

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

UN ACRONYMS

HRC Human Rights Council

HRCttee Human Rights Committee

CAT Convention against Torture

ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

ICPPED International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced

Disappearance

OPICCPR Optional Protocol to the ICCPR

OPCAT Optional Protocol to the CAT

UPR Universal Periodic Review

NHRI National Human Rights Institution

OTHER TERMS

COMMUNICATION Alkarama's transmission of information about one individual case to one UN special procedure mandate-holder

INDIVIDUAL CASE The documenting of an individual victim of a human rights violation

LIST OF ISSUES A contribution to a list of questions drawn up by experts from the CAT or the HRCttee for a state party under examination

SHADOW REPORT A report to the CAT or HRCttee providing other information about the implementation of the relevant treaty by the country in question

OTHER VIOLATIONS Restrictions of freedom of opinion and expression, health, independence of judges and lawyers, human rights defenders

BIDOON Literally 'without', meaning stateless, without nationality or citizenship

PROXY TORTURE Torture carried out on behalf of a state which itself prohibits torture. Often involves forcibly moving the victim to a country where torture occurs.

ROME STATUTE The International Criminal Court's founding treaty



BAHRAIN

Government restrictions and abuses against human rights activists

21 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	0
TORTURE	14
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	7

OUR CONCERNS

- Violent clashes and numerous violations against activists and human rights defenders
- Torture and ill-treatment of political prisoners
- Government restrictions undermine creation of National Human Rights Institution

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Protect human rights defenders
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Repeal laws limiting freedom of expression and association
- Ratify OPICCPR, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2008
- NHRI: not yet accredited

WHAT HAS BAHRAIN RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

ALGERIA

Continued impunity for those responsible for crimes against humanity

5 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	5
TORTURE	0
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	0

INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS BEFORE:
HRCtee: 5
CAT: 1

OUR CONCERNS

- No truth or justice for families of disappeared
- 19 year-old State of Emergency and 2006 law for national reconciliation shield those guilty of crimes against humanity
- National Human Rights Institution still not playing its role

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Abolish the State of Emergency
- Investigate disappearances and prosecute those responsible
- Close all secret places of detention
- Cancel 2006 law protecting human rights violators
- Ratify OPCAT, ICPPED and the Rome Statutes

FACTS

- State of emergency since 9 February 1992
- Last UPR review: 2008
- NHRI: B status

REPORTS TO THE UN

- CAT List of Issues
- NHRI review submission

WHAT HAS ALGERIA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✓
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

206 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about



EGYPT

Renewed State of Emergency and violent abuses during elections foreshadows serious tensions in 2011

OUR CONCERNS

- Numerous deaths from police violence, systematic practice of torture
- Serious violations mar legislative elections in June and November 2010
- Continued arbitrary detention of thousands of political prisoners

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Abolish State of Emergency
- End administrative detention and try or release all those detained
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Ratify OPICCCR, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- State of Emergency since 1981
- HRC membership 2007-2010
- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: A status

REPORTS TO THE UN

- CAT List of Issues

WHAT HAS EGYPT RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

16 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	1
DISAPPEARANCES	7
TORTURE	5
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	3

OUR CONCERNS

- Detainees handed over by Multi-National Forces to Iraqi security forces for torture
- Political stalemate leads to increased violence and sectarian tensions
- Iraqi parliamentarians persecuted for exposing human rights violations and government-run secret detention centres

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: in creation

IRAQ
2003 US invasion still behind most human rights abuses

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish a Special Rapporteur on Iraq
- End political assassinations and death sentences carried out after unfair trials
- End enforced disappearances, close all secret places of detention
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims, ratify OPICPR, CAT and OPCAT

WHAT HAS IRAQ RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✗ ICPPED ✓

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

5 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	0
TORTURE	4
ILLEGAL DETENTION	1
OTHER VIOLATIONS	0

OUR CONCERNS

- Excessive anti-terrorism legislation leads to arbitrary detention and torture
- Exceptional courts undermine judicial independence
- Security forces responsible for torture and incommunicado detention

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- End incommunicado and administrative detention
- Guarantee the right to a fair trial for all detainees and judicial independence
- Ratify OPICCP, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- HRC membership: 2009–2012
- Last UPR review: 2009
- NHRI: A status

REPORTS TO THE UN

- HRCtee List of Issues
- HRCtee Shadow Report

WHAT HAS JORDAN RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

JORDAN
Counterterrorism laws fall short of international norms, leaving room for torture and administrative detention

