



# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS

Commission internationale de juristes - Comisión Internacional de Juristas

*"Dedicated since 1952 to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights"*

United Nations Human Rights Council  
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Agenda Item 6

## ICJ Oral Intervention on the Adoption of the Outcome Document of the Universal Periodic Review of Nepal

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The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) welcomes Nepal's cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review, and expresses its support for the development by the Government of an action plan for the implementation of recommendations. Implementation cannot be effected without plans for implementation, and the ICJ therefore welcomes this example as one that should be taken up by all States under review.

At the same time, the ICJ remains concerned that the Government has not embraced the substance of all recommendations concerning the state of *de facto* impunity that exists in the country. At present, known perpetrators defy court orders and arrest warrants without fear of consequence. An individual against whom there are allegations of involvement in an unlawful killing has been appointed to a ministerial post. The Minister of Home Affairs has stated that he will seek the withdrawal of cases of serious rights abuses. Legislation criminalizing enforced disappearances and establishing the framework for transitional justice institutions languishes in parliamentary committees; and threats against human rights defenders and lawyers representing victims persist.

The ICJ reiterates its support for recommendations that the Government show its commitment to ending impunity by:

- Enforcing court orders to investigate and prosecute human rights abuses committed by all parties to the conflict;
- Becoming party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and the Convention against Enforced Disappearances; and
- Establishing independent transitional justice institutions that will complement, not displace or undermine, the work of the criminal justice system.

The ICJ extends its support to efforts by the Government to ensure accountability in compliance with its international obligations to provide an effective remedy and reparation for victims of human rights violations. To further support those efforts, the ICJ calls on the Government to extend the mandate of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for at least one year so that the Office can effectively monitor the implementation of the human rights provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

I thank you.

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