

THE INSIDE TRACK

CONCISE INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Inside Track HRC59: the 59th regular session
of the Human Rights Council

Monday, 16th June to Wednesday, 9th July 2025
(3.5-week session), Room XX, Palais des Nations

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
UNITED NATIONS | GENEVA



UNIVERSAL RIGHTS GROUP



A general view of participants at a 58th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in headquarters in the United Nations in Geneva. 24 February 2025.

UN Photo / Jean Marc Ferré

IN BRIEF

- On **16th June**, H.E. Mr. Volker Türk, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will open HRC59 with the presentation of his annual report on the human rights situation around the world. The presentation of his annual report will provide the basis for an interactive dialogue with the High Commissioner on **17th June**.
- During the session, the Council will consider **country-specific reports** by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General covering human rights issues in, *inter alia*: **Afghanistan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Venezuela**. Additionally, the High Commissioner will deliver oral updates/presentations on the promotion and protection of human rights in **Myanmar, Nicaragua, Sudan** and on the situation of human rights in **Ukraine**.
- Other oral updates on country situations by Special Procedures mandate holders will focus on the situation of human rights in **Burundi, the Central African Republic, and Myanmar**.
- It will also consider High Commissioner's and Secretary-General's reports on a number of **thematic issues**, including *inter alia*:
 - Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
 - Report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations trust fund in support of actions to eliminate violence against women
 - Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
- The Council will hold **23 interactive dialogues with Special Procedures mandate-holders** (17 thematic and **6** country-specific), including those dealing with: climate change; discrimination against women and girls (Working Group); education; extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; extreme poverty; freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; health; independence of judges and lawyers; internally displaced persons; international solidarity; leprosy; migrants; racism; sexual orientation and gender identity; trafficking; transnational corporations; violence against women and girls; **Afghanistan, Belarus, Burundi, Central African Republic, Eritrea and Myanmar**.
- In addition, the Council will also hold interactive dialogues with **four investigative mechanisms**: the Fact Finding Mission on eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**; the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the **Sudan**; the Commission of Inquiry on the **Syrian Arab Republic**; and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the **Occupied Palestinian Territory**, including **East Jerusalem and Israel**.
- Pursuant to President's statement [PRST OS/18/1](#) of 9th December 2024, no general debates will be held at the Council's June session. Therefore, the reports and oral updates of the High Commissioner, the Secretary-General and the subsidiary bodies to be presented during HRC59 will be considered during the relevant general debate at HRC60,

unless they are mandated to be considered in the context of an interactive dialogue.

- Based on the initiatives formally announced during the HRC59 organisational meeting, the Council is expected to act on around **22 draft resolutions and other texts**. The deadline for submitting draft resolutions has been set **on Friday, 27th June 2025, 1 PM**.
- At the 59th session, the Council will adopt **UPR outcome reports of 14 States**: Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of)*, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gambia*, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, San Marino and Slovenia.
- Additionally, the Human Rights Council is expected to appoint **three new mandate holders** during the 59th session. The President of the Council has proposed the following candidates following the Consultative Group's recommendations and

broad consultations: Ms. Mai Sato (Japan) for the position of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; Ms. Lyra Jakulevičienė (Lithuania) as a member of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, representing the Eastern European States; and Ms. Joana Lopes de Deus Pereira (Portugal) as a member from the Western European and other States in the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination. These appointments reflect the Council's ongoing efforts to ensure effective mandate holders through a transparent and consultative process. More information on the upcoming appointments and the candidates can be found [here](#).

For the full draft programme of work for HRC59, please click [here](#).



The park of the United Nations Palace in Geneva.

Photo by Jean-Marc Ferré.



Ambassador Jürg Lauber, President of the Human Rights Council at a 58th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in headquarters in the United Nations in Geneva. 24 February 2025.

