

UPR Info Database

Explanation of the Issue categorisation

[UPR Info's database of UPR Recommendations and voluntary pledges](#) is a very unique tool developed by UPR Info.

It is intended to facilitate access to UPR recommendations to all stakeholders: States, NHRI, NGOs, UN staff, academics, media and civil society in general. Designed with an intuitive and user-friendly layout, it allows searching any recommendation of interest through several filters (see below), creating specific queries by combining entries (from the same filter or by different filters) and keywords.

The database contains notably an exclusive category added by UPR Info which looks at the issues contained in each recommendation.

-1- Issue categorisation

As State missions and ministries freely formulate questions and recommendations, it is certain that there would be some confusion in regards to overlaps in categories into which issues are classified. For example, a question regarding female genital mutilation would be tagged not only as a Women's rights issue, but also as Torture. This document is designed to give users of our database an overview of the logic behind the classification of recommendations/advanced questions by issue and to account for all exceptions.

A Main concept

A number of issues are always tagged when addressed. Any mention of special procedures, treaty bodies (also referred to as international bodies), international instruments (also referred to as international obligations), human rights violations by state agents (when

perpetrators are specified), civil society, detention conditions, torture, extrajudicial executions, and enforced disappearances are all tagged.

B International instruments related issues

When a recommendation/question makes reference to an International Instrument or Treaty Body, we tag “International instruments” or “Treaty bodies”, as well as the issue pertaining to specific International Instrument or Treaty Body (if it does apply). For example, if the recommendation/question mentions the Convention Against Torture, we would tag both “International instruments” and “Torture”. In the case of treaty bodies, it sometimes occurs that the treaty body mentioned in the recommendation is addressing an issue not pertaining to the default issue of the treaty. For example, an advanced question which would make reference to a meeting held by the CERD to address the rights of students to register at universities without being compelled to state their religion. The advanced question does not address the issue of Racial Discrimination so much as it addresses the freedom of religion and the right to education. We would therefore tag “Treaty bodies”, “Freedom of religion,” and “Right to education”.

C Merging issues

As some recommendations/questions tend to address different human rights violations of a target group, we simplify the classification of such recommendations/questions by tagging only the victim rather than all of the mentioned violations. In other words, if the recommendation/question addresses more than one human rights violation experienced by a certain group, then by practice we tag only the group and not the violations. For example, for a recommendation addressing the right to housing, education, and food for the Roma people of Albania, we would simply tag “Minorities”, and not the rights to education, housing, and food. However, if the recommendation/question mentions a victim and only one human rights violation experienced by the victim, we then tag both the victim and the violation.

D Justice issues

Justice is a very vast issue that can be interpreted to cover the general duty of a government to ensure the protection of the human rights of its people. However, in order to differentiate between general recommendations and recommendations calling for a national reform of a State’s judicial system, we make a clear distinction between the two. For example, an advanced question that inquires as to what steps the government is taking to improve the administration of the Judiciary would warrant the tagging of “Justice”. However, a question that broadly asks about what the government is doing to protect human rights would simply be tagged as “General”. Furthermore, if the recommendation/question

specifically addresses the problem of impunity, it tagged with the category of “Impunity”, not “Justice”.

E National Plan of Action

Our “National Plan of Action” category is used to tag to recommendations/questions when the term “plan of action” is explicitly stated. For example, an advanced question that addresses a government’s ‘plan of action’ to protect the rights of the country’s indigenous peoples. Such a recommendation will be tagged with “National plan of action” along with “Indigenous peoples”. However if the question were worded as “How does the government plan to protect the rights of its indigenous population?” then we would not tag “National Plan of Action”.

F ESC rights and CP rights related issues

ESC rights and CP rights are similarly tagged only when “economic social and cultural rights” or “civil and political rights” are explicitly stated in the recommendation/question. Very often the recommendation/question simultaneously refers to the International Instruments that correspond to these rights.

G Violence related issues

Although violence against groups can take on diverse forms, the act of violence is only tagged when it falls under one of the following categories:

- 1/ torture;
- 2/ extrajudicial executions;
- 3/ enforced disappearances.

In rare cases when violence does not fall within one of these categories, we simply tag the victim and not the violation. For instance, if a recommendation addresses the harassment of human rights defenders, we would only tag “Human rights defenders”. However, if the recommendation addresses torture of human rights defenders, we would tag both “Human rights defenders” and “Torture”.

Next pages will detail the issues that UPR Info elaborated and work with (number 2), and also a few common quotes and how UPR Info tags them (number 3).

