitoring mechanism at EU borders**. The new EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, which was tabled by the European Commission, in September, contains several provisions that are relevant to human rights and proposes the establishment of such a mechanism. In January, the Office joined the Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights of Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, and provided advice on human rights-compliant policies.

---

Through advocacy efforts, UN Human Rights contributed to **ending the detention of migrant children** in Immigration Detention Centres in **Thailand**. In the **Pacific**, UN Human Rights contributed to informing the Regional Policy Dialogue on **climate change-related migration, displacement and planned relocation**, including by outlining policy and identifying legal gaps.

## ND7 – PUBLIC MOBILIZATION for INCLUSION

Public support increases for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination.



With support from UN Human Rights, the Independent Expert on **albinism** built a campaign around International Albinism Awareness Day on 13 June. This culminated in an online concert and the launch of a social media campaign on the theme #MadetoShine. The Office issued approximately 25 social media posts in English, French and Spanish and an Instagram story that generated 1,600 engagements.

In **Malawi**, UN Human Rights sought to prevent conflict by promoting equality, diversity and inclusiveness. In the south of the country, a number of Christian-managed schools refused to educate girls who were wearing a hijab, which resulted in tension and violence between Muslim and Christian communities. Five schools were closed, leaving 10,000 children out of school. UN Human Rights collaborated with the Public Advisory Committee (PAC), a CSO of religious leaders, to organize a series of workshops with Muslim and Christian leaders on international human rights standards relating to **education, non-discrimination and freedom of religion or belief**. Following a request from the Government, PAC organized a dialogue to negotiate an agreed dress code for schools. Four of the five schools that were closed re-opened.

In the Republic of **Moldova**, the Office conducted an assessment of the human rights situation of Roma people in the region, which served as a basis for initiating a dialogue between Roma CSOs and de facto authorities on access to education, work and social protection. The assessment was used to develop a road map and action plan for **establishing the first institution of Roma community mediators**.

## ND8 – UN response to INEQUALITY and DISCRIMINATION

The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.



UN Human Rights reactivated the **UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities**, which issued a range of guidance for UNCTs on combating racial discrimination and protecting minorities. In November, the Network convened its first senior-level meeting, involving Assistant Secretaries-General from 10 UN entities. This resulted in the Network's adoption of its first workplan since 2014. Further, UN Human Rights issued a **Guidance Note on interlinkages between COVID-19 and racial discrimination**.

UN Human Rights advocated for the implementation of the UN System-wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and contributed to the development of a **policy statement on indigenous peoples**, which was endorsed by the **UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)**. UN Human Rights also produced a targeted **Guidance Note** on the **impacts of COVID-19 on minorities and indigenous peoples**.

In various locations, UN Human Rights contributed to the efforts of **UNCTs** to increasingly **include disability** in their processes and programmes. For instance, in the Republic of North Macedonia, the Office prepared a UNCT-wide Disability Inclusion Action Plan for 2020-2021. UN Human Rights also led inter-agency efforts to draft the **Secretary-General's policy brief on the impact of COVID-19 on older persons**, which was issued in May.

Within the context of the UNSDG Task Team on Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda, UN Human Rights coordinated a **review** of the extent to which **human rights** are **integrated into 109 COVID-19 SERPs** prepared by the UNCTs. The review was a true inter-agency effort and a good example of advancing the implementation of the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. The review pointed to a number of gaps but also some good practices, including the use of human rights indicators as well as the identification of at-risk groups and the drivers of exclusion, inequality and discrimination.

## Advancing the rights of LGBTI persons in Bolivia: The civil union of David and Guido

In recent years, important legal advances have been made in Bolivia to recognize the rights of populations with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity. Yet, discriminatory legislation and attitudes of homophobia persist. Against this background, the recognition of the free union between David Aruquiza and Guido Montaño in the civic registry (SERECI) marks a new chapter in the fight for equality and non-discrimination of LGBTI persons.

The registry of David and Guido's union, on 10 December, signals the end of a long bureaucratic and legal battle that they initiated as a couple 11 years ago, first as activists for the rights of the LGBTI community and later when dealing with a myriad of public entities, courts and constitutional chambers. "It was a tortuous experience, but we decided not to give up," said David.

The road to recognition was paved with many obstacles due to discriminatory provisions in legislation, including the Constitution, which only recognize unions between a woman and a man. The Constitutional Court ruled that their civil union had to be registered by the SERECI since international human rights treaties ratified by Bolivia have supremacy over the Constitution. Despite this ruling, it took another two years for their union to be registered due to refusals by public authorities.

Nevertheless, David and Guido had considerable support on their side. Two prominent human rights lawyers with significant experience in the promotion



David and Guido entered into the first same-sex "free union" in Bolivia.  
© Magdalena Tola Paño

and protection of human rights in Bolivia advised and assisted David and Guido during their struggle. In addition, advocacy undertaken by UN Human Rights with national authorities contributed to the eventual registration of their union. For instance, the Office consistently encouraged authorities to take this landmark step through private and public messages. On 30 July, it submitted a memorandum outlining relevant legal international and regional human rights standards to the SERECI and the Plurinational Constitutional Court. On 6 December, UN Human Rights posted a tweet urging the advancement of LGBTI rights in Bolivia and referring to David and Guido's case as an "historic opportunity." Furthermore, an advisory opinion issued in 2017 by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on gender identity and equality and non-discrimination

of same-sex couples, to which the Office submitted an amicus curiae brief, served as a key precedent that enabled David and Guido to begin this process.

On Human Rights Day, the SERECI finally ordered the free union to be registered. The decision was welcomed by UN Human Rights<sup>7</sup> and many HRDs in the country and abroad. As noted by Alán García Campos, Head of UN Human Rights in Bolivia, "The perseverance of David and Guido and their indefatigable battle for their rights is an inspiration to us all. Their achievement should motivate structural changes in order to fully recognize existing legal unions in Bolivia between same-sex couples and eradicate any kind of discrimination against LGBTI persons."

<sup>7</sup> See the UN Human Rights tweet at [https://twitter.com/Oacnudh\\_BO/status/1335571718430220288?s=20](https://twitter.com/Oacnudh_BO/status/1335571718430220288?s=20)



## Mixing it up for a more diverse Kyrgyzstan

In 2010, deadly inter-ethnic clashes killed hundreds of people in southern Kyrgyzstan. While peace has returned, tensions remain. In response, UN Human Rights has pioneered an internship programme that is helping the national civil service to engage more minorities and increase the diversity of its ranks.

A decade ago, the bustling streets of Osh, in southern Kyrgyzstan, experienced tragic events. Due to an inter-ethnic conflict between Uzbeks and Kyrgyz, at least 426 people were killed, 2,500 homes were burned down and thousands were forced to flee. Despite people's desire to move on, social media keep tensions simmering, especially among more extreme youth, and authorities are concerned that violence could unexpectedly erupt.

In 2020, nearly 28 per cent of the country's population was composed of ethnic minorities – Uzbek, Russian, Dungan

Chinese, Kazakh and other smaller groups – but less than 5 per cent of civil servants come from minority groups. Another factor that can influence hiring in the civil service is language. While Russian is an official language and widely spoken, the State language is Kyrgyz, which not everyone speaks fluently.

The UN Human Rights internship programme addresses this underrepresentation by expanding opportunities for ethnic minorities, women and persons with disabilities. Each intern is assigned a mentor, enrolls in training on human rights and public administration and receives a stipend.

"Some qualified specialists cannot find work, but through this project they [can] get a job, including ethnic minorities," said Anara Temiralieva, one of the programme's mentors and Head of the Family and Child Protection Unit in

the Department of Labour and Social Development. Anara would like to see the programme expanded across the country to ensure a more egalitarian and diverse workforce.

Maftuna Mavlyanova, an accountant from Osh, applied for one of the coveted civil service internships. "I was a new bride," she said, "and there is this stereotype that I needed to tend to the household, so I had many doors slammed in my face. I never dreamed I would be accepted." Maftuna proved herself and once her internship was complete, she was hired by the civil service.

From Osh, the UN Human Rights internship programme was extended to the country's northern Issyk-Kul region where many minorities live. In 2020, 23 interns completed the programme (14 women, nine men), including nine representatives of ethnic minorities and six persons with disabilities.

In November, the State Personnel Service (SPS), which handles all civil service hiring, proposed establishing a legislative basis to institutionalize the programme. Oleg Tarbinskii, Deputy Head of the SPS, believes the internship programme surpasses its initial goal. "It helps to attract and promote qualified young people into public service, evens out the rural-urban divide by providing equal access to all and measures the commitment of Kyrgyzstan to the democratic and liberal values of the State."



Maftuna Mavlyanova and other interns at the awards ceremony upon completion of their internship in the south of Kyrgyzstan. © Abdikaimov Nurgazy



UN Human Rights staff from the West Africa Regional Office visit a refugee camp in the Tillabéry region, Niger. © OHCHR

## Accountability (A)

Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations



### JUSTICE SYSTEMS, TRIALS AND PRISON CONDITIONS



**Trials**  
**708** court cases monitored



**Places of detention**  
**2,274** visits undertaken



**Detainees**  
**4,312** persons released (upon action from UN Human Rights, including 211 women, 4,008 men and 93 children)



**Monitoring missions**  
**11,929** human rights situations documented (41% in-person and 59% remotely)

### NON-JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS



**Human rights mechanisms**  
**92** opinions adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (55 urgent appeals, 139 allegation letters and 11 other letters initiated or joined)

**313** cases clarified by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (698 new cases transmitted to States, including 78 under the urgent action procedure)

**88** communications sent by the Working Group on business and human rights (including 79 joint allegation letters, 6 joint urgent appeals and 3 other joint letters)



**Paris Principles-compliant national human rights institutions (NHRIs)**  
**61** countries with established/enhanced NHRIs (3 new institutions accredited as NHRIs in Côte d'Ivoire, Estonia and Uzbekistan)

## Court ruling in Kenya: A milestone in environmental justice

In a positive development for environmental justice, the Owino Uhuru settlement in Kenya won the equivalent of US\$13 million in compensation for the devastating impacts on the environment and the health of a community caused by lead poisoning from a nearby smelter that recycled batteries.

On 16 July, the Land and Environment Court in Mombasa awarded compensation to the residents and ruled that the community's rights to life, a healthy environment, the highest attainable standard of health and clean and safe water had been contravened and ordered the Government of Kenya and two companies to pay compensation.

The ruling came four years after the Centre for Justice, Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) filed a class action lawsuit on behalf of the 3,000 residents living in Owino Uhuru. It also came ahead of the tenth anniversary of the landmark Kenyan Constitution and Bill of Rights, which specifically uphold the right to a clean and healthy environment and provide for the legal enforcement of environmental rights.

"We were very excited," said Phyllis Omido, founder and Head of the CJGEA. "Because we were suing the Government and corporations, we were not sure...if the judge would be bold and fearless enough to pronounce justice."

### **A DECADE OF CAMPAIGNING FOR JUSTICE**

When her baby son fell seriously ill with lead poisoning, Phyllis Omido, a former employee of the smelter, began a campaign to close the plant. She founded the CJGEA, an environmental grassroots group that advocates for the rights of communities poisoned by toxic chemicals from Kenya's extractive industries. For nearly a decade, Phyllis and other community activists have fought against the presence and effects of lead in the community.

UN Human Rights heard of her fight and offered to help as part of its mandate to support implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and protect civic space. In addition, UN Human Rights worked with Kenyan authorities to ensure the protection of members of the CJGEA and the settlement when they were threatened.

"UN Human Rights is the only international partner that directly funded the litigation," said Phyllis. "They also assisted us in monitoring and documenting the case. They stood with us when witnesses were harassed, intimidated and afraid, even sending a team into the community. Without UN Human Rights, we would have given up, many times."

Moreover, Phyllis' work on environmental justice led her to create the Land and Environment Defenders Network, which is also supported by UN Human Rights. Its advocacy has led the Government to close 10 toxic waste smelters over the last five years.

"Environmental human rights issues are on the rise, and as long as that is the case, I have work to do," Phyllis said. "We still have an unjust society, especially regarding environmental governance and human rights."



Phyllis Omido has been the driving force behind the quest for justice for the people of the Owino Uhuru community. © OHCHR/A. Fassio

# Highlights of pillar results

## Accountability (A)

The legal protection of all human rights requires various actors to fully assume their obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. This includes States as the primary duty-bearers as well as private actors, armed groups, other non-State actors and individuals who, under certain circumstances, can be held criminally accountable for their actions. To

enhance accountability and promote peaceful, prosperous and inclusive societies, UN Human Rights helps to build human rights-compliant institutional frameworks. It supports the adoption of regulations that domesticate international human rights law and it promotes policies and practices that guard against transgressions (i.e., misuse of criminal law,

arbitrary detention, torture, gender-based violence and censorship). UN Human Rights also supports the establishment of independent, impartial and fair courts and non-judicial mechanisms that address claims and grant remedies, including commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and other investigations.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### A1 – ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE and LAW ENFORCEMENT

Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

**Spotlights:** Disabilities Women Youth

Persistent and coordinated advocacy efforts undertaken by the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) resulted in progress made in enhancing **accountability for serious violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law**. For instance, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine repealed article 375 of the Criminal Code, which infringed on the independence of judges. The Cassation Criminal Court of the Supreme Court modified its practices to help ascertain that plea bargains are voluntary. The Office of the Prosecutor General made a commitment to tackle warrantless arrests in relation to 'continuous crimes' and to cease pressing terrorism charges against individuals who are linked with armed groups of the self-proclaimed 'republics' in eastern Ukraine. At the same time, a draft law was developed to amend the *in absentia* prosecution procedure, which is expected to facilitate prosecution of those responsible for serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations. Furthermore, the State judicial administration annulled requirements linked to digital signatures, improving access to online court hearings in the context of COVID-19. In its emblematic judgment on the right to liberty pending trial, the European Court of Human Rights referred to the HRMMU's findings. It is anticipated that the judgment will change national practices on arrests and pretrial detention.

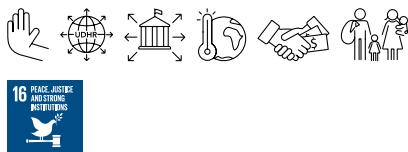
Sustained advocacy efforts undertaken by UN Human Rights in **Libya** contributed to the establishment, in Benghazi and Tripoli, of **specialized courts to address violence against women and children**. Another major development was the appointment, on 11 October, of five women judges (out of a total of six judges) to the newly established courts.

In partnership with the Ministry of Justice, UN Human Rights carried out an assessment of the **free legal aid** system in **Belarus**, identifying gaps and formulating recommendations, which informed the development of a road map to improve legal aid provision. During the year, the HRA, in close coordination with the Resident Coordinator, worked with bar associations, lawyers and two CSOs to provide legal consultation services to 1,543 persons (1,054 women, 489 men), including persons with disabilities and survivors of domestic violence.

 In **El Salvador**, UN Human Rights supported a network of national and international CSOs working on **sexual and reproductive rights** to present a habeas corpus before the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice in favour of 14 women imprisoned for obstetric emergencies. In this context, the Office also provided technical advice to the Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (PDDH, the NHRI), which submitted an amicus curiae brief in relation to these women to support the adoption of precautionary measures in their favour, including in relation to health and hygiene conditions in the context of COVID-19. As a result, the Constitutional Chamber ordered a review of these cases and an improvement of sanitary conditions in the prisons. Following this decision, one of the women was granted early parole and another woman's sentence was commuted.

## A2 – ACCESS TO JUSTICE and REMEDIES

**Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.**



UN Human Rights engaged with Member States, UN partners and CSOs to promote accountability for human rights violations. For instance, with support from the Permanent Mission of Libya, the Office and UNSMIL co-organized briefings and consultations on Libya for Member States of the Human Rights Council on the need to ensure accountability for violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including war crimes. This contributed to the **establishment**, in June, of a **Fact-Finding Mission on Libya**.

UN Human Rights made significant progress towards ensuring accountability for human rights violations in the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)**, including through the upgrade of the **central information and evidence repository** to the latest e-discovery software. Approximately 3,830 distinct files were added to the repository, such as interviews, reports, petition letters, satellite imagery, maps, court documents, videos and audio recordings. Related open source materials from the media, governments and academia were also uploaded. All relevant staff received online training on the use of the repository.

Throughout 2020, UN Human Rights engaged extensively with EU institutions to promote the application of an HRBA to the **new EU rule of law mechanism**. The Office advocated for making linkages between human rights, democracy and the rule of law, with a focus on defending civil society space. In December, an agreement was reached on rule of law budget conditionalities, linking respect for the rule of law and disbursements of EU funds to member states.

 In **Honduras**, UN Human Rights increased its support to the strategic litigation efforts of CSOs in cases related to the **rights of women** and **LGBTI** persons. The restrictive legislation on sexual and reproductive rights represents a major gap in the State's fulfilment of its international obligations. For instance, in a case where a voluntary termination of pregnancy was criminalized, the Office's intervention was key to ensuring the integration of international human rights norms and standards into the sentence, which set a precedent for future jurisprudence in this area.

In **Kenya**, UN Human Rights provided technical and financial support to the Tripartite Task Force (TTF), composed of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Independent Policing Oversight Authority and the National Police Service. The TTF developed **SOPs** regarding the **investigation and prosecution of serious human rights violations committed by police officers**. Investigators and prosecutors worked together to investigate allegations of serious human rights violations, such as killings, shootings, robbery, harassment, sexual assault and inhuman treatment, during the enforcement of COVID-19 curfew regulations. As a result, a number of officers were charged with committing serious human rights violations.

### A3 – Investigation of GENDER-related CRIMES

Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.



As a co-lead entity of the **United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict** (TOE), UN Human Rights supported national authorities in the investigation and prosecution of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings. In the Central African Republic, the TOE collaborated with MINUSCA and UNDP. As a result, the Joint Rapid Response Unit to Prevent Sexual Violence against Women and Children (UMIRR) finalized the judicial investigation into the crimes that occurred in Kaga Bandoro, in August 2019, including CRSV, which involved 264 victims. In January 2021, the judicial file was sent for review to the Office of the Prosecutor of the Kaga Bandoro High Court. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the TOE collaborated with the Joint Human Rights Office of MONUSCO, the UNCT and CSOs and worked with Congolese counterparts to implement a case prioritization strategy for serious international crimes, including sexual violence. The TOE also provided technical assistance in relation to the investigation, prosecution and trial of Ntalo Ntaberi Sheka and his co-conspirators for crimes committed between 2010 and 2017, including the mass rape of 387 civilians. These efforts contributed to the **groundbreaking decision of the Cour Militaire Opérationnelle of North Kivu**, on 23 November, to sentence Ntalo Ntaberi Sheka to life imprisonment after he was convicted of rape, sexual slavery and the recruitment of children. In Guinea, UN Human Rights and the TOE collaborated to support awareness-raising efforts regarding the importance of accountability for the events of 28 September 2009, during which at least 109 women and girls were victims of sexual violence. This resulted in a renewed commitment by senior officials to ensure accountability and elaborate draft guidelines to convene trials for these events.

In **South Sudan**, UN Human Rights reported and verified 146 incidents of CRSV affecting 218 survivors. The Office and its partners regularly raised cases of CRSV with parties to the conflict. Advocacy undertaken with the Chief of the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF) and the Minister of Defence, in May, regarding concerns over the continued use of sexual violence by the SSPDF in the Yei-Lasu area, was instrumental in the deployment of the District Court Martial to the area. In September, the **District Court Martial** handed down a **landmark ruling** in which 26 suspects were convicted and received sentences ranging from seven to 14 years in prison for the rape of six women and five girls. UN Human Rights monitored the two-month long trial and worked with CSOs to support and accompany the victims and their families before, during and after the trial.

In **Chad**, UN Human Rights conducted six field monitoring missions in the provinces of Ouaddai, Lake Chad, Moyen-Chari, Mandoul, Logone Occidental and Logone Oriental. The missions monitored specific **violations related to intercommunity conflicts, gender-based violence and child exploitation** and the conditions in prisons and other places of detention. During the missions, UN Human Rights gathered information that formed the basis for its subsequent advocacy with authorities. As a result, five human rights violations were redressed related to the arbitrary arrest of journalists, HRDs, CSO leaders and alleged members of Boko Haram and the ill-treatment of detainees.

## A5 – UN ACTION on RULE of LAW

**UN efforts with regard to the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core.**



Through its participation in the meetings of the Human Rights, Rule of Law and Victims of Terrorism Working Group and the Global Compact Human Rights Working Group, UN Human Rights highlighted the importance of integrating human rights into **counter-terrorism responses and responses to terrorist incidents and crisis situations**. The Office provided comments on the national counter-terrorism strategies of **Iraq** and **Tajikistan**, the Watchlisting Guidance Manual Initiative and the human rights aspects of the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems. The Global Compact Human Rights Working Group finalized the **Basic Human Rights Reference Guide (BHRRG): Proscription of Organizations in the Context of Countering Terrorism**. The BHRRG provides guidance to States on the parameters and human rights implications of identifying organizations as terrorist organizations. In cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism, UN Human Rights delivered training of trainers sessions to law enforcement officers on counter-terrorism and human rights in Cameroon, Iraq, Mali and Nigeria.

UN Human Rights provided technical advice to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into the **Global Framework for United Nations Support on Syria, Iraq and Third Country National Returnees** (Global Framework). This resulted in the integration of human rights into Global Framework processes (i.e., joint scoping exercises, risk management, technical guidance and advice related to programme design and implementation, monitoring and fund allocations from the Global Framework pooled funds). The support from UN Human Rights also included the provision of human rights and gender expertise to facilitate the implementation of the Global Framework.

In **Myanmar**, UN Human Rights supported the UNCT in enhancing its strategic approach to prevention, which resulted in the development and adoption of a **UNCT Human Rights Strategy** and implementation plan, with a focus on Leaving No One Behind and ensuring the holistic implementation of the UNCT's human rights agenda.

UN Human Rights developed and adapted a **digital image verification tool**, which was initiated in 2019, and deployed it as an internal service within the organization. This enabled staff and accountability mechanisms to test confidential digital artefacts for evidence of tampering and have a higher degree of confidence in the digital evidence used to support casework, human rights analysis and reporting.

## Enhancing accountability through the participation of civil society in Uzbekistan

Shukhrat Ganiev, a lawyer by training, became a human rights activist because he wanted to help vulnerable persons in his neighborhood of Bukhara. Many people around him could not understand why he would leave a stable job and tranquil life to assist complete strangers. Shukhrat felt that it was important to bridge the gap between law and law enforcement.

For this reason, he became the Head of the Humanitarian Legal Center, a non-registered CSO in Uzbekistan. “The majority of people perceive your actions as a human rights defender as their last hope. And sometimes it is important for them when you are just beside them during the night searches,” explained Shukrat.

“During the last few years, a lot has changed for the better for human rights defenders in Uzbekistan.” Until recently, Shukrat could not have imagined being able to visit places of detention. At the end of 2019, UN Human Rights selected him to participate in a training programme that was co-organized with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Penal

Reform International and the Office of the Ombudsperson. Together with a group of civil society members and staff from the Ombudsperson’s Office, Shukrat enhanced his capacities to monitor the human rights situation in detention facilities, including penitentiary institutions.

In the summer of 2020, joint advocacy efforts by UN Human Rights and the Resident Coordinator’s Office began to yield results. The Ombudsperson’s Office agreed to include independent civil society experts in its torture prevention monitoring activities.

Three national experts were trained and supported by UN Human Rights, including Shukrat, and participated in monitoring visits to places of detention and mandatory COVID-19 quarantine facilities. “I could interview prisoners of my own choice, regardless of whether they were convicted on the basis of political or religious charges,” noted Shukrat.

The work of the monitors was facilitated by the use of sample questionnaires that were developed by UN Human Rights to

support the monitoring activities. The Office also organized debriefing sessions with the Ombudsperson’s Office and civil society experts to discuss their findings, agree on follow-up activities and jointly formulate recommendations, some of which were included in the reports of the Ombudsperson’s Office to the Parliament. The debriefings provided forward-looking recommendations, including on the institutionalization of the participation of civic activists in the work of Uzbekistan’s National Preventive Mechanism.

In addition, Shukrat and his colleagues provided legal assistance to vulnerable individuals. By the end of 2020, they had won the cases of five young men who had been fully exonerated by the court during the appeals process. Shukrat then realized how much confidence he had gained during the previous year that “Recent changes are irreversible in my country,” he said. “There is the political will, the strategy and the team. The main thing is not to stop and to move forward.”



Shukhrat Ganiev at a training (left) and during a monitoring visit to the medical unit of a penal colony (right).  
© Photo courtesy of Shukhrat Ganiev (left) and OHCHR (right)

## The future of digital evidence: Fostering accountability for human rights violations

The Berkeley Protocol on Digital Open Source Investigations was launched at a special event to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Nuremberg trials. Several years in the making, the Protocol is a new tool that was jointly produced by UN Human Rights and the Human Rights Center at the University of California, Berkeley, to strengthen the use of video and other digital information as evidence in human rights, war crimes and international criminal cases.

The event, which took place on 1 December, recalled the first use of film as evidence in an international trial and discussed the future of digital evidence and visual imagery in court cases to foster accountability. “Technology can help us see the distant, the obscured and the unimaginable – and serve as concrete proof of violations of human rights and international law,” said Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights, in her opening remarks during the event.

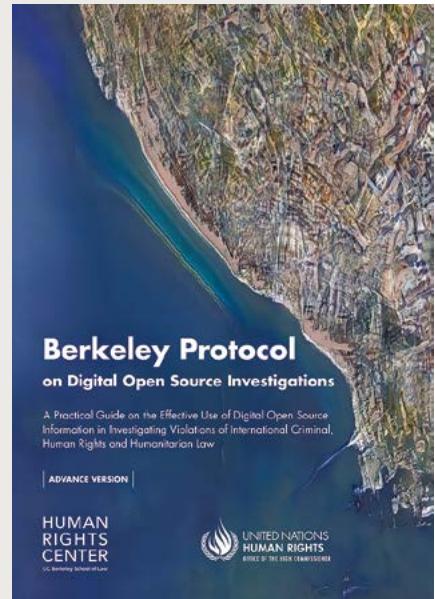
The Berkeley Protocol was developed by a group of experts with diverse professional perspectives, legal and cultural backgrounds and was subjected to a rigorous process of review and validation. It establishes common global standards for using public, digital content, including photographs and film, as evidence and for conducting online research regarding alleged violations of international criminal, international human rights law and international humanitarian law, thereby contributing to a new era in accountability for such violations.

The Protocol provides guidance on methodologies and procedures for gathering, analysing and preserving digital information in a professional, legal and ethical manner. It outlines measures that online investigators can and should take to protect their digital, physical and psychosocial safety and that of others who risk their well-being to document war crimes and human rights violations, including witnesses, victims and first responders, as well as citizens, activists and journalists.

In an era of widespread misinformation and disinformation, the Protocol has gained more importance as it sets out principles and methods behind verification and authentication analyses that practitioners and laypersons can comprehend.

First and foremost, the Protocol requires investigators to be bound by fundamental ethical, professional, methodological and legal principles to ensure that information is collected in line with human rights standards. That information can then be employed for accountability purposes when conditions allow.

In an increasingly digitalized world, UN Human Rights and the Human Rights Center hope that the Berkeley Protocol will help online investigators, whether they are legal professionals, human rights defenders, journalists or others, to develop and implement effective procedures for documenting and verifying violations of international law and to make the best use of digital open source information so that those who are responsible for such violations can be brought to justice.



Cover page of the Berkeley Protocol. © OHCHR

# Participation (P)

Enhancing participation and protecting civic space



## PUBLIC MOBILIZATION

### Global campaigns

**9.7 million** followers  
on social media (across all UN Human Rights platforms, 27% more than in 2019)

**376,000**  
mentions of  
**#StandUp4HumanRights**

**548** video stories  
(including 138 video messages from the High Commissioner)

**120** feature stories  
(UN Human Rights website and social media)

### In the field

**700** advocacy campaigns

**6,000** press releases/statements

## INFORMATION AND OUTREACH MATERIALS



**Universal Human Rights Index**  
**48,594** unique visitors to the website (a 32% increase from 2019)



**Publications**  
**6.19 million** visits to online publications (a 27% increase from 2019)  
Over **42,875** printed materials dispatched (to 30 countries)

## BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS



### With CSOs

**950** women's rights organizations  
**450** youth-led organizations  
**370** organizations of persons with disabilities



**Human Rights Day**  
Almost **600 million** views of GIFs (created with GIPHY)  
**32.4 million** persons reached through a photo challenge ("The World Is In Our Hands," with photographer Justin Wu)

## ENGAGEMENT WITH UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS



**HRC and UPR Voluntary Trust Funds**  
**10** delegates of States supported to attend UPR reviews (out of a total of 28 States reviewed)  
**108** requests processed by the HRC Help Desk for Small States (during regular sessions of the HRC)



**Intimidation and reprisals against those cooperating with the UN**  
New cases/developments from **45** countries



**Social Forum**  
**1,000** participants (from 100 countries, with a focus on "Combating poverty and inequalities")

## Empowering young people to participate in the promotion of their rights

The right to participation is one of the most important principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Yet, a “[Global survey on youth and COVID-19](#)” conducted by UN Human Rights, ILO and other partners demonstrated that young people have been hit hard by the pandemic. In particular, respondents from 112 countries, 18-34 years of age, observed the impacts of COVID-19 on their right to participation in public affairs and peaceful protests.

Consequently, many young people channelled their creativity into countering the spread of the virus and raising awareness in their communities. Respondent Nikhat Akhtarp, from India, wrote, “I am fighting against the spread of misinformation and fake news about COVID-19.”

As noted by a report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on youth and human rights, “Investing in young people’s rights and empowering youth can lead to more equal societies and positive social change” (A/HRC/39/33). To participate effectively, young people must be given the proper tools. During the year, UN Human Rights worked to ensure that human rights were more relevant, accessible and useful to young people in the Asia-Pacific region, enabling them to play a vital role in their own development and that of their communities.

In the Pacific, the Office built the capacity of 25 youth representatives to use the international human rights mechanisms and fight for stronger climate action. Sunishma Singh, of the Fiji Youth Council, participated in this initiative: “Knowing

there are human rights mechanisms out there that can be used to hold States and private sector actors accountable for the climate crisis strengthens my resolve to fight for climate action,” he said. Singh and his peers are leading movements to participate in and guide the political debate on climate change.

In Cambodia, UN Human Rights and six youth rights associations organized the Youth Human Rights Champion Competition. Six youth groups, with participants aged 15-23 years, were selected to produce two-minute videos on human rights that are relevant to them, including the right to vote, the right to education of sex workers’ children, the right of vulnerable groups to participate in public affairs, the rights of migrant workers and equality between women and men. The videos can be accessed on the [UN Human Rights-Cambodia Facebook page](#).

In Papua New Guinea, UN Human Rights and the HRA partnered with a CSO to launch an innovative initiative in selected schools entitled “Human Rights Games,” enabling students to learn about and promote their rights.

The voices, creativity and engagement of young people can help shape more inclusive, equal and resilient societies. UN Human Rights is taking steps to make their fundamental right to participate and be heard a reality, including in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.



Launch of the Kedar Human Rights Cup in selected schools of Papua New Guinea. The event commemorates the role of UN Human Rights Adviser Kedar Poudyal. © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Participation (P)

Participation of rights-holders and their representative organizations, reflecting the diversity of society and ensuring those most underrepresented are involved, is key to realizing the promise of human rights for all people. When civil society engages freely and actively in policy development and implementation, policies are more informed, effective, efficient and sustainable. Furthermore, civil society is

generally the closest point of assistance for victims of human rights violations and provide legal, medical, social and financial support. Major obstacles to civil society participation exist at all levels, including within UN forums, and shrinking civic space creates a major gap in the promotion and protection of human rights. While new technologies facilitate the expansion of civil society networks, they also create

new avenues for control of civil society movements and speech, often under the pretext of security. UN Human Rights is uniquely placed to monitor and protect civil society space and the international human rights mechanisms rely heavily on civil society to collect information and support the implementation of their recommendations.

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### P1 – ENABLING NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK for civil society

Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online. The environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

**Spotlights:** Disabilities Women Youth

UN Human Rights served as a bridge between **civil society and social media platforms**. In February, the Office helped bring together NHRIs, journalists, human rights defenders and social media platforms, with a view to identifying key obstacles to online civic space and new avenues through which they can be addressed. These efforts led to more regular engagement between tech companies and human rights organizations. It also established **channels of communication with social media platforms**, enabling UN Human Rights to engage in advocacy regarding content moderation and communicate its concerns about incitement cases.

As a result of advocacy undertaken by UN Human Rights, the Government of **Bolivia** published Decree 4236, on 14 May, which **derogated provisions of Decree 4231 that limited freedom of expression in the context of COVID-19**. The previous Decree allowed authorities to file criminal complaints against those who failed to comply with quarantine orders or disseminated information that allegedly had the potential to put public health at risk or provoke uncertainty among the population. The Office issued public messages, conducted advocacy meetings and sent a technical document to authorities that highlighted the incompatibility of Decree 4231 with the right to freedom of expression, provided in article 19 of ICCPR, due to its violation of the principles of necessity, proportionality and legality.

In **Mauritania**, a decree was adopted, in July, on the **establishment of an observatory on the rights of women and girls**. UN Human Rights advocated for this result through consistent engagement with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Children and Family Welfare. In addition, UN Human Rights undertook a study and organized a technical workshop on the subject.

UN Human Rights collaborated with the co-chairs of the International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Working Group to organize **consultative dialogues with civil society** actors to gather their views and ensure the **Libya Peace Dialogue Forum** (LPDF) proceedings were **inclusive and rights-based**.

**Shifts:**



Global constituency



Prevention



Civic space

**based.** A number of principles were incorporated into the LPDF road map, including the importance of achieving equality between women and men and pursuing comprehensive national reconciliation based on the principles of transitional justice. Firm commitments were undertaken to secure the increased engagement of women in these processes. For instance, a quota was established to ensure that women are selected for a minimum of 30 per cent of ministerial and deputy appointments. The LPDF road map was unanimously accepted by participants and annexed to the outcome document of the Forum.

 In **Kyrgyzstan**, as part of an ongoing programme supported by UN Human Rights to increase the **participation of underrepresented groups in public life**, 23 persons (14 women, nine men, including nine persons from ethnic minorities and six persons with disabilities) completed a three-month internship programme in a number of State and municipal bodies of the Issyk-Kul region. The State Personnel Service proposed that the programme be formally established.

## P2 – PROTECTION of CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS

The UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals, including from reprisals.



UN Human Rights finalized a **guidance document for the UN system on preventing and addressing reprisals**. In June, the Office organized a consultation with UN partners and distributed the guidance for further refinement and use by UN actors in various contexts, such as peace operations, work on counter-terrorism, development and international finance. The Office also mapped the engagement of Member States and civil society with the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies to provide guidance and enhance the protection measures of Member States.

In a landmark development that was spearheaded by UN Human Rights, with support from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the UN adopted a **Guidance Note on the promotion and protection of civic space**. The Guidance Note recognizes civic space as a threshold issue for the successful implementation of all three pillars of the United Nations and commits all parts of the system to taking steps to promote and protect civic space. The launch of the Guidance Note, in December, was attended by more than 800 civil society representatives from around the world.

With support from UN Human Rights, the **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of assembly and association** raised awareness about 164 situations, including 24 cases related to **laws or draft laws that could have a negative impact on the right to association** and on trade unions, including in Bulgaria, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Kyrgyzstan, Tanzania and Ukraine. The Government of Ireland acknowledged the legitimate concerns regarding the 1997 Electoral Act and committed to the establishment, by the end of 2021, of an independent Electoral Commission, which will review the Act in its totality.

Throughout the year, UN Human Rights in **Colombia** coordinated its work with the Office of the Ombudsperson, resulting in the issuance of **50 early warnings concerning attacks against human rights defenders**. Furthermore, the enhanced collaboration between State entities, including the Office of the Procurator General and the Office of the Ombudsperson, resulted in enhanced analysis of early warning responses and the promotion of **coordinated actions by authorities**. UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to ensure the compliance of these processes with international human rights standards.

### P3 – PUBLIC SUPPORT for CIVIC SPACE

Business, policymakers and the public at large increasingly value and support civic space.



### P4 – ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS

Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.



A particularly relevant issue in 2020 was the crucial **role of civil society in the context of COVID-19**. The High Commissioner and other senior UN Human Rights officials regularly advocated for enhanced access to reliable information and space for the expression of critical views as key elements of an effective response to the pandemic and efforts for building back better.

In May, UN Human Rights developed a **Guidance Note on civic space and COVID-19**, which was translated into four languages and widely disseminated (it was downloaded approximately 5,000 times by visitors from over 80 countries).

In **Azerbaijan**, UN Human Rights supported the provision of **free legal assistance to members of vulnerable groups**, in cooperation with the Ombudsman and the Bar Association. As a result, 982 individuals (486 women, 496 men), including unemployed persons, persons with disabilities, older persons, pensioners and internally displaced persons (IDPs), received legal assistance during the year. The services primarily focused on social and economic rights, including social security, labour and property rights and the rights to health and education.

UN Human Rights provided support to the "**WE**" **Women Human Rights Defenders Network**, which was established with the support of the Office in 2019 and unites 40 WHRDs from 14 countries in the **Middle East and North Africa region**. In 2020, the Network organized a regional online symposium on inequalities between the rights of women and men under nationality legislation. The Network also disseminated recommendations to the media, religious and community leaders and legislative bodies.

### P5 – CIVIC SPACE MONITORING

More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.

