

TRAINING COURSE – READING LIST
THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS AND SYSTEM:
MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AT THE
NATIONAL LEVEL
7 – 11 July 2025

July 7, 2025

Session 1 – Introduction to the International Human Rights System

Please familiarize yourself with the following websites. A general overview is sufficient for this session. We will go into more detail regarding the different mechanisms in the specific sessions devoted to each of the mechanisms.

- United Nations Human Rights Instruments and Mechanisms
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-and-mechanisms>
- The UN Human Rights Council <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/home>
- Kothari, Miloon, “From Commission to the Council: Evolution of UN Charter Bodies”, in Handbook of International Human Rights Law, Editor Dinah Shelton, Oxford University Press, 2013. (Chapter attached)
- The UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main>
- The UN’s Special Procedures system <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council>
- The UN’s International Commissions of Inquiry, Commissions on Human Rights, Fact-Finding missions and other Investigations
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-is>
- The UN Treaty Bodies <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies>

Session 2 – Introduction to the human rights system at the national level

- National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRF), OHCHR [HR PUB 16 1 NMRF Study.pdf \(ohchr.org\)](#)
- Universal Periodic Review: Tips for engagement at country level for national human rights institutions and civil society, OHCHR, 2020
https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/Tips_21Sept2020.pdf
- Beyond Reporting: Transformational Changes on the Ground <https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/general-document/2022-07/Beyond%20Reporting-EN-Web.pdf>
- [National human rights action plans: An inventory | The Danish Institute for Human Rights](#)

Session 3 – The role of UN Mandate Holders

- The UN's Special Procedures system <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council>
- Subedi, S. (2014). Human rights experts in the United Nations: A review of the role of United Nations Special Procedures. In M. Ambrus, K. Arts, E. Hey, & H. Raulus (Eds.), *The Role of 'Experts' in International and European Decision-Making Processes: Advisors, Decision Makers or Irrelevant Actors?* (pp. 241-262). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
doi:10.1017/CBO9781139871365.016 (Chapter attached)
- Smith, R. (2018). UN Special Procedures: System Puppets or User's Saviours? In E. Bribosia & I. Rorive (Eds.), *Human Rights Tectonics: Global Dynamics of Integration and Fragmentation* (pp. 41-68). Intersentia.
doi:10.1017/9781780688060.004 (Chapter attached)
- Christophe Golay, Claire Mahon & Ioana Cismas (2011) The impact of the UN special procedures on the development and implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 15:2, 299-318, DOI: [10.1080/13642987.2011.537472](https://doi.org/10.1080/13642987.2011.537472) (Chapter attached).
- Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Association and Assembly, Clement Voule <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/thematic-reports/a78246-importance-rights-freedom-peaceful-assembly-and-association>

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Session 4 – The role of Civil Society

- Working Group on Human Rights in India and the UN (WGHR) Wghr.org – Wghr.org
- Brazil UPR Coalition [RPU Brazil Portal \(plataformarpu.org.br\)](http://RPU Brazil Portal (plataformarpu.org.br))

Session 5 and 6 – The UN Treaty Bodies

- The UN Treaty Bodies <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies>
- The UN Human Rights Committee <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ccpr>
- The UN Committee on Rights of the Child <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/crc>
- [Centre for Civil and Political Rights | Human Rights \(ccprcentre.org\)](http://Centre for Civil and Political Rights | Human Rights (ccprcentre.org))
- Kothari, Miloon, ‘*The UPR mid-term reporting process: lessons for the treaty bodies*’, Research Brief, Geneva Academy, 2019 <https://www.geneva-academy.ch/joomlatools-files/docman-files/The%20Universal%20Periodic%20Review%20.pdf>
- UNICEF and URG, REALIZING RIGHTS, Changing Lives: The impact of the United Nations Human Rights System on the Enjoyment of Children’s Rights, UNICEF and URG, 2020 <https://www.unicef.org/media/86196/file/Realizing-rights-changing-lives-The%20impact-of-the-United-Nations-human-rights-system-on-the-enjoyment-of-children%E2%80%99s-rights.pdf>
- Geneva Academy, Human Rights Platform project on Treaty Body 2020 and beyond review process <https://www.geneva-academy.ch/geneva-humanrights-platform/initiatives/detail/70-treaty-body-review-2020-and-beyond>

