

Issue Analysis

-Enforced Disappearances- *Session 1-8*

Introduction

- Enforced disappearances is an issue that is fairly frequently raised within the context of the Universal Periodic Review.
- Out of over 12,500 recommendations in total over 8 sessions, 214 recommendations focussed on enforced disappearances.¹
- In total, 27 advance questions concerned enforced disappearances.
- In order to facilitate further analysis of this issue, a division has been made between questions and recommendations that concern concrete cases of enforced disappearances, questions and recommendations that concern the work and recommendations of the special procedures and treaty bodies and questions and recommendations that concern the signature and ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Analysis

Concrete cases of enforced disappearance

- This category contains all questions and recommendations that relate to concrete cases of enforced disappearance, or of general remarks regarding the issue of enforced disappearance.
- Out of 214 recommendations on enforced disappearances, 28 recommendations focussed on concrete cases.
- Out of 43 questions asked on enforced disappearances, 22 of these focussed on concrete cases of enforced disappearance.
- Issues covered in recommendations and questions include, for example “Put an end to kidnapping and enforced disappearance of persons, whatever their country of origin” and “Investigate all pending complaints about enforced or involuntary disappearances and have their perpetrators punished”.
- Sri Lanka received the most recommendations in this category.

Top 3 countries making recommendations on this issue

1. Chile (4 recommendations)
2. France, Canada, Czech Republic, Sweden, Colombia and the United Kingdom (each 2 recommendations)
3. Argentina, Mexico, Japan, Holy see, Switzerland, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, Spain, Guatemala, Hungary and Israel (each 1 recommendation)

Top 3 States under Review receiving recommendations on this issue

1. Sri Lanka (5 recommendations)
2. Colombia, Mexico, Gambia and El Salvador (each 3 recommendations)

¹ One recommendation falls into two subcategories, and is therefore counted once in the total number of recommendations on this issue, but twice when it comes to the subcategories.

3. Belarus (2 recommendations)

Top 3 countries posing advance written questions on this issue

1. Sweden (7 questions)
2. United Kingdom (4 questions)
3. Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands and Argentina (each 2 questions)

Top 2 States under Review receiving advance written questions on this issue

1. Sri Lanka and Gambia (each 3 questions)
2. Yemen and Belarus (each 2 questions)

Special procedures and treaty bodies

- This category contains all questions and recommendations that relate to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and its work, but also recommendations relating to the treaty body relevant for the Convention on Enforced Disappearances.
- Out of 214 recommendations on enforced disappearances, 12 recommendations focussed on the special procedures and treaty bodies.
- Out of 27 advance written questions, only 2 questions concerned the Working Group. Both these questions were asked in preparation of the first session of the Universal Periodic Review.
- Issues covered in recommendations and questions include, for example, “Cooperate fully with the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances” and “That the visit by the Working Group on enforced or involuntary Disappearances agreed upon in principle take place within 2009”.
- The Russian Federation received the most recommendations in this category.

Top 3 countries making recommendations on this issue

1. France and Argentina (each 3 recommendations)
2. The Netherlands (2 recommendations)
3. Canada, Japan, Norway and the United Kingdom (each 1 recommendation)

Top 3 States under Review receiving recommendations on this issue

1. Russian Federation (3 recommendations received)
2. Eritrea (2 recommendations received)
3. Sri Lanka, Colombia, El Salvador, the Philippines, Peru, Luxembourg and Spain (each 1 recommendation received)

The countries posing advance written questions on this issue

1. Germany and the United Kingdom (each 1 question)

The State under Review receiving advance written questions on this issue

1. Algeria (2 questions)

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

- This category contains all questions and recommendations that relate to the Convention and its signature or ratification.
- Out of 214 recommendations on enforced disappearances, 175 recommendations focussed on the Convention.
- Out of 27 advance written questions, only 4 questions concerned the Convention.
- Issues covered in recommendations and questions are mostly urging states to ratify the Convention, for example by recommending to “Take steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance”.
- Grenada received the most recommendations in this category.

Top 5 countries making recommendations on this issue

4. France (52 recommendations)
5. Argentina (48 recommendations)
6. Spain (27 recommendations)
7. Mexico (15 recommendations)
8. Brazil (8 recommendations)

Top 3 States under Review receiving recommendations on this issue

1. Grenada (6 recommendations)
2. Kyrgyzstan (5 recommendations)
3. Chile, Kenya, Armenia and Turkey (each 4 recommendations)

The 3 countries posing advance written questions on this issue

1. France (2 questions)
2. Germany and the United Kingdom (each 1 question)

The 4 States under Review receiving advance written questions on this issue

1. Philippines , the Netherlands, Pakistan and Eritrea (each 1 question)