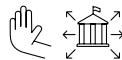


Advocacy undertaken by UN Human Rights contributed to more effective **actions from EU regional institutions in response to threats to civic space**. The European Democracy Action Plan, the EU Strategy for the Effective Implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and the EU Digital Strategy, all of which were adopted in 2020, recognize the need to protect civic space in Europe, both offline and online.

In **Costa Rica**, the Office worked closely with the judiciary to move forward with a **protocol for investigating human rights violations against human rights defenders**. UN Human Rights supported the adoption of a comprehensive protection policy that includes opportunities for participation, early warning, the provision of training to State agents and overall guidelines on crimes committed against HRDs. In **El Salvador**, the Office supported the development of **legislation** that provides a definition of HRDs and establishes relevant **protection mechanisms**, in line with recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders. In November, the Legislative Assembly discussed a draft version of the legislation with CSOs.

## P6 – PEOPLE HAVE a VOICE

The voices of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, are more clearly heard.



 In the **Republic of Moldova**, UN Human Rights supported the creation and functioning of an **NGO Task Force on COVID-19 and Human Rights**, which included 56 national and local CSOs, including from the Transnistria region. The work of the Task Force resulted in **contributions to policy and programme design and implementation** and was conducive to a better understanding of the needs of vulnerable groups during the pandemic.

 **Somalia**'s 2019 ratification of CRPD opened the avenue for the **increased engagement of persons with disabilities in public processes** that are related to the protection of their rights. In Somaliland, UN Human Rights supported civil society to conduct consultations aimed at revising the Somaliland Disability Policy as a contribution to the drafting of disability legislation that is in compliance with CRPD. The Office supported the Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights in Mogadishu to conduct consultations on the Persons with Disabilities Bill, which is ready to be tabled before the Cabinet.

The Office contributed to the **protection of the rights of indigenous peoples in Colombia** by supporting the use of **human rights-based protocols**, which were developed with indigenous authorities and the Ministry of the Interior, to facilitate the implementation of the peace agreements in the territories of indigenous peoples and communities of people of African descent, such as the Nasa people, the Renacer Negro Community Council, the Greater Community Council of the Comprehensive Farmers' Association of Atrato and the Bari people.

 In **Guatemala**, UN Human Rights supported youth-led organizations to promote positive human rights change. It organized a regional meeting with youth leaders from 11 organizations in the eastern part of Guatemala, resulting in the establishment of the Connected Youth Initiative. Similarly, the Office supported the creation of the **Youth Human Rights Defenders Network**, which unites 26 organizations and offers a space for dialogue and technical assistance on the human rights of youth, with a focus on participation and the right to education and work.

## P7 – Human rights RESPONSE to VIOLENCE

Public recognition increases that human rights and accountability make important contributions to effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.



 UN Human Rights released a series of animated videos entitled "Human Rights Explained" as part of a **campaign to raise awareness of and support for human rights among Cambodian youth**. The campaign reached 744,800 Facebook users and the videos were shared with youth organizations, some of which used them in training activities. The Office also worked with six youth organizations on a Young Human Rights Champion Competition to recognize youth support for human rights issues. Participants aged 15-23 years produced six videos on a variety of topics, including the right to vote, the participation of persons with disabilities, the equal right to work for women and men, migrant workers and discrimination against the children of sex workers and former prisoners. The videos were posted on the UN Human Rights - Cambodia Facebook page, resulting in approximately 2.1 million reaches and 101,000 engagements.

Under the MoU between UN Human Rights and the Ministry of Religious Affairs in **Tunisia**, the Office supported the **creation of a Monitoring Unit** within the Ministry to receive, analyse and report on **complaints about alleged human rights violations committed by or against imams and professional worship staff**. While the Unit originally focused on Muslim clerics, additional advocacy by the Office resulted in the extension of its mandate to cover Christian and Jewish clerics. Moreover, a hotline was created to enable clerics who are victims of violations to contact the Unit. In 2020, the Monitoring Unit issued its first quarterly report, which provided quantitative and qualitative data that are disaggregated by gender.

## Supporting Syrian civil society actors in their struggle to claim and defend their rights



Jalal Al Hamad, Syrian lawyer and activist. © Photo courtesy of Jalal Al Hamad

“I had to leave because there was an execution order against me,” said Jalal Al Hamad, a Syrian lawyer. Jalal was 25 in 2011 and the war in Syria was in its early stages.

The young man left government-controlled Damascus to reach Deir Ezzor, an area in north-eastern Syria that was an opposition stronghold at the time. When ISIL took control of the zone, he began to fear for his life. Forced to flee again, he arrived in Gaziantep, in neighbouring Turkey.

Nearly 10 years later, Jalal’s country has been ripped apart by a war that shows no sign of ending. Countless women, men and children have been killed or injured and millions have fled. Last year, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, noted, “During the early years of this murderous conflict, when the casualties were in the tens, then hundreds, then thousands, the world showed considerable concern about what was happening. Now, airstrikes kill and maim significant numbers of civilians several times a week and the response seems to be a collective shrug.”

While the war in Syria fades away from the spotlight, people like Jalal continue to work tirelessly to raise awareness about the ongoing severe human rights violations in the country.

Jalal is now the Director of Justice for Life, an organization established in 2015 with teams inside and outside Syria that monitor events and human rights violations in the Deir Ezzor region. As a result of

interviews with victims and witnesses, the CSO documented hundreds of violations, including killings under torture, extrajudicial killings and disease and malnutrition as a consequence of besiegement.

Jalal’s desire to speak out against such atrocities stemmed from a need to provide a balanced voice. “I wanted to address these violations objectively and neutrally and to be the voice of victims.”

Justice for Life engages with the international human rights mechanisms to report its findings, including the Human Rights Council. The organization recently signed an MoU with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes Under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since 2011. UN Human Rights has interacted extensively with Jalal and his colleagues to monitor the human rights situation in north-east Syria and promote human rights-based approaches to their programming and advocacy efforts.

“We have become a hub for victims,” said Jalal. “Men, women and children are coming to us without fear. This building of trust in the community has been a major success factor, which we hope will help us achieve the ultimate goal: justice.”



At an event to celebrate International Youth Day, Zaira Begg from the Fiji Youth Council presents a mural that was designed and painted by young leaders from across the region, highlighting what climate action and resilience during the pandemic means to Pacific youth. © OHCHR



 United Nations  
**Human Rights**

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# Management



UN Human Rights staff in the State of Palestine<sup>8</sup> during a monitoring mission in Kafr Malik, West Bank, site of weekly demonstrations against new settlement outposts.  
© OHCHR

<sup>8</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

This chapter provides an overview of the efforts of UN Human Rights to ensure its decision-making, planning, management and evaluation processes operate at the highest possible standard. It includes highlights of results achieved under the 10 UN Human Rights Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs).

## Accountability and governance framework

### Mandate

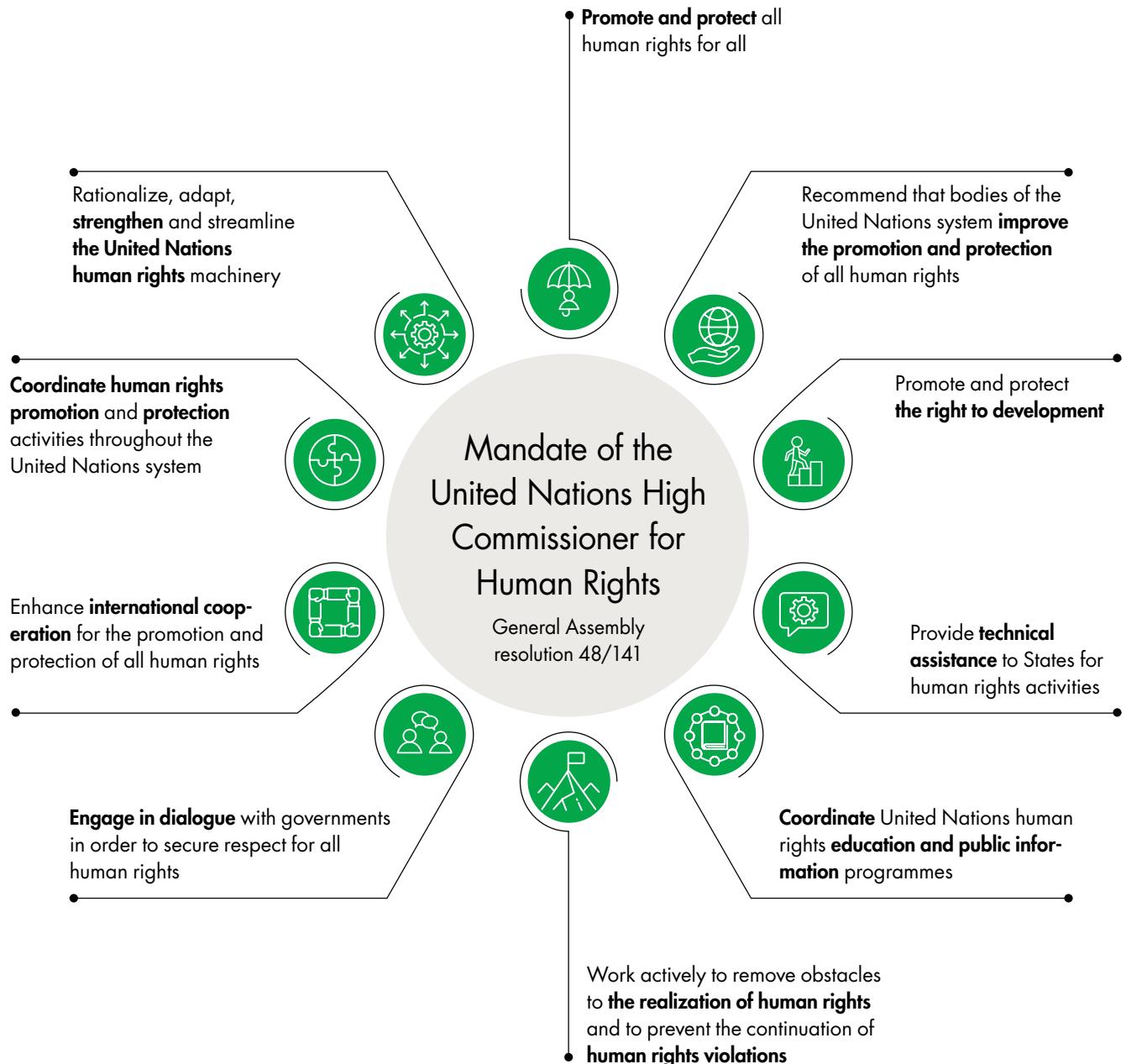
Mandated by General Assembly resolution 48/141, UN Human Rights is a department of the United Nations Secretariat. It does not have its own executive board, but it is directly accountable to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly.

The mandate of UN Human Rights is derived from multiple sources, including General Assembly resolution 48/141, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and subsequent human rights instruments, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

UN Human Rights is mandated to prevent human rights violations, secure respect for all human rights, promote international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinate related activities throughout the United Nations and strengthen and streamline the UN system in the field of human rights. In addition to these

responsibilities, the Office leads efforts to integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into all work that is carried out by UN entities.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights is the principal human rights official of the United Nations who is appointed by the General Assembly for a fixed term of four years, with the possibility of one renewal for a second term. UN Human Rights is led by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, with the support of the Deputy High Commissioner, Nada Al-Nashif, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ilze Brands Kehris, who heads the New York Office.



## Internal decision-making

Office-wide decision-making takes place through the Senior Management Team, which is chaired by the High Commissioner and the Programme and Budget Review Board, which is chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner. These two bodies meet regularly to make recommendations to the High Commissioner on policies, operating procedures and programme and resource allocations. The Policy Advisory Group and the extended Policy Advisory Group, chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner, provide additional forums for senior managers to exchange views and recommendations related to policy and management issues.

In 2020, the **Senior Management Team (SMT)** met on six occasions to make decisions on policy-related matters. The SMT endorsed the OHCHR Return to Workplace Plan; the workplan for the Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management; the OHCHR Disability Rights Policy and Strategy and the OHCHR Risk Register. The SMT also discussed the review of the peacebuilding architecture; the OHCHR response to global protests; the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights; the OHCHR response to COVID-19 and its messaging; the office-wide Surge Initiative work on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs), the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and inequalities; the UN Prevention Strategy; and the International Decade for People of African Descent.

In 2020, the **Programme and Budget Review Board (PBRB)** held 11 regular meetings and one extraordinary meeting, contributing to ongoing improvements in the internal governance of the office-wide programming, budget and finances. The PBRB proved its continuing relevance in the course of the pandemic and the regular budget cash-flow crisis, particularly in the context of the Mid-Year Review, which enabled the Office to adjust its programmes to the financial context. During the year, the PBRB reviewed approximately 45 fundraising and fund allocation proposals from headquarters and the field. The proposals were processed by the PBRB Secretariat as electronic reviews to optimize the use of the PBRB's meeting time and enable timely decisions between meetings.

Two **Policy Advisory Group (PAG)** meetings were held in 2020 to address: 1) policy issues relating to the COVID-19 response; and 2) the UN Human Rights Policy and Strategy on hate speech. The recommendations emanating from these meetings were taken up at the SMT level. The 2020 Leadership Dialogue on acknowledging dignity through civility

was held at the PAG level with all members of the Leadership Team, before being delivered to the rest of the Office.

Three **extended PAG (ePAG)** meetings with managers were organized to share and discuss various management issues, such as COVID-19 operational implications, IT systems, staff survey results, inclusion, mental health, the financial situation, the data strategy and annual work and cost plans of the Office. One ePAG meeting was dedicated to human resources processes.

The pandemic offered UN Human Rights unexpected opportunities to become more innovative and inclusive in its working modalities. In the generalized teleworking context, all governance body meetings switched to a virtual format. This led to a boost in participation, particularly among field colleagues. For instance, while previous ePAG meetings included 30-40 colleagues, the last ePAG meeting had 107 participants.

# Results-based management

## Monitoring

Comprehensive and substantive programmatic analyses were conducted in 2020 to inform senior management on how to make progress towards achieving the targets of the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), including in the context of COVID-19 reprogramming. An initial stocktaking exercise looked at how the Office could and should respond to the COVID-19 crisis, which was followed by a thorough Mid-Year Review. Lessons learned were captured in the End-of-Year Reporting and integrated into the 2021 annual workplans.

Monitoring the performance of UN Human Rights against the targets set by the OMP takes place through the Performance Monitoring System (PMS), a tailor-made online tool that facilitates planning, monitoring and reporting on a common set of office-wide results, in line with the principles and standards of results-based management (RBM). In order to improve the operation of the PMS in 2020, the Office refined its existing modules and introduced new functionalities, particularly those relating to learning, through the integration of the Evaluation Module, in accordance with the 2019 recommendations of the independent evaluation of the implementation of RBM at UN Human Rights.

## Evaluation

In 2020, four evaluations were finalized on: the transitions of human rights components in peace operations; the El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras country programmes; the Cambodia country programme; and the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Programme. Gender and disability issues were mainstreamed into the evaluations conducted in the Office.

During the reporting period, internal assessments were concluded for various programmes, including the Doha Centre, the Regional Office for Europe in Brussels, the Country Office in Liberia, the G5 Sahel project and the Gender Focal Points Network. An evaluation of the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programmes was also conducted at the end of 2020 (see box on p. 84). Support was provided for the desk review process, the interviews of the stakeholders and the revision of the reports in relation to the evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group Human Rights Mainstreaming (UNSDG-HRM) Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) (managed by the Trust Fund's Secretariat), the OIOS evaluation of the accountability system in the UN Secretariat, the OIOS biennial study of the evaluation function

and the Belgium voluntary core funding evaluation (managed by the Belgian development cooperation).

In 2020, UN Human Rights began implementing the recommendations emanating from the RBM evaluation. For instance, the preparation of the Office's Programming Manual was initiated and the RBM training package was revised.

## Assessing the results and impacts of the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programmes

The Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programmes are designed to support indigenous and minority representatives by strengthening their knowledge about the UN system and the international human rights instruments and mechanisms. At the end of 2020, an independent consultant conducted an evaluation to assess the results and impacts achieved by the Programmes since 2014; the period of the last two OMPs.

The fundamental finding of this evaluation is that the Fellowship Programmes are filling an extremely important gap in global efforts to address human rights issues. The Programmes provide relevant training and access to the international human rights mechanisms for two of the most vulnerable segments of the global population, namely, indigenous peoples and minorities. These groups continue to be subject to some of the most severe and systematic human rights abuses in the world today. They are also among the most marginalized and impoverished sections of the global population, with overall extremely low levels of access to national and international decision-making processes and much lower than average access to institutions that facilitate such access.

The evaluation noted that the overwhelming majority of fellows who had completed the Programmes continue to work towards the promotion and protection of human rights in their communities after returning to their home countries. Their abilities to effectively undertake this work is greatly enhanced by their participation in the Programmes, which clearly develop their capacities and empower them to then build those capacities within their respective countries. The Programmes also help fellows to create extensive networks at the regional and global level that they can draw upon for support.

The evaluation concludes that there are no other programmes that provide the type and extent of training that these Fellowships offer to indigenous peoples and minorities and that they have the potential to make a substantial long-term contribution to advancing the enjoyment of human rights by these target groups.

## Risk management

As part of the overall risk management initiative of the UN Secretariat, and as part of a wider effort to improve the organizational governance and accountability framework, a UN Human Rights Risk Management Plan was developed in 2020, which included a UN Human Rights Risk Register. This was a timely exercise in light of the COVID-19 pandemic – a crisis that underscored the importance of being able to anticipate, assess and evaluate our risks as we initiate a corporate process to put in place the required controls and systems to avoid and mitigate those risks.

An office-wide risk assessment process was organized to identify potential risks, root causes, drivers, existing internal controls and additional risk response measures. Based on the results of this risk assessment, a two-day risk validation workshop was held with senior management, during which 16 primary risks were identified for the organization: four very high risks, four high risks and eight medium risks.

Information on these 16 risks, including their mitigation measures, was compiled in a Risk Register. The Register will be regularly reviewed in order to monitor changes in risk profiles and identify emerging risks. With the establishment of the Risk Register, UN Human Rights complied with the requirement of the UN Secretariat, implemented the recommendations issued by the MOPAN evaluation and heeded calls from Member States to establish a risk management plan. Most importantly, this will enable UN Human Rights to better anticipate and mitigate new risks and challenges and therefore be more effective in fulfilling its mandate.

While working on its organization-wide Risk Management Plan, UN Human Rights provided inputs to the UN Secretariat Risk Register on the Secretary-General's Strategic Focus Areas and Critical Risks regarding the risk analysis related to priority 3 (the continued protection of human rights), which is one of the Secretary-General's six priorities.

Furthermore, UN Human Rights prepared an Organizational Governance Improvement Framework to review potential decisions and actions in relation to the roles of senior leadership, accountability, direction, resources and performance, ethical governance culture and stakeholder engagement, risks and internal control, counter-fraud and corruption, independent audits and inspections and appropriate information and support.

## Human rights risk management in the context of COVID-19

The pandemic triggered and exacerbated various human rights challenges, including:

- Threats to multilateralism as countries imposed unprecedented executive measures.
- Challenges for multilateral cooperation.
- Exposure to the damaging impacts of inequalities in every society, with significant risks to the enjoyment of economic and social rights, such as health, adequate housing, livelihoods, education, food and water.
- Incidents of racism and xenophobia that exacerbated inequalities.
- Immense risks to vulnerable persons/groups and their right to life as well as adverse impacts on women and girls, including in relation to their access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and protection from domestic and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV).
- Risks to the full enjoyment of civil and political rights, such as measures restricting freedom of expression, arrests for COVID-19-related social media posts and new forms of surveillance and data collection.

UN Human Rights worked with a broad range of UN partners to address these concerns and issues, including WHO, DCO, UN Women, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, ILO, UN Habitat, UN Water, UNODC and others. The Office supported the inclusion of human rights standards and principles in their guidance and actions and contributed to resolving challenging human rights issues that proliferated during the pandemic, for example through the provision of an indicators framework to help monitor the human rights impacts of COVID-19 in various sectors and by supporting Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in their work on National Response Plans. UN Human Rights staff also participated in and sometimes led Protection Clusters and gender networks.

# Organizational development

## Organizational effectiveness results

UN Human Rights defined nine interrelated Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans under the OMP 2018-2021. At the end of 2020, it adopted a new OEAP on Sustainable Environmental Management (SEM) (see figure below). In addition, a

working group was established, in 2020, to put in place a new set of institutional arrangements to foster an inclusive culture and respectful workplace. This will result in the adoption of a new OEAP on Inclusion in 2021, replacing the OEAP

on Diversity and Gender, with a focus on addressing racial discrimination and promoting intersectional approaches in order to achieve gender equality and respect for diversity.

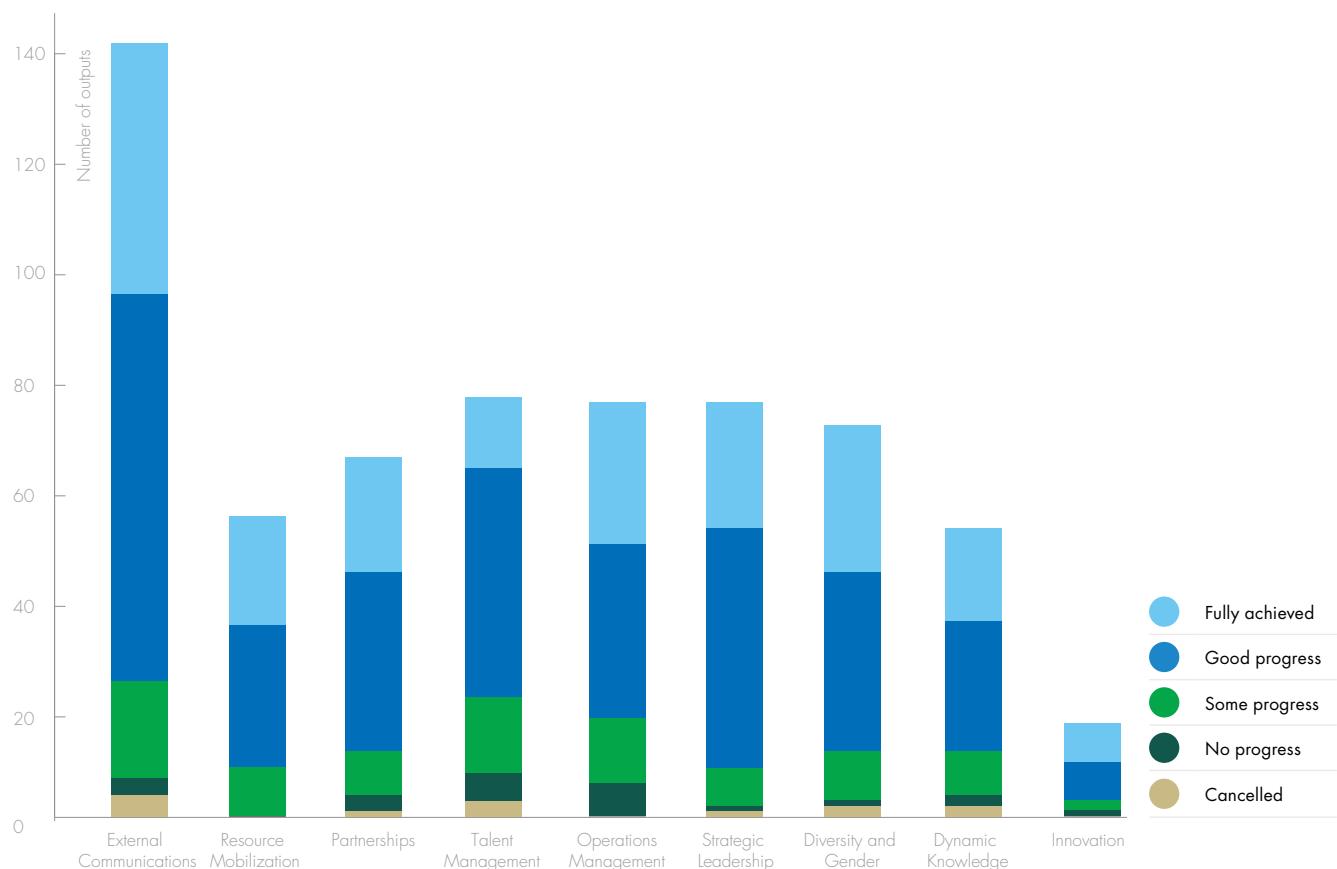
### Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs)



Organizational effectiveness results are the changes that UN Human Rights commits to achieving in order to improve its programme delivery and operational relevance and efficiency. The results were defined at the output level in the 2020 annual workplans. Approximately 92 per cent of programming entities reported on organizational effectiveness results at the end of the year, demonstrating a high level of office-wide engagement, both in the field and at headquarters.

In the following pages, we summarize progress made in the implementation of the 10 OEAPs and highlight key achievements from headquarters and the field during the year. More details and examples can be found on pp. 502-511 of the online report.

## Progress reported under each OEAP in 2020





## Strategic Leadership and Direction

**UN Human Rights leadership bodies are making timely, evidence-based strategic decisions in line with results-based management principles.**

Despite the significant challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the regular budget cash-flow crisis, steady progress was made in achieving established results, in particular with regard to people-centred, inclusive and inspirational leadership and internal communication and accountability frameworks. Concerted efforts were made to provide clear leadership and operational direction to guarantee a safe working environment for staff. Regular all staff messages and general guidance kept staff members abreast of the evolving situation and individual concerns were addressed in a timely manner. Programmatic guidance was issued to mainstream the COVID-19 response into existing priority areas and work streams. Through ongoing analyses of programme implementation and heightened attention to lessons learned, UN Human Rights made necessary adjustments in a timely manner to ensure that human rights remained at the heart of the UN response to the pandemic. COVID-19 also prompted UN Human Rights to accelerate its work on mitigating risks, resulting in the finalization of the OHCHR Risk Register. UN Human Rights' policymaking, programming and evaluation functions continued to be supported through a rapid adjustment to virtual working methods.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- Guidance was provided to staff on operational matters through the UN Human Rights COVID-19 Crisis Response Team.
- Support was provided to managers through the LeadingNet community of practice, which was established to facilitate the collaboration of UN Human Rights managers in all duty stations.
- The Leadership Dialogue on acknowledging dignity through civility was completed by 93 per cent of UN Human Rights staff.
- Internal information was shared through the Weekly Updates and Weekly News podcast.
- The continuous functioning of internal governance bodies through virtual meetings led to increased participation.
- A decision-tracking system was completed, aimed at tracking the implementation of all decisions made by the governance bodies.
- Programme analysis was undertaken to inform strategic and programmatic decision-making, including on COVID-19 reprogramming.
- Engagement with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) was strengthened, with 65 Common Country Analysis (CCA) and Cooperation Framework processes supported to integrate human rights analysis and recommendations.
- The OHCHR Risk Register and Organizational Governance Improvement Framework were completed and the human rights section of the UN Risk Register was developed.
- Four evaluations and five internal assessments/strategic visioning exercises were completed.
- The preparation of the Programming Manual was initiated and almost completed and the RBM training package was revised.

## Placing human rights at the heart of UN response to the COVID-19 pandemic

From the outset of the crisis, the leadership of UN Human Rights was proactive in mobilizing the entire Office to shift its attention and adapt its interventions to ensure that human rights were situated at the heart of the UN system response. This was achieved through the establishment of an internal crisis response structure that fostered organizational effectiveness in the face of the crisis; the reprogramming and realignment of existing programmes; and system-wide contributions. The rapid creation of this internal infrastructure prepared the Office for an in-depth reprogramming exercise. Based on a comprehensive and substantive programmatic analysis, staff time and focus were redirected through a COVID-19 volunteer scheme to take full advantage of the Office's in-house thematic capacities. The voice of the High Commissioner was amplified to draw global attention to the human rights implications of the crisis and to the work of the special procedures and independent experts and bodies. The SMT discussed strategic issues and ensured an effective and coherent UN Human Rights response. Monitoring of human rights violations continued through the increased use of remote monitoring tools that ensured the security of sources, witnesses and victims. Through sustained high-level participation in the Principal-Level Crisis Management Team, UN Human Rights facilitated the full integration of human rights into the UN COVID-19 response, in particular the Secretary-General's socio-economic response and recovery efforts framework, to ensure that No One is Left Behind.



## Dynamic Knowledge

### **UN Human Rights' knowledge base is used strategically to actively shape its programming, capacity, culture and structure.**

For UN Human Rights, dynamic knowledge is about connecting our human rights work with people, their experiences and knowledge to achieve a greater impact and outcome. In the context of COVID-19, this meant adopting new ways of working, sharing knowledge and practices on an ongoing basis, identifying and documenting promising practices and building institutional memory regarding the implementation of human rights-based responses to the pandemic. In 2020, priority was given to the development of new tools for ensuring the continued availability of support for and engagement with partners.

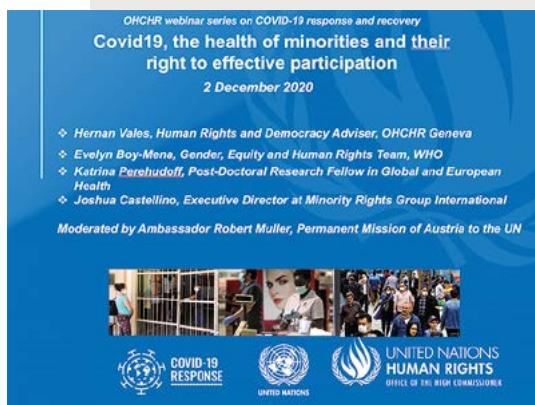
The Office developed and adopted new methodological guidance and a template to document promising practices of human rights-based responses to COVID-19, which were reported to Member States and others. As a result of UN Human Rights' capacity to quickly shift from in-person to online working methods, the Office was able to provide immediate, practical contributions to dealing with the crisis. Various technological platforms were used to host virtual consultations, discussion groups and exchanges on tailor-made responses, guidance documents, methodologies and tools and to facilitate the sharing of knowledge management and capacities.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- New human rights-centred tools, templates and methods were developed to enhance collaboration, document good practices and enable a swift response to the crisis. This led to the deployment of crowdsourcing (a form of collective intelligence) to collect examples of good practices of ESCR-based responses to COVID-19 and the design of the COVID-19 Tracker as a repository of good practices (see p. 23).
- A UN Human Rights e-learning strategy was developed and adopted on the basis of an office-wide study about staff learning practices and preferences, which was conducted in partnership with the University of Geneva.
- A global webinar series was organized on COVID-19 human rights-based responses. This enabled knowledge-sharing and discussions with partners on policy guidance and good practices.
- The second phase of a new onboarding process to welcome new staff in the organization, “Welcome Mat,” was initiated.

## A global webinar series on COVID-19 and human rights-based responses and recovery

Between March and December, UN Human Rights organized a series of 19 global webinars to facilitate internal discussions and knowledge-sharing opportunities on a variety of topics, including the rights to health, housing and food, the role of security forces and attacks against civic space in the context of COVID-19. More than 1,500 staff members from headquarters and the field participated in the discussions with experts and practitioners. The webinars offered an opportunity to reflect on policy, guidance and promising/good practices within the framework of the pandemic and to discuss the contributions of UN Human Rights to the COVID-19 response efforts of States, the UN and other partners. Colleagues from field presences around the world shared their experiences, priorities and needs. They identified and exchanged available and emerging guidance and resources to support the work of the Office across geographic and thematic areas. In addition, the webinars enabled staff to reflect on lessons learned from the past involvement of UN Human Rights in public health emergencies and other crises and to discuss possibilities for cross-fertilization. Similar efforts will continue in 2021 as part of the Office’s new modalities of working.



Global webinar organized by OHCHR and the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations, with a focus on COVID-19, the health of minorities and their right to effective participation. Over 140 representatives of UN entities, Member States and CSOs participated in the discussion. © OHCHR

 Innovation

**Across UN Human Rights, innovation is encouraged, supported and its results are implemented accordingly.**

UN Human Rights is actively promoting innovation within the organization through an action plan and internal systems of incentives, which include the annual Innovation Challenge and Innovation Engine.

The Innovation Challenge provides staff members with a platform to propose innovative projects for improving the way we work. Successful projects receive seed funds for implementation. Over the past two years, the enthusiastic engagement of candidates and positive feedback from external experts reflected a growing interest in innovation at UN Human Rights. The Challenge also attracted interest from other UN entities that are now replicating and adapting the concept within their organizations.

During the first half of the current OMP cycle, a “Light Up! Innovation Engine” was established with the participation of approximately 25 colleagues from across UN Human Rights, including field presences. The Innovation Engine deployed crowdsourcing to collect examples of good practices of COVID-19 ESCR-based responses. The Innovation Engine also partnered with the University of Geneva to deliver and prepare several projects.

Following the second annual Innovation Challenge in 2019, four winning projects received seed funds. This enabled two projects to be successfully implemented

in 2020, namely, the “Ditch UNfair Internships” project and the “Technology as a Source for Good: Automatizing the Universal Human Rights Index.”

In November, the 2020 Innovation Challenge was launched under the theme of “Building Back Better.”

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020**

- The “Light Up! Innovation Engine” partnered with the University of Geneva to deliver projects related to e-learning, gaming for rights, data visualization for human rights and the onboarding of new colleagues.
- The 2020-2021 Technology Education Strategy was developed to enable colleagues to increasingly use technology in human rights training and support impactful learning. A unified UN Human Rights learning management system was established using Moodle.
- A web-based module was developed and used to automatically tag and cluster Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations and produce the reports of the UPR Working Groups in order to enable States under review to take a position on the recommendations.
- Several projects were developed with the University of Geneva and will be implemented in 2021, including tracking astroturfing campaigns, web scraping for indicator production, digitizing the gender accreditation programme and visioning sustainable environmental management and human rights.

## Ditch UNfair Internships

Most interns at UN Human Rights headquarters come from high-income countries as students from these countries are more likely to be able to afford the cost of living in Geneva for several months without a stipend. One of the four winning projects in the 2019 Innovation Challenge was a project aimed at changing that situation. The “Ditch UNfair Internships” proposal, which received the highest number of votes, proposed the extension of financial support to qualified students from the Global South to enable them to intern at the Office in Geneva. The project received US\$25,000 in seed funding that helped to create, for the first time, United Nations Volunteers (UNV) positions at headquarters for university students. This enabled the Office to offer financial support to university students while respecting the administrative rules of not remunerating interns.

Out of a total of 1,664 applicants from 137 countries, two law students were selected to take part in the 2020 pilot programme. One of the students is a child

rights advocate from Côte d’Ivoire and the other is a former national human rights institution (NHRI) intern from Nepal. They will join the Office in 2021 and receive a monthly living allowance of CHF1,700 for six and four months, respectively. They will also receive a settling-in grant of CHF1,100, health insurance and coverage of their travel costs to and from Geneva.

The pilot will become a full programme in 2021. This will allow at least five university students who are UNVs to work with UN Human Rights in Geneva each year and will serve as a concrete contribution to diversity, equality and Dignity@Work in the Office. This is the first time that such a programme has been implemented at the UN in Geneva. Other parts of the UN Secretariat have expressed interest in replicating this initiative.



Habib and Mona discovering Palais des Nations.  
© OHCHR

# Sustainable Environmental Management

**UN Human Rights is set on a path to global leadership in sustainable environmental management, catalysing efforts to build back better and strengthening partnerships and global standard-setting, especially with respect to the right to a healthy environment and climate change.**

In July, the Office established an internal Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management in order to better integrate environmental sustainability into its existing workplans and build a new and ambitious sustainability policy as an important pillar in its own right. A new OEAP on SEM was developed and adopted at the end of 2020. It will support the institutionalization of good practices at UN Human Rights and draw upon learning from other entities to strengthen this work. The objective is to positively change the culture of the Office by mainstreaming SEM into its substantive and operational work and encouraging staff to apply this knowledge in their personal lives.

On the basis of a recommendation from the Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management, new travel targets were introduced for 2021. The Office also began working to make its procurement more sustainable by taking into account the commitments of vendors to human rights and sustainability principles and practices. An internal survey was prepared with the intention of gathering good practices from staff across various entities and locations.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- A Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management was created, with four sub-groups on the OEAP and Solutions; Good Practices; Vision; and Internal Communications.
- A new OEAP on SEM was adopted.
- A SEM Focal Points Network was created, with focal points in each UN Human Rights planning entity.

### Initial efforts to improve environmental sustainability across UN Human Rights



Logo designed for the new OEAP on SEM. © OHCHR

To begin implementing its new OEAP on Sustainable Environmental Management and following the recommendations issued by the SEM Working Group, the Deputy High Commissioner set a target for all entities across the Office to reduce their 2019 level of travel by 50 per cent in 2021. Senior managers were individually contacted to make sure that their 2021 travel budgets would comply with this instruction and that significant cuts would be made to bring about this result.

The travel budget was used as an intermediate indicator to reduce travel due to the absence of carbon footprint data for planning purposes. As the travel budget does not always directly correlate with the carbon footprint, steps were taken to develop the Office's capacity to use carbon footprint data to promote further reductions beyond 2021. Baseline carbon emission data has been annually used for headquarters since 2010, however, this will need to be expanded to the field and included and disaggregated in the equations used by all planning units. Carbon emissions are calculated in accordance with UNEP protocol and include travel and facilities data, such as energy and water consumption. Preliminary discussions were held with the Swiss Government and CSOs regarding the potential for making headquarters buildings more sustainable.



## External Communications

**UN Human Rights' human rights impact and messages are effectively communicated, helping to position it as a partner of choice for its key stakeholders.**

Through its OEAP on External Communications, UN Human Rights seeks to effectively communicate across all channels, with messages and a clear identity that are conveyed in a compelling way, to support the organization's efforts to expand its reach and meet its institutional objectives.

