

# UPR Info Pre-sessions 45

## Saudi Arabia

## Treatment of prisoners of conscience

### Violations

- Deaths in detention
- Prisoners of conscience being deliberately placed at risk
- Deliberate medical neglect
- Held and forcibly disappeared beyond the expiry of their sentences

## Recommendations

- 1) Ensure that all Saudi prisons and places of detention adhere to the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;
- 2) Fully investigate allegations of assaults on prisoners of conscience by fellow inmates, and improve methods for protecting all detainees; End the practices of denying prisoners of conscience contact with their families, forcibly disappearing them after they complete their sentences, and subsequently lengthening their prison terms

## Women's rights

### Situation

- Implementation of a number of reforms
- Male Guardianship system still in place
- “Disobedience” law rendering null and void any new freedoms
- No adequate protection from domestic violence
- Exceptionally long prison sentences for women human rights defenders for peaceful online activities
- Released women human rights defenders remain under (illegal) restrictions

## Recommendations

- 1) Immediately abolish the male guardianship system;
- 2) Lift all remaining restrictions on the WHRDs who have been released from prison;
- 3) Release WHRDS still in prison
- 4) Amend the Personal Status Law to bring it into line with international standards

## Land Rights

- Mega city projects violations
- Uprooted local families from their land and homes
- Insufficient notice and/or inadequate compensation
- Arrest and prosecution of inhabitants refusing displacement
- Lengthy prison sentences and death penalties

## Recommendations

- 1) Release all local inhabitants who have been arbitrarily arrested for publicly criticising their eviction, and drop all charges against them;
- 2) Hold timely and inclusive public consultations on all current and future development plans, to ensure that the rights, needs and interests of all stakeholders are addressed

