

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BAHRAIN



UPR Info Pre-sessions

PLAN OF THE PRESENTATION

Right to
Nationality.

National Human
Rights Mechanisms.

Freedom of
Expression.



SITUATION IN BAHRAIN – ISSUE 1

RIGHT TO NATIONALITY

18 recommendations

To eliminate/end all discrimination against women.
All supported by the government.

Bahraini nationality is still only transmitted through the male line.

Bahrain only extended this provision in extremely limited circumstances through exceptional royal decrees.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Amend the Bahrain Citizenship Act to allow Bahraini women married to non-Bahrainis to pass their citizenship onto their children as they voluntarily pledged in 2017.

Continue reinstating the nationalities of individuals who had theirs arbitrarily revoked.

Create a system by which the government can collect information and track the remaining cases of statelessness in Bahrain and the profiles of these various stateless groups.



SITUATION IN BAHRAIN — ISSUE 2

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

12 recommendations

On the effectiveness & independence of institutions meant to investigate allegations of mistreatment & torture.

Supported; however, failed to operationalize many of these recommendations.



SITUATION IN BAHRAIN

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS



وحدة التحقيق الخاصة
Special Investigation Unit

SIU



مفوضية
حقوق السجناء والمحتجزين
Prisoners & Detainees Rights Commission

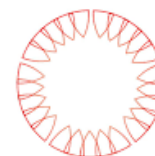
PDRC



المؤسسة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Institution for Human Rights

NIHR

الأمانة العامة
للتظلمات
OMBUDSMAN
وزارة الداخلية
Ministry of Interior



Ombudsman



RECOMMENDATIONS

Ensure redress for human rights violations victims and an end to the “culture of impunity

Ensure the complete independence of these bodies

Adopt a transparent and merit-based mechanism for the screening, selection, and appointment staff for limited terms that involves a public call



RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish a transparent follow-up mechanism for the recommendations of these institutions, ensuring that responsibility for failure to address the violations committed is determined;

Allow a periodic impartial review of their work by an autonomous body.



SITUATION IN BAHRAIN — ISSUE 3

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Recommendation

114.98

114.104

On protection of freedom of speech online.

Supported yet not implemented as Bahrain continues to prosecute individuals who voice their opinions online.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Repeal or substantially amend legislation, decrees, or other regulations that permit expansive restrictions on free expression & free press.

Limit the censorship power of the Information Affairs Authority (IAA) & other media oversight bodies, and allow foreign press to report freely on Bahrain.

Eliminate arbitrary & redundant licensing policies for media outlets & journalists, and cease mass online filtering & reinstate arbitrarily blocked websites.



THANK YOU



مركز البحرين لحقوق الانسان
Bahrain Center for Human Rights

