UPR Info’s Database of recommendations and VP

Comprehensive help guide

UPR Info’s Database of UPR Recommendations and Voluntary Pledges is a very unique tool developed by UPR Info.

It is dedicated to facilitating access to UPR recommendations and voluntary pledges 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 and voluntary pledges 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 looking at the action contained in each recommendation.

1. Description of database

The database enables to search all UPR recommendations and/or voluntary pledges through eight categories:

1. State under Review (SuR)
2. Recommending State or State making a voluntary pledge (RS)
3. Regional group
4. Organisation
5. Responses provided by the SuR (Exclusive to UPR Info)
6. Action category (Exclusive to UPR Info)
7. Issue contained in recommendation (Exclusive to UPR Info)
8. Session and Cycle (1st cycle: sessions 1 to 12; 2nd: sessions 13 to 27)
1.1. Action category

The Action category is an innovative component offering the possibility to analyse recommendations through the type of action requested. Developed by Professor McMahon from the University of Vermont with the support of UPR Info, this exclusive tool creates a new approach to UPR recommendations by ranking them on a scale from 1 to 5:

1. **Minimal action.** Ex: “Share its experiences…”
2. **Continuing action.** Ex: “Continue its work…”
3. **Considering action.** Ex: “Consider ratifying…”
4. **General action.** Ex: “Improve women’s rights”
5. **Specific action.** Ex: “Amend the legislation…”

To know more about this Action Category, please refer to our document available on our website:

2. How to use UPR Info’s Database

2.1. Basic search

Basic search allows to look up all recommendations and/or voluntary pledges received by a SuR, made by a RS or made on a given issue, using or not keywords. Once you made your selection, click on “GO”:

Results will be displayed right below your query:
Results can be sorted and exported (see the section Other options). Since a limited number of recommendations are displayed at the same time, use the navigation numbers below "go" and "reset" buttons to go through additional pages. The total number of recommendations is displayed (Displaying results...).

Finally, please note you can restrict your recommendations to cycles: "All" (all cycles), "1st Cycle" (UPR sessions 1 to 12) and "2nd Cycle" (UPR sessions 13 to 27). This is a convenient way to display recommendations and voluntary pledges for the first review of a given country, or for the second.

### 2.2. Advanced search and tools

The Advanced search and tools panel allows a more in-depth search through additional categories and multiple entries within a category. To display the advanced search panel, click on the "Advanced search and tools" button:
A Advanced search offers the same options as basic search; you may search through all recommendations and voluntary pledges received by a SuR, made by a RS or made on a given issue, using or not keywords:

You can also select how many recommendations to display per page like with basic search. Search is case insensitive, "Indigenous" or "indigenous" are understood as identical.

B Moreover, you can also search using additional filters specifically available for the advanced search, like “Regional groups” and “Organisations” (both for SuR and RS), “Response”, “Action category”, “Session” and “Cycle”:

Tick one to as many box options depending on your needs.
**C  Multiple terms for queries:** the database offers the possibility to select all kinds of aforementioned filters, including "or" and "and" specific option for the issues (in red below):

![Filter Options](image)

2.3. **Other options**

**A Sorting.** You can sort the results by a given category by clicking one of the arrows at the top of each column:

![Sorting Example](image)

The arrow will point down, showing what sorting is active.
Export. It is possible to extract the results of the search into an excel sheet. To do so, click on "Advanced search and tools" and then on "Export to xls" located in "Tools" area:

A new icon will be displayed. Click on it and an Excel sheet including the recommendations and voluntary pledges you have selected will open. Save the sheet on your desktop.

Bookmarks. You can bookmark your results, in other words save your results for a later use. Such an option is very useful if you want to send your results by email or include a list of recommendations in a document. Those short links act as shortcuts to recommendations.

In order to bookmark your search results, click on “Advanced search and tools” and then on “Link of your current results” located in "Tools" area:
A new icon named "Web Link" will be displayed as well as the URL:

You may either left-click on icon "Web Link" to add the URL to your bookmarks or right-click to copy the URL (and then paste it into your document or email). The text area alongside contains also the shortened URL; be sure to select the whole area.

"Web Links" look like this:

http://s.upr-info.org/125AyNv

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ANNEX 1 – Regional groups

Africa: African Group

Asia: Asian Group

EEG: Eastern European Group

GRULAC: Group of Latin American and Caribbean States

WEOG: Western European and Other States Group

ANNEX 2 – Organisations

ACS: Association of Caribbean States

AL: League of Arab States

AU: African Union

ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States

Commonwealth: the Commonwealth

EU: European Union

OAS: Organisation of American States

OEI: Organisation of Ibero-American States

OIC: Organisation of the Islamic Conference

OIF: Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

PIF: Pacific Islands Forum
Contact

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