In 2020, one of the key challenges for UN Human Rights was finding a balance between communicating about the human rights dimensions of the COVID-19 crisis and working towards the achievement of the targets set in the OMP. The crisis created an extra demand for digital communication, which in turn provided the Office with an opportunity to capitalize on the investments made in this area in recent years and to tell the story of our response to the pandemic. During the peak of the crisis, the media showed a strong interest in the messages of UN Human Rights, especially those with a COVID-19 angle. The Office also leveraged several partnership opportunities to engage a larger audience in the promotion of the human rights agenda.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- Interest in UN Human Rights' social media channels increased, as illustrated by a combined number of 9.7m followers of the headquarters and field presence channels (compared to 7.6 m in 2019).
- A web transformation project was pursued, with a focus on content revision, governance, procurement and taxonomy.
- Campaigns were launched on standing up for migrants ([#StandUp4Migrants](#)) and COVID-19 international solidarity.
- Audiovisual storytelling was developed and 548 video stories were produced, including a record number of 138 video messages from the High Commissioner (compared to 476 video stories in 2019).
- Innovative partnerships were established to reach new audiences, such as with photographer Justin Wu, GIPHY (the world's largest GIF platform), Kahoot (the education platform) and the Wikimedia Foundation.
- Media outreach was sustained (38,922 articles were generated in 2020, the third highest number on record, after a record high of 61,015 in 2019 and 41,629 in 2018, marking a 62 per cent increase over the 2017 annual total).

### Salesforce and UN Human Rights cooperate to promote human rights

The collaboration initiated between UN Human Rights and Salesforce demonstrates how UN partnerships with tech companies can effectively promote human rights.

Salesforce is a cloud-based software company that is headquartered in San Francisco, California (United States of America). A trailhead is an online learning experience platform that helps its customers to hone their existing skills and gain new ones. It facilitates assessments that demonstrate the user's skills and assigns badges and points that illustrate their progress.

With the support of UN Human Rights, Salesforce developed a new trailhead that focuses on the UDHR. It seeks to make human rights knowledge more accessible by explaining the importance of the UDHR and showing how everyone, including individuals, businesses and States, can work together to protect human rights.

The trailhead is divided into three modules. Specifically, it explores why the UDHR is a milestone document, explains what human rights are and outlines the obligations of States in relation to human rights. It also gives an overview of the national and international systems that protect human rights.

A second trailhead, focusing on the business community's responsibility to respect human rights and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), is under consideration for development in 2021.



## Partnerships

**UN Human Rights has broadened and diversified its institutional partnerships and maximized the mutually reinforcing human rights benefits of the exchange of expertise, reach and resources.**

Through the OEAP on Partnerships, UN Human Rights strives to strategically engage with a wide range of external actors and increase the number of its strategic reciprocal partnerships.

Although the pandemic created some practical challenges, there were also significant opportunities to develop new partnerships. The Office provided guidance to the entire UN system on how to integrate a human rights dimension into its COVID-19 response. In parallel, as a result of the MOPAN evaluation, UN Human Rights undertook commitments to strengthen its capacity to establish strategic collaborations, including the development of a long-term vision for its partnership ambition and the mapping of existing relationships. In addition, through various campaigns, in particular on the occasion of Human Rights Day, the Office engaged a wide range of non-traditional actors in the promotion of human rights, thereby contributing to the shift objective of “building a global constituency for human rights.”

### Joining forces against COVID-19

Spearheaded through its 92 field presences worldwide, UN Human Rights stepped up its cooperation with Member States, RCs and UNCTs, national human rights institutions and civil society to provide advice on human rights-based responses to COVID-19 and offer evidence and policy options to support recovery processes. The Office provided advice and messaging on various human rights dimensions of the crisis as well as detailed guidance notes on matters relating to civic space, detention, indigenous peoples, migrants, minorities, women, racial discrimination, LGBTI persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, business and human rights, access to vaccines and states of emergency.

A UN Human Rights COVID-19 strategy was adopted, which identified engagement with stakeholders as a key element. Much of UN Human Rights’ COVID-19 work was carried out in close collaboration with partners. For instance, through the Surge Initiative, a team of human rights and development experts worked closely with grassroots actors, NHRIs and disadvantaged groups to analyse the human rights impacts of economic and social policies and measures, particularly on those left furthest behind.

In cooperation with UNDP and DCO, UN Human Rights developed a Checklist for a Human Rights-Based Approach to Socio-Economic Country Responses to COVID-19. Furthermore, the Office led the development of indicators to assess and mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on human rights through a highly collaborative process involving a range of UN entities. As a member of the UNSDG Task Team on Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda, the Office coordinated a human rights review of the COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response Plans (SERPs) of 109 UNCTs in October.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- Tripartite efforts were undertaken with l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to enhance the participation of Members of Parliaments in the UPR process.
- B-Tech Project was launched, signalling a new approach to engaging with the digital technology industry, and leading to the adoption of a series of short authoritative “foundational papers” that outline the relevance and practical implications of key UNGPs for accelerating the uptake of human rights in tech company business models.
- A joint regional UN Human Rights/ Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs) was enhanced in the Americas region, leading to an improved exchange of information between HRDs and strengthened capacity-building opportunities.
- Enhanced support was provided to the African Union on international human rights law and international humanitarian law.



## Diversity and Gender

**Respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of the organizational culture of UN Human Rights and is fully supported by appropriate organizational arrangements.**

The OMP 2018-2021 includes a strong commitment towards promoting gender equality and respect for diversity. The plan has four gender-specific results and women are identified as one of three spotlight populations deserving particular attention in the results framework.

The OEAP on Diversity and Gender aims to ensure that respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of the organizational culture of UN Human Rights. The OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme, an innovative result of this work, was successfully piloted and rolled out in 2020. This initiative was showcased in the annual report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security as a good practice to strengthen accountability by reinforcing monitoring frameworks.

In 2021, the OEAP will be converted into the OEAP on Inclusion: Race, Gender and Diversity. It will include additional indicators on race and revised indicators on gender and other forms of diversity.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- The OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme was rolled out in the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) and the OHCHR Country Office in Colombia.
- The first fellow under the new Fellowship for LGBTI / Human Rights Defenders joined the Office.
- An introductory electronic course was launched on the human rights of LGBTI persons.
- UN Human Rights' first Disability Rights Strategy was developed.
- UN Human Rights is approaching gender parity for regular staff appointments at the professional and higher categories.
- A Working Group on Inclusion was established and tasked with drafting the revised OEAP on Inclusion.

## Rolling out the UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation Programme



In 2020, UN Human Rights rolled out its Gender Accreditation Programme in the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) and in its Country Office in Colombia. The impact of the implementation of the Programme is visible in participating and accredited offices, with an improvement of staff capacities to integrate gender and diversity into their work, an increase of activities and funds allocated to women's rights and gender and a deepened gender analysis in reports, planning and communication products.

The Programme was piloted in 2019 in Cambodia and in the State of Palestine.<sup>9</sup> In January, both countries received their accreditation. The implemented changes guided the gender work of the Office throughout the year.



Extract of infographics created by the Country Office in the State of Palestine to raise public awareness about women's rights and issues related to gender-based violence.  
© OHCHR

In the State of Palestine, OHCHR and the Palestinian Ministry of Women Affairs organized the country's most wide-reaching campaign to date to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. Messages were communicated through social media, electronic LED screens and on television and radio. It contributed to raising public awareness about women's rights and gender equality, the availability of referral services and accountability mechanisms and the Government's obligations to end gender-based violence.



The award ceremony, held in Geneva, in January, marked the successful end of the pilot stage of the Gender Accreditation Programme in Cambodia and in the State of Palestine. © OHCHR



Awareness-raising material created by the Country Office in Cambodia on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights, with a focus on domestic violence, discrimination and hate speech. © OHCHR

In Cambodia, the Office and UN Women developed a joint communication campaign on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights, with a particular focus on domestic violence, discrimination and hate speech. Two radio spots on domestic violence were aired for three months in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and Battambang, the three most populated cities of the country. On the occasion of Human Rights Day, under the global theme of "Placing human rights at the heart of the COVID-19 recovery," a "Right to Create" campaign was co-organized with the UNCT, the Delegation of the European Union, the Embassy of Sweden, artists and representatives of CSOs and vulnerable groups. An original music video was composed and written by young female artists, which centred on the music of Cambodia's first all-female drum troupe.

<sup>9</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

## Managing our Talent

**UN Human Rights is actively unleashing the full potential of its staff with focused talent and career management that is accessible to all.**

In 2020, the Office continued to invest in and realize the full potential of its staff alongside the challenges of COVID-19 alternate working arrangements and restrictions placed on the selections and appointments for regular budget posts.

Reviews examining and aligning conditions of employment advanced with the regularization of national staff in field offices. A comparative review of the roles and responsibilities of General Service staff was completed and steps were taken to begin the reclassification and realignment of identified posts.

Workforce planning activities benefited from increased transparency and greater granularity of information on geographical diversity and the representation of women in regular staff positions at Professional and higher categories at headquarters and in field locations.

Staff well-being and performance was enhanced through the promotion of new and existing strategies and measures aimed at supporting staff, such as the Dignity Contacts Network. The immediate introduction of dedicated psychological support strengthened mental health for staff from the outset of periods of confinement and alternate working arrangements.

Targeted support and access to learning opportunities was established for field-based staff through the promotion of the

### Bringing colleagues together during COVID-19 through virtual Coffee Briefings

During the pandemic, UN Human Rights Coffee Briefings continued to generate interest among staff members. Coffee Briefings were organized on diverse topics ranging from eradicating judicial gender stereotyping and dynamic knowledge to UN Human Rights' response to COVID-19 and the impacts of the pandemic on human rights around the world. The Coffee Briefings provided a platform for colleagues to exchange ideas, ask questions and interact, albeit only virtually.

Although there were statistically fewer Coffee Briefings during the year (15 in 2020 compared to 23 in 2019), 813 participants from both headquarters and the field participated in the sessions, compared to 703 in 2019. Coffee Briefings with internal and external speakers attracted record participation. All Coffee Briefings were recorded and the podcasts were made available on the UN Human Rights Intranet for colleagues who were unable to attend.

### PEER LEARNING

**813**  
staff members from HQ  
and the field participated in  


15 COFFEE BRIEFINGS

new LinkedIn learning platform. Online peer learning formats facilitated remote working and provided a platform for colleagues to experience some level of normality through interactions and the exchange of ideas.

- A new health and well-being action plan was implemented.

- LinkedIn and the Inspira e-Learning platforms were made accessible to UN Human Rights staff members, independent of their contract, thereby enabling all staff to take advantage of learning offerings worldwide.

- 813 staff members participated in 15 online thematic Coffee Briefings.

- 266 performance management online coaching sessions were held.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- Regularization of national staff in field presences.
- Expanded Dignity Contacts Network to include coverage in the field.



## Resource Mobilization

**Investment in and support for UN Human Rights has expanded and donors are expressing confidence in the value delivered by these investments.**

Through the OEAP on Resource Mobilization, UN Human Rights invests in and supports the resource mobilization functions across the Office, resulting in increased donor confidence in the value delivered by these investments. As resource mobilization is about connecting and engaging with partners, the pandemic and the imposed restrictions created particular challenges for UN Human Rights to carry out its work under this OEAP. It nonetheless managed to successfully meet its extrabudgetary target. In fact, in 2020, a record was set as total voluntary contributions reached an all-time high of US\$224.3 million. Despite the COVID-19-related economic crisis, UN Human Rights continued to engage with donors and most of them maintained their support to the Office. In a number of cases, donors substantially increased that support.

Notwithstanding the healthy increase in voluntary contributions over the past five years, the ambitions and plans of UN Human Rights continue to be underfunded. Only 60 per cent of the financial requirements outlined in the Human Rights Annual Appeal for 2020 were covered. Consequently, an intensification of resource mobilization efforts is imperative to ensure that UN Human Rights is able to positively respond to the increasing number of requests that it receives for support. In addition, the Office needs to strengthen

its communication regarding the impact of those contributions. In 2020, UN Human Rights published a *Case for Support*, highlighting its unique selling points. This publication will be used for fundraising purposes, together with a set of compelling stories, country and thematic fact sheets as well as other communication materials that showcase the results of the work of UN Human Rights.

Resource mobilization capacity-building was initiated in 2020 to equip staff with tools and guidance to enable them to take full advantage of resource mobilization opportunities. Resource mobilization continues to operate with less staff capacity than required, which hinders its ability to explore untapped funding sources and diversify its donor base. Investing in staff capacity and competencies at the global, regional and country levels therefore remains critical to maximizing UN Human Rights' resource mobilization efforts. This will constitute a core element of an Office-wide strategy moving forward.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- UN Human Rights' 2020 extrabudgetary income increased by more than US\$45 million (25.3 per cent) compared to 2019.
- US\$16.1 million was received from UN pooled funds.
- 119 results-based fundraising proposals, including on specific spotlight populations (youth, women and persons with disabilities), and 167 reports were submitted to donors.
- US\$5.8 million was raised as a direct result of the COVID-19 compendium of nine targeted fundraising proposals.
- Five human rights stories, the Annual Report and the Annual Appeal were produced.
- The UN Human Rights *Case for Support* was produced and uploaded to the website.
- Dialogue with donor countries was enhanced through nine consultations and 13 briefings.
- The first phase of the development of the collaboration with Salesforce was fully implemented.

## Making the case for the added value of Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) in UN Human Rights regional offices

In 2020, UN Human Rights continued to strengthen its communication regarding the impact of its work through the development of an increased number of donor-driven materials. One example was the compendium of COVID-19-related proposals, which included specific content on the key role played by ERTs in the context of the pandemic.

Building on concrete outputs, the case was made for strengthening UN Human Rights regional offices by developing their capacity to identify, engage with and respond to emerging crises at country and regional levels and therefore help absorb the COVID-19 shock. The proposal was prepared with inputs from headquarters, Surge Initiative teams and regional offices and demonstrated that ERTs, complemented by operational capacity related to ESCRs, could contribute to socio-economic responses to the pandemic.

Through this proposal that highlighted the value-added of the Office, an additional US\$4.2 million was raised for ERTs, which will facilitate the establishment of new teams, in 2021, in the UN Human Rights Regional Offices for Central Africa, Central America and South America.

## Operations Management

**UN Human Rights managers are enabling the most efficient and responsible use of all available resources, supported by the effective deployment of relevant technologies.**

The UN Human Rights OEAP on Operations Management aims to facilitate and expedite the implementation of mandates through the effective and efficient use of financial, human and physical resources, aided by the use of pertinent IT tools.

Results to date demonstrate that the Office has undertaken significant efforts

to manage its operations in accordance with modern principles. For instance, the Office completed its first comprehensive Risk Assessment during the reporting period. Moreover, in response to the pandemic, UN Human Rights successfully streamlined its work and implemented distance working. This showed how flexible and responsive the Office can be in a crisis, in accordance with the principles of Business Continuity that it has promoted for several years. With a renewed focus on field presences to ensure their full compliance with relevant regulations, rules and instructions and to enhance accountability, the Field Administrative Manual was

updated. A meeting of field administrative staff was organized and a community of practice, called AdminNet, was created to enable colleagues from around the world to share their knowledge about administration. Human Resources worked diligently to ensure that the Office is more people-centred and culturally diverse and that human talent is nurtured. Relevant IT tools were purchased and updated, within budgetary limits, and the OICT rules on the use of non-standard software and hardware were implemented.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2020

- The Field Administrative Manual was updated.
- A Human Resources Dashboard was created to consolidate and present relevant information for use by senior management.
- The UN Human Rights Intranet was updated with improved access for all staff globally.
- An AdminNet community of practice was established to enable UN Human Rights administrative staff from around the world to share issues and topics of interest.
- A LeadingNet community of practice was established to enable UN Human Rights managers in all duty stations to collaborate and support one another in relation to management issues and advice.
- An electronic correspondence application was developed and piloted.
- Business continuity was ensured throughout the COVID-19 period.
- UN Human Rights joined the COVID-19 Aviation Service to secure seats for staff on World Food Programme/United Nations Humanitarian Air Service flights in the absence of commercial flight availability.
- IT arrangements enabled all staff to work remotely, with uninterrupted access to virtual meeting platforms. Significant efforts were exerted to ensure that the Human Rights Council, treaty body and special procedures experts were able to function effectively, despite considerable logistical challenges.

### Updating the UN Human Rights Field Administrative Manual

In 2020, UN Human Rights revised and finalized the Field Administrative Manual. The updated Manual, which was launched in March 2021, will serve as a useful tool for UN Human Rights staff in the field. More specifically, it sets out the information that is relevant to carrying out administrative functions in field presences, thereby providing easily accessible and improved guidance for staff and ensuring enhanced accountability for managers, in accordance with recommendations made by internal and external auditors. The Manual illustrates the organization's emphasis on supporting field presences, which was highlighted as an important aspect in the Operations Management Action Plan.





# Funding

Indigenous Karen community members welcome Human Rights and Biodiversity workshop participants, including from OHCHR, to Pa Pae village in Northern Thailand where they actively exchange about traditional agricultural practices, conservation of biodiversity and fulfilment of human rights, including rights to lands, resources and territories. Pa Pae, Thailand, February 2020. ©AIPP

# Funding overview in 2020

## Income and expenditure

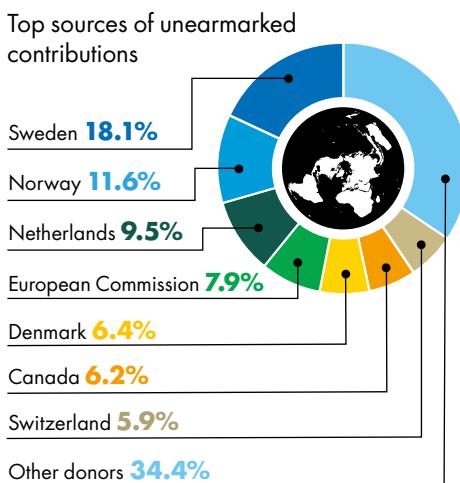
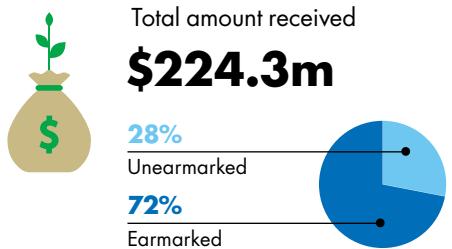
### Income

Regular budget appropriation	Extrabudgetary requirements <b>\$375.5m</b>
\$116.8m	Received \$224.3m
	Unmet \$151.2m
Total funds available <b>\$340.9m</b>	

### Expenditure

Regular budget (RB) <b>\$108m</b>	Extrabudgetary <b>\$184m</b>
HQ <b>\$92.1m</b>	Field <b>\$90.5m</b>
	HQ <b>\$93.5m</b>
Field <b>\$15.9m</b>	

## Voluntary contributions



### Breakdown of donors by brackets of contributions

<b>\$20-30m (45.3%*)</b>	Sweden, USA, EC, Norway
<b>\$10-20m (24.1%*)</b>	UNDP (UN pooled and trust fund funding), Netherlands, Denmark, Germany
<b>\$5-10m (17.5%*)</b>	Canada, UK, Switzerland, Finland, Belgium
<b>\$2-5m (7.4%*)</b>	France, Ireland, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, ILO, Russian Federation
<b>\$1-2m (1.6%*)</b>	Saudi Arabia, Rep. of Korea
<b>Less than \$1m (4.1%*)</b>	Other donors (56)

## Donors



### Breakdown of donors by geographic group

African Group	2	54
Asia-Pacific Group	15	54
Eastern European Group	13	23
Latin American and Caribbean Group	6	33
Western European and Others Group	25	29
Non-State donors (private, multilateral donors, etc.)	18	

\* Of total amount of voluntary contributions.

This chapter presents an overview of UN Human Rights funding in 2020 and of funding trends since 2012.

**Continuous improvements in the level, flexibility, timeliness and predictability of voluntary contributions and the diversification of the donor base are essential to ensuring that UN Human Rights has the resources it needs to achieve the goals set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021.**

## Income

UN Human Rights is partially funded through assessed contributions from Member States to the United Nations regular budget and partially through voluntary contributions (extrabudgetary funding) from donors, the majority of which are Member States.

In 2020, the third year of the OMP 2018-2021, UN Human Rights' total income was US\$340.9 million. Of this total, 65.8 per cent came from voluntary contributions and 34.2 per cent came from the United Nations regular budget.

### REGULAR BUDGET APPROPRIATION

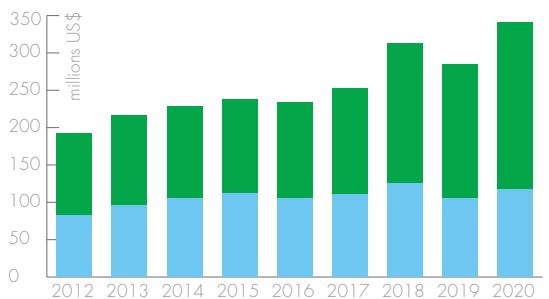
In 2020, the approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights, as a department of the United Nations Secretariat, was US\$116.8 million, which is approximately 3.7 per cent of the total UN regular budget. More specifically, excluding funds it apportions to the human rights components of peacekeeping operations, out of 52.3 per cent of the total regular budget resources directed to the three UN system pillars, the UN regular budget allocates 7.6 per cent to the human rights pillar; the other two pillars being development and peace and security.

As a matter of principle, the UN regular budget should finance all activities that are mandated by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, including the Human Rights Council. The regular budget allocation, however, does not keep pace with the ongoing growth in the number and scope of the General Assembly human rights mandates.

In addition, during 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted 85 resolutions with programme budget implications. These new mandates were presented to the General Assembly at the end of the year in the summary of all resolutions adopted by the Council. While most of the resources required for new mandates were approved, their late-in-the-year presentation to the

### UN Human Rights - Funding overview

- Voluntary contributions
- Regular budget appropriation



## 2020 - Trend in pledges and payments



General Assembly meant that UN Human Rights had to draw from its voluntary resources to fund new activities with a more immediate timeline.

Furthermore, due to cash flow issues, regular budget allotments in 2020 were issued on a quarterly basis and the actual amount received capped at 90 per cent of the amount that was expected for activities.

Therefore, in 2020, to cover the funding gap caused by the combined effect of the regular budget cuts, delays in payments and cash flow issues, UN Human Rights had to rely on voluntary contributions to finance approximately 24.8 per cent of its officially mandated activities that should be financed by the regular budget. Payment of extrabudgetary contributions continued to be received predominately in the latter half of the year, further aggravating the cash flow situation of the Office.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

In terms of extrabudgetary support, a total of US\$224.3 million was raised in voluntary contributions during the reporting period. This represents an increase of 25.3 per cent compared to the 2019 total of US\$179 million and is the highest annual amount that UN Human Rights has received to date. The total amount of extrabudgetary contributions still falls far short of the US\$375.5 million in extrabudgetary requirements that was sought in the 2020 Annual Appeal. These

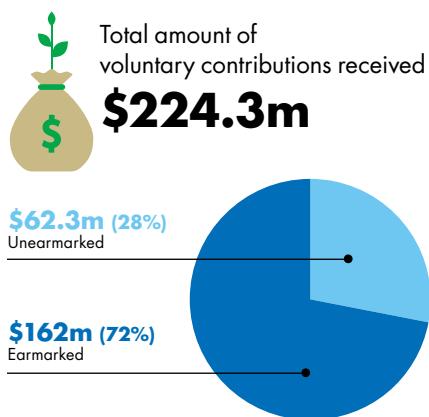
extrabudgetary requirements are the funds that UN Human Rights requires, in addition to its regular budget allocation, if it is to respond to all of the requests for assistance that it receives in a given year.

Earmarking makes it more difficult for the Office to efficiently implement the OMP. It means reduced flexibility, higher transactional costs and constraints on the effective response to emerging needs. In 2020, UN Human Rights only received 28 per cent of unearmarked funds, corresponding to an amount of US\$62.3 million. This is the lowest percentage of unearmarked voluntary contributions received since 2006.

### DONOR BASE

The diversification of the donor base remains a challenge. In 2020, UN Human Rights received funding from a total of 79 donors. As in previous years, despite efforts to broaden the donor base, including by increasing the number of contributing Member States and bringing in non-traditional donors, the overwhelming majority of voluntary contributions came from 61 Member States donors, which provided a total of US\$179.6 million, representing 80 per cent of all contributions received. Of the 61 Member States that contributed in 2020, only one was a first-time contributor, while 54 were contributors in 2019. In addition, 29 out of 61 contributing Member States increased

### Earmarked versus unearmarked funding 2020



their support compared to 2019 and 45 provided some unearmarked funding.

Multilateral organizations, including the European Commission and UN partners, contributed an additional US\$43.3 million, or 19.3 per cent, of all contributions.

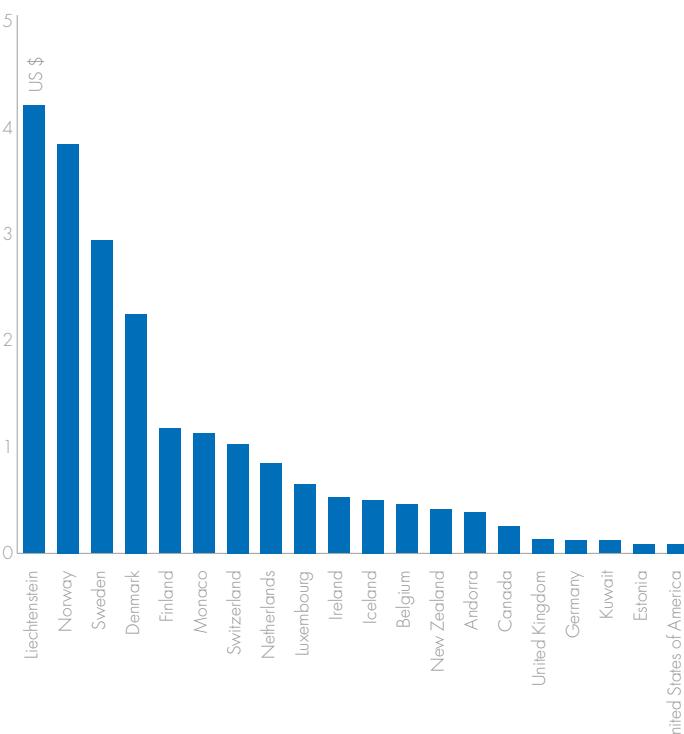
In line with the Funding Compact that was established in 2019 between Member States and members of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), including UN Human Rights, to better align funding with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the contributions received by UN Human Rights through the inter-agency pooled funds and trust funds reached a record

US\$16.1 million in 2020. This result reflected the enhanced engagement with the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office, through the Peacebuilding Fund, and the growing demand for human rights advisers in the UN Country Teams (UNCTs), which are funded through the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming (UNSDG-HRM) Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

UN Human Rights began 2020 with only US\$62.7 million of predictable and sustainable income in pledged contributions that were annual instalments of multi-year funding agreements. The Funding Compact calls for Member States to

increase their multi-year commitments. In 2020, UN Human Rights had such agreements with 18 donors, including 10 Member States (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), the European Commission and six other donors (ILO, the MacArthur Foundation, Microsoft, the Open Society Foundations, the Wellspri ng Philanthropic Fund and the World Bank). Furthermore, only eight donors pledged through new multi-year agreements. As of the beginning of January 2021, only US\$52.6 million from 14 donors had been registered as part of multi-year agreements.

## **Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to UN Human Rights per capita in 2020**



Source: Based on 2020 voluntary contributions from UN Human Rights' donors (Member States) and 2019 population figures from the World Bank Data Profiles.

## **UN POOLED AND TRUST FUND FUNDING RECEIVED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH UNDP**

DONOR	US\$
Conflict-Related Sexual Violence	338,156
Joint Programmes (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala)	658,638
Joint SDGs Fund (Georgia)	101,222
Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (South Africa)	315,000
Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership	187,826
Peacebuilding Fund (Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Honduras, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Uganda, Ukraine)	5,469,278
Spotlight Initiative Fund (Liberia, Mexico)	815,018
Tanzania One UN Fund	175,676
UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery	89,131
UNSDG - Human Rights Mainstreaming Trust Fund	7,298,790
UNDP (Georgia, Uganda)	320,187
UNPRPD - Disability Fund	326,638
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,095,560</b>

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>TOTAL IN US\$</b>	<b>% UNEARMARKED</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>TOTAL IN US\$</b>	<b>% UNEARMARKED</b>
1 Sweden	30,268,739	37%	25 Microsoft	880,000	0%
2 United States of America	27,937,650	0%	26 China	800,000	0%
3 European Commission	22,848,273	22%	27 Kuwait	510,000	98%
4 Norway	20,599,006	35%	28 Morocco	500,000	70%
5 UNDP (UN pooled and trust fund funding)	16,095,560	0%	- OCHA	500,000	0%
6 Netherlands	14,697,143	40%	30 Luxembourg	404,716	58%
7 Denmark	13,099,272	30%	31 India	400,000	0%
8 Germany	10,254,726	33%	32 UN EOSG	320,000	0%
9 Canada <sup>1</sup>	9,619,194	40%	33 World Bank	261,290	0%
10 United Kingdom	9,151,148	35%	34 UN Women	217,153	0%
11 Switzerland	8,807,643	42%	35 Iceland	180,950	100%
12 Finland	6,481,073	51%	36 Liechtenstein	160,124	16%
13 Belgium	5,262,171	43%	37 UNTF for Human Security	154,786	0%
14 France	3,316,011	58%	38 11th Hour Project/The Schmidt Family Found.	150,000	0%
15 Ireland	2,601,133	78%	39 MacArthur Foundation	140,000	0%
16 Spain <sup>2</sup>	2,452,177	24%	40 Czech Republic	136,811	63%
17 Australia	2,073,096	0%	41 Mexico	124,118	81%
18 New Zealand	2,051,984	100%	42 Austria	122,212	0%
19 ILO	2,009,455	0%	43 Estonia	118,468	30%
20 Russian Federation	2,000,000	0%	44 Open Society Foundation	107,000	0%
21 Saudi Arabia	1,949,867	0%	45 Algeria	100,000	100%
22 Republic of Korea	1,601,416	33%	- Portugal	100,000	100%
23 Italy	917,556	0%	- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	100,000	0%
24 UNODC	878,462	0%			

DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED	DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED
48 Poland	79,805	67%	73 Counterpart International	5,703	0%
49 Japan	65,000	0%	74 Montenegro	5,501	100%
50 Cyprus	59,737	0%	75 Maldives	5,000	100%
51 Pakistan	50,000	70%	- Sri Lanka	5,000	100%
52 UNESCO	49,317	0%	- Vodafone Group	5,000	0%
53 Romania	47,790	0%	78 Nicaragua	4,700	100%
54 Monaco	43,956	75%	79 Bahamas	2,000	0%
55 Lithuania	36,335	60%	Individual donors/ miscellaneous	35,718	67%
56 Ukraine	35,000	0%			
57 Bulgaria	30,000	100%			
- Malaysia	30,000	100%			
- Uruguay	30,000	100%			
60 Andorra	29,658	0%			
61 Peru	28,187	86%			
62 Armenia	26,285	100%			
63 Kazakhstan	25,000	60%			
64 Indonesia	20,000	100%			
- Thailand	20,000	100%			
66 Latvia	17,921	100%			
67 Malta	17,815	0%			
68 Azerbaijan	15,000	100%			
- Singapore	15,000	0%			
70 Costa Rica	13,938	100%			
71 Slovakia	10,309	100%			
72 Holy See	6,500	0%			
			Total	224,331,556	28%

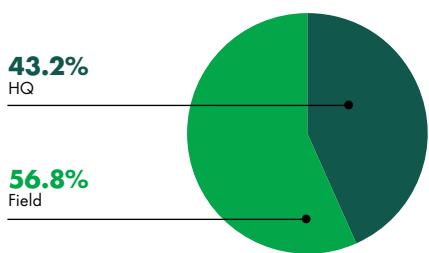
<sup>1</sup> Includes a contribution of CAD 30,000 from the provincial Government of Québec.

<sup>2</sup> Includes a contribution of EUR 20,000 from the Basque Government and contributions of EUR 250,000 and EUR 100,000 from the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation.

## Expenditure

On the expenditure side, approximately 56.8 per cent of all extrabudgetary funding was used to support work in the field, which receives minimal support from the regular budget. The remainder of the voluntary funding was distributed between other areas of UN Human Rights' work and supplemented the limited resources made available from the regular budget.

### Extrabudgetary expenditure



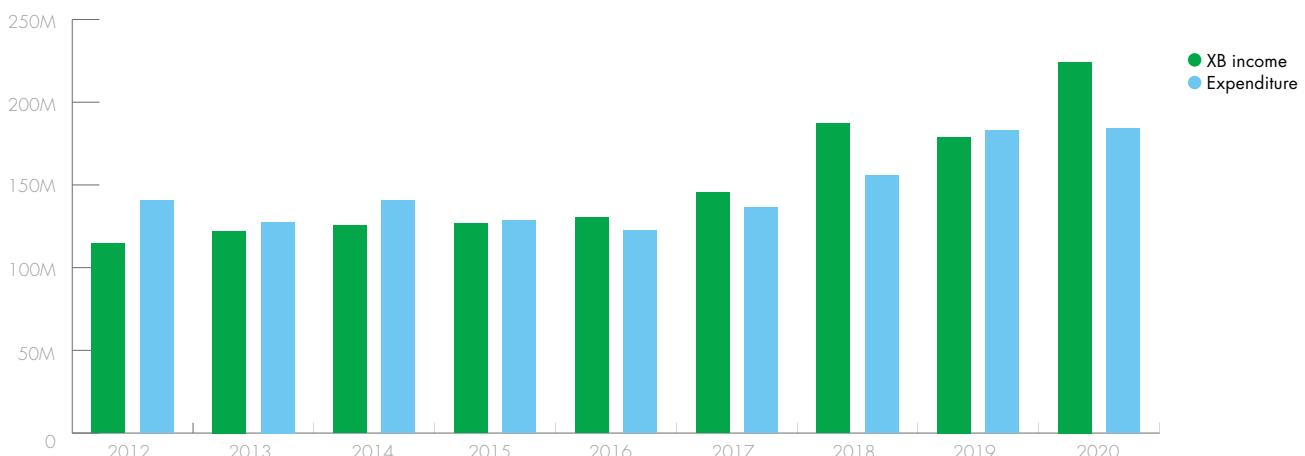
In 2020, 51 per cent of total expenditures (US\$292m), including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, were devoted to fieldwork and HQ support for the field, particularly for capacity-strengthening projects and human rights monitoring, which were predominantly financed through voluntary contributions. Approximately 11.2 per cent of total expenditures were spent on thematic research, human rights mainstreaming, the development of policy and the provision of guidance and tools; 7.5 per cent were spent supporting the human rights treaty bodies, including policymaking organs; and 11.2 per cent were spent in support of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and its special procedures. The remainder was devoted to programme support (5.5 per cent), executive direction and management, resource mobilization and outreach activities (10.1 per cent) and the trust funds and miscellaneous activities (3.5 per cent).

### EXPENDITURE COMPARED TO INCOME

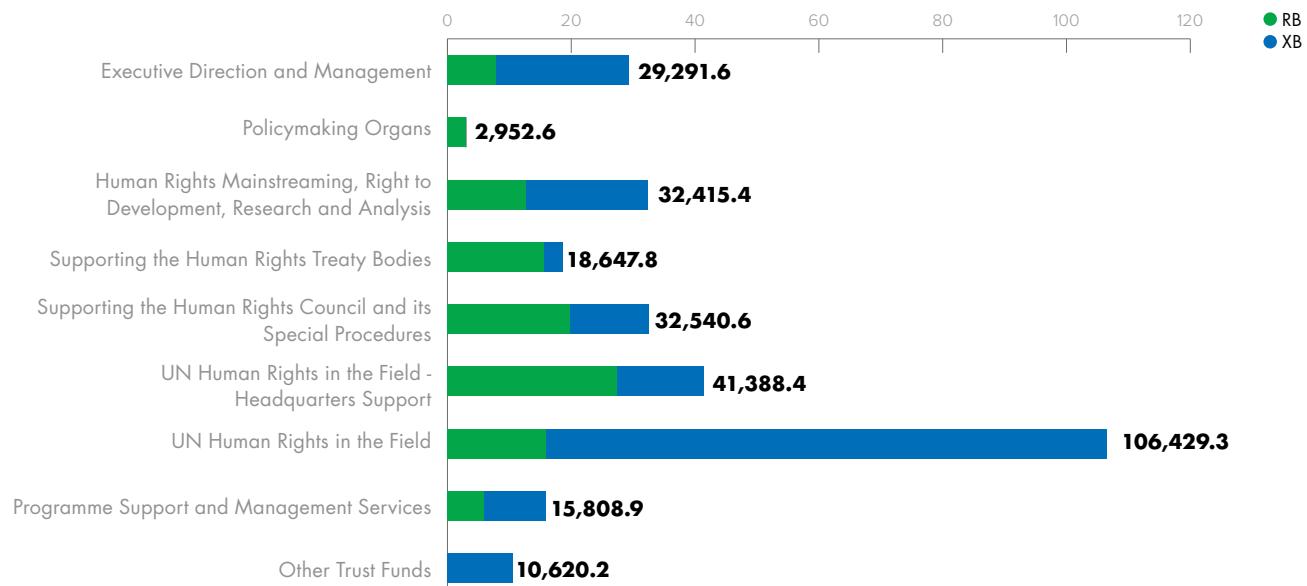
Total expenditures in 2020, including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, reached US\$292 million (compared to US\$293.8 million in 2019, US\$274.1 million in 2018, US\$246.7 million in 2017, US\$223.3 million in 2016 and US\$225.9 million in 2015).