2 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	 0
DISAPPEARANCES	 0
TORTURE	 1
ILLEGAL DETENTION	 0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	 1

OUR CONCERNS

- Counterterrorism measures lead to arbitrary detentions and numerous cases of torture
- Bidoon and non-nationals harassed and persecuted
- Government fails to assist Kuwaitis arbitrarily detained in Saudi Arabia

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Respect judicial independence
- Support citizens full and free participation in government
- Address statelessness
- Ratify OPICCP, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: none in place

REPORTS TO THE UN

- HRCtee List of Issues

WHAT HAS KUWAIT RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

KUWAIT
Prisoner abuse reveals worsening human rights situation

15 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	1
DISAPPEARANCES	0
TORTURE	14
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	0

OUR CONCERNS

- Torture carried out by security forces
- Arbitrary detention, especially of non-nationals, despite judicial decisions for release
- Mandatory torture prevention body not established, despite UPR review

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- End trial of civilians by military tribunals
- Investigate the fate of the disappeared in Lebanon and Syria,
- Grant rights to Palestinians not recognised as refugees
- Ratify OPICCPR and ICPPED

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: none in place

REPORTS TO THE UN

- UPR submission

WHAT HAS LEBANON RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✓

LEBANON
*Torture and illegal detention
continue as establishment of torture
prevention body reaches impasse*

5 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	 1
DISAPPEARANCES	 1
TORTURE	 1
ILLEGAL DETENTION	 1
OTHER VIOLATIONS	 1

OUR CONCERNS

- Government misses Feb 2010 deadline for promised investigation into 1996 Abu Slim prison massacre
- Arbitrary detention and unfair trials continue despite being highlighted by UPR review
- Total lack of freedom of expression and association, fears for human rights defenders

FACTS

- HRC membership 2010–2013
- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: not yet accredited

REPORTS TO THE UN

- UPR submission

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Enact a constitution which conforms with international human rights law
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Carry out inquiry into Abu Slim massacre
- Ratify OPCAT and ICPPED

LIBYA
No investigation of serious human rights violations

INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS BEFORE:
HRCttee: 8

WHAT HAS LIBYA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✓
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

1 COMMUNICATION

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	0
TORTURE	0
ILLEGAL DETENTION	1
OTHER VIOLATIONS	0

MAURITANIA

Controversial counterterrorism laws and freedom of expression restrictions

OUR CONCERNS

- Controversial counterterrorism laws adopted despite widespread opposition
- Journalists persecuted for criticising the government
- Torture remains widespread

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Guarantee the right to a fair trial, end incommunicado and arbitrary detention
- Ban on slavery and human trafficking
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Ratify OPICCPR, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- HRC membership 2010–2013
- Last UPR review: 2010

REPORTS TO THE UN

- UPR submission

WHAT HAS MAURITANIA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

61 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	1
DISAPPEARANCES	29
TORTURE	26
ILLEGAL DETENTION	1
OTHER VIOLATIONS	4

MOROCCO
Torture, abductions and arbitrary
detention of Islamists accused of
terrorism

OUR CONCERNS

- Ongoing government crackdown on Islamists since 2003 Casablanca bombings, hundreds tried unfairly
- Detainees tortured during October 2010 prison transfer
- Numerous abductions and disappearances
- NHRI did not act on sensitive cases

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- End disappearances and incommunicado detention
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- Investigate participation in extraordinary renditions
- Guarantee right to a fair trial, end political trials
- Ratify OPICPR, OPCAT and ICCPED

FACTS

- HRC membership 2010–2013
- Last UPR review: 2008

REPORTS TO THE UN

- NHRI review submission

WHAT HAS MOROCCO RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICCPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

10 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	0
TORTURE	2
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	8

OUR CONCERNS

- Authorities arrest and persecute human rights defenders
- Freedom of expression under attack
- Widespread torture in the West Bank

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Protect human rights defenders
- Ensure right to assembly and freedom of expression
- Guarantee right to a fair trial

FACTS

- NHRI: A status

PALESTINE

Palestinian Authority crackdown on the right to free speech

WHAT HAS PALESTINE RATIFIED?

ICCPR **X** CAT **X** ICPPED **X**

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL **X**
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL **X**

QATAR

Continued arbitrary detention undermines rule of law

3 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	 0
DISAPPEARANCES	 0
TORTURE	 2
ILLEGAL DETENTION	 1
OTHER VIOLATIONS	 0

OUR CONCERNS

- Law for protection of society justifies arbitrary arrests and detentions
- Statelessness of Bidoon violates international law
- Continued reports of incommunicado detention by security forces

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Guarantee judicial independence
- Abolish the law for the protection of society
- Address statelessness of the Bidoon
- Ratify ICCPR, OPICPR, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- HRC membership from 2010 -2013
- Last UPR review: 2010
- NHRI: A status

REPORTS TO THE UN

- CAT List of Issues

WHAT HAS QATAR RATIFIED?