-2- Complete list of the issues tagged

1	Asylum-seekers - refugees
2	Civil society
3	Corruption
4	Counter-terrorism
5	CP rights - general
6	Death penalty
7	Detention conditions
8	Development
9	Disabilities
10	Elections
11	Enforced disappearances
12	Environment
13	ESC rights - general
14	Extrajudicial executions
15	Freedom of association and peaceful assembly
16	Freedom of movement
17	Freedom of opinion and expression
18	Freedom of religion and belief
19	Freedom of the press
20	General
21	HIV - Aids
22	Human rights defenders
23	Human rights education and training
24	Human rights violations by state agents
25	Impunity
26	Indigenous peoples
27	Internally displaced persons
28	International humanitarian law
29	International instruments
30	Justice
31	Labour
32	Migrants
33	Minorities
34	National plan of action
35	NHRI
36	Other
37	Poverty
38	Public security
39	Racial discrimination
40	Right to education
41	Right to food
42	Right to health
43	Right to housing
44	Right to land
45	Right to water
46	Rights of the Child
47	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
48	Special procedures
49	Technical assistance
50	Torture and other CID treatment
51	Trafficking
52	Treaty bodies
53	UPR process
54	Women's rights

-3- Chart of commonly used tagged

Hereafter the chart of commonly used recommendation/question terminology, along with categories with which they are tagged on our database.

Common quote:	Category(ies):
Action plan to combat racism	- Racial discrimination
Abortion	- Women
Achievement of its MDGs in the areas of health and education	- Health - Education (not "Development")
Awareness raising campaigns	- Human Rights education and training
Caste	- Minority
Child labour	- Rights of the child - Labour
Citizenship / nationality	- CP rights - General
Civilian	- International Humanitarian Law
Conscientious objection	- Other
Cooperation with UN / OHCHR	- Other
Corporal punishment	- Torture
Corporal punishment of children at home/in school	- Rights of the child - Torture
Crimes of the past	- Justice
Defamation	- Freedom of opinion and expression
Dialogue between religion	- Freedom of religion and belief
Discrimination	- Other
Discrimination against Arab and Muslim populations	- Racial discrimination - Freedom of religion and belief - Minorities
Discrimination against ethnic minorities	- Racial discrimination - Minorities
Domestic violence	- Women - Children
Drug	- Public security
Elderly	- Other
Ethnic discrimination	- Racial discrimination
Ethnicity	- minorities
Family code	- Women's rights
Family values	- Other
Female genital mutilation	- Women - Children - Torture
Fight terrorism	- Public security
Foreigner	- Migrants
Freedom of / access / right to information	- Other

Geneva convention	- International instruments - International humanitarian law
Geneva convention but talks about refugees	- International instruments - Asylum-seekers / refugees
Genocide	- Justice
Governance	- Justice
Hate crime	- Other
Honour crimes / killings	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
HRC human rights mechanisms	- Special procedures
Human rights goals	- General
Humanitarian	- Other
Implement recommendations by CAT on the rights of the child	- Rights of the child - Treaty bodies
Implement recommendations by CEDAW on discrimination against women	- Women's rights - Treaty bodies
Integrate a gender perspective in the UPR	- Women - UPR
International human rights mechanisms	- General
International human rights obligations	- International instruments
International standards / norms / obligations	No tag
Involve civil society in the follow-up	- UPR - Civil society
Juvenile justice	- Rights of the child - Justice
Lawyers	- Justice
Marginalized groups	- Minorities
Maternal mortality	- Health - Women
MDGs	- Development
Media	- Freedom of the press
Minimum age of marriage	- Rights of the Child
Missing person	- Other
Modification of discriminatory dispositions contained in the civil and criminal code in conformity with CEDAW.	- Women - International instruments
National human rights plan	- National plan of action
Naturalization	- Other
Ombudsman	- NHRI
Opposition leaders	- Freedom of association and peaceful assembly
Organised crimes	- Public security
Paramilitary groups	- Public security (if about killing or insecurity) or - Justice (if linked with government, demilitarisation)
Peace	- Other
Political prisoners	- Freedom of opinion and expression

Prioritize actions on the recommendations of different treaty bodies in particular CEDAW and CRC	- Treaty Bodies - Women - Rights of the Child
Public executions	- Death penalty
Public security companies	- Other
Racial discrimination	- Racial discrimination
Racial discrimination of people of Haitian descent	- Racial discrimination - Minorities
Racket	- Public security
Raise awareness	No tag
Ratification of the CAT	- International human rights instruments (signature, ratification and implementation) - Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
Reconciliation	- Justice
Regional cooperation or integration	- Other
Religious minorities	- Minorities
Religious minorities	- Minorities - Freedom of religion and belief
Reparation	- Justice
Reproductive health	- Women - Health
Review anti terrorism legislation	- Counter-terrorism
Right to privacy	- Other
Ratify Rome Statute	- International instruments - Justice
Rule of law	- Justice
Self determination	- Other
Sexual orientation and gender identity	- Sexual rights - LGBT (not "Women's rights")
Slavery	- Other
State of emergency	- Public security
Statelessness	- Other
Tolerance / intolerance (if not specified)	- General
Torture and arbitrary detention by officials	- Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment - Arbitrary detention (and/or arrest)
Trafficking of women and children	- Trafficking - Women - Children
UN bodies	- Special procedures - Treaty bodies
UN human rights mechanisms	- Special procedures - Treaty bodies
Unemployment	- Development (not "Labour")
Unequal pay at work men women	- Women's rights (not "Labour")
Vulnerable groups	- Minorities

Vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples	- Disabilities - Indigenous peoples (not "Minorities")
Witchcraft	- Justice