Looking exclusively at extrabudgetary income and expenditure, loss on exchange from contributions brought the total available income in 2020 down to US\$223.7 million.

### Extrabudgetary income versus expenditure 2012-2020 (in millions US\$)



## Combined RB & XB expenditure by main activity in 2020 (in thousands US\$)



### RB expenditure in 2020 (in thousands US\$)

<b>7,913.1</b> (7.33%)	Executive Direction and Management
<b>2,952.6</b> (2.73%)	Policymaking Organs
<b>12,712.0</b> (11.77%)	Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis
<b>15,537.7</b> (14.38%)	Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies
<b>19,794.3</b> (18.32%)	Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures
<b>27,340.8</b> (25.31%)	UN Human Rights in the Field - Headquarters Support
<b>15,902.5</b> (14.72%)	UN Human Rights in the Field
<b>5,865.3</b> (5.43%)	Programme Support and Management Services

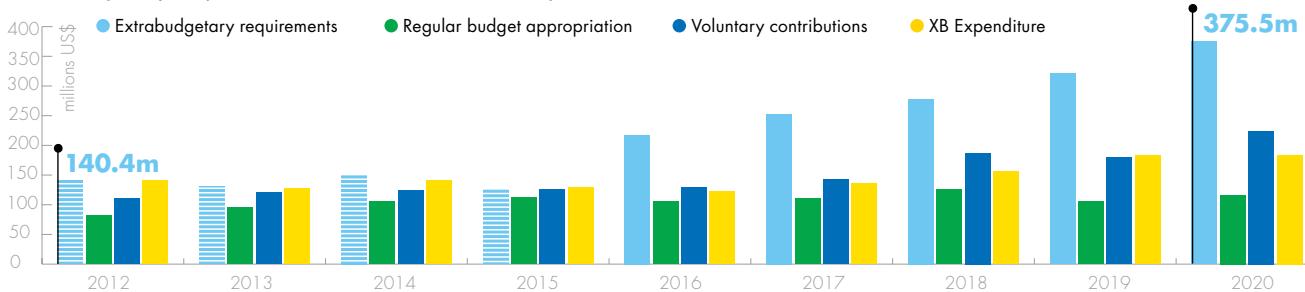
### XB expenditure in 2020 (in thousands US\$)

<b>21,378.5</b> (11.74%)	Executive Direction and Management
<b>19,703.4</b> (10.82%)	Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis
<b>3,110.1</b> (1.71%)	Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies
<b>12,746.3</b> (7%)	Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures
<b>14,047.6</b> (7.72%)	UN Human Rights in the Field - Headquarters Support
<b>90,526.8</b> (49.72%)	UN Human Rights in the Field
<b>9,943.6</b> (5.46%)	Programme Support and Management Services
<b>10,620.2</b> (5.83%)	Other Trust Funds

# Funding trends 2012-2020

## Funding needs, income and expenditure

Extrabudgetary requirements, RB, XB income and expenditure evolution 2012-2020 (in millions of US\$)



Until 2015, the extrabudgetary requirements (Annual Appeal) consisted of mere cost plans based on projected income. In 2016, UN Human Rights introduced a new approach to demonstrate the Office's true requirements, i.e., a needs-based budget of all the funds that the Office would need, in a single year, if it was to respond to and implement all requests of assistance it received.

## Flexibility of funding

Earmarked versus unearmarked funding  
(in millions of US\$)

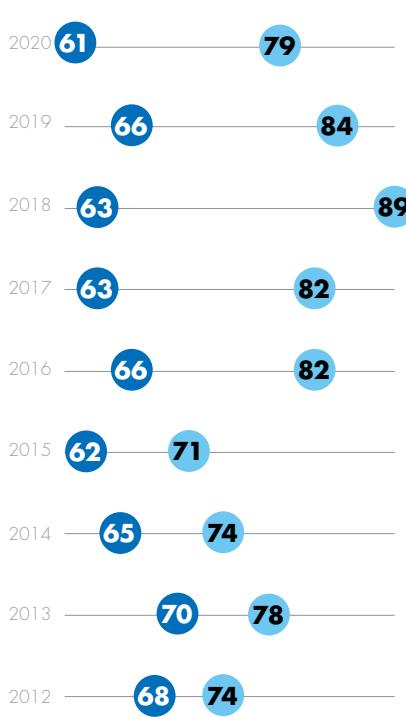
- Unearmarked funds
- Earmarked funds



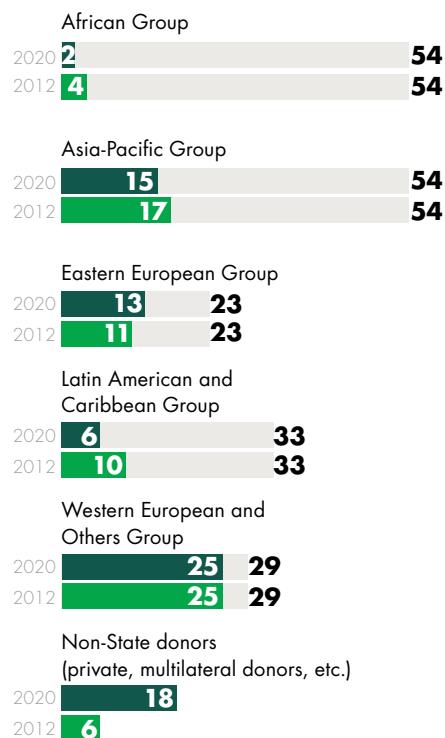
## Donors

Number of donors  
(including Member States)

- Number of Member State donors
- Total number of donors



Breakdown of donors by geographic group



## **REGULAR BUDGET ALLOCATIONS AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

In 2020, 34.2 per cent of the UN Human Rights income was derived from the United Nations regular budget. The cash amount of the regular budget funding that is allocated to UN Human Rights has gradually increased since 2005, when the World Summit committed to a doubling of the regular resources available for UN Human Rights over a period of five years. It was also at that time that the World Summit established the Human Rights Council, which has been active in creating new human rights mandates with regular budget implications since its inception.

In 2020, the Office received US\$116.8 million in regular budget allocations compared to US\$105.6 million in 2019, representing an increase of 10.4 per cent. The approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights was US\$201.6 million in 2018-2019, US\$215.5 million in 2016-2017, US\$206.9 million in 2014-2015 and US\$177.3 million in 2012-2013.

The level of voluntary contributions to UN Human Rights has increased substantially since 2012, with a total of US\$224.3 million raised in 2020, representing the highest amount ever received by the Office. In 2019, UN Human Rights received US\$179 million, followed by the second highest amount of US\$187.1 million received in 2018. In 2017, US\$142.8 million was received in voluntary contributions, followed by US\$129.6 million in 2016, US\$125.9 million in 2015, US\$123.7 million in 2014, US\$121.2 million in 2013 and US\$111.1 million in 2012.

Over the last years, approximately 40 per cent of the funding for UN Human Rights came from the United Nations

regular budget (34.2 per cent in 2020, 37.1 per cent in 2019, 40.2 per cent in 2018, 44 per cent in 2017, 45 per cent in 2016, 46 per cent in 2015 and 2014, 44 per cent in 2013 and 42.5 per cent in 2012). Consequently, approximately 60 per cent came from voluntary contributions (65.8 per cent in 2020, 62.9 per cent in 2019, 59.8 per cent in 2018, 56 per cent in 2017, 55 per cent in 2016, 54 per cent in 2015 and 2014, 56 per cent in 2013 and 57.5 per cent in 2012).

Over the past few years, the increase in the share of the United Nations regular budget for UN Human Rights activities came from additional resources that were allocated to cover the treaty body strengthening process and additional mandates, including commissions of inquiry established by the Human Rights Council.

## **NUMBER AND TYPOLOGY OF DONORS**

In 2020, the number of Member States that contributed to UN Human Rights decreased by five, down to 61. The overall number of donors decreased by six, amounting to a total of 79 donors compared to 84 donors in 2019. From 2012-2020, the number of contributing Member States fluctuated between its lowest (62) in 2015 and its highest (70) in 2013. The total number of donors that contributed to UN Human Rights was lowest in 2015 (71) and highest (89) in 2018.

Among the 61 Member States who contributed in 2020, six renewed their support after at least one year of financial inactivity. Another 12 Member States left the list of donors, despite the High Commissioner's repeated appeals to broaden the UN Human Rights donor

base. Over the last four years, only 46 Member States provided a contribution every year and 34 others contributed at least once in the same four-year period.

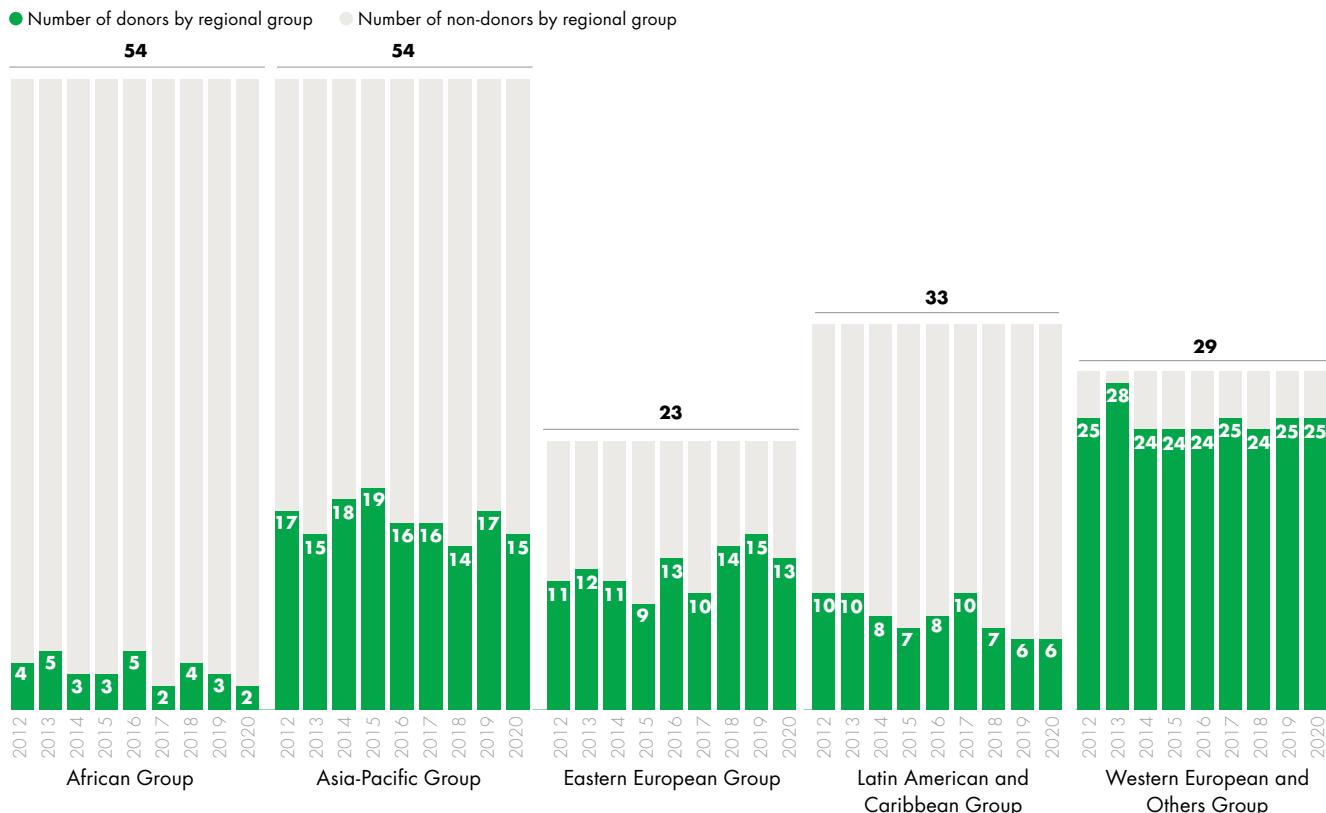
Of the 61 Member States that contributed in 2020, 25 were members of the Western European and Others Group (which is comprised of 29 Member States); 15 were from the Asia-Pacific Group (which is comprised of 54 Member States); 13 were from the Eastern European Group (which is comprised of 23 Member States); six were from the Latin American and

Caribbean Group (which is comprised of 33 Member States); and two were from the African Group (which is comprised of 54 Member States).

From 2012–2020, the number of donors per regional group fluctuated between 24 and 28 for the Western European and Others Group, between 14 and 19 for the Asia-Pacific Group, between nine and 15 for the Eastern European Group, between six and 10 for the Latin American and Caribbean Group and between two and five for the African Group.

The number of non-State donors, comprised of multilateral organizations, the private sector and the UN system gradually increased from six in 2012 to a total of 26 in 2018, then down to 18 in 2019 and 2020.

## UN Human Rights donor base in 2012–2020, broken down by regional group



## **EARMARKED VS UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS**

In 2020, UN Human Rights received US\$62.3 million in unearmarked funds from 45 donors. In absolute terms, this is the fourth highest amount of unearmarked funds that UN Human Rights has raised since 2002. The unearmarked funds, however, represented 28 per cent of the overall voluntary contributions received in 2020, a four per cent decrease from 32 per cent in 2019, representing a significant decrease from 43 per cent in 2017 and the lowest percentage since 2006. From 2012-2020, the percentage of unearmarked funding has fluctuated between 28 per cent (at its lowest in 2020) and 54 per cent (at its highest in 2013).

Some of the increase in earmarking can be attributed to the receipt of more locally sourced funding for fieldwork and contributions from non-traditional budget lines that can only be accessed as earmarked funds (such as humanitarian and development budget lines). Other contributions that were previously unearmarked are now provided as more circumscribed funding.

## **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

A number of Member States, namely, Colombia, Qatar and Senegal, host UN Human Rights offices and provide in-kind support by covering some costs, such as the rental of the premises, utilities and vehicles. These contributions are credited to their assessed contributions to the United Nations regular budget.

### **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2020**

<b>MEMBER STATE</b>	<b>NATURE OF IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE US\$</b>
Colombia	Rental of premises	296,506
	Provision of armoured vehicle and running costs	56,032
Qatar	Rental of premises and running costs	153,011
Senegal	Rental of premises	109,233

## **JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS AND UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS**

Some Member States provided UN Human Rights with additional, indirect financial support by contributing to the United Nations Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme, which is administered by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York. As of 31 December, 32 JPOs (22 women, 10 men) were working at UN Human Rights who were supported by the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany,

Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Switzerland (see table below). Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland also funded JPOs who were nationals of developing countries. Non-nationals amounted to six out of 32 JPOs in 2020. In terms of location, 24 JPOs were deployed at headquarters (20 in Geneva and four in New York) and eight in the field (four in the Middle East and North Africa region, three in the Africa region and one in the Americas region).

### **JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS 2017-2020**

SPONSOR	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2020
Belgium		1	1	1
Denmark	10	8	4	4(+1)
Finland	1	1	1	2
Germany	2		1	1
Hungary		1	1	1
Italy	3	3	1	3
Japan	2	3	2	1
Netherlands	2	3 (+2)	3(+5)	3(+4)
Norway	2	1	2	2
Republic of Korea	2	2	2	1
Saudi Arabia	1	1		1
Sweden	2	2	3	2
Switzerland	6 (+1)	3 (+1)	5(+1)	4(+1)
Spain	1	1		
United States of America	1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>

In addition, UN Human Rights benefited from indirect financial support through the **United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme**, which is administered by UNDP. In 2020, a total of 139 UNVs served with UN Human Rights (85 women, 54 men), of whom 53 per cent were national UNVs. As of 31 December, 17 UNVs were working with UN Human Rights who were fully funded

by the Governments of Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland (see table below). Switzerland also funded UNVs who were nationals of developing countries.

#### UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS 2017-2020 (fully funded by Member States)

SPONSOR	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2020
Finland	1	1	1	1
France	1	1		1
Germany	1 (+1)	1 (+1)	1	1
Ireland	1	1		1
Luxembourg	(+1)	(+1)		
Norway	1	1		
Republic of Korea	2	2	4	2
Sweden	1	1	3	2
Switzerland	7	7	9 (+1)	7 (+2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2020

The distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors (as per major headings of the extrabudgetary requirements presented in the UN Human Rights Appeal 2020).

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2020 (by earmarking and in descending order)

	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>United States of America</b>	<b>European Commission</b>	<b>Norway</b>	<b>UNDP</b>	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>Denmark</b>
<b>Unearmarked</b>	11,313,290		4,940,282	7,228,482		5,919,409	3,972,341
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>				215,776	338,156		
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>		2,100,000	881,342	2,673,220	1,442,981	964,780	160,488
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>		490,000		119,875	95,432	786,517	200,610
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>	1,936,847			959,003		2,247,195	686,080
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>		1,910,000		455,526		2,894,587	
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	17,018,602	15,437,650	17,026,649	8,227,872	14,218,991	294,770	7,344,134
<b>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</b>	352,154	1,150,000			5,207,579		5,724,343
<b>Africa</b>	8,368,162	2,620,000	9,770,479	3,991,848	5,418,731		1,619,791
<b>Americas</b>	5,383,295	6,740,000	1,194,924	2,073,843	2,006,804	266,854	
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>	2,436,007	100,000	859,181	479,501		27,916	
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>	478,985	987,650	1,594,180	819,576	813,877		
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>		3,840,000	3,607,885	863,102	772,000		
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>		8,000,000		719,252			735,619
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>						1,589,885	
<b>Total contributions by donor</b>	<b>30,268,739</b>	<b>27,937,650</b>	<b>22,848,273</b>	<b>20,599,006</b>	<b>16,095,560</b>	<b>14,697,143</b>	<b>13,099,272</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

<b>Germany</b>	<b>Canada</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Belgium</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>Ireland</b>	<b>Spain</b>
								
3,342,728	3,852,080	3,234,153	3,700,000	3,275,109	2,275,313	1,919,431	2,036,026	598,060
		258,732						
863,975		666,509		223,964	418,160			238,239
682,594						118,483		23,753
483,667		50,020						
153,584	78,555		340,006	340,909	179,211	413,168		47,506
3,677,987	5,622,079	4,909,036	2,912,008	2,575,588	2,389,486	793,839	403,817	1,520,865
				2,575,588				
341,297						47,393		
1,396,333	606,061	2,966,391	200,000		1,194,743	331,754		117,371
674,646	3,652,382	745,342	1,410,000				292,398	1,403,495
79,636	454,545							
471,143	909,091	805,359	500,000					
714,932		391,944	802,008		1,194,743	414,692	111,419	
1,050,191	66,480	32,698	200,000	65,502		71,090	161,290	23,753
				1,655,629				
<b>10,254,726</b>	<b>9,619,194</b>	<b>9,151,148</b>	<b>8,807,643</b>	<b>6,481,073</b>	<b>5,262,171</b>	<b>3,316,011</b>	<b>2,601,133</b>	<b>2,452,177</b>

	Australia	New Zealand	ILO	Russian Federation	Saudi Arabia	Korea, Rep. of	Italy
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>		2,051,984				521,416	
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>	147,820				364,867		27,473
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>	36,955			736,667	170,000	200,000	
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>						150,000	
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>	258,684					190,000	
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>	18,477		2,009,455	493,333		400,000	23,895
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	1,481,817			770,000	1,240,000	100,000	836,320
<b>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</b>				100,000		50,000	
<b>Africa</b>							716,846
<b>Americas</b>							119,474
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>	1,481,817					50,000	
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>				670,000			
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>					1,240,000		
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>	129,342				175,000	40,000	29,869
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>Total contributions by donor</b>	<b>2,073,096</b>	<b>2,051,984</b>	<b>2,009,455</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,949,867</b>	<b>1,601,416</b>	<b>917,556</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Microsoft	UNODC	China	Kuwait	Morocco	OCHA	Luxembourg	India	UN EOSG
 Microsoft	 UNODC				 OCHA			 United Nations
			500,000	350,000		234,742		
880,000		620,000						320,000
		180,000				134,763	100,000	
	878,462				500,000		200,000	
							200,000	
	878,462				500,000			
		10,000				35,211	100,000	
				150,000				
<b>880,000</b>	<b>878,462</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>510,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>404,716</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>320,000</b>

	World Bank	UN Women	Iceland	Liechtenstein	UN Trust Fund for Human Security	11th Hour Project	MacArthur Foundation
 THE WORLD BANK							
<b>Unearmarked</b>			180,950	25,826			
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>				25,826			
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>				41,322		150,000	
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>				41,322			
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>							
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	261,290	217,153			154,786		140,000
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>							
<b>Africa</b>	261,290	89,673					
<b>Americas</b>							140,000
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>		127,480			154,786		
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>							
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>							
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>				25,826			
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>Total contributions by donor</b>	<b>261,290</b>	<b>217,153</b>	<b>180,950</b>	<b>160,124</b>	<b>154,786</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Czech Republic	Mexico	Austria	Estonia	Open Society Foundations	Algeria	Portugal	Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	Poland
								
85,507	100,000		35,842		100,000	100,000		53,203
			10,989					
12,826				107,000			100,000	
8,551								
			78,256					
21,377			35,842					26,602
21,377								
			35,842					26,602
8,551	24,118	32,967	46,784					
<b>136,811</b>	<b>124,118</b>	<b>122,212</b>	<b>118,468</b>	<b>107,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>79,805</b>

	Japan	Cyprus	Pakistan	UNESCO	Romania	Monaco	Lithuania
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>			35,000			32,967	21,834
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>		23,895		49,317			
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>			10,000		47,790	10,989	14,501
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	65,000	35,842					
<b>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</b>							
<b>Africa</b>	20,000						
<b>Americas</b>							
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>	45,000						
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>							
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>		35,842					
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>			5,000				
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>Total contributions by donor</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>59,737</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>49,317</b>	<b>47,790</b>	<b>43,956</b>	<b>36,335</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

<b>Ukraine</b>	<b>Bulgaria</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>Uruguay</b>	<b>Andorra</b>	<b>Peru</b>	<b>Armenia</b>	<b>Kazakhstan</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>
								
30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000		24,165	26,285	15,000	20,000
35,000							10,000	
35,000								
35,000								
35,000								
<b>35,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>29,658</b>	<b>28,187</b>	<b>26,285</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>

	Thailand	Latvia	Malta	Azerbaijan	Singapore	Costa Rica	Slovakia
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>	20,000	17,921		15,000		13,938	10,309
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>					15,000		
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>			17,815				
<b>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</b>							
<b>Africa</b>			17,815				
<b>Americas</b>							
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>							
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>							
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>							
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>							
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>Total contributions by donor</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>17,921</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>13,938</b>	<b>10,309</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Holy See	Counterpart International	Montenegro	Maldives	Sri Lanka	Vodafone Group	Nicaragua	Bahamas
	 COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL				 vodafone		
		5,501	5,000	5,000		4,700	
					5,000		
5,703							
5,703							
6,500							
6,500	<b>5,703</b>	<b>5,501</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>2,000</b>

## Funds administered by UN Human Rights

Voluntary contributions in support of UN Human Rights are channelled and managed through nine trust funds and three special funds. The special funds are not trust funds as defined by the UN Financial Regulations and Rules.

Additional financial information related to these funds can be found in the extrabudgetary income and expenditure report for 2020 (p. 149).

### **UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

In 1993, the United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General to supplement regular budgetary resources as a general funding pool. It is the largest fund administered by UN Human Rights, through which 78.7 per cent of all extrabudgetary funds, including unearmarked funds, were managed in 2020. Detailed information on the implemented activities and the voluntary contributions managed through the Trust Fund is shared in this report.

### **UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (VFTC) was established by the Secretary-General in 1987. It is the second largest fund administered by UN Human Rights. It provides financial support for technical cooperation aimed at building a strong human rights framework, including effective national and regional institutions, legal frameworks and infrastructures.

Since 1993, a Board of Trustees, which is appointed by the Secretary-General, has provided administrative and operational guidance. In recent years, its role has evolved to include the provision of advice on policy orientation, strategies on technical cooperation at a broader programme level and a global vision of the work of the Fund. In 2013, the Secretary-General entrusted the Board to also serve as a Board of Trustees for the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review. In 2020, the Board was composed of Ms. Esi Sutherland-Addy, Chair (Ghana), Ms. Azita Berar Awad (Iran), Mr. Morten Kjaerum (Denmark), Ms.

Valeriya Lutkovska (Ukraine) and Mr. Santiago Corcuera-Cabezut (Mexico).

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$23,266,101 in contributions compared to US\$17,208,002 in 2019. This was linked to increasing contributions from Member States to support technical cooperation, in particular to support the deployment of human rights advisers under the UNSDG Strategy that was launched in 2012. In 2020, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$15,943,243 compared to US\$15,498,086 in 2019. The actual level of expenditure was lower due to the late receipt of contributions, the impacts of COVID-19 on a number of planned activities and the need to secure an adequate level of funding to ensure the sustainability of efforts at the beginning of 2021.

In 2020, the Fund provided resources for technical cooperation programmes designed to build strong human rights frameworks at the national level in 53 regions, countries and territories through 42 human rights advisers and human rights mainstreaming projects in Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia,

Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, South Caucasus region (Georgia), Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Zimbabwe. In addition, the Fund supported activities in seven human rights components of peace missions in Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Libya, Somalia and Sudan (Darfur) and in four country and stand-alone offices in Chad, Mauritania, Mexico and the State of Palestine.<sup>10</sup>

The Fund enabled the expansion of in-country human rights expertise, in particular through the joint UNSDG framework for the deployment of human rights advisers, and by responding to increased demands for UN Human Rights to have an in-country presence. With the support of the Fund, UN Human Rights facilitated national efforts to incorporate international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices, with an emphasis on the human rights dimensions of the global health crisis and providing support for policies and practices aimed at addressing inequalities. In addition, UN Human Rights stressed the importance of supporting the implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the development of online mechanisms to supplement these efforts.

In light of the multiple impacts of the pandemic on the progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UN Human Rights enhanced its technical cooperation and advisory services to support the efforts of Member States to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Fund enabled the Office to provide ongoing support across all regions in the establishment and strengthening of national structures, institutions and capacities and to ensure their adherence to international human rights standards. Furthermore, UN Human Rights focused on supporting activities to strengthen the administration of justice. This included increasing access to justice, in particular for individuals and groups facing discrimination and exclusion, and delivering capacity-building initiatives to combat inequality and promote gender equality and women's rights.

<sup>10</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

**UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION****Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Denmark	5,724,343	VFTC
Finland	2,575,588	VFTC
Germany	341,297	VFTC
India	200,000	VFTC
United States of America	1,150,000	VFTC
<b>(a) Total contributions earmarked to VFTC</b>		
	<b>9,991,228</b>	
Australia	221,730	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region (Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste)
	188,395	Human Rights Adviser in the Philippines
Belgium	1,194,743	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
Canada	454,545	Sri Lanka
Denmark	147,254	Somalia
France	71,090	Chad
	82,938	Mauritania
Germany	79,636	Sri Lanka
MacArthur Foundation	140,000	Mexico (implementation of the 2018 National Law on Disappearances through technical assistance to Mexican authorities)
	359,626	Haiti
Norway	719,252	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Chad)
	299,688	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Mauritania)
	119,875	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Niger)
	503,476	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*

Russian Federation	200,000	Belarus (implementation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights)
	120,000	Expert consultations on business and human rights
	450,000	Russian Federation (consolidating the Human Rights Master's Programme)
	20,000	Russian Federation (activities of the Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for Human Rights in the Russian Federation)
	100,000	VFTC (in particular for its work in Africa)
Saudi Arabia	200,000	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	6,054,915	Deployment of human rights advisers
UNDP	106,020	Georgia (National Human Rights Strategy and the new Action Plan)
UN Women	89,673	Kenya
United States of America	1,340,000	Chad, Haiti, Libya, Mexico
United Kingdom	12,016	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine* (COVID-19 information made available to persons with disabilities)
<b>(b) Total contributions earmarked to specific projects</b>	<b>13,274,873</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to VFTC		Unearmarked
<b>(c) Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total (a) + (b) + (c)</b>	<b>23,266,101</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>15,943,243</b>	

\*Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

## **UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN CAMBODIA**

In 1992, the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia was established by the Secretary-General. The original aim of the Trust Fund was to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme that would promote the understanding of and respect for human rights in Cambodia. Since then, it has been used to implement all of the activities of the Office in Cambodia. In 2020, the Trust Fund received US\$738,979 in voluntary contributions. For more information, see pp. 345-350 of the online report.

## **UN TRUST FUND FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN CAMBODIA**

### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

Donor	US\$
Australia <sup>1</sup>	73,910
Japan	45,000
Sweden	520,069
United States of America	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>738,979</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>1,237,808</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated from a contribution earmarked for activities in the Asia-Pacific region.

## **UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW MECHANISM**

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism was established by the Secretary-General in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17. The Voluntary Fund facilitates the participation of developing States, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs), in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. Under its terms of reference, the Voluntary Fund enables funding for a delegate to present the national report from her/his country and participate in the interactive dialogue at the Working Group session when the delegate's country is being considered. The delegate also attends the HRC's plenary session when the UPR outcome is adopted.

As of 31 December, the Fund had not received any pledges compared to US\$147,167 in pledges and contributions in 2019. In 2020, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$190,174 compared to US\$309,562 in 2019.

Through the Voluntary Fund, UN Human Rights facilitated the participation of government representatives from 10 States under review in the thirty-fifth session of the UPR Working Group and in the forty-third session of the HRC, which adopted the UPR outcomes of 14 States reviewed in the thirty-fourth session of the UPR Working Group in November 2019.

In March, in the context of COVID-19, UN Human Rights consulted with the Office of the HRC President and decided to postpone the thirty-sixth session of the UPR Working Group, which was originally scheduled to take place from May until November, to enable States and

other stakeholders to constructively and safely engage in the UPR process.

Given the worsening COVID-19 situation, all travel arrangements were cancelled that were made under the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the UPR (to attend the adoptions of the UPR outcomes at the forty-fourth and forty-fifth HRC sessions and the thirty-sixth Working Group session). In November, Swiss authorities decreased the maximum number of in-person meeting participants from 50 to five. For the thirty-sixth UPR Working Group session, scheduled in November, UN Human Rights adopted an innovative approach and used the Fund to facilitate the remote participation of States under review and of other Member States, resulting in approximately 650 video statements and 350 live videoconference calls.

## **UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UPR**

### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

Donor	US\$
/	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>190,174</b>

## **UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review was established in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17. This financial mechanism was created to provide a source of financial and technical assistance to help countries implement the recommendations emanating from the UPR, with the consent of and in consultation with the countries concerned. Since its establishment, the UPR has completed two cycles and the human rights record of every Member State has been reviewed at least twice. The focus of the third cycle, which began in May 2017, is the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$346,597 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$417,362 in 2019. In 2020, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$512,511 compared to US\$585,112 in 2019.

In 2013, the Secretary-General requested the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (see pp. 128-129) to also serve as a Board of Trustees for the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the UPR.

In 2020, the Fund approved financial and technical assistance for activities in the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Kenya, Madagascar,

Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uruguay and Yemen. In 2020, the strategic focus was on assisting States in the implementation of key UPR recommendations, the establishment and/or strengthening of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs), the creation of recommendation implementation plans and databases and supporting UNCTs and parliamentary capacities for implementation.

COVID-19 affected the implementation of a number of projects in the field. As a result, UN Human Rights informed Member States that it would consider adjustments upon request and as necessary, in accordance with new national priorities in the context of the pandemic. This flexible approach was discussed and agreed upon by the members of the Board of Trustees, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Deputy High Commissioner during online meetings that were held in May and November and co-organized with the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

## **UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPR**

### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>US\$</b>
France	128,807
India	100,000
Kazakhstan	10,000
Pakistan	5,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Romania	47,790
Singapore	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>346,597</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>512,511</b>

**VOLUNTARY TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND TO  
SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES  
AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING  
STATES IN THE WORK OF THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

The Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council was established under HRC resolution 19/26 in 2012. The Trust Fund became operational in 2014. The objective of the Trust Fund is to enhance the institutional and human rights capacities of LDCs and SIDS through targeted training courses and travel assistance for delegates attending regular sessions of the HRC and the fellowship programmes.

In 2020, the Trust Fund received US\$377,988 in voluntary contributions compared to US\$648,991 in 2019. A total of 15 countries, including three new donors, contributed to the Trust Fund (there were only three in 2015). The Bahamas became the first beneficiary country and the first country from Latin America and the Caribbean to contribute to the Trust Fund. At the end of 2020, the Trust Fund reached the symbolic threshold of 30 donors that had contributed since it was established.

Since it became operational in 2014, the Trust Fund has supported the participation of 153 delegates and fellows, including 95 women and one visually impaired delegate, from 71 of the 72 eligible LDCs/SIDS, including all countries that were members of the HRC. Through the Trust Fund, 95 per cent of the beneficiaries, most of whom were responsible for following HRC activities in their

respective countries, participated in a regular Council session for the first time.

In 2016, as mandated by HRC resolution 19/26, the Trust Fund launched the first online training tool on the HRC and its mechanisms for government officials from LDCs and SIDS who work in the field of human rights. This interactive, fully accessible and gender-aware course is free of charge and available in English and French and in an “offline mode” on USB drives. To date, approximately 600 individuals have enrolled in the course.

In 2020, the Trust Fund provided support to 10 delegates (six women, four men) from 10 LDCs/SIDS, who travelled to Geneva to attend part of the forty-third session of the HRC. Two of the delegates were from Africa (Angola and Burkina Faso), five were from Asia and the Pacific (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Maldives, Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands) and three were from Latin America and the Caribbean (Barbados, Guyana and Haiti). Three of the delegates came from States that were members of the HRC in 2020 (Angola, Burkina Faso and Marshall Islands). Eighty per cent of all delegates worked for their respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs and all of them were attending a Council session for the first time. Each delegate participated in a three-day induction course, which was organized with support from the Trust Fund, and fully participated in the discussions. They delivered a total of 36 statements (34 were in their national capacities and two were joint statements). They also took part in nine briefings and side events that were organized by the Trust Fund and met with the Council President and the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights. For the first time, a side event was organized by the European Union delegation in

Geneva with the assistance of the Trust Fund. Unfortunately, four events were cancelled following the decision to suspend the forty-third session of the HRC due to COVID-19. All steps were taken to ensure the safe return of the delegates to their countries.

Due to the pandemic and the related travel restrictions, the capacity-building activities delivered by the Trust Fund had to be adjusted and held online. The Fund organized its first virtual induction course to assist the delegates from small States before, during and after all three regular Council sessions. The HRC Help Desk for Small States offered virtual consultations and responded to 102 requests for information through various means of communication. In particular, the Trust Fund conducted briefings for small States representatives who were based in Geneva and New York (including the Permanent Representatives in New York from countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)) and it assisted two focal points for small States appointed by the HRC President (Fiji and Singapore). During the reporting period, Benin and Solomon Islands closed their Permanent Missions in Geneva.

The Trust Fund continued to follow up with Caribbean Member States on the action points of the Georgetown Declaration Towards 2022 – the outcome document of the LDCs/SIDS workshop held in 2018 in the Caribbean region. As of the end of 2020, approximately 70 per cent of the action points had been implemented. Similarly, the Trust Fund followed up on the implementation of provisions included in the Nadi Declaration Towards 2020 – the outcome document adopted at a workshop held in 2019, in Fiji, to enhance the participation in the HRC of LDCs/SIDS from the Pacific

region. Two other workshops that are planned for the African and Asian regions will take place virtually in 2021.

### **VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION OF LDCs AND SIDS IN THE WORK OF THE HRC**

#### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Australia	18,477
Austria	11,947
Bahamas	2,000
Canada	78,555
China	20,000
France	11,848
Germany	17,065
Italy	23,895
Luxembourg	33,210
Netherlands	55,991
Pakistan	5,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Russian Federation	30,000
Singapore	10,000
Switzerland	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>377,988</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>255,569</b>

## A former LDCs/SIDS fellow engaging his country in the process of ratifying CAT

In 2019, Sheldon Henry was one of six government officials selected to participate in the Fellowship Programme of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund in Geneva. This gave him a unique opportunity to interact with the international human rights mechanisms, including the HRC, as his country, Saint Kitts and Nevis, does not have diplomatic representation in Switzerland. As a result, Mr. Henry decided to take full advantage of his three-month stay. He participated in capacity-building activities and held meetings with key institutions and stakeholders, developing a strong network and looking for opportunities for his country to continue promoting and protecting human rights. Mr. Henry met with representatives of the Convention against Torture Initiative (CTI), a global initiative that supports States to ratify and implement the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). “It was after hearing them speak about the purpose of the Convention that I got inspired. As the lead human rights officer for my country, I worked on developing a proposal for my Government to accede to the Convention,” said Mr. Henry.

Once back in his country, Sheldon Henry made presentations to advocate for the signature of CAT with senior government officials and key stakeholders. In September, Saint Kitts and Nevis acceded to the Convention. “I am grateful for the support of the Trust Fund and UN Human Rights because it has given me and my country an opportunity to grow and advance our human rights policies and agenda,” added Mr. Henry, who has applied the capacities he acquired in Geneva to coordinate the writing of his country’s report for the third UPR cycle.



Sheldon Henry at the graduation reception for fellows of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund, hosted by the Permanent Representative of Poland, with the Permanent Representatives of the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago and UN Human Rights staff. © OHCHR

## UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples was established by General Assembly resolution 40/131, in 1985, to provide indigenous peoples with the opportunity to raise issues faced by their communities in the mechanisms, meetings and processes of the United Nations.