ICCPR **X** CAT **✓** ICPPED **X**

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL **X**
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL **X**

SAUDI ARABIA

Thousands detained for years
without charge nor trial

82 COMMUNICATIONS
sent to the UN about



OUR CONCERNS

- Thousands held arbitrarily, tortured and mistreated
- No independent judiciary
- Reformers persecuted for promoting human rights and calling for civil and political freedoms

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, and ensure redress for victims
- End arbitrary detention, release all political prisoners
- Guarantee judicial independence and right to fair trial
- Ratify ICCPR, OPICPR, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- HRC membership 2009–2012
- Last UPR review: 2009
- NHRI not yet accredited

REPORTS TO THE UN

- Submission to the EC for European Parliament report on EU–GCC relations

WHAT HAS SAUDI ARABIA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ~~X~~ CAT ICPPED ~~X~~

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ~~X~~
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ~~X~~

57 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	3
DISAPPEARANCES	20
TORTURE	10
ILLEGAL DETENTION	9
OTHER VIOLATIONS	15

OUR CONCERNS

- 49 years under State of Emergency creates breeding ground for violations
- Detention and unfair trial of human rights defenders
- Widespread impunity of security services

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Abolish State of Emergency
- Prohibit torture and secret detention, prosecute those responsible, ensure redress for victims
- End persecution of human rights defenders
- Guarantee freedom of expression and allow the media to operate freely
- Ratify OPICCP, OPCAT and ICPPED

SYRIA

Continued crackdown on human rights defenders, torture remains widespread

FACTS

- State of Emergency since 1962
- Upcoming UPR review: 2011
- NHRI: none in place

REPORTS TO THE UN

- CAT shadow report

WHAT HAS SYRIA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

TUNISIA

*Continued massive repression
and abuses by authorities*

3 COMMUNICATIONS sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	1
TORTURE	1
ILLEGAL DETENTION	0
OTHER VIOLATIONS	1

OUR CONCERNS

- Excessive violence by security forces
- Unfair trials and arbitrary detention of political prisoner
- Harassment and arrest of journalists and unionists
- Repression of human rights defenders

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Revoke all anti-terrorism legislation contrary to human rights
- End persecution of human rights defenders and journalists, free political prisoners
- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, and ensure redress for victims
- Ratify OPICCP, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- HRC membership 2009–2012
- Last UPR review: 2008
- NHRI: not yet accredited

WHAT HAS TUNISIA RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗

18 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about

KILLINGS	0
DISAPPEARANCES	3
TORTURE	5
ILLEGAL DETENTION	8
OTHER VIOLATIONS	2

OUR CONCERNS

- Incommunicado detention and torture of national security suspects
- Ongoing reports of proxy detention and torture
- Unfair trials using evidence gathered by torture

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, and ensure redress for victims
- End arbitrary and incommunicado detention
- Guarantee right to fair trial and tenure of judges
- Ratify ICCPR, OPICPR, CAT, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2008
- NHRI: none in place

UAE
*Proxy detentions and torture
continue*

WHAT HAS THE UAE RATIFIED?

ICCPR ~~X~~ CAT ~~X~~ ICPPED ~~X~~

ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ~~X~~
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ~~X~~

YEMEN

*Detainees denied basic rights,
journalists harassed for criticising
authorities*

65 COMMUNICATIONS

sent to the UN about



OUR CONCERNS

- Widespread arbitrary detention
- Human rights defenders and journalists attacked for criticising authorities
- Peaceful protestors killed in violent crackdown
- Massive waves of arrests due to excessive counter-terrorism policy prompted by US

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prohibit torture, prosecute those responsible, and ensure redress for victims
- Guarantee counterterrorism measures respect human rights standards
- End disappearances and hostage-taking by security forces
- End arbitrary detention, ensure fair trials
- Ratify OPICCP, OPCAT and ICPPED

FACTS

- Last UPR review: 2009
- NHRI: none in place

REPORTS TO THE UN

- CAT follow-up
- HRCtee List of Issues

WHAT HAS EGYPT RATIFIED?

ICCPR ✓ CAT ✓ ICPPED ✗
ICCPR OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗
CAT OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ✗