UN Human Rights Committee (Session 5)

- The UN Human Rights Committee <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ccpr>

- VIETNAM <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/viet-nam>

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Session 8 – The Universal Periodic Review

- On this website, please read the two resolutions (General Assembly resolution 60/251 and UN Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/5/1) to understand the texts that establish the UPR. These resolutions are hyperlinked in the paragraph ‘How was the UPR established’
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/basic-facts>
- <https://www.upr-info.org/en>
- UPR Good Practices:
 - Beyond Reporting: Transformational Changes on the Ground (2022)
<https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/general-document/2022-07/Beyond%20Reporting-EN-Web.pdf>
 - UN Good Practices: How the UPR Supports Sustainable Development (2022)
https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/UPR_good_practices_2022.pdf
 - Study on emerging Good Practices from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), 2021
https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/Emerging_UPR_GoodPractices.pdf
- CESR and Science Po, The Universal Periodic Review: A Skewed Agenda? Trends analysis of the UPR’s coverage of economic, social and cultural rights, 2016 https://www.cesr.org/sites/default/files/CESR_ScPo_UPR_FINAL.pdf

Session 9 – Panel on National Human Rights Institutions/Parliaments

- Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions [Home - GANHRI](#)
- New Zealand Human Rights Commission <https://tikatangata.org.nz/>
- Report called *Maranga Mai* on colonisation in New Zealand (See attached).

- Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, 'A Guide for National Human Rights Institutions' at: <http://training.nihrc.org/upr>
- Parliaments and Human Rights [Parliaments and human rights | Inter-Parliamentary Union \(ipu.org\)](#)
- [Human Rights: Handbook for Parliamentarians | Inter-Parliamentary Union \(ipu.org\)](#)
- Universal Periodic Review: Tips on specific roles for members of Parliament before-during and after the UPR Review, OHCHR, 2020
https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/TIPs_Members_Parliament.pdf

Sessions 10 - Implementation Matrices/Tools

- [Universal Human Rights Index from OHCHR](#)
- <https://uhri.ohchr.org/en/search-human-rights-recommendations>
- UPR Info's database of UPR recommendations <https://upr-info-database.uwazi.io>
- See Annex 'F' in Kothari, Miloon, '*The UPR mid-term reporting process: lessons for the treaty bodies*', Research Brief, Geneva Academy, 2019
<https://www.geneva-academy.ch/joomlatools-files/docman-files/The%20Universal%20Periodic%20Review%20.pdf>
- OHCHR, National Recommendations Tracking Database
<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/NRTD.pdf>

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Session 12 – National Human Rights Action Plans

- [National Plans of Action for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights | OHCHR](#)
- [Marrakech Guidance Framework](#) for NMIRFs
- [IMPACT OSS overview and video](#)
- [Geneva Academy Directory Entry](#) for IMPACT OSS

Session 13 – UN Country Teams

- [UNSDG | About - How we work](#)
- [UNSDG | 2030 Agenda - Strengthening Resident Coordinator Leadership](#)
- [UPR good practices 2022.pdf \(ohchr.org\)](#)
- Information and direction to UN Country Teams on the UPR
<https://undg.org/human-rights/strengthening-engagement-with-the-international-human-rights-mechanism/universal-periodic-review/>
- UNICEF and URG, REALIZING RIGHTS, Changing Lives: The impact of the United Nations Human Rights System on the Enjoyment of Children's Rights, UNICEF and URG, 2020 <https://www.unicef.org/media/86196/file/Realizing-rights-changing-lives-The%20impact-of-the-United-Nations-human-rights-system-on-the-enjoyment-of-children%E2%80%99s-rights.pdf>
- **UNFPA**, Lessons from the Second Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review From commitment to action on sexual and reproductive health and rights: https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/UNFPA_PUB_2019_EN_Lessons_from_the_second_cycle_of_the_universal_periodic_review.pdf
- **WHO**, Advancing the right to health through the Universal Periodic Review, <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/277114/9789241513883-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- **UN Women**, Women, peace and security: Strengthening accountability through the Universal Periodic Review, 2020 <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2019/11/research-brief-strengthening-accountability-through-the-universal-periodic-review>.
- **UNICEF**, Note on maximising engagement with the Universal Periodic Review <https://www.unicef.org/media/75361/file/Engagement-Toolkit-UPR.pdf>