The Fund provides support to the representatives of indigenous peoples to enable their participation in the sessions of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII), the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), the sessions of the Human Rights Council, including its Universal Periodic Review, and the human rights treaty bodies. With the expansion of the Fund's mandate in 2019, it now enables indigenous peoples to participate in the Forum on Business and Human Rights (FBHR) and meetings of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC).

Over the past 35 years, the Fund has supported the participation of over 2,500 representatives of indigenous peoples from all regions of the world. Through the support of the Fund, the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations during the last three decades has led to considerable developments in international human rights standards, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and the creation of key UN mechanisms that are dedicated to indigenous issues, such as the PFII, the EMRIP and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

The Fund is administered by UN Human Rights, on behalf of the Secretary-General, and is advised by a five-member

Board of Trustees. In December, the Secretary-General appointed four new Board members for the period 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023, namely, Ms. Tukumminguaq Nykjær Olsen (Greenland/Denmark), Mr. Dev Kumar Sunuwar (Nepal), Ms. Marjolaine Étienne (Canada) and Mr. Pablo Miss (Belize). It also extended the term of Mr. Diel Mochire Mwenge (Democratic Republic of the Congo) for another three years.

The Board of Trustees participated in the regular coordination meetings of all indigenous-related UN mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the PFII and the EMRIP. In turn, these UN mechanisms disseminate information on the activities of the Fund to their respective networks. Moreover, the Special Rapporteur established an important practice of holding meetings with the beneficiaries of the Fund in parallel to the sessions of the PFII and the EMRIP.

In 2020, the Fund received a total of US\$543,572 in voluntary contributions compared to US\$470,763 in 2019. The total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$102,202 in 2020 compared to US\$759,114 in 2019.

In 2020, the Fund allocated 165 travel grants to enable indigenous representatives to participate in the sessions of the PFII in New York (46) and the EMRIP (40), the HRC, the UPR and the human rights treaty bodies (30) in Geneva. Additionally, seven indigenous representatives were supported by the Fund to attend a General Assembly consultative process/interactive hearing session, 21 representatives received grants to attend the FBHR and 21 representatives received grants to attend FCCC meetings. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, however, only four out of the 165 allocated grants

were disbursed to support three indigenous representatives from Tuvalu and one from the Cook Islands to attend a session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in the Pacific region, in Samoa.

## UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

### Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020

Donor	US\$
Australia	18,477
Estonia	46,784
Finland	65,502
Germany	34,130
Holy See	2,000
Mexico	14,118
Norway	359,626
Peru	2,936
<b>Total</b>	<b>543,572</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>102,202</b>

## Adjusting the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programme to adapt to COVID-19

Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions in 2020, UN Human Rights was unable to host its in-person Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programme in Geneva. Instead, the Office selected 34 of its outstanding former fellows to work as “senior fellows” in 27 locations, namely, UN Human Rights regional or country offices (19), UNCTs (six) and UN peace-keeping operations (two).

Of these fellows, 20 belong to indigenous communities and 14 to minority communities from 29 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Yemen and Zimbabwe).

For the deployed senior fellows, this was an opportunity to enhance the experiences and capacities they had gained through the UN human rights system and to engage in advocacy efforts to increase awareness about the human rights impacts of COVID-19 on indigenous peoples and minorities. At the same time, UN Human Rights and the respective UN hosting entities benefited from the expertise, knowledge and experience of the senior fellows in relation to work on the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples. Two of the senior fellows are Jenny Amparo Chicaiza Lechón, from Ecuador, and Mirca Morera, from the United Kingdom.

In 2005, Jenny Amparo Chicaiza Lechón, a Kichwa Kayambi woman from

Imbabura, Ecuador, created the Wambra Páramo Youth Network with friends and colleagues. Together, they work on environmental and socio-territorial issues in the Kayambi territory and on questions related to ancestral knowledge and the impact of mother tongue teaching on learning outcomes. In 2019, she was selected to take part in the Indigenous Fellowship Programme and she served as Vice-President of the Indigenous Caucus at the twelfth session of the EMRIP. In her country, she applied her acquired knowledge to train more than 200 indigenous persons at the local and national level, in addition to 80 indigenous leaders in the context of COVID-19. In 2020, she was deployed as a senior fellow to Ecuador’s UNCT, where she continued using national and international human rights norms and mechanisms to enhance the rights of indigenous peoples in the context of the pandemic. She provided inputs to the COVID-19 report of the Special Rapporteur, participated virtually in the thirteenth session of the EMRIP and contributed to preparatory meetings for the 2021 session of the PFII.

Mirca Morera was born and raised in Tottenham, London, in an area close to the Latin Village, where community and police relations have been historically tense. Ms. Morera remains strongly engaged in fighting discrimination faced by the Latin American community and works to enhance equality in the UK. More specifically, she submitted inputs to international human rights mechanisms to highlight social deprivations faced by this fast-growing minority ethnic group. In 2019, she participated in the



Jenny Amparo Chicaiza Lechón (left) and Mirca Morera (right), 2020 senior fellows of the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programme. © OHCHR

UN Minorities Fellowship Programme, which enabled her to build her capacities and knowledge on minority rights and forge a cross-regional collaboration with another fellow from New York. This knowledge and partnership became crucial in 2020 when she used art to raise awareness about and to advocate for minority rights as minority communities in the UK and the United States of America were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. In response to this crisis, Ms. Morera convened two meetings with the Mayor of London and secured 500,000 British Pounds to provide financial support to those most affected by the pandemic. In 2020, Ms. Morera was selected to act as a senior minority fellow covering Europe.

Under the banner of enhancing equality and countering discrimination, including on COVID-19-related issues, the redesigned Fellowship Programme provided an opportunity to enhance the complementarity between actions undertaken in the field and at headquarters. The Programme supported awareness-raising, advocacy, monitoring and reporting efforts to address the impacts of the pandemic on minority and indigenous peoples’ communities.

## UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN FUNDS

UN Human Rights provides joint secretariat support to two grant-making funds, namely, the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. Together, they are known as the UN Human Rights Humanitarian Funds. They were established by the General Assembly with the purpose of providing direct assistance and rehabilitation to individuals whose rights have been violated in the context of contemporary forms of slavery and torture, respectively. This assistance translates into yearly grants that are primarily awarded to civil society organizations that provide humanitarian, medical, psychological, social and legal assistance to victims. They are financed through voluntary contributions and are formally administered by the Secretary-General, who acts on the advice of Boards of Trustees. In 2020, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery received a total of US\$848,240 in contributions compared to US\$872,728 in 2019. In 2020, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture received a total of US\$10,446,987 in contributions compared to US\$9,225,449 in 2019.

## United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was established by General Assembly resolution 46/122, in 1991, with a mandate to provide direct assistance to victims of contemporary forms of slavery. It awards annual grants to civil society organizations, including rehabilitation centres, trade unions, shelters for victims and legal redress programmes. Contemporary forms of slavery are regularly brought to light and include serfdom, forced labour, bonded labour, traditional slavery, trafficking in persons and in human organs, sexual slavery, the worst forms of child labour, early and forced marriage, inherited widows, the sale of wives and other forms of slavery.

In 2020, the Trust Fund prioritized projects that support victims of contemporary slavery in supply chains and the achievement of SDG Target 8.7. The Fund's Board of Trustees met remotely from 23 to 27 November and approved 37 annual grants to be awarded in 30 countries, with an average grant size of US\$20,000. In 2021, the awarded projects will provide assistance to approximately 17,000 survivors of slavery.

## UN VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

### Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020

Donor	US\$
Andorra	17,921
Australia	110,865
Germany	477,897
Holy See	2,500
India	50,000
Luxembourg	17,606
Republic of Korea	40,000
Saudi Arabia	75,000
Spain	23,753
United Kingdom	32,698
<b>Total</b>	<b>848,240</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>753,026</b>

## Reintegrating children into school and providing a protective environment with support from the Slavery Trust Fund



Association Medica Zenica empowering victims of child trafficking and contemporary slavery.  
© Medica Zenica

Two sisters, 11 and 12 years old, were admitted to Medica Zenica's safe house. They had been sold by their father to their aunt for 500 Euros, were forced to beg on the street and were physically harmed if they refused. The girls had never attended school and were illiterate. As victims of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, they needed to recover from ongoing abuse. Medica Zenica helped them to acquire basic skills and complete four grades of primary education.

Medica Zenica has been providing comprehensive assistance, including shelter, to women and child victims of contemporary forms of slavery and trafficking since 1999, when trafficking in human beings emerged as a new phenomenon after the end of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2020, the organization received its first grant from the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, which facilitated the provision of assistance to 12 women and children who were survivors of trafficking, forced begging and sexual slavery. By operating an SOS helpline and offering shelter, legal counselling and support, occupational therapies and economic empowerment through vocational training, Medica Zenica provided direct support to victims who frequently came from vulnerable families and marginalized groups, including Roma communities.

After a successful recovery process, the two sisters were sheltered in a family-oriented organization that will provide them with long-term care and protection. And the girls were finally able to join their peers in a regular school.

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, established by General Assembly resolution 36/151, in 1981, is mandated to provide direct assistance to victims of torture and their families. The Fund awards annual and emergency grants to CSOs, including to support rehabilitation centres, grassroots organizations and legal aid programmes.

The Fund's Board of Trustees met remotely from 7 to 11 October and recommended that 178 annual grants be awarded to 79 countries, with an average grant size of US\$41,371. The awarded grants will support approximately 47,000 victims of torture. A total of 172 projects will enable the delivery of direct assistance to victims of torture and their families (for a total of US\$7,184,000) and six projects will help to strengthen the capacities of organizations that deliver such services (for a total of US\$180,000).

Through its emergency grants procedure, the Fund supported 24 emergency projects in 2020 (for a total of US\$530,000) to enable them to respond to urgent humanitarian and human rights situations in 23 countries, including in the context of COVID-19. In addition, the Fund launched a special call for COVID-19 emergency projects in 2020. Within this framework, 17 grants were awarded to assist nearly 4,000 torture survivors that were particularly impacted by the pandemic (in Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, India, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America).

## UN VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

### Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020

Donor	US\$
Andorra	11,737
Austria	32,967
Canada <sup>1</sup>	66,480
Czech Republic	8,551
Denmark	735,619
France	71,090
Germany	538,164
Holy See	2,000
India	50,000
Ireland	161,290
Italy	29,869
Kuwait	10,000
Liechtenstein	25,826
Luxembourg	17,606
Mexico	10,000
Norway	359,626
Pakistan	5,000
Peru	1,086
Saudi Arabia	100,000
Switzerland	200,000
United States of America	8,000,000
Individual donors	10,075
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,446,987</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>8,807,809</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes a contribution of CAD\$30,000 from the provincial Government of Québec.

## Overcoming the impacts of torture in detention, COVID-19 and the Beirut blast

The 4 August explosion in Beirut and the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically worsened the situation of persons deprived of their liberty in Lebanon. Among them, victims of torture were particularly impacted, with the abrupt suspension of visits and withdrawal of rehabilitation services. The Association Justice et Miséricorde (AJEM), which provides medical, legal, psychological and social assistance services to 300 victims of torture each year, including in detention facilities and police stations, began to receive support from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture in 2018. In 2020, it received an annual grant to assist 150 victims of torture, including 30 women. After the blast, AJEM was awarded an emergency grant to support an additional 260 beneficiaries in Beirut's two detention centres. This enabled the organization to address medical relapses, provide medical supplies, phone cards and legal assistance to detainees and to extend urgent social assistance to their families as needed.

“I was hopeless and my life had no value,” recalls Mr. Chehade, a 28-year-old man who was subjected to torture during arrest and investigation. Transferred to one of Lebanon’s biggest prisons, Mr. Chehade showed alarming

signs of depression and hopelessness when AJEM first came in contact with him in 2019. He had reportedly used drugs and had attempted suicide. AJEM provided assistance to Mr. Chehade and secured his transfer to another building where he received professional health care, psychological support and medical treatment. When Mr. Chehade was released in 2020, he was physically and emotionally healthier. He continued receiving counselling from AJEM’s psychosocial team and he is now preparing to get married. He is grateful to AJEM for standing with him through this challenging and critical period of his life.



The staff of the Association Justice et Miséricorde in Lebanon. © OHCHR

## **SPECIAL FUND ESTABLISHED BY THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT**

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) was adopted by the General Assembly in December 2002 and entered into force in June 2006. OP-CAT created a two-pillar system at the international and national level to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment in places where persons may be deprived of their liberty.

At the international level, it established the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), which has been in operation since February 2007. SPT is mandated to visit all places of detention in States Parties and provide assistance and advice to States Parties and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs).

At the national level, the Special Fund established by article 26 of OP-CAT helps to finance the implementation of recommendations issued by SPT after a visit to a State Party and supports training programmes for NPMs. In 2020, the Fund awarded grants amounting to US\$381,005 to support 14 torture prevention projects in 10 States Parties to the Optional Protocol. In 2020, the Fund received contributions and pledges of US\$490,251, which enabled the launch of the 2021 Call for Applications.

Since 2012, the Fund has supported 84 technical cooperation projects in 22 countries worldwide. These projects were responsible for facilitating legislative and institutional changes in the 22 countries and supported the

compliance of laws with international human rights standards on torture prevention and the creation of NPMs. This resulted in the amendment of codes of criminal procedure, prison acts and laws prohibiting abusive body searches for persons deprived of their liberty. The projects supported the establishment or strengthening of effective NPMs or other relevant institutions and contributed to the improved knowledge and capacity of NPM staff members to monitor places of detention (through trainings, study visits, the elaboration of internal rules and methodologies and the production of manuals, interview protocols and guidelines). The projects also resulted in the enhanced visibility of NPMs (through the improvement and translation of annual reports into national languages, radio broadcasts, brochures and posters). Funding from the Special Fund enabled projects to purchase technical equipment (such as cameras and equipment to measure the size and humidity of cells) and contributed to enhanced collaboration with other stakeholders (professional groups, prosecutors, the judiciary, the police, lawyers and CSOs).

In addition, the projects supported capacity-building activities in institutions equipped with psychiatric and health facilities and enhanced collaboration with national monitoring bodies established under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), thereby contributing to the improved protection of vulnerable persons and groups (women, persons with disabilities, children and persons with HIV/AIDS).

## **OP-CAT SPECIAL FUND**

### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Czech Republic	8,551
Denmark	200,610
France	23,697
Germany	113,766
Norway	119,875
Spain	23,753
<b>Total</b>	<b>490,251</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>280,271</b>

## CONTINGENCY FUND

The Contingency Fund is a flexible funding mechanism that was established in 2006 to carry out activities and implement the priorities and strategies of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, particularly in response to human rights and humanitarian emergencies. This was primarily achieved by the rapid deployment of human rights staff and the provision of necessary logistical support.

The Fund, which is financed through voluntary contributions, aims to maintain a balance of approximately US\$1 million at all times. Cash advances are withdrawn from the Fund to enable the implementation of emergency response activities without administrative delays. When additional funding is received from other sources, the Fund is reimbursed. Since the inception of the Fund, there has been a significant increase in the capacity of UN Human Rights to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations requiring a rapid response.

In 2020, despite the impacts of COVID-19, the Contingency Fund facilitated the emergency deployment of 13 UN Human Rights staff (seven women, six men) in six countries with deteriorating human rights situations, including during electoral periods.

In Guinea, the surge capacity deployment ensured increased human rights monitoring during the legislative elections and the constitutional referendum. In Côte d'Ivoire, additional resources supported the Resident Coordinator with human rights monitoring and analysis in the period preceding the presidential elections. Similarly, in Niger and Uganda, human rights officers were deployed to strengthen the capacity of the field offices

to monitor and report on the human rights situation during the elections. In Kyrgyzstan, the deployment focused on strengthening the early warning and monitoring system of the UN Human Rights Regional Office for Central Asia to effectively respond to and mitigate risks of serious human rights violations following post-electoral violence. In Ethiopia, UN Human Rights responded to the conflict in the Tigray region by deploying human rights officers to monitor and report on the unfolding human rights and humanitarian situation. Furthermore, the Fund enabled the Office to enhance remote monitoring to report on the human rights situation of the population affected by the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh.

In 2020, the Fund received contributions of US\$449,547 compared to US\$297,505 in 2019. In 2020, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$96,216 compared to US\$405,606 in 2019. As of 31 December, the remaining balance of US\$540,204 was below the target of maintaining a reserve of US\$1 million at all times, thus undermining the capacity of UN Human Rights to implement rapid response deployments.

## CONTINGENCY FUND

### Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020

Donor	US\$
France	47,393
Republic of Korea	50,000
Sweden	352,154
Total	449,547
Expenditure	96,216

## Monitoring the human rights situation during the electoral period in Niger



Dorothée Ndoh Ondobo, Human Rights Officer, with a group of supporters of political parties in Niamey. © OHCHR

Dorothée Ndoh Ondobo was deployed to Niger from November 2020 to January 2021, in the midst of an electoral period. As the country moved through local, regional and legislative elections and the first round of presidential elections, her role was to coordinate the activities of the surge capacity team in support of the recently established UN Human Rights Country Office. Through this work, she was able to contribute to the promotion of and respect for human rights during the electoral period.

During that period, Dorothée and her team provided technical assistance and training to 157 key national stakeholders (64 women, 93 men), including from the National Human Rights Commission,

civil society and the media, on human rights monitoring and reporting. She and her team also enhanced the knowledge of representatives of the security and defence forces on international human rights obligations in electoral contexts. In addition, the team assessed the human rights situation during that period by collecting information on incidents, analysing human rights issues and alerting on potential triggers of electoral violence.

“My experience in a few commissions of inquiry and surge capacity teams was an added value during my field visits to polling stations as well as remote monitoring. I conducted more than 200 interviews and focus groups with victims, witnesses and various stakeholders, including electoral

personnel, members of the National Electoral Independent Commission, Heads of polling stations, delegates of political parties, voters, community and religious leaders and internally displaced persons,” said Dorothée.

Her past experience in fostering human rights compliance in electoral contexts, in relation to the peace and security agenda with the Human Rights Division in MINUSMA, the UN Human Rights Regional Office for Central Africa and at headquarters in New York enabled her to support the UN early warning and prevention efforts in Niger. “Monitoring hate speech and incitement to violence by political and civil society actors was facilitated through social media, such as Facebook,” she added.

Security concerns, including possible terrorist attacks, coupled with COVID-19-related sanitary challenges, added to an already tense political situation. “On electoral days, I contributed to the establishment of an operational situation room to compile information collected by several human rights officers on the ground,” noted Dorothée. “I assisted the UN Human Rights Country Office in sharing preliminary findings on the human rights situation during the elections by providing briefings to the Resident Coordinator, representatives of ECOWAS and of the European Union.” This successful deployment also enhanced local capacities to provide regular early warning and prevention updates to these stakeholders, UNOWAS and the UNOCC.

**SPECIAL FUND FOR THE  
PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY  
IN THE SOCIAL FORUM, THE  
FORUM ON MINORITY ISSUES  
AND THE FORUM ON BUSINESS  
AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

The Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights was established by HRC decision 24/118, on 27 September 2013. The aim of the Fund is to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders in the annual meetings of the three forums. In 2020, the Special Fund received US\$50,000 in new contributions.

From 19 to 20 November, the UN Forum on Minority Issues held its thirteenth session, virtually, on “Hate speech, social media and minorities.” Participants included approximately 400 representatives from States, international and regional organizations, civil society and other stakeholders. Invited expert panelists representing the world’s five regions shared their expertise and highlighted the pressing need to address the critical challenge of tackling hate speech, xenophobic rhetoric and incitement to hatred against minorities. The recommendations of the Forum were presented to the HRC in March 2021. The Forum was preceded by two regional forums on the same topic that were held in Asia-Pacific and Europe and were organized by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues.

The ninth Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights took place from 16 to 18 November and focused on the theme “Preventing business-related human rights abuses: The key to a sustainable future for people and planet.” Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, UN Human Rights organized the Forum as a virtual event. It was guided and chaired by the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, with the objective of promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, and the Chair of The Elders, Mary Robinson, opened the Forum, along with government representatives and Heads of UN entities. During 28 sessions, more than 200 speakers from all regions and stakeholder groups discussed issues related to climate change, inequality and racism, mandatory human rights due diligence, corruption, the role of human rights defenders (HRDs), new technologies and human rights, migrant workers and labour rights. The role of States and businesses in responding to COVID-19 and taking part in recovery efforts was also discussed. A total of 3,724 participants from 140 countries registered to attend the Forum (with representatives from the private sector (30 per cent), civil society (24 per cent), academia (13 per cent), international organizations (nine per cent), Member States (eight per cent) and national human rights institutions (NHRIs) (three per cent), among others). The virtual format of the Forum enabled new audiences to participate and the number of registered persons was the highest to date. The Forum was also broadcast via UNWebTV, where archived sessions can be viewed. The Forum reinforced the message that strengthening the prevention

of business-related human rights abuses, including by learning from both good and bad practices and addressing systemic gaps, can help to build a sustainable future for people and the planet. The discussions informed the Working Group's plan to mark its tenth anniversary in 2021, including by acknowledging its achievements in the implementation of the UNGPs, assessing gaps and challenges and developing a joint vision for implementation over the next decade.

Each year, the **Social Forum**, which is convened by the HRC, provides a unique space for an open and interactive dialogue between civil society actors, representatives of Member States and intergovernmental organizations on a theme that is chosen by the Council. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, the 2020 Social Forum was held as a hybrid in-presence and online event. The Special Fund was used to hire UNWebTV to broadcast the event and to archive the sessions in the six UN official languages. In this way, the Fund contributed to 1,209 views from 62 countries during the first day of the Forum, 973 views from 107 countries during the second day and 1,622 views of the archived videos in the following month.

### **SPECIAL FUND FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL FORUM, THE FORUM ON MINORITY ISSUES AND THE FORUM ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

#### **Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2020**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Russian Federation	50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>136,077</b>

## The Social Forum: Amplifying the voices of women engaged in the fight against poverty and inequality



Flavia Oliveira (left) Ruth Manorama (centre) and Berhan Taye (right). © OHCHR

In 2020, the Social Forum convened thousands of participants to exchange experiences, learn from each other and engage with State representatives and key stakeholders on the topic of combatting poverty and inequality. Among the dozens of speakers were Flavia Oliveira, an Afrodescendant journalist from Brazil, Ruth Manorama, a Dalit rights activist from India and Berhan Taye, a digital rights researcher and activist from Ethiopia.

Flavia Oliveira was raised by a single mother in a poor neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro. She is now one of the best-known economic journalists in Brazil, where she consistently fights against discrimination, racism and patriarchy. “Only by better distributing political, legislative, judicial, economic and corporate power to better reflect the heterogeneity of societies can we achieve societies that are as just as we need, desire and deserve,” said Flavia at the Forum. She highlighted

how COVID-19 had disproportionately affected families of African descent living in favelas and precarious dwellings due to historical inequalities. She also underlined how the worldwide mass mobilization to promote racial equality had gained momentum after the killing of George Floyd, forcing change in racist economic, political and social practices.

Ruth Manorama, who has received international awards for her activism against the injustices of the caste system and systemic gender-based violence against Dalit women, noted in her speech, “Let us transform our pain into power!” Beyond statistics, she illustrated the perversity of inequalities by citing caste-based sexual assaults, the lack of access to education for Dalit girls and the practice of manual scavenging of toilets. Through her work, she gives a voice to those people who are discriminated against and helps them fight for their rights with governments and other stakeholders.

Berhan Taye comes from a region where millions are deprived of the benefits of the digital age due to lack of access to Internet infrastructure, Internet shutdowns and prohibitive access fees. Born and raised in Addis Ababa, she works for the organization Access Now, where she engages in advocacy work across Africa and provides policy advice for the #KeepItOn Coalition. At the Forum, she underlined that “unless the technology is rooted in social justice and equity framing, at its best, it will maintain the unequal status quo and continue to perpetuate inequality and, at its worst, discriminate and marginalize the most vulnerable.” Berhan added that inequalities online reflect and aggravate inequalities offline, undermining the enjoyment of rights by the most vulnerable groups and persons, including inhabitants of rural areas or indigenous peoples. She explained how clear it was to her that lack of access, shutdowns and punitive regulations deny billions of people the potential benefits of the digital age.

For Flavia, Ruth and Berhan, the Social Forum was a valuable opportunity for sharing human rights concerns with others, advocating for more equal and inclusive societies and building new partnerships to bridge digital divides and address structural racial and caste-based discrimination.

# Financial reports as at 31 December 2020

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2020, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during the period and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2020.

	EXTRABUDGETARY	REGULAR BUDGET	TOTAL
SUMMARY			
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	124,485,977	n/a	124,485,977
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	(1,860,867)	n/a	(1,860,867)
Income from contributions/Allotments <sup>3</sup>	224,331,556	106,050,514 <sup>4</sup>	330,382,070
Other income <sup>5</sup>	(662,645)	n/a	(662,645)
<b>Total funds available</b>	<b>346,294,021</b>	<b>106,050,514</b>	<b>452,344,535</b>
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	183,962,222	108,018,353	291,980,575
<b>Closing balance<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>162,331,799</b>	<b>(1,967,839)</b>	<b>160,363,960</b>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the final 2019 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments of income, refunds to donors and write-off of unpaid pledges from the past period.

<sup>3</sup> Extrabudgetary includes all donor contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for the fiscal year 2020. Excludes future donor pledges and commitments. Regular Budget corresponds to the amount allotted to OHCHR for 2020.

<sup>4</sup> The Regular Budget allotment corresponds to the amount actually received from the initially approved appropriation of \$116.8 m.

<sup>5</sup> Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions and interest income.

<sup>6</sup> Includes disbursements and commitments for the fiscal year 2020. Excludes future commitments and liabilities.

<sup>7</sup> The extrabudgetary amount corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2020.

The above summary financial report of income and expenditure in 2020 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the extrabudgetary contributions received and the regular budget amount allotted to OHCHR for 2020.

Notes: ▶

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the final 2019 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments of income, transfer between trust funds, refunds to donors and write-off of unpaid pledges from past period.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for the fiscal year 2020. Excludes future donor pledges and commitments.

<sup>4</sup> Includes gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions and interest income.

<sup>5</sup> = opening balance + adjustment + income from contributions + other income available.

<sup>6</sup> Includes disbursements and commitments for the fiscal year 2020. Excludes future commitments and liabilities.

<sup>7</sup> Corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2020.

The summary financial report of extrabudgetary income and expenditure for 2020 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the trust funds for which contributions were received.

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020 (TRUST FUNDS)

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2020, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during the period and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2020.

	Vf for Victims of Torture	TF on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	Vf for Indigenous Peoples	TF for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	TF for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	TF for Participation of IDCs and SIDS in the work of the HRC	Vf for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights	TF for Human Rights Education in Cambodia	TF for Support Activities of OHCHR	Total OHCHR Trust Funds
SUMMARY	CHA	SHA	IHA	VPU	UPR	VTA	AHA	CIA	HCA	TOTAL
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	11,619,809	1,093,635	1,671,309	913,467	2,352,993	1,886,730	16,085,486	983,116	87,879,432	124,485,977
Fund balance	11,614,809	1,093,635	1,666,309	913,467	2,247,993	1,854,728	15,902,087	983,116	82,212,040	118,488,184
Unpaid pledges past period	5,000	0	5,000	0	105,000	32,002	183,399	0	5,667,392	5,997,793
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	80,000	1,453	15,641	1,319	0	0	92,458	(1,120)	(1,174,123)	(984,372)
and write-off (unpaid pledges) <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	(13,400)	0	(863,095)	(876,495)
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	10,446,987	848,240	543,572	0	346,597	377,988	23,266,101	738,979	187,763,092	224,331,556
Paid contributions 2020	10,444,987	845,740	541,572	0	346,597	361,262	23,118,847	738,979	175,472,583	211,870,567
Unpaid pledges 2020	2,000	2,500	2,000	0	0	16,726	147,254	0	12,290,509	12,460,989
Other income available <sup>4</sup>	113,420	16,755	(12,465)	14,409	39,539	28,396	320,114	(63,021)	(1,119,792)	(662,645)
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	(31,519)	2,682	(44,098)	0	466	(3,324)	(86,735)	(78,512)	(2,666,903)	(2,907,943)
Interest income	144,939	14,073	31,633	14,409	39,073	31,720	406,849	15,491	1,547,111	2,245,298
<b>Total funds available<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>22,260,216</b>	<b>1,960,083</b>	<b>2,218,057</b>	<b>929,195</b>	<b>2,739,129</b>	<b>2,293,114</b>	<b>39,750,759</b>	<b>1,657,954</b>	<b>272,485,514</b>	<b>346,294,021</b>
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	8,807,809	753,026	102,202	190,174	512,511	255,569	15,943,243	1,237,808	156,159,880	183,962,222
<b>Closing balance<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>13,452,407</b>	<b>1,207,057</b>	<b>2,115,855</b>	<b>739,021</b>	<b>2,226,618</b>	<b>2,037,545</b>	<b>23,807,516</b>	<b>420,146</b>	<b>116,325,634</b>	<b>162,331,799</b>

**REGULAR BUDGET ALLOTMENT AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020****(Summary by programme, in thousands of US\$)**

	<b>ALLOTMENT</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>		
Executive Direction and Management	8,135.8	7,913.1
Policymaking Organs	1,865.6	2,952.6
<b>Programme of Work</b>		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	11,725.1	12,712.0
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	14,769.9	15,537.7
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation <sup>1</sup>	26,962.1	27,340.8
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures	7,897.8	7,549.3
- Human Rights Council and the UPR	11,786.0	12,245.0
- Special Procedures	11,786.0	12,245.0
<b>Total programme of work: Headquarters</b>	<b>73,141.5</b>	<b>75,384.8</b>
Programme Support and Management Services	7,327.4	5,865.3
<b>Subtotal: Headquarters operating resources</b>	<b>90,470.3</b>	<b>92,115.8</b>
<b>FIELD PRESENCES</b>		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities <sup>2</sup>	3,168.6	3,241.0
- Africa	1,967.8	2,039.9
- Americas	3,267.1	3,207.9
- Asia and the Pacific	1,745.9	1,672.6
- Europe and Central Asia	3,365.0	3,547.7
- Middle East and North Africa	2,065.8	2,193.4
Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (Sec. 23)	15,580.2	15,902.5
<b>Subtotal: Field presences operating resources</b>	<b>106,050.5</b>	<b>108,018.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes allotments for mandated commissions of inquiry.<sup>2</sup> Includes Cambodia, Sudan, the Regional Office for Central Africa in Yaoundé, the field-based structure on the DPRK, the presence in the State of Palestine (all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19) and the Regional Offices in Bangkok, Bishkek, Brussels, Dakar, Panama, Qatar and Santiago de Chile.

**EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020****(Summary by programme, in thousands of US\$)**

	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>		
<b>Programme of Work</b>		
Executive Direction and Management	24,608.9	21,378.5
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	24,105.4	19,703.4
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	3,699.7	3,110.1
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation	18,543.5	14,047.6
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures	4,347.0	3,822.0
- Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review	12,033.4	8,924.3
- Special Procedures	<b>62,729.0</b>	<b>49,607.4</b>
<b>Total programme of work: Headquarters</b>		
Programme Support and Management Services	10,787.2	9,943.6
<b>Subtotal: Headquarters operating resources</b>		
	<b>98,125.1</b>	<b>80,929.5</b>
<b>FIELD PRESENCES</b>		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities		
- Africa	48,871.0	35,490.3
- Americas	32,220.4	23,580.8
- Asia and the Pacific	13,666.1	9,835.8
- Europe and Central Asia	13,025.9	9,191.4
- Middle East and North Africa	21,556.6	12,332.3
Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	212.7	96.2
<b>Subtotal: Field presences operating resources</b>		
	<b>129,552.7</b>	<b>90,526.8</b>
<b>Total: Headquarters and field presences</b>		
	<b>227,677.8</b>	<b>171,456.3</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	EXPENDITURE
<b>OTHER TRUST FUNDS</b>		
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	9,633.7	8,807.3
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	806.4	102.1
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	962.8	753.0
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	1,115.7	512.3
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	419.3	190.1
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the HRC	1,112.8	255.4
<b>Total: Other trust funds</b>	<b>14,050.7</b>	<b>10,620.2</b>
Other expenditure and adjustments not reported above	2,828.1	1,885.7
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>244,556.6</b>	<b>183,962.2</b>

**EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020****Overall summary (in thousands of US\$)**

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>			
<b>Executive Direction and Management (EDM)</b>			
EO - Executive Office of the High Commissioner	1,395,753.0	1,195,816.7	1,116,310.6
EOS - Communications Section	6,357,816.0	5,930,800.0	5,543,066.4
EOS - Donor and External Relations Section	3,995,792.0	3,501,800.0	3,254,826.8
EOS - External Outreach Service	626,504.0	567,200.0	542,147.2
EOS - Media and Public Positioning Section	2,056,406.0	2,246,300.0	2,146,764.4
EOS - Meetings, Documents and Publications Unit	1,735,981.0	1,853,600.0	1,713,396.7
NYO - New York Office	3,533,598.0	3,316,300.0	3,165,504.2
NYO - Human Rights Conflict Risk Tool Project	491,223.0	172,900.0	0.0
NYO - (MPTF) Conflict-Related Sexual Violence	304,083.0	338,156.4	298,029.1
NYO - UN's Response on Reprisals	628,713.0	467,994.3	613,122.1
PPMES - Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service	2,186,423.0	1,784,650.0	1,776,708.0
SSS - Safety and Security Section	1,296,576.0	1,260,950.0	1,208,583.3
<b>Subtotal EDM</b>	<b>24,608,868.0</b>	<b>22,636,467.3</b>	<b>21,378,458.7</b>
<b>PROGRAMME OF WORK (SUBPROGRAMME 1 TO 4)</b>			
<b>Subprogramme 1 - Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis (RRDD)</b>			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,666,947.0	1,661,150.0	1,733,954.2
Human Rights Online, Innovation and Technology Outreach	809,177.0	1,058,550.0	834,705.7
ARDS - Anti-Discrimination	1,152,199.0	853,533.6	901,566.6
BHRU - Business and Human Rights	343,531.0	372,157.9	265,650.8
CSU - Civic Space Unit	1,193,549.0	756,949.8	1,162,545.2
HRESIS - Addressing Human Rights, Migration and Climate Change	513,091.0	1,487,294.1	81,102.5
HRESIS - Child and Youth Rights	818,816.0	649,516.4	523,333.8
HRESIS - Disabilities	315,997.0	125,000.0	295,714.2

