

## UPR Info's Database

### 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 enables 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's 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.

### 1.1. 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.

## 1.2. 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.

## 1.3. 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”.

## 1.4. 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".

## 1.5. 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.

## 1.6. 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".



*Promoting and strengthening  
the Universal Periodic Review*  
<http://www.upr-info.org>

Next pages 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 Business and Human Rights
- 3 Civil society
- 4 Corruption
- 5 Counter-terrorism
- 6 CP rights - general
- 7 Death penalty
- 8 Detention
- 9 Development
- 10 Disabilities
- 11 Elections
- 12 Enforced disappearances
- 13 Environment
- 14 ESC rights - general
- 15 Extrajudicial executions
- 16 Freedom of association and peaceful assembly
- 17 Freedom of movement
- 18 Freedom of opinion and expression
- 19 Freedom of religion and belief
- 20 Freedom of the press
- 21 General
- 22 HIV - Aids
- 23 Human rights defenders
- 24 Human rights education and training
- 25 Human rights violations by state agents
- 26 Impunity
- 27 Indigenous peoples

28	Internally displaced persons
29	International humanitarian law
30	International instruments
31	Justice
32	Labour
33	Migrants
34	Minorities
35	NHRI
36	Other
37	Privacy
38	Poverty
39	Public security
40	Racial discrimination
41	Right to education
42	Right to food
43	Right to health
44	Right to housing
45	Right to land
46	Right to water and sanitation
47	Rights of the Child
48	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
49	Special procedures
50	Statelessness
51	Technical assistance and cooperation
52	Torture and other CID treatment
53	Trafficking
54	Treaty bodies
55	UPR process
56	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:
Action plan to combat racism	- Racial discrimination
Abortion	- Women's rights
Achievement of its MDGs in the areas of health and education	- Right to health - Right to education (not "Development")
Albinism	- Minorities
Awareness raising campaigns	- Human Rights education and training
Begging	- Labour - Rights of the child
Birth registration	- Rights of the child
Caste	- Minority
Child labour	- Rights of the child - Labour
Child soldier	- Rights of the child - International humanitarian law
Citizenship / nationality	- CP rights
Civilian	- International Humanitarian Law
Conscientious objection	- Freedom of religion and belief
Cooperation with Special procedures	- Special procedures
Cooperation with UN / OHCHR / international organisations	- Technical assistance
Corporal punishment	- Torture
Corporal punishment of children at home/in school	- Rights of the child - Torture
Crimes of the past	- Justice
Declaration on indigenous peoples	- International instruments

Common quote:	Category:
	- Indigenous peoples
Declaration on human rights defenders	- International instruments - Human Rights defenders
Defamation	- Freedom of opinion and expression
Democracy	- General
Dialogue between religion	- Freedom of religion and belief
Disaster (risk management)	- Environment
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's rights - Rights of the child
Drug	- Public security
Early marriages	- Rights of the child
Elderly	- Other
Ethnic discrimination	- Racial discrimination
Ethnicity	- Minorities
Family code	- Women's rights
Family values	- Other
Female genital mutilation	- Women's rights - Rights of the child - Torture
Fight terrorism	- Public security
Forced marriages	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
Foreigner	- Migrants
Freedom of / access / right to information	- Freedom of opinion and expression
Gender violence	- Women's rights



Common quote:	Category:
Geneva convention	- International instruments - International humanitarian law
Geneva convention (but talking about refugees)	- International instruments - Asylum-seekers / refugees
Genocide	- Justice
Governance / good governance	- Justice
Harmful practices	- Torture
Hate crime / speech	- Racial discrimination
Honour crimes / killings	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
Human rights mechanisms	- General
HRC human rights mechanisms	- UPR - Special procedures
Intercultural dialogue	- Freedom of religion and belief - Minorities
International human rights obligations / standards / law / norms	- International instruments
International human rights mechanisms / bodies	- General
UN human rights mechanisms	- Special procedures - Treaty bodies - UPR
Human rights goals	- General
Humanitarian (access)	- Other
ILO convention 138/182	- International instruments - Labour - Rights of the child
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's rights - UPR

Common quote:	Category:
International standards / norms / obligations / law	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's rights
MDGs	- Development
Migrant workers	- Migrants - Labour
Missing person	- Other
National human rights action plan	- General
Naturalization	- Other
Ombudsman	- NHRI
Opposition leaders	- Freedom of association and peaceful assembly
Optional protocol to CAT	- International instruments - Torture - Detention
Organised crimes	- Public security
Paramilitary groups	- Public security (if about killing or insecurity) or - Justice (if linked with government, demilitarisation)
Peace	- Other
Political prisoners	- Detention - Freedom of opinion and expression
Prioritize actions on the recommendations of different treaty bodies in particular CEDAW and CRC	- Treaty Bodies - Women's rights - Rights of the child

Common quote:	Category:
Public executions	- Death penalty
Public security companies	- Other
Racial discrimination of people of Haitian descent	- Racial discrimination - Minorities
Rape (Marital)	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
Racket	- Public security
Raise awareness	No tag
Ratification of the CAT	- International instruments - Torture
Ratify Rome Statute	- International instruments - Justice
Reconciliation	- Justice
Regional cooperation or integration	- Other
Religious minorities	- Minorities - Freedom of religion and belief
Reparation	- Justice
Reproductive health	- Women's rights - Health
Review anti terrorism legislation	- Counter-terrorism
Right to life	- Other
Rule of law	- Justice
Sale of children	- Rights of the child - Trafficking
Self determination	- Other
Sexual and reproductive rights	- Right to health - Rights of the child - Women's rights
Sexual exploitation of children	- Rights of the child (Not "Trafficking")
Commercial sexual exploitation	- Rights of the child

Common quote:	Category:
	- Labour
Sexual violence	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
Slavery	- Other
State of emergency	- Public security
Support by the international community	- Technical assistance
Taser	- Torture
Tolerance / intolerance (if not specified)	- General
Trafficking of women and children	- Trafficking - Women's rights - Rights of the child
UN bodies	- Special procedures - Treaty bodies
Unemployment	- Development (not "Labour")
Unequal pay at work between men and 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	- Women's rights - Rights of the child
Youth	- Other