

Basic facts about the UPR

What is the Universal Periodic Review?

- review of the human rights records of **all UN Member States once every four years**
- an opportunity for all States to declare **what actions** they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and **to overcome challenges**
- a sharing of **best human rights practices**

Who conducts the review?

- The reviews are conducted by the **UPR Working Group** which consists of the **47 members** of the Council
- Any UN Member State can take part in the discussion/dialogue with the reviewed States.
- Each State review is assisted by “troikas”, who serve as rapporteurs

What are the reviews based on?

- The documents on which the reviews are based are:
 - 1) **National report**
 - 2) **Compilation of information** contained in reports of independent human rights experts and groups, known as the [Special Procedures](#), human rights [treaty bodies](#), and other UN entities;
 - 3) **Compilation of information from other stakeholders** including non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions
 - written submissions to OHCHR should be sent indicatively at least five months before the relevant session of the Working Group on UPR
 - **NOT longer than five pages**, to which a more detailed and factual report maybe attached;
 - **NOT longer than 10 pages** for large coalitions of stakeholders

Can non-governmental organizations (NGOs) participate in the UPR process?

- Submit information to be added to the “other stakeholders” report
- Information they provide can be **referred to by any of the States** taking part in the interactive discussion during the review at the Working Group meeting.
- **Attend the UPR Working Group sessions**
- **NGOs can NOT take the floor or submit written information** during UPR sessions
- **Participate in regular sessions of the HRC** (UPR outcomes considered and adopted)
- **Make brief general comments or written statements** before the adoption of outcome documents by the HRC