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
HRESIS - Economic and Social Issues	343,886.0	300,000.0	294,628.4
HRESIS - Human Rights at International Borders: Focus on the MENA Region	748,221.0	0.0	188,838.2
HRESIS - Human Rights Indicators for CRPD	450,611.2	394,689.5	419,796.9
HRESIS - Migration	820,387.0	905,914.2	810,083.8
HRESIS - (MPTF) Response and Recovery Planning for COVID-19	182,124.0	199,106.0	149,815.9
IPMS - Indigenous Peoples and Minorities	1,528,167.0	1,498,164.6	1,377,150.4
IPMS - Protection of Religious Minorities	403,068.0	635,874.6	399,565.8
METS - Methodology, Education and Training	1,828,732.0	1,869,100.0	1,267,123.6
METS - (EU) Human Rights Indicators	402,994.1	80,042.7	254,368.1
METS - Human Rights Indicators	603,815.0	895,825.0	524,438.2
METS - IACT Image Authentication/Categorization Tool Project	42,940.0	0.0	39,585.0
ROLDS - Rule of Law and Democracy	1,785,042.0	1,999,834.5	1,751,709.6
ROLDS - (EU) Torture-Free Trade	241,026.0	452,455.9	205,582.5
ROLDS - EOSG Renewing the UN Approach to Transitional Justice	112,765.0	320,000.0	60,505.2
ROLDS - Support to OHCHR's Work on Accountability	489,265.0	0.0	376,505.9
RTDS - Right to Development	245,526.0	65,200.0	125,098.1
RTDS - Corruption and Human Rights	130,383.0	107,000.0	78,289.8
RTDS - Environment and Climate Change	452,427.0	489,207.3	399,714.0
RTDS - SFP Participation of Civil Society at the Social Forum, Forum on Minority Issues and Forum on Business and Human Rights*	16,666.0	0.0	-1,854.6
SDGs - MDGs and Human Rights-Based Approach	481,297.0	583,050.0	478,594.2
SDGs - (MPTF) HRM Common Country Analysis/SDS Surge Team	1,243,091.0	1,243,875.0	828,980.5
SDGs - Washington Liaison Office	341,972.0	358,800.0	356,213.6
WHRG - Women's Human Rights and Gender	1,345,937.0	870,148.0	1,276,256.1
WHRG - Conflict-Related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	875,144.0	634,250.3	620,594.0
WHRG - Criminal Laws Project	119,674.0	100,000.0	104,850.7
WHRG - Project for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (LGBTI Rights)	1,817,128.0	48,688.6	1,261,917.1
WHRG - Regional Gender Advisers	239,827.0	227,272.7	256,485.6
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 1</b>		<b>24,105,422.3</b>	<b>21,242,650.6</b>
			<b>19,703,409.6</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>Subprogramme 2 - Supporting the Human Rights Treaties Bodies (HRTB)</b>			
Support to Treaty Bodies and Organs	2,777,570.0	2,176,251.9	2,562,695.3
Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture	440,997.0	517,936.2	280,271.1
Support to Treaty Bodies - Capacity-Building Work on ICPPED*	293,016.0	-10,000.0	220,958.9
Support to Treaty Bodies - Group in Focus (CEDAW)	159,559.0	0.0	37,521.9
Support to Treaty Bodies - (MPTF) National Implementation of CRPD	28,552.0	95,432.0	8,608.7
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 2</b>	<b>3,699,694.0</b>	<b>2,779,620.1</b>	<b>3,110,055.8</b>
<b>Subprogramme 3 - Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation (FOTCD)</b>			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,189,627.8	1,263,900.0	874,437.1
Africa Branch	2,538,899.9	2,183,447.7	2,280,116.7
Americas Branch	547,004.8	253,600.0	352,598.9
Europe and Central Asia	1,466,067.7	1,014,700.0	1,091,915.2
Asia-Pacific Branch	2,099,554.7	1,797,873.0	2,110,796.8
Middle East and North Africa	1,629,282.6	1,359,624.2	1,313,717.5
ERS - Emergency Response Section	1,360,826.2	1,339,000.0	1,223,589.6
ERS - HRUF Initiative - Light Teams Deployments	0.0	6,093.2	37,907.7
ERS - Investigative Capacity	1,752,247.4	2,247,195.0	1,281,604.8
ERS - Prevention and Early Warning Capacity - Emergency Response Teams	1,498,269.3	3,955,085.9	1,249,428.8
ERS - Strengthen the Capacity of Investigative Bodies to Undertake HRC-Mandated Investigations	483,099.9	483,667.5	109,866.4
MENA - Database Production and Work Support	143,858.0	72,900.0	67,877.0
MENA - Protection of Human Rights in Arab Region	733,926.0	0.0	358,529.8
MENA - Strengthening Human Rights in Iran	359,371.6	375,849.6	264,255.8
National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms	1,014,938.9	491,623.0	563,722.5
PMSS - Peace Missions Support Section	485,408.5	299,700.0	323,039.0
PMSS - Human Rights Protection and Peace Operations	1,241,151.3	731,802.5	544,220.6
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 3</b>	<b>18,543,534.5</b>	<b>17,876,061.5</b>	<b>14,047,624.1</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>Subprogramme 4 - Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,691,495.0	1,422,050.0	1,477,560.2
HRCB - Human Rights Council Activities	2,026,158.0	1,776,050.0	1,735,207.3
HRCB - HRC and UPR Webcasting	251,506.0	265,550.0	245,556.3
UPRB - Universal Periodic Review Branch	377,804.0	374,650.0	363,690.3
SPB - Support to Special Procedures	6,147,690.0	5,077,330.6	5,497,963.6
SPB - Support to Coordination Committee	195,000.0	255,337.4	115,512.2
SPB - Support to Special Procedures Mandates	5,690,694.7	4,533,177.4	3,310,867.0
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 4</b>	<b>16,380,347.7</b>	<b>13,704,145.4</b>	<b>12,746,356.8</b>
<b>Total programme of work (subprogramme 1 to 4)</b>	<b>62,728,998.5</b>	<b>55,602,477.7</b>	<b>49,607,446.3</b>
<b>Programme Support and Management Services (PSMS)</b>			
PSMS - Information Technologies Section	2,802,872.3	2,831,150.0	2,706,510.7
PSMS - Programme Support and Management Services	7,683,447.4	7,290,200.0	6,960,207.5
PSMS - OIOS/Auditor (UNOG)	300,856.9	317,300.0	276,835.1
<b>Subtotal PSMS</b>	<b>10,787,176.6</b>	<b>10,438,650.0</b>	<b>9,943,553.3</b>
<b>Total headquarters</b>	<b>98,125,043.1</b>	<b>88,677,595.0</b>	<b>80,929,458.3</b>
<b>FIELD PRESENCES</b>			
<b>Africa</b>			
Burkina Faso - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	360,294.7	0.0	348,506.3
Burundi - Country Office	1,434,300.0	922,310.8	737,960.7
Burundi - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	0.0	192,500.0	0.0
Central Africa (Yaoundé) - Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy	349,424.3	314,600.0	281,408.1
Central Africa (Yaoundé) - Integrating Human Rights into the COVID-19 Response and Recovery	0.0	730,525.7	0.0
Central African Republic - Peace Mission Support*	98,310.0	24,254.8	-31,555.4
Chad - Country Office	1,285,637.2	999,152.5	1,175,796.1
Chad - (PBF) Peace Consolidation	165,632.1	0.0	165,171.4

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
DRC - (PBF) Appui aux ex-Combattants et Communautés au Kasai	550,637.0	709,088.8	79,078.8
DRC - Human Rights Promotion and Protection in the Electoral Context (Election II)	2,845,178.4	833,145.5	2,270,924.1
DRC - Human Rights Due Diligence and Profiling (HRDDP)	1,632,042.1	2,450,261.8	1,580,631.5
DRC - (MPTF) Lutte contre les VBG-Justice	224,463.5	298,487.0	120,535.2
DRC - (PBF) Le Droit des Femmes - Sud Kivu	434,951.8	409,046.4	265,125.9
DRC - Protection Mechanisms	314,158.1	7,021.6	29,907.8
DRC - (PBF) Reconciliation in Kasai	484,334.4	0.0	139,810.6
DRC - (PBF) Renforcer le Rôle des Femmes et des Jeunes dans la Gouvernance Locale au Kasai	0.0	369,202.0	0.0
DRC - Women Protection Adviser	72,656.7	0.0	137,858.3
East Africa (Addis Ababa) - Regional Office	3,048,766.0	2,057,801.8	1,658,520.3
Ethiopia - Human Rights Priorities	1,300,094.4	1,563,966.2	511,719.8
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and Monitoring in Return Areas	5,350.0	0.0	96,921.5
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and Monitoring in Areas of Return and Newly Affected with Conflicts	250,000.2	500,000.3	87,157.7
Gambia - (PBF) Transitional Justice	261,478.0	0.0	219,441.9
Guinea - Country Office	2,805,184.3	2,926,576.3	2,452,097.9
Guinea - (PBF) Prévention des Conflicts Intercommunautaires	0.0	322,070.0	0.0
Guinea-Bissau - Peace Mission Support	111,474.5	90,300.0	35,129.6
Guinea-Bissau - Human Rights Adviser	0.0	348,546.0	0.0
Kenya - Human Rights Adviser	832,852.9	724,973.2	657,707.2
Kenya - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	248,805.0	282,820.0	266,768.9
Lesotho - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	108,113.2	108,100.0	1,717.0
Liberia - Country Office	2,133,032.3	2,039,236.0	2,096,459.2
Liberia - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight Initiative for the SGBV Programme*	80,678.0	605,568.0	-10,400.3
Liberia - (PBF) Reconciliation*	345,418.4	-0.4	353,885.7
Liberia - (PBF) Women, Peace and Security	163,389.0	261,422.4	99,712.9
Madagascar - Human Rights Adviser	186,653.4	147,700.0	137,132.3
Madagascar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	242,462.0	278,340.0	274,128.3

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Madagascar - (PBF) Appui à une Gouvernance Démocratique	281,766.3	281,766.6	269,213.1
Madagascar - (PBF) Radio Sifaka	88,968.4	0.0	44,057.7
Malawi - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	246,301.2	103,700.0	239,742.3
Mali - Peace Mission Support	202,857.6	286,309.4	190,051.4
Mali - Force Conjointe G5 Sahel	1,471,486.0	1,801,602.9	1,454,744.1
Mali - (EU) Force Conjointe G5 Sahel	6,672,785.4	5,107,756.2	7,455,491.1
Mali - (EU) Force Conjointe G5 Sahel - Support to the Internal Security Forces	0.0	4,357,967.1	0.0
Mali - (PBF) Appproche Intégrée pour Lutter contre l'Impunité	615,250.0	718,310.5	0.0
Mauritania - Country Office	1,306,947.0	661,054.7	1,133,508.0
Mauritania - (PBF) Moughataa Bassikounou	98,313.0	0.0	121,349.9
Mozambique - Advancing the Human Rights Agenda	715,206.4	0.0	272,157.3
Niger - Human Rights Adviser	476,640.8	240,760.7	331,182.1
Niger - (PBF) Peace Consolidation in Diffa*	27,971.2	63,400.0	-36,681.5
Nigeria - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	304,787.4	285,114.0	311,364.0
Nigeria - (PBF) Farmer Herder Crisis	102,240.6	0.0	53,117.6
Rwanda - Human Rights Adviser	218,085.5	125,500.0	75,483.7
Rwanda - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	214,171.2	166,700.0	183,079.0
Somalia - Peace Mission Support	501,408.1	181,908.4	336,757.8
Southern Africa (Pretoria) - Regional Office	1,096,006.2	683,185.7	478,601.4
South Africa - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme	100,000.1	0.0	93,375.0
South Africa - (MPTF) Strengthening Disability Inclusive Machinery	0.0	32,100.0	0.0
South Africa - (MPTF) Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion	0.0	315,000.0	0.0
South Sudan - Peace Mission Support	110,175.0	63,656.0	75,941.5
Sudan (Darfur) - Peace Mission Support (UNAMID)	88,705.0	58,600.0	80,970.7
Sudan - Country Office	4,175,750.6	4,560,623.0	1,877,905.7
Tanzania - (MPTF) Human Rights and Gender Equality Activities	55,640.0	175,676.0	34,369.1
Uganda - Country Office	3,574,521.1	2,500,708.4	2,928,042.6
Uganda - (PBF) Harnessing the Youth's Potential	239,016.6	258,280.8	159,409.2

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Uganda - Programme Activities in Northern Uganda and Karamoja	47,274.1	0.0	42,321.0
Uganda - (UNDP) Strengthening Electoral Processes	202,795.0	214,167.0	42,419.1
West Africa (Dakar) - Regional Office	577,732.8	400,300.0	170,190.0
West Africa (Dakar) - Appui à la Protection des Enfants	1,748,202.7	0.0	740,450.4
West Africa (Dakar) - Human Rights-Based Response to Smuggling of Migrants*	721,686.1	878,462.0	-123,026.7
Zimbabwe - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	212,557.6	152,617.0	215,500.8
<b>Subtotal Africa</b>	<b>48,871,020.7</b>	<b>45,192,243.0</b>	<b>35,490,346.6</b>

**Americas**

Americas - (MPTF) National Human Rights Advisers	1,144,855.1	357,900.0	731,332.9
Bolivia - Strengthen Respect for Human Rights	544,348.1	841,584.2	470,126.0
Bolivia - (PBF) Apoyando el Diálogo y los DDHH para la Construcción de Paz	418,543.3	420,000.0	399,369.7
Chile - Regional Office for South America	985,157.9	1,110,811.5	860,281.5
Colombia - Country Office	10,963,272.4	9,572,507.4	7,478,542.5
Colombia - (PBF) Territorial Model	158,192.0	0.0	132,144.1
Costa Rica - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	188,748.0	134,400.0	139,697.4
Dominican Republic - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	135,451.3	254,981.0	10,352.8
Guatemala - Country Office	4,711,690.9	4,640,222.8	4,290,105.2
Guatemala - (EU) Country Office	102,756.4	196,713.3	50,270.6
Guatemala - (MPTF) Contribution for Peace Building	111,542.2	0.0	87,849.1
Guatemala - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	6,242.4	0.0	6,036.3
Guatemala - (MPTF) Implementation of the Gender-Responsive Integrated National Household Social Registry	0.0	89,131.0	0.0
Guatemala - (MPTF) Maya Programme for Indigenous Peoples' Rights (Phase III)	687,493.2	360,151.0	500,067.0
Guatemala - (PBF) Sepur Zarco Reparation Sentence	232,095.8	0.0	247,731.3
Haiti - Peace Mission Support	768,246.3	514,282.1	379,555.8
Honduras - Country Office	3,595,277.7	2,982,110.7	2,803,369.5
Honduras - (PBF) Promoviendo Transparencia para la Prevención de Conflictos	0.0	673,090.7	0.0
Jamaica - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	307,162.8	281,221.0	328,830.5

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Mexico - Country Office	2,524,424.5	1,896,400.0	1,931,170.2
Mexico - National Law on Disappearances	161,820.5	140,000.0	112,605.9
Mexico - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight Initiative for the SGBV Programme	233,771.5	209,450.0	29,478.8
Nicaragua - Monitoring, Documenting and Reporting on the Human Rights Situation	737,691.1	527,040.3	292,312.4
Panama - Regional Office for Central America	740,385.0	694,953.4	489,747.3
Panama - El Salvador - Human Rights Engagement	418,288.7	970,807.6	275,449.8
Panama - El Salvador - Transitional Justice	9,040.0	5,703.1	18,756.5
Paraguay - Human Rights Adviser*	147,384.4	76,700.0	-49,781.2
Venezuela - Monitoring, Documentation and Reporting on the Human Rights Situation	1,060,125.3	1,857,188.4	854,407.3
Venezuela - Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants and Refugees	129,253.9	296,912.1	49,252.6
Venezuela - (EU) Support to OHCHR's Work	997,099.8	1,026,449.0	661,699.7
<b>Subtotal Americas</b>	<b>32,220,360.7</b>	<b>30,130,710.5</b>	<b>23,580,761.2</b>

### Asia and the Pacific

Afghanistan - Peace Mission Support	255,634.0	105,800.0	184,816.2
Asia - (MPTF) National Human Rights Advisers*	114,948.0	35,600.0	-4,527.9
Bangladesh - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	330,722.1	54,522.0	232,021.9
Cambodia - Country Office	1,678,842.0	665,467.2	1,237,735.0
Cambodia - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	52,135.0	0.0	46,987.5
Cambodia - Protection on Land and Natural Resources	143,411.0	20,000.0	94,415.9
Cambodia - Sihanoukville for All: Promoting a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive City	116,564.7	154,786.2	98,060.1
DPRK - Country Office (based in Seoul)	196,531.9	187,245.8	146,776.1
Malaysia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	203,320.0	0.0	34,488.7
Maldives - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	326,375.0	0.0	246,908.3
Myanmar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	266,901.0	0.0	0.0
Myanmar - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	1,278,196.0	451,405.2	1,057,401.2

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Myanmar - Protection of Rohingya Refugees in Cox's Bazaar	591,773.0	80,079.0	452,300.9
Pacific Region (Suva) - Regional Office	1,320,305.5	1,070,708.2	899,601.5
Pacific Region (Suva) - Migrants and Communities Affected by Climate Change	133,807.0	0.0	54,985.8
Pacific Region (Suva) - Women Human Rights Defenders in the Pacific Region	103,760.0	0.0	103,760.0
Papua New Guinea - Human Rights Adviser	524,252.0	276,802.7	263,368.9
Papua New Guinea - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	285,369.0	276,488.0	261,385.8
Philippines - Human Rights Adviser	279,407.0	180,762.5	226,540.2
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Regional Office	1,349,639.0	1,296,308.2	1,136,693.0
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Access to Justice for Women in Asia-Pacific	125,631.0	127,480.0	43,459.1
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - (EU) Democratic Space in Thailand	586,874.0	874,203.3	495,860.7
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Strengthening the Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Human Rights Accountability	2,098,251.0	1,915,938.2	1,690,422.2
Sri Lanka - Human Rights Adviser	563,558.0	529,442.3	168,524.7
Sri Lanka - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	230,114.0	242,838.0	241,048.0
Timor-Leste - Human Rights Adviser	273,419.0	181,702.7	217,430.0
Timor-Leste - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	236,385.0	139,000.0	205,354.9
<b>Subtotal Asia and the Pacific</b>	<b>13,666,125.3</b>	<b>8,866,579.5</b>	<b>9,835,818.6</b>

### Europe and Central Asia

Azerbaijan - (EU) Support to Human Rights Activities*	410,760.2	-49,877.4	397,967.9
Belarus - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	257,159.5	214,107.0	252,934.4
Belarus - Human Rights Adviser/Human Rights National Action Plan	430,682.6	200,000.0	179,828.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	0.0	243,809.0	0.0
Central Asia (Bishkek) - Regional Office	812,800.0	653,903.7	507,297.8
Europe (Brussels) - Regional Office	789,836.1	654,200.0	503,448.7
Georgia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	226,048.2	259,500.0	253,340.1
Georgia - (UNDP/EU) National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan	107,805.7	106,019.9	106,484.4
Georgia - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme	101,222.0	101,222.0	92,162.0
Kyrgyzstan - (PBF) Violent Extremism	387,846.1	0.0	204,007.1

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Kyrgyzstan - (EU) Project	327,937.0	50,000.0	18,351.8
Montenegro - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	179,533.2	119,400.0	218,803.1
North Macedonia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	85,381.7	70,049.0	57,718.7
Moldova (Republic of) - Human Rights Adviser	289,980.6	228,200.0	193,198.0
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	182,272.4	87,200.0	195,999.1
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Transnistria	167,793.1	187,826.0	148,531.3
Russian Federation - Human Rights Adviser	945,709.4	590,000.0	497,856.2
Russian Federation - Projects on Human Rights Awareness-Raising and Training Activities*	67,800.0	0.0	-7,192.4
Serbia - Human Rights Adviser	449,642.8	366,600.0	253,132.3
Serbia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	107,107.0	101,847.0	83,724.1
Serbia - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities*	25,478.8	0.0	-665.2
Southern Caucasus - Human Rights Advisers	538,400.9	377,700.0	313,473.5
Ukraine - HRMMU/Protection Cluster	4,524,519.3	5,036,825.4	3,536,746.3
Ukraine - (PBF) Building a Constituency for Peace	0.0	175,000.0	0.0
Ukraine - (EU) Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine	1,610,195.9	1,594,180.0	1,184,209.4
<b>Subtotal Europe and Central Asia</b>	<b>13,025,912.5</b>	<b>11,367,711.6</b>	<b>9,191,356.7</b>

**Middle East and North Africa**

Iraq - Peace Mission Support	329,372.0	24,700.0	102,154.4
Iraq - Peace Mission Support - Accountability for Abduction and Torture	0.0	800,000.0	0.0
Iraq - Peace Mission Support - Protection of Religious Minorities	478,250.0	104,760.7	76,559.2
Jordan - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	265,625.0	108,700.0	181,147.6
Libya - Peace Mission Support	190,970.0	40,000.0	6,547.9
Middle East (Beirut) - Regional Office	1,873,498.0	1,375,812.9	1,293,382.5
Middle East (Beirut) - (PBF) Lebanon, Dealing with the Past	754,582.0	772,000.0	201,701.6
Middle East (Beirut) - Protection of Religious Minorities	588,954.0	787,277.8	548,480.2
Saudi Arabia - Financial and Technical Assistance through the Saudi Human Rights Commission (in coordination with ROME)	1,689,927.0	800,000.0	664,124.3

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
South-West and Arab Region (Doha) - Training and Documentation Centre	309,609.0	262,900.0	217,895.2
State of Palestine <sup>1</sup> - Stand-alone Office	2,077,726.0	3,024,554.1	1,256,753.2
State of Palestine - (EU) Implementing Palestine's Human Rights Treaty Obligations	483,051.5	1,982,880.0	482,065.9
State of Palestine - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the oPt	509,987.0	513,874.6	386,291.1
Syria - (EU) Advancing Justice and Human Rights	1,881,804.7	1,393,070.5	1,071,657.2
Syria - International Response to the Human Rights Situation in Syria (Refugees/ IDPs/TJ)	1,494,357.2	732,060.6	1,319,271.6
Tunisia - Country Office	2,539,797.7	2,022,028.8	1,097,758.1
Tunisia - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	133,289.6	0.0	60,356.7
Tunisia - Migration and Protection	0.0	0.0	1,365.0
Yemen - Country Office	4,623,150.0	875,138.0	2,531,751.2
Yemen - Country Office in Aden	459,004.0	0.0	256,719.1
Yemen - (OCHA) Human Rights Activities*	0.0	72.2	-49,630.8
Yemen - (EU) Human Rights Protection	873,676.3	231,934.7	625,934.3
<b>Subtotal Middle East and North Africa</b>	<b>21,556,631.1</b>	<b>15,851,764.9</b>	<b>12,332,285.4</b>

#### Contingency Fund

Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	212,729.3	610,348.5	96,216.4
<b>Subtotal Contingency Fund</b>	<b>212,729.3</b>	<b>610,348.5</b>	<b>96,216.4</b>
<b>Total field presences</b>	<b>129,552,779.6</b>	<b>112,019,357.9</b>	<b>90,526,784.9</b>

#### Cross Entities Global Projects

Human Rights up Front Action Plan	664,671.0	860,450.1	694,901.6
Programme on Conflict Prevention and Human Rights	786,057.4	515,519.7	833,885.3
Task Force on ESCRs, SDGs and Prevention	910,252.0	685,200.0	597,545.3
Support to Human Rights Advisers (MPTF) - HQ Coordination and Regional Workshops	467,055.0	267,500.0	286,264.0
<b>Subtotal Cross Entities Global Projects</b>	<b>2,828,035.4</b>	<b>2,328,669.8</b>	<b>2,412,596.1</b>
<b>Total headquarters and field presences</b>	<b>230,505,858.0</b>	<b>203,025,622.7</b>	<b>173,868,839.4</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>OTHER TRUST FUNDS</b>			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	9,633,690.0	10,415,468.0	8,807,333.4
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	806,414.0	499,474.2	102,078.4
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	962,760.0	850,921.9	752,981.6
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	1,115,676.0	347,063.3	512,327.5
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	419,284.0	0.0	190,114.8
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the Work of the HRC	1,112,791.0	374,664.7	255,445.4
<b>Total other trust funds</b>	<b>14,050,615.0</b>	<b>12,487,592.0</b>	<b>10,620,281.0</b>
<b>Other income/expenditure</b>			
Unearmarked Reserves for Allocations to Project Requirements (HCA Trust Fund)	0.0	3,041,780.9	0.0
Reserves for Allocations to VFTC Project Requirements (AHA Trust Fund)	0.0	6,186,420.9	0.0
Other Income/Expenditure Not Reported Above**	0.0	-1,072,505.4	-526,898.7
<b>Subtotal other income/expenditure</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>8,155,696.3</b>	<b>-526,898.7</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>244,556,473.0</b>	<b>223,668,911.0</b>	<b>183,962,221.7</b>

<sup>1</sup> All references to the State of Palestine hereafter should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

\* Includes prior period income and/or expenditure adjustments.

\*\* Includes miscellaneous income and interest for 2020 and prior period expenditure adjustments not reported above.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
Saudi Arabia	204,867	EDM
<b>(a) Total contributions to EDM</b>	<b>204,867</b>	
Australia	147,820	Response to reprisals
Austria	10,989	Response to reprisals
Italy	27,473	Response to reprisals
Liechtenstein	25,826	Response to reprisals
Norway	215,776	Response to reprisals
Saudi Arabia	160,000	Communications Section (Website Arabic version)
United Kingdom	258,732	Response to reprisals
UNDP (Conflict-Related Sexual Violence)	338,156	Team of experts and rule of law
<b>(b) Total contributions to specific sections/projects</b>	<b>1,184,772</b>	
<b>(c) Total contributions earmarked to EDM (a) + (b)</b>	<b>1,389,638</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to EDM*	21,292,550	Unearmarked
<b>(d) Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>21,292,550</b>	
<b>(e) Total XB funds available for EDM (c) + (d)</b>	<b>22,682,188</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)****RB & XB funds made available for EDM in 2020**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for EDM	8,135,818	100.0%
	<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>26.4%</b>
	<b>8,135,818</b>	
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to EDM	204,867	0.9%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	1,184,772	5.2%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-28,126	-0.1%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to EDM	21,292,550	94.1%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to EDM	-17,595	-0.1%
	<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>73.6%</b>
	<b>22,636,467</b>	
	<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
	<b>30,772,285</b>	

**RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (RRDD)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
-	0	
<b>(a) Total contributions to RRDD</b>	<b>0</b>	
Australia	36,955	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region (allocated to the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section)
Belgium	418,160	Rule of Law and Democracy Section
	50,000	OHCHR's work related to addressing social inequalities
	150,000	OHCHR's work related to combating racial discrimination and hate speech
China	300,000	OHCHR's work related to economic, social and cultural rights
	40,000	OHCHR's work related to protection of the rights of migrants
	50,000	OHCHR's work related to protection of the rights of minorities
	30,000	Right to Development Section
Cyprus	11,947	Climate change
	11,947	Gender-related activities (including SGBV)
Czech Republic	12,826	Draft guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs
Denmark	1,472,537	Addressing the human rights, migration and climate change nexus in the Sahel region
	160,488	Indigenous Fellowship Programme 2020-2021
European Commission	328,960	Bridging the gap: Human Rights indicators for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in support of a disability-inclusive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
	472,338	Implementing the UN resolution on Torture-Free Trade (Phase II)
	80,043	Supporting the deployment of human rights indicators
Finland	223,964	OHCHR's regional gender adviser in Addis Ababa
	116,545	Business and human rights in technology
	455,063	Frontier issues (environment/climate change and migration)
Germany	50,543	Realizing human rights, including child and youth rights, in development cooperation
	20,402	The right to privacy in the digital age
Liechtenstein	41,322	Trafficking in persons
Microsoft	880,000	To support OHCHR's work relating to human rights online, innovation and technology, business and human rights and outreach

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Netherlands	248,260	Freedom of religion or belief
	716,520	Freedom of expression, press freedom and safety of journalists
	119,875	Accountability and remedy project
	215,776	Expert mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples
	743,227	OHCHR's work for child and youth rights
Norway	383,601	Protecting and expanding civil society space
	563,414	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	167,825	Sustainable Development Goals and human rights indicators
	479,501	Women's rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights
	107,000	Research on the social costs of corruption
Open Society Foundations (FPOS)	50,000	Rule of Law and Democracy Section
	150,000	New and emerging digital technologies and human rights
Russian Federation	600,000	Anti-discrimination
	20,000	Anti-discrimination
Saudi Arabia	50,000	Women's Human Rights and Gender Section
	25,000	Disabilities
	75,000	Methodology, education and training
	118,765	Regional gender advisers
	119,474	Gender rights in the Americas in the context of Security Council resolution 1325
The Schmidt Family Foundation/ 11th Hour Project	150,000	Human rights defenders and online civic space
UN EOSG	320,000	Renewing the UN approach to transitional justice
UNDP	1,243,875	HRM Common Country Analysis
UNESCO	199,106	UNPRPD - Disability Fund
United Kingdom	49,317	Engaging UNCTs in promoting the safety of journalists at the country level
United States of America	619,579	Sexual and genderbased violence
Vodafone Group	46,930	UN Free & Equal
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	2,100,000	Civil space, disabilities, rule of law and democracy and violence against women
	5,000	B-Tech Project
	100,000	Support for the review of criminal codes in compliance with international human rights standards

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Private donors	1,758	UN Free & Equal
(b) Total contributions to specific sections/projects	<b>15,202,846</b>	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to RRDD (a) + (b)	<b>15,202,846</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to RRDD projects*	6,039,116	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	<b>6,039,116</b>	
(e) Total XB funds available for RRDD (c) + (d)	<b>21,241,961</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

#### RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (RRDD)

##### RB & XB funds made available for RRDD in 2020

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for RRDD	11,725,090	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>11,725,090</b>	<b>35.6%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to RRDD - all projects	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	15,202,846	71.6%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-259,978	-1.2%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	6,039,116	28.4%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	260,667	1.2%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>21,242,651</b>	<b>64.4%</b>
<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>32,967,741</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES BRANCH (HRTB)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
France	94,787	HRTB
Germany	568,828	HRTB
Liechtenstein	41,322	HRTB
Netherlands	786,517	HRTB
United States of America	490,000	HRTB
<b>(a) Total contributions to HRTB - all bodies</b>	<b>1,981,454</b>	
Czech Republic	8,551	OP-CAT Special Fund
Denmark	200,610	OP-CAT Special Fund 2020-2021
France	23,697	OP-CAT Special Fund
Germany	113,766	OP-CAT Special Fund
Norway	119,875	OP-CAT Special Fund
Republic of Korea	150,000	Petitions and Urgent Actions Section in its support of CEDAW, CERD, CESCR and CRPD
Spain	23,753	OP-CAT Special Fund
UNDP	95,432	UNPRPD - Disability Fund
<b>(b) Total contributions to specific bodies/projects</b>	<b>735,683</b>	
<b>(c) Total contributions earmarked to HRTB (a) + (b)</b>	<b>2,717,137</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRTB*	0	Unearmarked
<b>(d) Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>(e) Total XB funds available for HRTB (c) + (d)</b>	<b>2,717,137</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

**HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES DIVISION (HRTB)****RB & XB funds made available for HRTB in 2020**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for HRTB	14,769,860	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>14,769,860</b>	<b>84.2%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to HRTB - all bodies	1,981,454	71.3%
Earmarked funds for HRTB specific bodies/projects	245,432	8.8%
Earmarked funds to OP-CAT Special Fund	490,251	17.6%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-21,835	-0.8%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRTB	0	0.0%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to HRTB	84,319	3.0%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>2,779,620</b>	<b>15.8%</b>
<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>17,549,480</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
Australia	1,071,693	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region
	221,730	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region*
	188,395	Human Rights Adviser in the Philippines*
	258,684	National Human Rights Institutions
Belgium	1,194,743	Integrating human rights into the COVID-19 response and recovery and addressing the social and economic impacts of the pandemic in Central Africa
	1,194,743	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territories*
	1,969,697	Colombia
	549,882	Guatemala (strengthening the rights of indigenous and other discriminated women)
Canada	526,742	Honduras (strengthening the promotion, monitoring and respect for the rights of women and girls and LGBTI rights)
	909,091	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	454,545	Sri Lanka*
	606,061	Sudan
Counterpart International	606,061	Venezuela
	5,703	El Salvador (supporting transitional justice)
Cyprus	35,842	Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa
Czech Republic	21,377	Venezuela
Denmark	686,080	Human rights protection in stabilization and peace operations
	147,254	Somalia*
	5,724,343	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	35,842	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
European Commission	83,916	Burundi
	5,348,984	G5 Sahel (support to the establishment and implementation of human rights and humanitarian law compliance framework for the operations of the G5 Sahel Joint Force)
	183,154	Guatemala (protection of human rights defenders)
	1,594,180	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,982,880	Occupied Palestinian territories (implementing the State of Palestine's human rights treaty obligations) <sup>1</sup>
	4,337,579	Sahel region (international human rights law compliance of law enforcement operations in Chad, Mauritania and Niger: Strengthening the capacity of internal security forces)
	1,393,070	Syria (advancing justice and human rights)
	859,181	Thailand (widening democratic space)
	1,011,769	Venezuela (Fortalecimiento de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en el contexto de las restricciones del espacio cívico y democrático)
	231,935	Yemen
Finland	2,575,588	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	71,090	Chad*
	59,242	Burkina Faso
	47,393	Contingency Fund
	118,483	Guinea
France	82,938	Mauritania*
	177,725	Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa
	236,967	Tunisia
		▶

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Germany	79,636	Bolivia
	34,130	DPRK accountability project
	293,797	G5 Sahel
	471,143	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	219,397	Iran
	113,122	Nicaragua
	79,636	Sri Lanka*
	483,667	Strengthening OHCHR's capacity to support investigative bodies
	1,102,536	Sudan
	187,713	Syria
India	110,735	Tunisia
	197,088	Tunisia (transitional justice process)
	481,888	Venezuela
	341,297	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	200,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
Ireland	292,398	Colombia
	111,419	Syria
	716,846	G5 Sahel
Italy	119,474	Venezuela
	45,000	Cambodia
	20,000	Youth survey on conflict prevention in Africa
MacArthur Foundation	140,000	Mexico (promote a network of forensic science experts and facilitate Mexico's adoption of policies to improve the justice system's forensic sciences)*
	17,815	Operations in the Africa region

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
Netherlands	27,916	DPRK (outreach and capacity development in relation to accountability for human rights)
	2,247,195	Strengthening OHCHR's investigative capacity
	266,854	Venezuela
	1,330,616	Colombia
	599,377	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	695,277	Ethiopia
	599,377	G5 Sahel
	359,626	Haiti*
	819,576	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	239,751	Human Rights up Front
Norway	479,501	Myanmar
	167,825	Nicaragua
	503,476	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territories*
	359,626	Protection of religious minorities
	1,138,816	Sahel region (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania and Niger)*
	479,501	West Africa/Emergency Response Team
	479,501	Southern Africa/Emergency Response Team
	719,252	Strengthening early warning and response
	215,776	Venezuela
	500,000	Ethiopia (protection monitoring in areas of return)
OCHA	500,000	
Poland	26,602	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Republic of Korea	50,000	Contingency Fund
	100,000	Emergency Response Section
	50,000	Field-based structure on DPRK
	40,000	National Human Rights Institutions
	50,000	OHCHR's partnership activities with Justice Rapid Response
Russian Federation	200,000	Belarus (implementation of the Nation Action Plan on human rights)*
	20,000	Russian Federation (activities of Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for human rights in the Russian Federation)*
	450,000	Russian Federation (consolidation of the Human Rights Master's Programme)*
	120,000	Russian Federation (expert consultations on business and human rights)*
	100,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation, in particular for its work in Africa*
Saudi Arabia	200,000	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territories*
	800,000	Technical assistance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	240,000	Technical assistance in the MENA Region
	411,765	Colombia
	130,641	Country Offices (allocated to Guatemala)
Spain	358,423	Gender issues in Central America
	89,074	Regional Offices (allocated to ROCA in Panama)
	413,592	Venezuela
	117,371	West Africa/Emergency Response Team

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
Sweden	1,915,938	Asia-Pacific (strengthening capacity of regional actors to promote human rights, accountability, democratic space and gender equality in the region)
	766,136	Bolivia (engagement in a context of post-election violence)
	520,069	Cambodia
	1,529,436	Colombia
	352,154	Contingency Fund (surge capacity and seed funding for the integration of human rights into COVID-19 responses to the pandemic)
	1,205,498	Democratic Republic of the Congo (enhancing and protecting the civic space and responding to conflict-related sexual violence)
	1,563,966	Ethiopia
	821,693	El Salvador (strengthening and supporting human rights)
	1,913,876	Guatemala (countering racial discrimination and combating impunity)
	352,154	Honduras (supporting Honduras in advancing the human rights agenda)
	478,985	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,654,533	Liberia (support to the Independent National Human Rights Commission)
	1,936,847	Regional emergency response (COVID-19 and human rights)
	1,881,861	Sudan
Switzerland	2,062,303	Uganda
	1,100,000	Honduras
	500,000	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	150,000	Iran
	250,000	Nicaragua
	502,008	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territories
	200,000	Sudan
	150,000	Syria
	60,000	Venezuela

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
Ukraine	35,000	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	745,342	Colombia (enhancing institutional capacity and accompanying victims in the search for truth, justice reparation and non-recurrence)
	2,450,262	Democratic Republic of the Congo (profiling project)
	805,359	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	12,016	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territories*
	50,020	Programme on conflict prevention and human rights
	516,129	Sudan
	271,134	Syria
	108,794	Yemen
	3,500,000	Colombia
United Kingdom	1,000,000	Guatemala
	1,000,000	Honduras
	987,650	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	800,000	Iraq (accountability for abductions and torture)
	5,660,000	Cambodia, Guatemala, Guinea, Mali, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen
	1,340,000	Chad, Haiti, Libya, Mexico*
	1,150,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
UNDP (UN-managed pooled and trust fund funding)	420,000	Bolivia (PBF)
	298,487	Democratic Republic of the Congo (JP)
	1,487,337	Democratic Republic of the Congo (PBF)
	101,222	Georgia (Joint SDG Fund)
	106,020	Georgia (UNDP)*
	360,151	Guatemala (JP)
	89,131	Guatemala (UN COVID-19 response and recovery)
	322,070	Guinea (PBF)
	673,091	Honduras (PBF)
	772,000	Lebanon (PBF)
	261,422	Liberia (PBF)
	605,568	Liberia (Spotlight)
	281,767	Madagascar (PBF)
	718,310	Mali (PBF)
	209,450	Mexico (Spotlight)
	100,000	Niger (PBF)
	187,826	Moldova (2030 SDGs Partnership)
	315,000	South Africa (Migration)
	32,100	South Africa (UNPRPD - Disability Fund)
	175,676	Tanzania (One UN)
	258,281	Uganda (PBF)
	214,167	Uganda (UNDP)
	175,000	Ukraine (PBF)
	5,787,415	UNDG-HRM - deployment of human rights advisers*
	267,500	UNDG-HRM - support to RCs, HRAs*

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
UN Women	127,480	Access to justice for women in the Asia and the Pacific region
	89,673	Kenya (SGBV)*
UNODC	878,462	Strengthening the capacities of West African States to develop a human rights-based response to smuggling of migrants and effectively respond to human rights violations related to irregular migration
UNTF for Human Security	154,786	Cambodia (Sihanoukville for all)
World Bank	261,290	Ethiopia (strengthening the AU early warning methodologies through the integration of a human rights-based approach into the AU Continental Early Warning System)
<b>Total earmarked contributions</b>	<b>116,889,471</b>	
"Unearmarked funds allocated to FOTCD**"	17,154,815	Unearmarked
<b>Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>17,154,815</b>	
<b>Total XB funds available for FOTCD</b>	<b>134,044,286</b>	

<sup>1</sup> All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

\* Project financed/implemented through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

\*\* Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

**FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)****RB & XB funds made available for FOTCD in 2020**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - headquarters	26,962,073	63.4%
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - field presences	13,514,441	31.8%
Regular programme of technical cooperation for FOTCD - field presences	2,065,800	4.9%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>42,542,314</b>	<b>23.7%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to VFTC	9,991,228	7.3%
Earmarked funds for specific field presences/activities	106,448,696	77.8%
Earmarked funds for the Contingency Fund	449,547	0.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-1,177,437	-0.9%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	17,154,815	12.5%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	3,925,948	2.9%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>136,792,798</b>	<b>76.3%</b>
<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>179,335,112</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH (HRCB/UPRB)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING</b>
-	0	
<b>(a) Total contributions to HRCB/UPRB</b>	<b>0</b>	
Republic of Korea	50,000	HCRB/Support to the work of the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council
<b>(b) Total specifically earmarked contributions</b>	<b>50,000</b>	
<b>(c) Total contributions earmarked to HRCB/ UPRB (a) + (b)</b>	<b>50,000</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRCB*	3,413,650	Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to UPRB*	374,650	Unearmarked
<b>(d) Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>3,788,300</b>	
<b>(e) Total XB funds available for HRCB (c) + (d)</b>	<b>3,838,300</b>	

\* Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH****(HRCB/UPRB) RB & XB funds made available for HRCB and UPRB in 2020**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for HRCB	3,195,183	40.5%
Regular budget allotment for UPRB	4,702,653	59.5%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>7,897,836</b>	<b>67.3%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to HRCB/UPRB	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for HRCB-specific activities	50,000	1.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	0	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	3,413,650	88.9%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	374,650	9.8%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	0	0.0%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>3,838,300</b>	<b>32.7%</b>
<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>11,736,136</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)****Voluntary contributions in 2020**

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING/MANDATE
Netherlands	2,022,472	SPB
Norway	119,875	SPB
United States of America	1,900,000	SPB
<b>(a) Total contributions to SPB - all mandates</b>		
Austria	54,945	Forum on Minority Issues
	11,364	Regional Forum on Minority Issues in Vienna
Belgium	119,474	Coordination Committee
	59,737	Extreme poverty
China	160,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
	25,000	Education
	70,000	Extreme poverty
	46,705	Housing, water and environment
Finland	30,000	Indigenous peoples
	109,600	Rights of persons with disabilities
	33,636	Sexual orientation and gender identity
	25,968	Violence against women
	35,545	Sexual orientation and gender identity
France	118,483	VWG on Arbitrary Detention
	118,483	VWG on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances
	45,506	Adequate housing
Germany	187,293	Building common visions and harmonized strategies for the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights beyond 2021
	45,506	Trafficking in persons
	45,506	Water and sanitation

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PLEDGE US\$</b>	<b>EARMARKING/MANDATE</b>
International Labour Organization	2,009,455	Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean
Lithuania	10,917	Freedom of peaceful assembly and association (10th Anniversary)
	3,584	WG on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances
	23,895	Human rights defenders
	17,921	Sale of children
Luxembourg	11,947	Sexual orientation and gender identity
	17,921	Trafficking in persons
	29,869	Violence against women
Monaco	10,989	Environment
Netherlands	409,050	Freedom of religion or belief
	407,075	Freedom of expression, press freedom and safety of journalists
	59,938	Cultural rights
Norway	215,776	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	59,938	WG (incl. Forum) on business and human rights
	20,000	Right to privacy
	50,000	Promotion of truth, justice and reparations
	20,000	Rights of persons with disabilities
Republic of Korea	50,000	Violence against women
	50,000	WG on discrimination against women and girls
	30,000	WG on Arbitrary Detention
	30,000	WG on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING/MANDATE
Russian Federation	50,000	Minority issues
	115,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
	50,000	Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance
	50,000	Rights of persons with disabilities
	50,000	Special Fund for the participation of civil society in the Forum on Minority Issues, the Forum on Business and Human Rights and the Social Forum
	115,000	Terrorism
Spain	50,000	WG on business and human rights
	11,876	Rights of persons with disabilities
	23,753	Violence against women
	11,876	Water and sanitation
	70,000	Freedom of peaceful assembly and association (10th Anniversary)
	85,173	Rights of migrants
Switzerland	150,000	Trafficking in persons
	24,833	WG on business and human rights
	10,000	Torture
	<b>5,748,539</b>	
<b>(b) Total contributions to specific mandates</b>		
<b>(c) Total contributions earmarked to SPB (a) + (b)</b>		
<b>9,790,886</b>		
Unearmarked funds allocated to SPB*		Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to specific mandates*		Unearmarked
<b>(d) Total unearmarked funds</b>		
<b>(e) Total XB funds available for SPB (c) + (d)</b>		
<b>517,127</b>		
<b>10,308,013</b>		

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2020.

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)****RB & XB funds made available for SPB in 2020**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for SPB	11,786,621	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>11,786,621</b>	<b>54.4%</b>
<b>XB funds*</b>		
Earmarked funds to SPB - all mandates	4,042,347	41.0%
Earmarked funds for specific mandates	5,748,539	58.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-54,164	-0.5%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to SPB	437,127	4.4%
Unearmarked funds from 2020 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to SPB specific mandates	80,000	0.8%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to SPB	-67,291	-0.7%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to SPB specific mandates	-320,713	-3.3%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>9,865,845</b>	<b>45.6%</b>
<b>Total RB + XB funds</b>	<b>21,652,466</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Donor Profiles

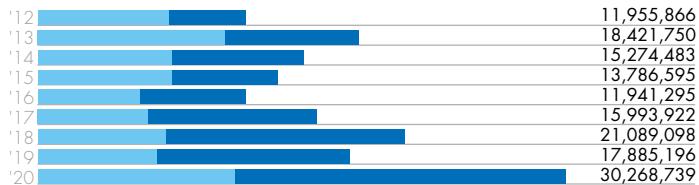
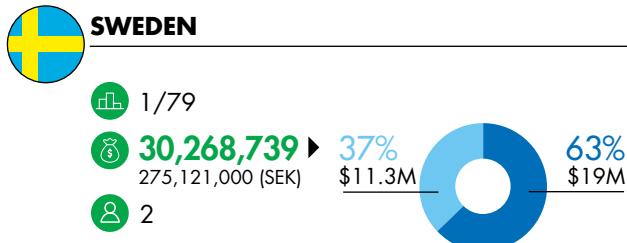
Donor ranking   Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD   Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds   Earmarked funds

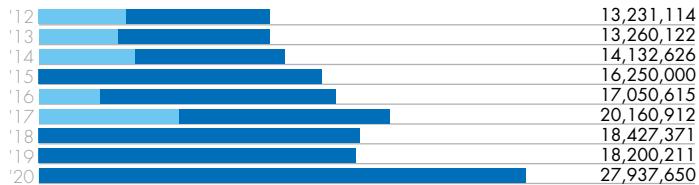
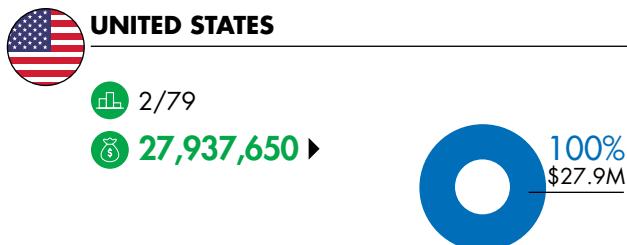
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

0   \$10M   \$20M   \$30M   \$32M

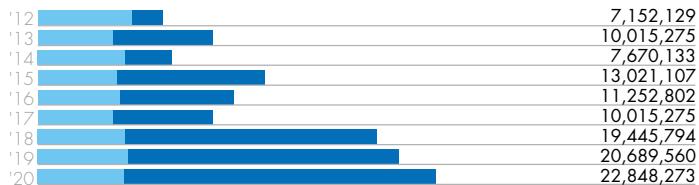
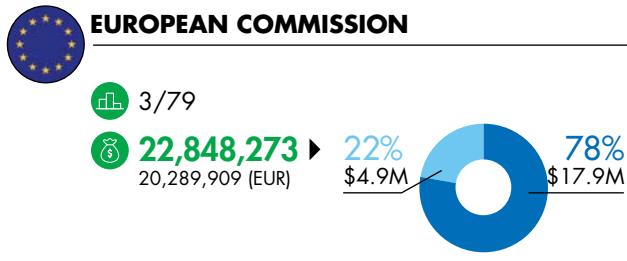
### SWEDEN



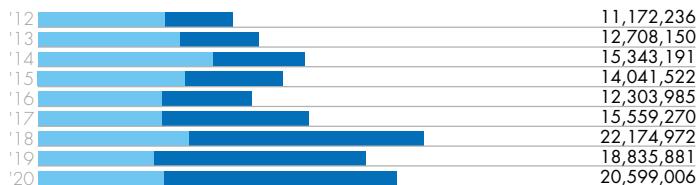
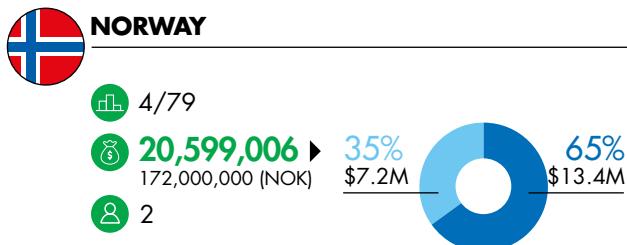
### UNITED STATES



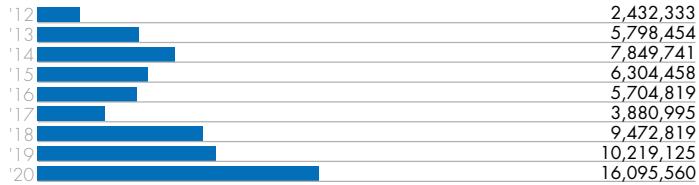
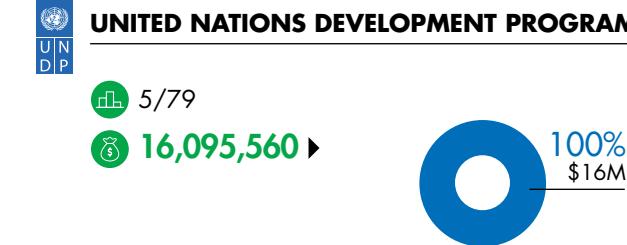
### EUROPEAN COMMISSION



### NORWAY



### UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

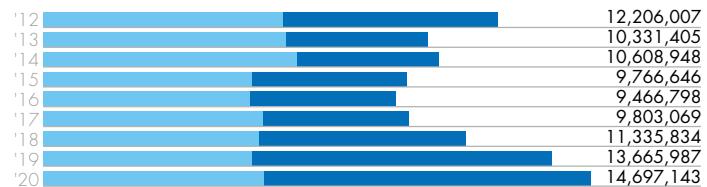
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

## NETHERLANDS

6/79

**14,697,143** ▶  
12,574,346 (EUR)

7

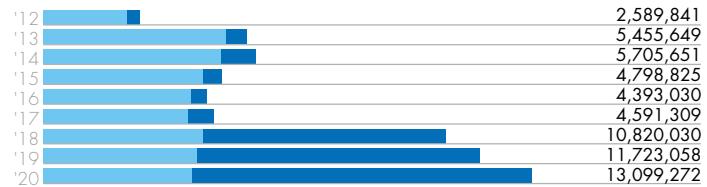
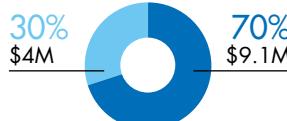


## DENMARK

7/79

**13,099,272** ▶  
87,750,000 (DKK)

5

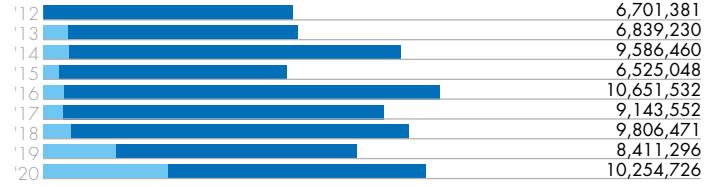
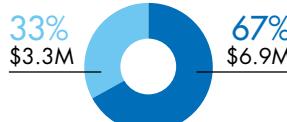


## GERMANY

8/79

**10,254,726** ▶  
9,045,814 (EUR)

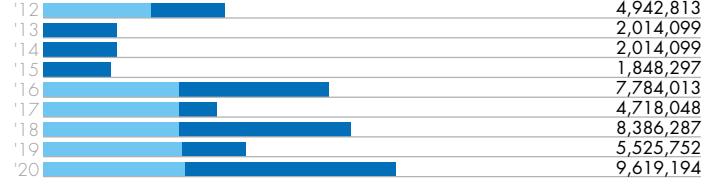
1



## CANADA

9/79

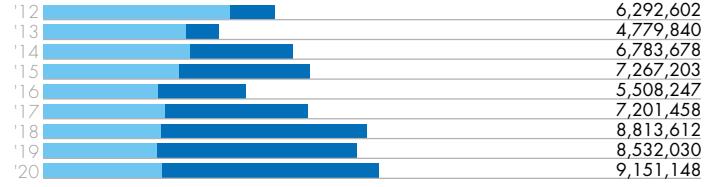
**9,619,194** ▶  
12,790,000 (CAD)

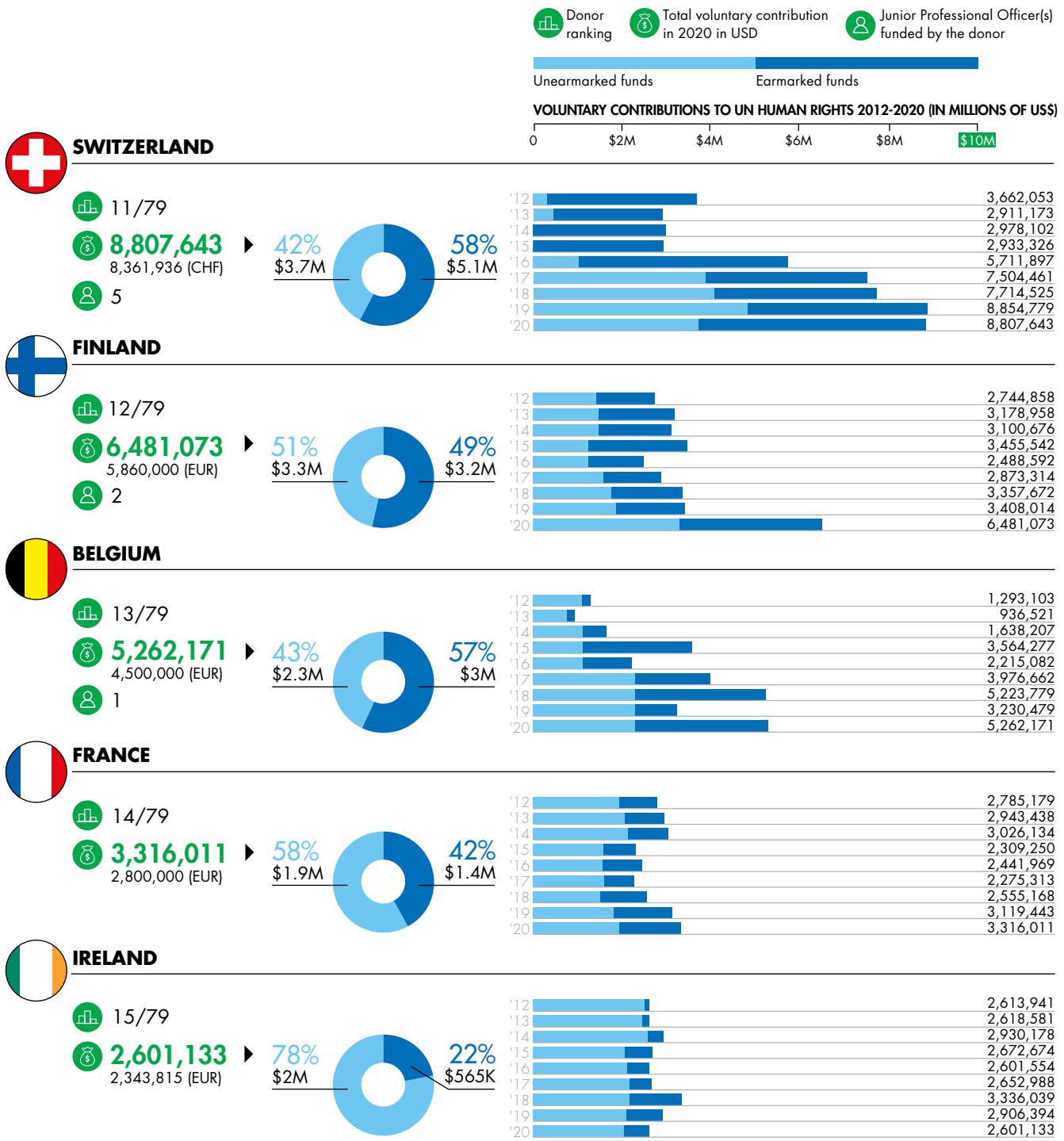


## UNITED KINGDOM

10/79

**9,151,148** ▶  
7,066,676 (GBP)





Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

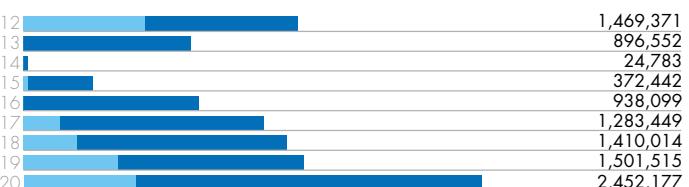
Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

## SPAIN

16/79

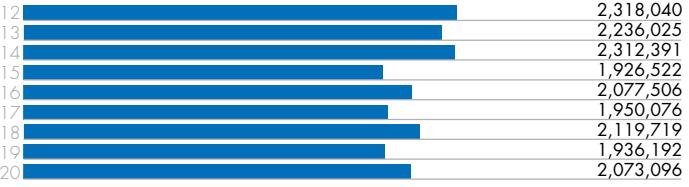
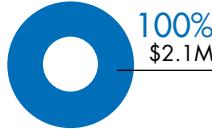
2,452,177  
2,070,000 (EUR)



## AUSTRALIA

17/79

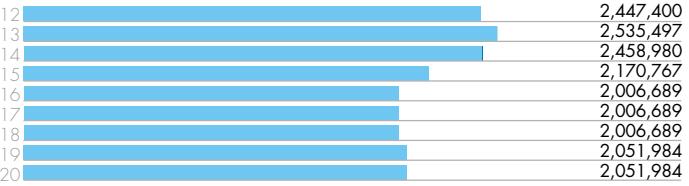
2,073,096  
2,800,000 (AUD)



## NEW ZEALAND

18/79

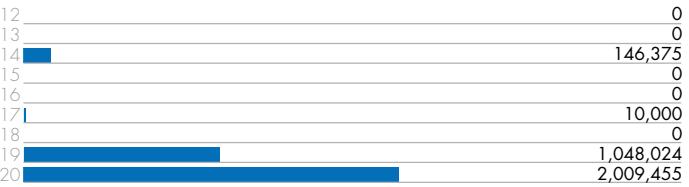
2,051,984  
3,000,000 (NZD)



## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

19/79

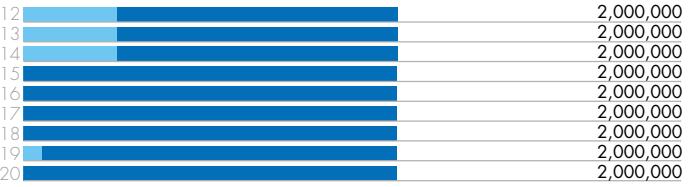
2,009,455  
1,750,235 (EUR)

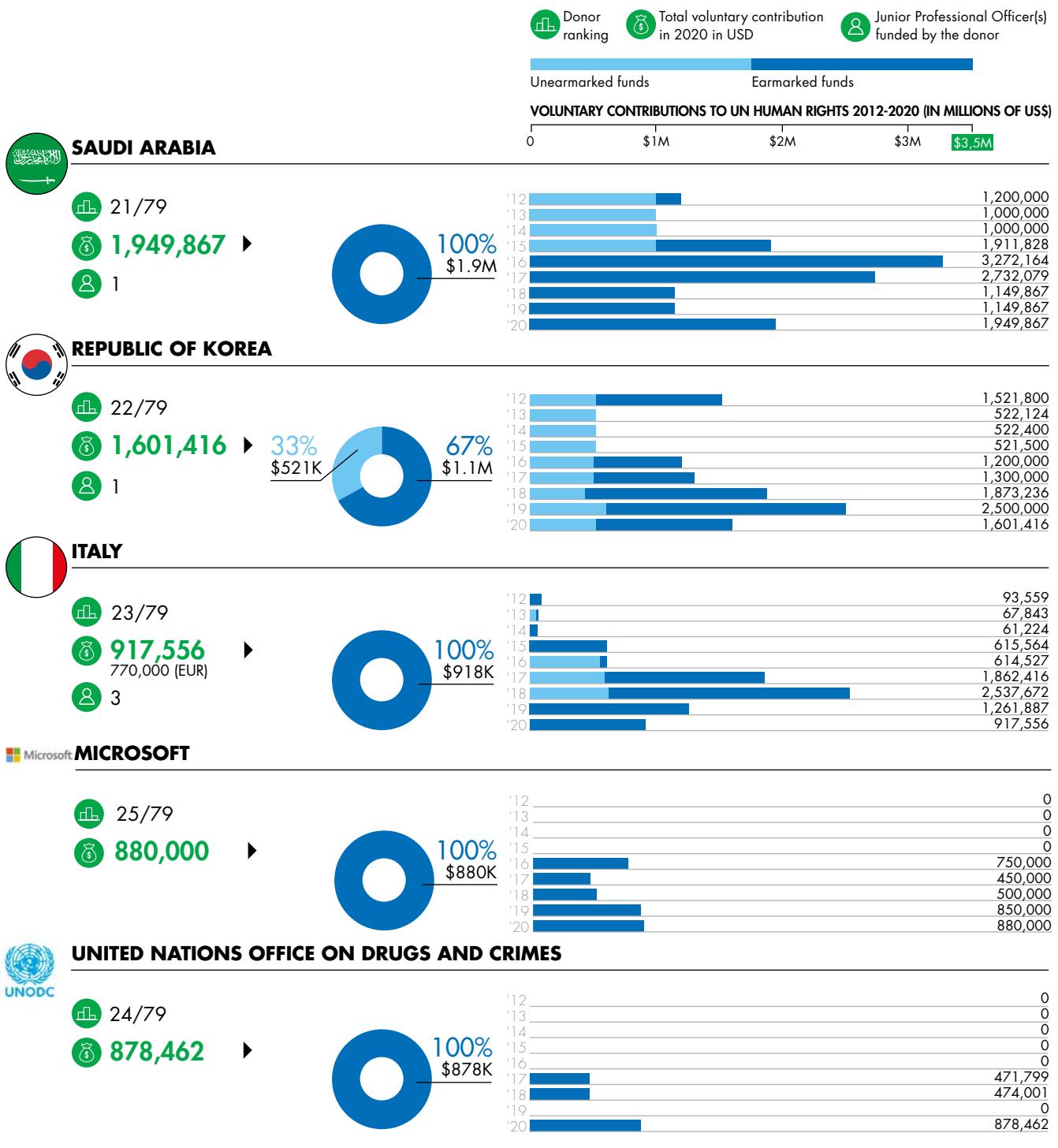


## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

20/79

2,000,000





Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)



**CHINA**

26/79

800,000



0      \$500k      \$1M      \$1,5M

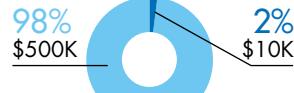
'12	50,000
'13	50,000
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	100,000
'18	800,000
'19	800,000
'20	800,000



**KUWAIT**

27/79

510,000



'12	1,510,000
'13	10,000
'14	310,000
'15	510,000
'16	520,000
'17	510,000
'18	510,000
'19	510,000
'20	510,000



**MOROCCO**

28/79

500,000



'12	1,252,000
'13	1,002,000
'14	1,000,000
'15	1,004,000
'16	12,000
'17	1,000,000
'18	300,000
'19	300,000
'20	500,000



**OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS**

OCHA

28/79

500,000



'12	85,000
'13	185,433
'14	783,497
'15	0
'16	499,960
'17	752,332
'18	1,285,399
'19	624,334
'20	500,000



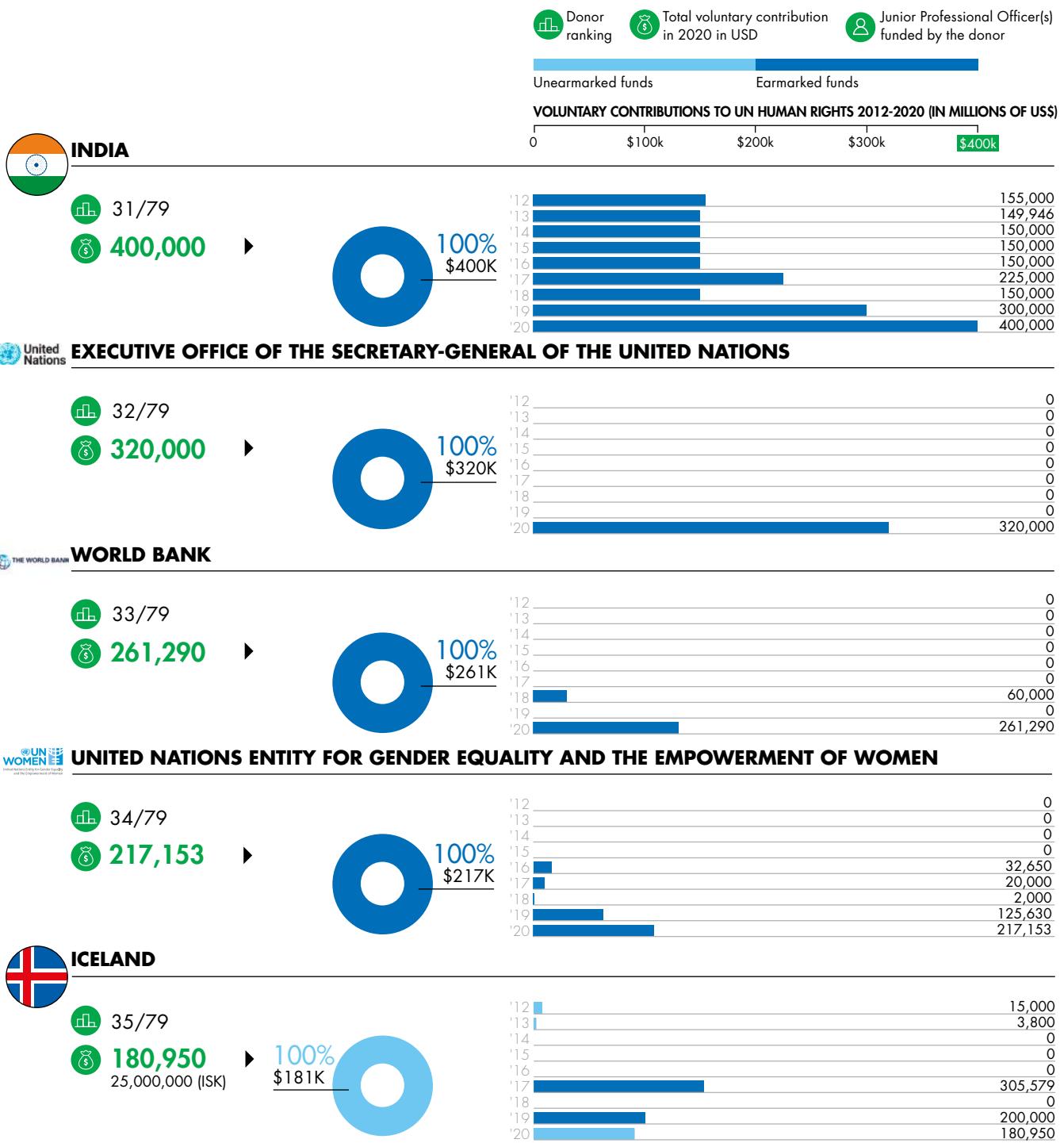
**LUXEMBOURG**

30/79

404,716  
344,000 (EUR)



'12	147,059
'13	167,743
'14	167,090
'15	167,152
'16	200,744
'17	225,857
'18	332,955
'19	268,602
'20	404,716



Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

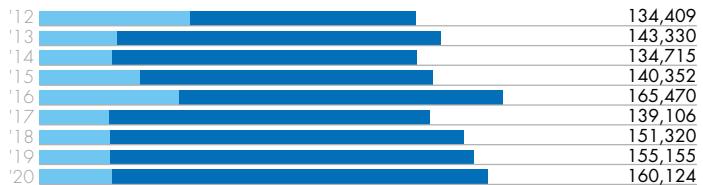
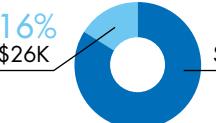


**LIECHTENSTEIN**

36/79

160,124  
155,000 (CHF)

16%  
\$26K

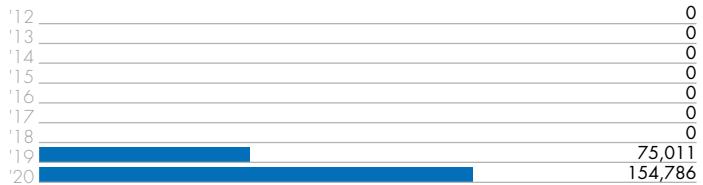


**UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY**

37/79

154,786

►

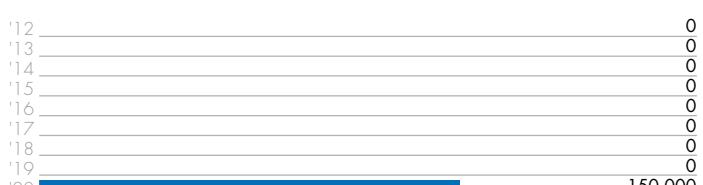


**11<sup>TH</sup> HOUR PROJECT/THE SCHMIDT FAMILY FOUNDATION**

38/79

150,000

►

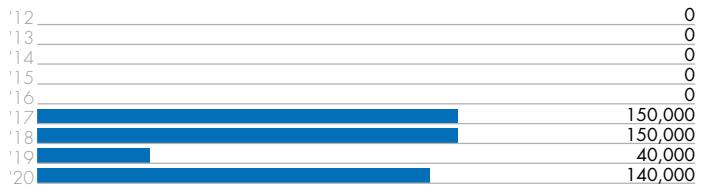


**MACARTHUR FOUNDATION**

39/79

140,000

►

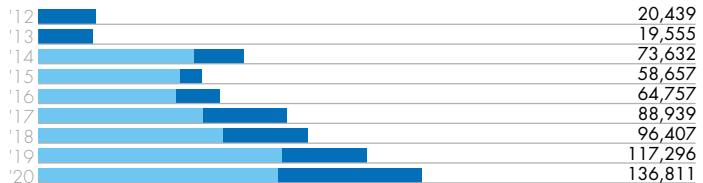
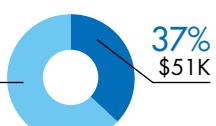


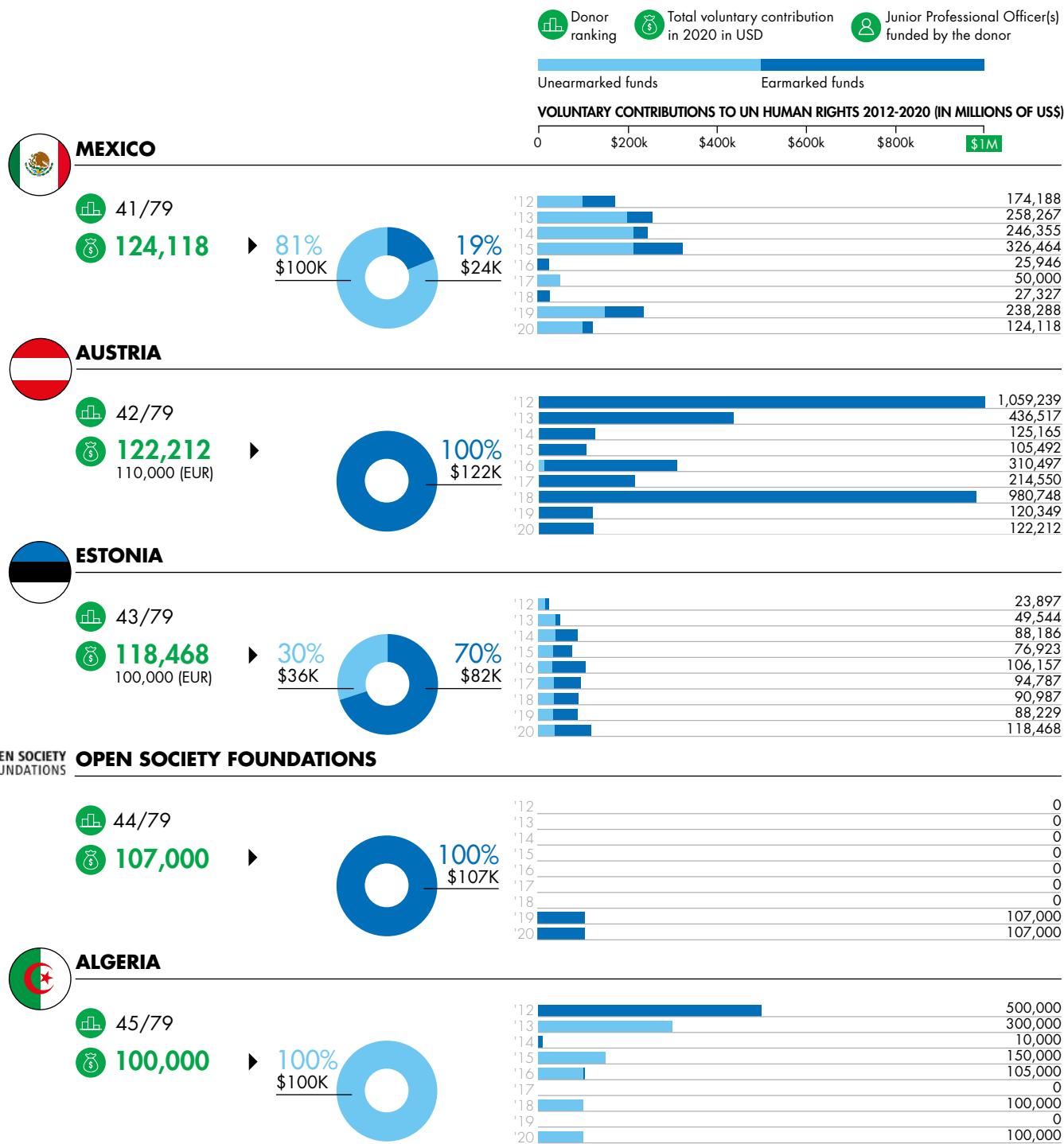
**CZECH REPUBLIC**

40/79

136,811  
3,200,000 (CZK)

63%  
\$86K





Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

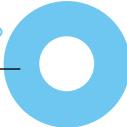
**PORTUGAL**



45/79

100,000

100%  
\$100K



'12	139,982
'13	100,000
'14	206,227
'15	209,520
'16	100,000
'17	159,242
'18	186,518
'19	375,028
'20	100,000

Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

45/79

100,000



'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	0
'19	0
'20	100,000

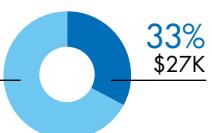
**POLAND**



48/79

79,805  
73,101 (CHF)

67%  
\$53K



'12	115,933
'13	161,468
'14	93,425
'15	64,536
'16	100,324
'17	205,657
'18	254,428
'19	335,239
'20	79,805

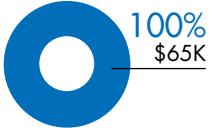
**JAPAN**



49/79

65,000

67%  
\$53K



'12	577,226
'13	0
'14	481,135
'15	2,285,329
'16	119,263
'17	109,325
'18	1,937,444
'19	117,133
'20	65,000

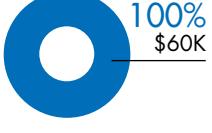
**CYPRUS**



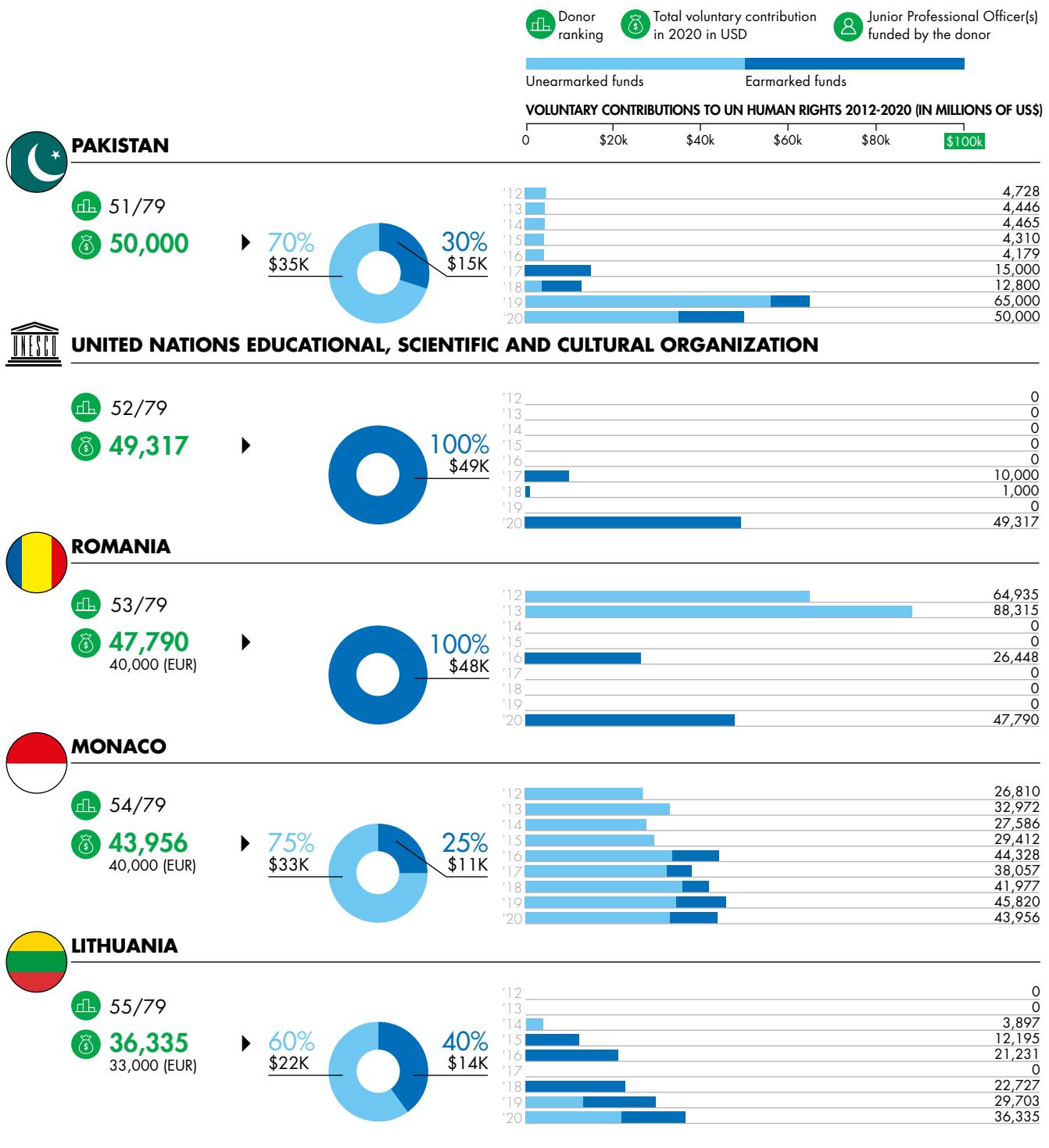
50/79

59,737  
50,000 (EUR)

67%  
\$53K



'12	30,068
'13	13,561
'14	12,487
'15	10,989
'16	10,616
'17	17,773
'18	17,065
'19	22,002
'20	59,737



Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

**UKRAINE**

56/79

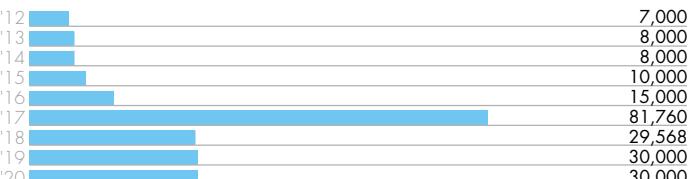
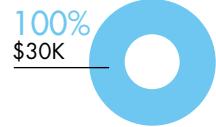
35,000



**BULGARIA**

57/79

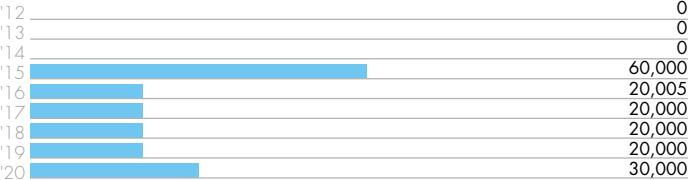
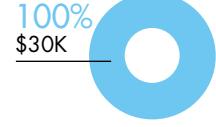
30,000



**MALAYSIA**

57/79

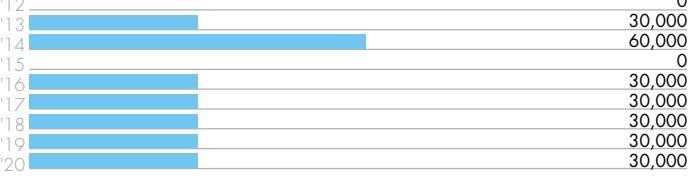
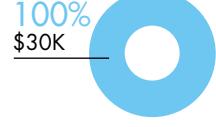
30,000



**URUGUAY**

57/79

30,000

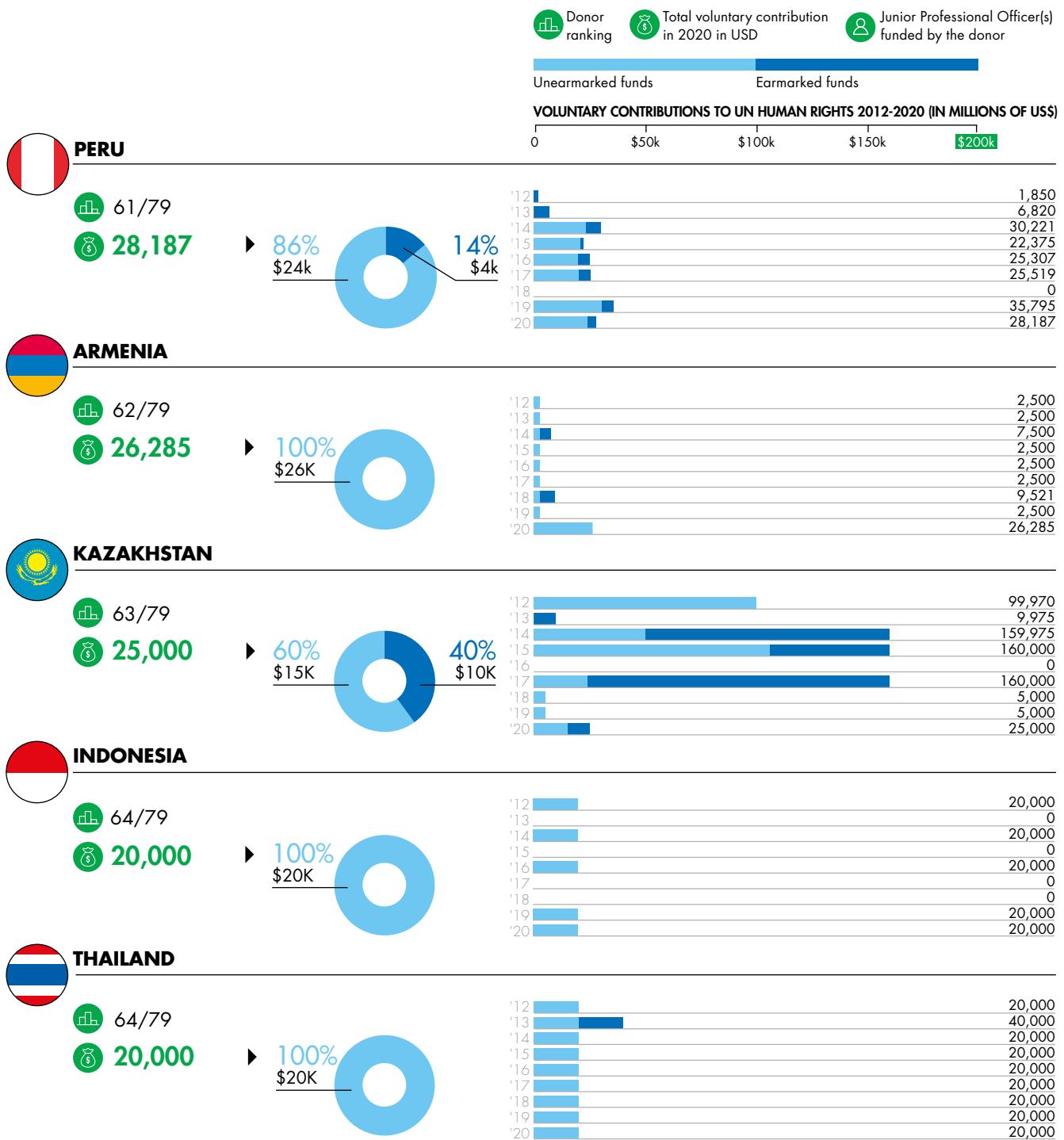


**ANDORRA**

60/79

29,658  
25,000 (EUR)





Donor ranking   Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD   Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds   Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

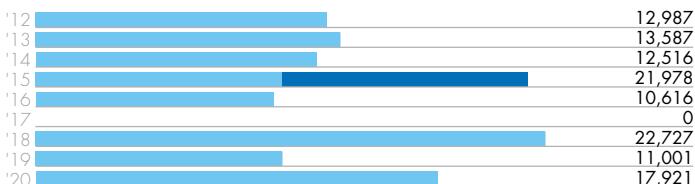
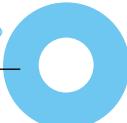


**LATVIA**

66/79

**17,921**  
15,000 (EUR)

100%  
\$18K



**MALTA**

67/79

**17,815**  
15,000 (EUR)

100%  
\$18K

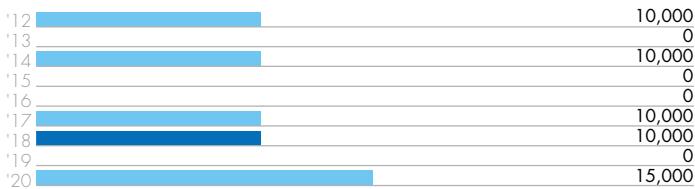


**AZERBAIJAN**

68/79

**15,000**

100%  
\$15K

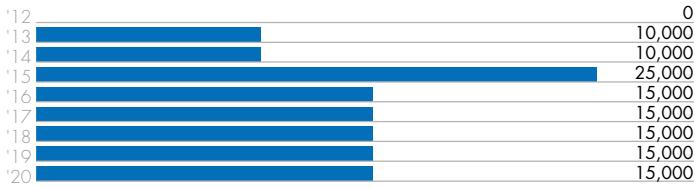


**SINGAPORE**

68/79

**15,000**

100%  
\$15K

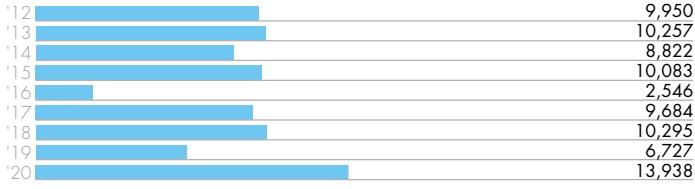


**COSTA RICA**

70/79

**13,938**

100%  
\$13K



Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

0      \$100k      \$200k      \$300k      \$400k      \$500k      \$600k      \$650k

### SLOVAKIA



71/79

10,309  
10,000 (CHF)

100%  
\$10K



'12	0
'13	10,941
'14	0
'15	0
'16	22,548
'17	10,163
'18	22,792
'19	32,012
'20	10,309

### HOLY SEE



72/79

6,500

▶



'12	0
'13	3,500
'14	6,517
'15	6,000
'16	9,000
'17	2,500
'18	6,500
'19	13,000
'20	6,500

### COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL



73/79

5,703

▶



'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	611,887
'19	0
'20	5,703

### MONTENEGRO



74/79

5,501  
5,000 (EUR)

▶



'12	0
'13	3,000
'14	0
'15	0
'16	3,000
'17	5,924
'18	5,787
'19	5,470
'20	5,501

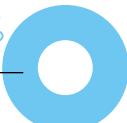
### MALDIVES



75/79

5,000

▶



'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	0
'19	0
'20	5,000

Donor ranking      Total voluntary contribution in 2020 in USD      Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds      Earmarked funds

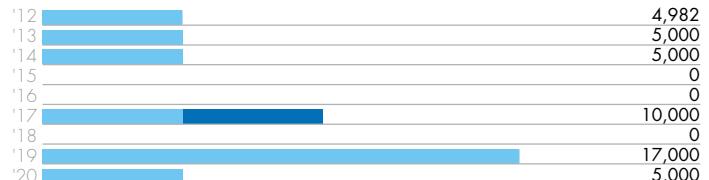
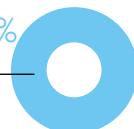
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2012-2020 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

 **SRI LANKA**

75/79

5,000

100%  
\$5K



 **VODAFONE GROUP**

75/79

5,000

100%  
\$5K

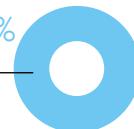


 **NICARAGUA**

78/79

4,700

100%  
\$5K



 **THE BAHAMAS**

79/79

2,000

100%  
\$2K



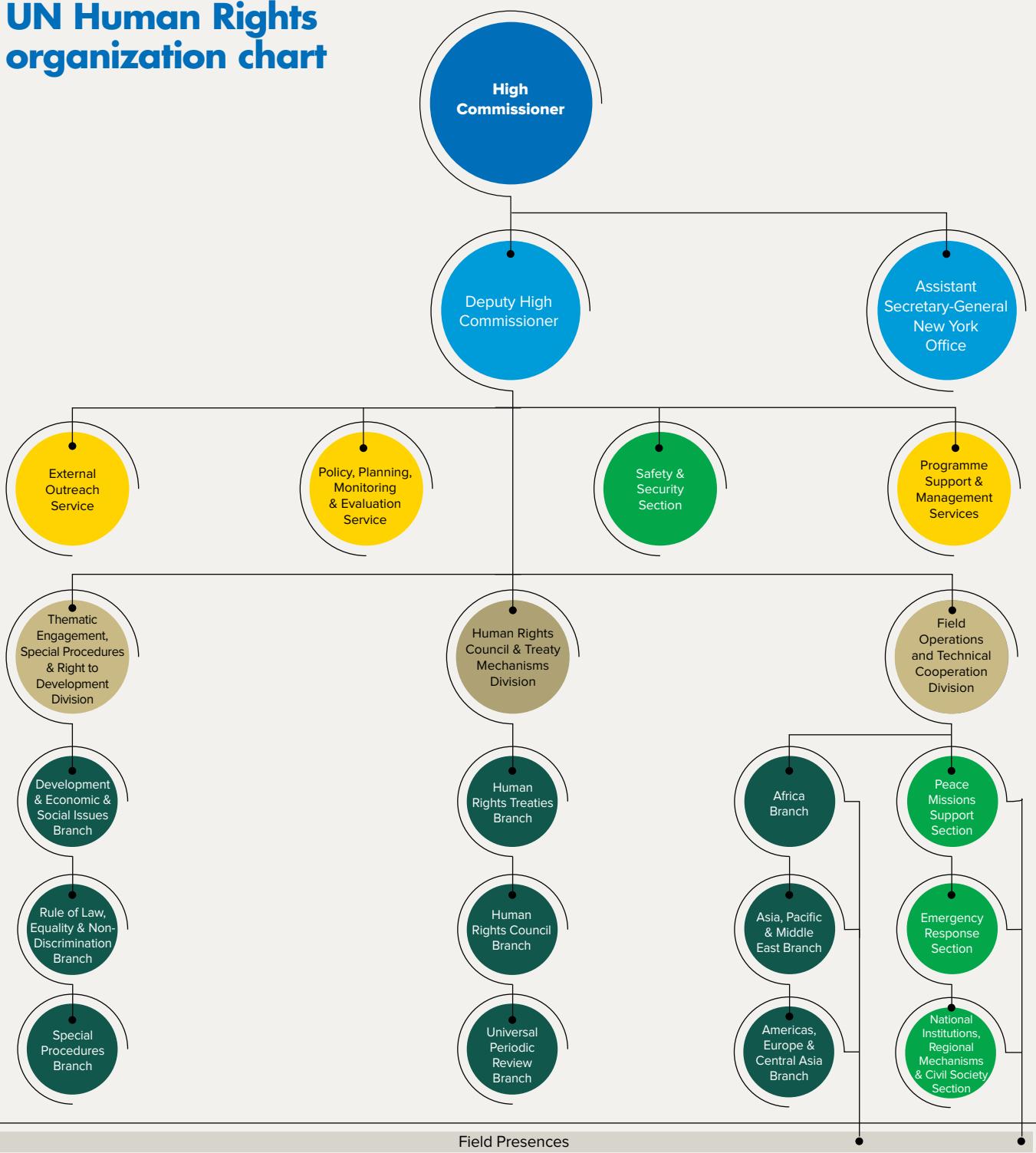




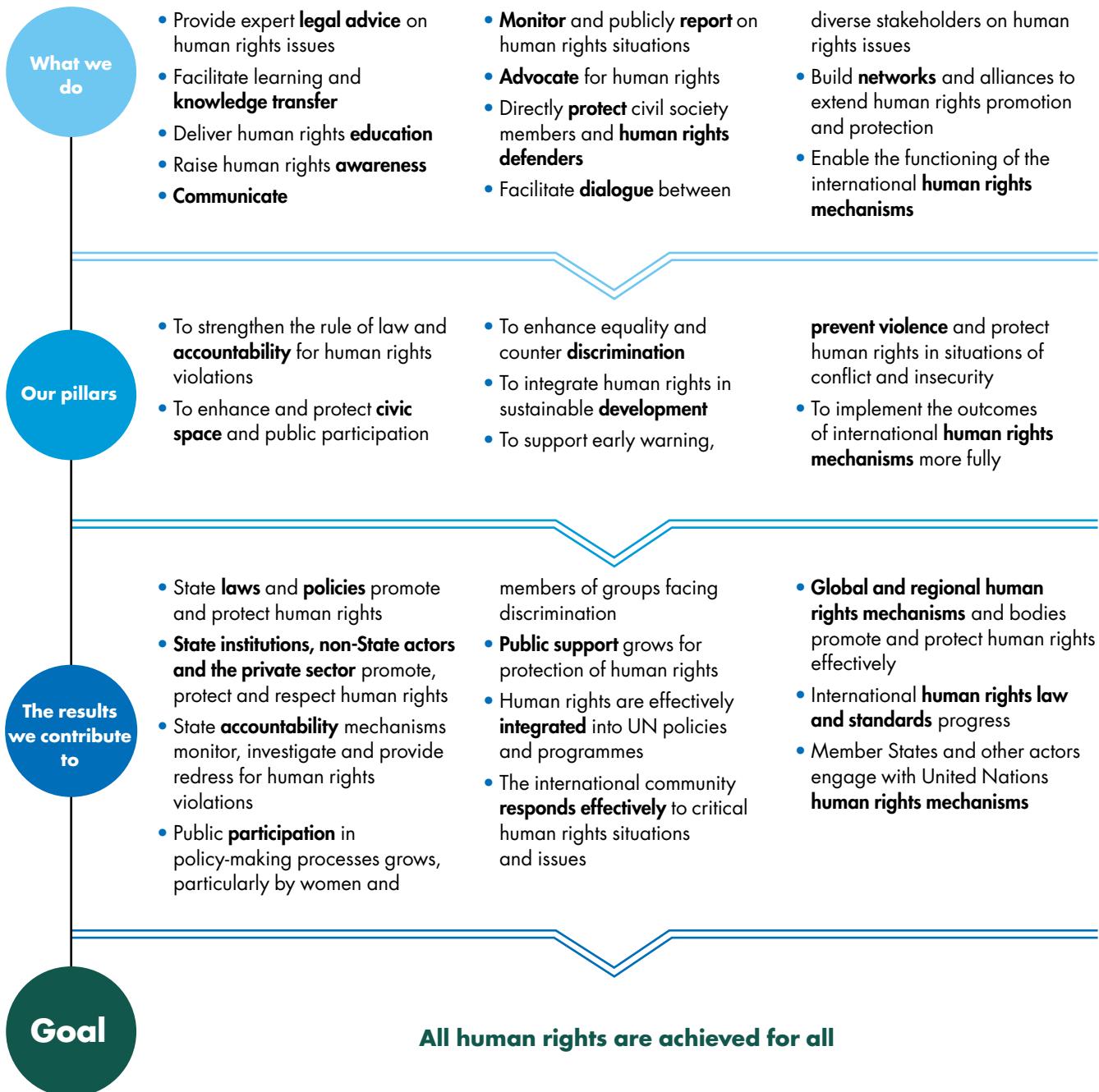
# Annexes

In Ukraine, a UN Human Rights Officer speaks with a civilian from a village close to the contact line (Popasna, Luhansk region). The man recalled how he had lost his home to fires and shared how the pandemic affected his region. © Zhenya Pedin

# UN Human Rights organization chart



# UN Human Rights theory of change



# Progress in 2020 towards OMP targets for 2018-2021

THE TYPE OF RESULTS THAT WE CONTRIBUTE TO	UN HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME INDICATORS <sup>1</sup>	WHAT WE EXPECT TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BY 2021, IN COOPERATION WITH OUR PARTNERS	REPORTED PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT <sup>2</sup>	PILLARS
<b>State laws and policies promote and protect human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement <sup>3</sup> where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards in selected human rights areas has significantly improved.	In 63 countries*, laws and policies will have significantly increased the promotion and protection of human rights in selected human rights areas. <sup>4</sup>	2020: 50 2019: 35 2018: 29	 
	# of countries of engagement where NHRIs have been established or have improved compliance with international standards (Paris Principles).	In 35 countries*, NHRIs will have been established or will have improved their compliance with international standards (the Paris Principles).	2020: 22 2019: 19 2018: 16	 
<b>State institutions, non-State actors and the private sector, promote, protect and respect human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the level of compliance of selected State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards has significantly improved.	In 54 countries*, State institutions, non-State actors or the private sector will have increased their contribution to the promotion and protection of and respect for human rights.	2020: 31 2019: 27 2018: 20	 
	# of countries of engagement where human rights trainings have been institutionalized in one or more selected human rights areas.	In 15 countries*, human rights education and training programmes will have been institutionalized.	2020: 11 2019: 10 2018: 8	 
	# of countries of engagement where the use of international human rights law in court proceedings and decisions has increased to a significant extent.	In 15 countries*, the use of international human rights law and jurisprudence will have increased in court proceedings and decisions.	2020: 4 2019: 6 2018: 5	 

<sup>1</sup> The programme indicators are the same as in previous programming and reporting cycles.

<sup>2</sup> Full or partial achievement of results or good progress made in achieving results.

<sup>3</sup> The use of \* after 'countries' in the table indicates a reference to all countries in which the Office plans to undertake or implement activities towards a planned result. It is not limited to countries where UN Human Rights has a presence.

<sup>4</sup> Due to potentially shifting priorities, these targets should not be understood as the baselines for upcoming programming cycles. Similarly, the achievements from the previous programming cycle cannot be understood as the baseline. Baselines have been provided for those targets that are cumulative, i.e., ratifications.



<b>State accountability mechanisms monitor, investigate and redress human rights violations.</b>	# of countries of engagement where oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms have been established or have improved compliance with international human rights standards.	In 46 countries*, oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights standards.	2020: 36 2019: 28 2018: 19	
	# of countries of engagement where transitional justice mechanisms, which conform to international human rights standards, have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights standards.	In 24 countries*, transitional justice mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.	2020: 11 2019: 9 2018: 5	
	# of countries of engagement where the number of human rights violation cases raised by UN Human Rights, which are positively addressed by governments, has significantly increased.	In 33 countries*, an increased number of cases of human rights violations raised by UN Human Rights will have been positively addressed.	2020: 15 2019: 17 2018: 15	
<b>Public participation in policymaking processes grows, particularly by women and members of groups facing discrimination.</b>	# of countries of engagement demonstrating significant improvement in the level of meaningful participation in selected public processes.	In 35 countries*, the level of meaningful participation by selected groups in public processes will have improved significantly.	2020: 24 2019: 29 2018: 20	
	# of countries of engagement where the level of use of national protection systems has increased significantly.	In 23 countries*, the use of national protection systems will have increased significantly.	2020: 12 2019: 15 2018: 14	
<b>The international community responds effectively to critical human rights situations and issues.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the international community has engaged in an objective and constructive way on specific issues raised by UN Human Rights.	In 13 countries*, the international community will have engaged objectively and constructively on specific issues raised by UN Human Rights.	2020: 15 2019: 8 2018: 6	



<b>Human rights are effectively integrated into UN policies and programmes.</b>	# of countries of engagement with UN peace missions that have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	<b>16</b> UN peace and political missions will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2020: 6 2019: 14 2018: 10	
	# of countries of engagement with humanitarian operations that have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	<b>12</b> humanitarian operations will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2020: 7 2019: 5 2018: 6	
	# of UNCTs where human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, have been integrated to a significant extent.	<b>50</b> UNCTs will have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2020: 38 2019: 42 2018: 30	
	# of UN policies and programmes at the global level which integrate an HRBA to a significant extent.	<b>25</b> UN policies and programmes at global level will have significantly integrated an HRBA.	2020: 37 UN policies have significantly integrated an HRBA. 2019: 22 UN policies 2018: 15 UN policies	
<b>Widespread public support for protection of human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the narrative on selected human rights topics has significantly improved.	In <b>23</b> countries*, the narrative on selected human rights topics will have improved significantly.	2020: 13 2019: 12 2018: 9	
<b>Member States and other actors (such as regional organizations, NHRIs, civil society, UN entities) engage positively with the UN human rights mechanisms.</b>	# of countries of engagement where mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations of the treaty bodies, special procedures or Human Rights Council are in place or increasingly functioning.	In <b>68</b> countries*, mechanisms for integrated reporting or implementation of recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms will have been put in place or have improved functioning.	2020: 31 2019: 41 2018: 22	

Total number of international human rights treaties ratified.	<b>100</b> additional ratifications of international human rights treaties. Baseline: <b>2,233</b>	2020: 79 ratifications in 2018-20. 2019: 69 ratifications in 2018-19. 2018: 32 ratifications in 2018.	
Total number of reservations withdrawn from international human rights treaties.	<b>10</b> reservations will have been withdrawn from international human rights treaties.	3 in 2019/2020 2 in 2020 1 in 2019 0 in 2018	
Percentage of countries that submit reports to the treaty bodies on time.	<b>35%</b> of countries will have submitted reports to the treaty bodies in a timely manner. Baseline: <b>32%</b>	2020: 37% of reports submitted on time in 2020. 2019: 38% 2018: 38%	
Number of countries which have issued a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders.	<b>125</b> countries will have issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders. Baseline: <b>118</b>	2020: Standing invitation by 127 countries and one non-Member Observer State.	
Number of countries for which requests for visits of thematic special procedures have resulted in at least one visit.	In <b>63 countries</b> , requests for visits of thematic special procedures will have resulted in a visit.	2020: 149 visits to 87 countries. 2019: 135 visits to 79 countries. 2018: 84 visits to 59 countries.	
Rate of responses from governments to special procedures communications.	<b>60%</b> of special procedures communications will have received a response from governments. Baseline: <b>57.6%</b>	2020: 48% 2019: 45% 2018: 43%	
Percentage of reprisals raised by UN Human Rights, which are positively addressed by governments.	<b>50%</b> of the cases of reprisals against individuals for cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms that are reported by UN Human Rights will have been addressed.	The 2020 report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/45/36) included public allegations pertaining to 45 countries, including summaries of formal responses of more than half sent to UN Human Rights and the UN human rights mechanisms, on new and ongoing cases during the reporting period (1 June 2019 to 30 April 2020).	



<b>International human rights laws and standards are elaborated.</b>	# of countries of engagement with a significant number of substantive submissions or submitting actors to the UN human rights mechanisms.	In 51 countries*, the number of submissions to UN human rights mechanisms will have increased significantly.	2020: 34 2019: 33 2018: 27	
	Total number of substantive submissions from NHRIs, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals to the UN human rights mechanisms.	15,000 substantive submissions to the UN human rights mechanisms will have been received from NHRIs, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals.	2020: 5,588 reports, 559 urgent actions and 12,384 submissions to communications. > 18,531 2019: 14,055 2018: 8,310	
<b>UN and regional human rights mechanisms and bodies effectively promote and protect human rights.</b>	Number of thematic areas where UN and/or regional human rights law or standards have been strengthened/developed.	In 12 areas, international/ regional human rights law/ standards will have been strengthened.	2020: 14 areas 2019: 9 areas 2018: 7 areas	
	Number of countries which submitted or updated common core documents.	85 countries will have submitted or updated their common core documents.	30 common core documents submitted in 2018-2020. 9 in 2019 12 in 2018	
	Degree of progress made in improving the level of harmonization of the treaty bodies' work.	Harmonization of the treaty bodies' work will have improved significantly.	2020: Chairs of TBs established a WG to address procedural aspects of the impacts of COVID-19 on the work of TBs, including a predictable calendar, recommendations for online State Party reviews in 2021 and substantive aspects of COVID-19 and human rights.	
	Degree of coordination among the special procedures.	A high degree of coordination among the special procedures will have been achieved.	2020: 90% of communications were issued jointly by two or more mandate holders. 2019: 79% 2018: 80%	

# Abbreviations and acronyms

## **ACHPR**

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

## **AGA**

African Governance Architecture

## **AI**

Artificial Intelligence

## **AIPP**

Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

## **AMISOM**

African Union Mission to Somalia

## **APCOF**

African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum

## **APF**

Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

## **APSA**

African Peace and Security Architecture

## **ASEAN**

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

## **ASG**

Assistant Secretary-General

## **AU**

African Union

## **AU-WGDD**

African Union Women, Gender and Development Directorate

## **BINUH**

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

## **CARICOM**

The Caribbean Community

## **CAT**

Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

## **CCA**

Common Country Analysis

## **CEB**

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

## **CED**

Committee on Enforced Disappearances

## **CEDAW**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

## **CERD**

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

## **CERF**

Central Emergency Response Fund

## **CESCR**

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

## **CITAC**

G5 Sahel Joint Force Civilian Casualty and Incidents Tracking and Analysis Cell

## **CIVIC**

Center for Civilians in Conflict

## **CLT**

Communal land titling

## **CMW**

Committee on Migrant Workers

## **COHOM**

EU Council Working Party on Human Rights

## **COI**

Commission of inquiry

## **CRC**

Committee on the Rights of the Child

Convention on the Rights of the Child

## **CRPD**

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

## **CRSV**

Conflict-related sexual violence

## **CSO**

Civil society organization

## **CTD**

Europe Office of the Centre for Democracy and Technology

## **DCO**

Development Coordination Office

## **DEVCO**

European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development

## **DFS**

Department of Field Support

## **DOCO**

Development Operations Coordination Office

## **DPA**

Department of Political Affairs

## **DPO**

Department of Peacekeeping Operations

## **DPPA**

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

## **DROI**

European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights

## **ECA**

Europe and Central Asia

## **ECLAC**

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

## **ECOSOC**

Economic and Social Council

## **ECOWAS**

Economic Community of West African States

## **EDG**

Emergency Directors Group

## **EEAS**

European External Action Service

## **EMRIP**

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## **ENPAD**

European Network of People of African Descent

## **EOSG**

Executive Office of the Secretary-General

## **ERT**

Emergency Response Team

## **ESCRs**

Economic, social and cultural rights

<b>EU</b>	<b>HRPD</b>	<b>ICT</b>
European Union	Human Rights Protection Division	Information and communication technology
<b>FAO</b>	<b>HRTG</b>	<b>ICTJ</b>
Food and Agriculture Organization	Human Rights Theme Group	International Center for Transitional Justice
<b>FBHR</b>	<b>HRS</b>	<b>IDB</b>
Forum on Business and Human Rights	Human Rights Section	Inter-American Development Bank
<b>FCCC</b>	<b>HRuF</b>	<b>IDPs</b>
Framework Convention on Climate Change	Human Rights up Front Initiative	Internally displaced persons
<b>FFM</b>	<b>IACHR</b>	<b>IED</b>
Fact-finding mission	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights	Improvised explosive devices
<b>FGM</b>	<b>IAM</b>	<b>ILO</b>
Female genital mutilation	Independent Accountability Mechanism	International Labour Organization
<b>FRA</b>	<b>IASC</b>	<b>IOM</b>
European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	International Organization for Migration
<b>GANHRI</b>	<b>ICC</b>	<b>IIM</b>
Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions	International Criminal Court	Independent investigative mechanism
<b>GBV</b>	<b>ICCP</b>	<b>IMM</b>
Gender-based violence	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Independent monitoring mechanism
<b>GEE</b>	<b>ICCP-OP1</b>	<b>IPU</b>
Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts	First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Inter-Parliamentary Union
<b>GMG</b>	<b>ICCP-OP2</b>	<b>IT</b>
Global Migration Group	Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty	Information technology
<b>GPC</b>	<b>ICERD</b>	<b>JPO</b>
Global Protection Cluster	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Junior Professional Officer
<b>GTG</b>	<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>LDCs</b>
Gender Theme Group	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Least Developed Countries
<b>HC</b>	<b>ICGLR</b>	<b>LGBTI</b>
Humanitarian Coordinator	International Conference for the Great Lakes Region	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons
<b>HCT</b>	<b>ICJ</b>	<b>LNOB</b>
Humanitarian Country Team	International Commission of Jurists	Leave/Leaving No One Behind
<b>HRA</b>	<b>ICPPED</b>	<b>MARA</b>
Human rights adviser	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements
<b>HRBA</b>	<b>ICRC</b>	<b>MDB</b>
Human rights-based approach	International Committee of the Red Cross	Multilateral development bank
<b>HRC</b>	<b>ICRMW</b>	<b>MPTF</b>
Human Rights Council	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
<b>HRD</b>		<b>MENA</b>
Human rights defender		Middle East and North Africa
<b>HRDDP</b>		<b>MINUJUSTH</b>
Human Rights Due Diligence Policy		United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti
<b>HRMMU</b>		<b>MINUSCA</b>
Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine		United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

**MINUSMA**

United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

**MONUSCO**

United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

**MOPAN**

Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network

**MoU**

Memorandum of Understanding

**MPTF**

Multi-Partner Trust Fund

**MRM**

Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism

**NGO**

Non-governmental organization

**NHRI**

National human rights institution

**NMRF**

National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up

**NPM**

National Preventive Mechanism

**NRTD**

National Recommendations Tracking Database

**OAS**

Organization of American States

**OCHA**

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

**OEAP**

Organizational Effectiveness Action Plan

**OECD**

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

**OHCHR**

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

**OIBC**

Opportunity Issue-Based Coalition

**OICT**

Office of Information and Communications Technology

**OIF**

Organisation internationale de la Francophonie

**OIIS**

Office of Internal Oversight Services

**OMP**

OHCHR Management Plan

**OP-CAT**

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

**OP-CEDAW**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

**OP-CRC-AC**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

**OP-CRC-IC**

Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure

**OP-CRC-SC**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

**OPDs**

Organizations of persons with disabilities

**OP-ICESCR**

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**OSAPG**

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

**OSWPA**

Office of the Senior Women's Protection Adviser

**OVRA**

Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate

**PAPEV**

Support Project for the Protection of Child Victims of Rights Violations

**PBF**

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund

**PBSO**

United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office

**PCCMHS**

Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security

**PFII**

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**PGLE**

World Economic Forum Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality

**PICTs**

Pacific Island Countries and Territories

**PMS**

Performance Monitoring System

**PSEA**

Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse

**PSMC**

Private Security and Military Company

**RBM**

Results-based management

**RC**

Resident Coordinator

**RCO**

Resident Coordinator's Office

**REC**

Regional Economic Community

**RMR**

Regional Monthly Review

**SADC**

Southern African Development Community

**SDGs**

Sustainable Development Goals

**SEIA**

Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

**SEM**

Sustainable environmental management

**SERP**

Socio-Economic Response Plan

**SGBV**

Sexual and gender-based violence

**SIDS**

Small Island Developing States

**SMT**

Senior Management Team

**SOPs**

Standard operating procedures

**SPT**

Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

**SRA**

Strategic Result Area

<b>SRHR</b>	<b>UNFPA</b>	<b>UNPRPD</b>
Sexual and reproductive health and rights	United Nations Population Fund	United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
<b>SRSG</b>	<b>UNGPs</b>	<b>UNSDCF</b>
Special Representative of the Secretary-General	United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
<b>SWAP</b>	<b>UNHCR</b>	<b>UNSDG</b>
United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	United Nations Sustainable Development Group
<b>TOE</b>	<b>UNIC</b>	<b>UNSDG-HRM</b>
United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict	United Nations Information Centre	United Nations Sustainable Development Group Human Rights Mainstreaming
<b>UDHR</b>	<b>UNICEF</b>	<b>UNSMIL</b>
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	United Nations Children's Fund	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
<b>UHRI</b>	<b>UNIOGBIS</b>	<b>UNSOM</b>
Universal Human Rights Index	United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
<b>UNAOC</b>	<b>UNIPP</b>	<b>UPR</b>
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations	United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership	Universal Periodic Review
<b>UNAMA</b>	<b>UNITAMS</b>	<b>UNV</b>
United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan	United Nations Volunteers
<b>UNAMI</b>	<b>UNITAR</b>	<b>UNVFVT</b>
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq	United Nations Institute for Training and Research	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
<b>UNAMID</b>	<b>UNJHRO</b>	<b>UNVTFCFS</b>
African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur	United Nations Joint Human Rights Office	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery
<b>UNCT</b>	<b>UNMIK</b>	<b>VFTC</b>
United Nations Brussels Team	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights
<b>UNCT</b>	<b>UNMIL</b>	<b>VNR</b>
United Nations Country Team	United Nations Mission in Liberia	Voluntary National Review
<b>UNDCAF</b>	<b>UNMISS</b>	<b>WGAD</b>
United Nations Development Assistance Framework	United Nations Mission in South Sudan	Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
<b>UNDESA</b>	<b>UNMSDF</b>	<b>WGEID</b>
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs	United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework	Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
<b>UNDIS</b>	<b>UNOCC</b>	<b>WGEPAD</b>
United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy	United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre	Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
<b>UNDP</b>	<b>UNOCI</b>	<b>WHO</b>
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire	World Health Organization
<b>UNECA</b>	<b>UNODC</b>	<b>WHRDs</b>
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Women human rights defenders
<b>UNEP</b>	<b>UNOG</b>	
United Nations Environment Programme	United Nations Office at Geneva	
<b>UNESCO</b>	<b>UNOWAS</b>	
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel	