UN Photo / Jean Marc Ferré

MODALITIES FOR THE 59TH SESSION

- The 59th session of the Human Rights Council will take place in Room XX.
- Effective from 22nd January 2024, the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) placed restrictions relating to the management of official UN meetings and conferences including restrictions on lunchtime meetings and the use of remote participation and hybrid modalities. The decision to cease services for hybrid and virtual meetings only applies to remote live participation. Pre-recorded video statements are still an accepted form of participation, alongside in-person participation. [UN Web TV](#) will also continue to livestream the Council's meetings.
- The new online registration platform for the 59th session, 'Events,' can be found on the following website: <https://events.ohchr.org>.
 - For **States**, inscription to the **list of speakers for all interactive dialogues and panel discussions** will open on **Monday, 9th June at 4 PM and will close 24 hours before the debate is scheduled to start**. The list of speakers will close approximately 15 minutes after the beginning of each debate. After the online inscription has closed, delegations may still inscribe or withdraw by sending an email to the address OHCHR-hrclistofspeakers@un.org. State's registration for the **list of speakers for adoption of UPR outcomes** will open on **Monday, 16th June at 9 AM and will close on Thursday, 19th June at 6 PM**. No inscriptions will be possible after this deadline.
 - For **national human rights institutions and non-governmental organisations**, the list of speakers for all debates during the session will open on **Tuesday, 10th June at 2 PM**. NHRIs with 'A' status and NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC will have the possibility to deliver their statements in person in Room XX or via pre-recorded video-statements for all interactive dialogues, panel discussions, and UPR adoptions. Registration, indication of method of participation and uploading of video statements for NGOs will also be through the new 'Events' platform and uploading of transcripts is mandatory irrespective of the method of participation. The deadline for in-person participants to upload the transcripts and the deadline for participants through video message to upload video statements with transcripts, as confirmation of participation, is 6 PM on the working day before the debate is scheduled to start.

- **Extraordinary measures for the Human Rights Council for the remainder of 2025.**

- In view of the urgency of the current financial situation, the Council has agreed to the following extraordinary measures applicable only for the remainder of 2025:

- Speaking time in the general debates of HRC60 will be reduced to 1 minute and 30 seconds for all.
- The length of interactive and enhanced interactive dialogues during HRC59, except for the ID with the High Commissioner on his annual report, and HRC60 will be capped at 1 hour and 30 minutes, with 15 minutes allocated for mandate holders; 1 hour for States; 15 minutes for NGOs.
- The intersessional panel discussion on the intensification of efforts to prevent and

eliminate domestic violence, as mandated by HRC resolution 57/18, will be scheduled in 2026, before the Council's 61st session.

- The intersessional meetings on Venezuela and Ukraine (if mandated at HRC59) will be consolidated into a single meeting, with each interactive dialogue capped at 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- With regard to the UPR, the timetable of the 50th session of the UPR Working Group, scheduled to take place from 3 to 14 November 2025, will be adjusted so as to hold all adoptions of the recommendations section of each report during a single meeting in the afternoon on the final day of the Working Group session.

(The Co-Facilitators on rationalisation and efficiency will continue their work with a view to developing a more sustainable approach for 2026 and beyond.)



Palais des Nations & Ariana Park
Photo by Jean-Marc Ferré.

MEASURES TO ASSIST SMALL DELEGATIONS DURING THE HRC

The HRC Help Desk for SIDS and LDCs is meant to virtually facilitate the understanding of issues raised at the HRC and enhance small State delegates' participation in the session. The Help Desk can be reached before, during and after the session by email hrcdesksmallpm@ohchr.org or phone/WhatsApp +41 (0) 79 500 00 32. The Secretariat of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund is also available for in-person meetings or virtual consultations upon request.

The use of the online tool, [E-Delegate](#), will continue in order to facilitate delegates' work on resolutions during the HRC. The tool will allow delegates to circulate, table and co-sponsor resolutions, amongst others.

Delegates will be able to continue using the Sched app to personalise their agendas and synchronise with their calendars. Sched provides details on plenary meetings as well as other meetings scheduled in parallel to the HRC session at the Palais des Nations. Please note that meeting details may be subject to change and will be updated daily.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

HRC59 is scheduled to hold five panel discussions on the following subjects:

1-2. **Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women**

- Panel 1: Gender-based violence against women and girls in conflict, post-conflict and humanitarian settings (24th June; [concept note](#)).
- Panel 2: Commemoration of the International Day of Women in Diplomacy focusing on overcoming barriers to women's leadership in peace processes (24th June; [concept note](#)).

3. **Panel discussion on the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation** (26th June; [concept note](#)).

4. **Annual panel discussion on the adverse impacts of climate change on human rights.** *Theme: Facilitating just transitions in the context of addressing the impacts of climate change on human rights* (30th June; [concept note](#)).

5. **Annual thematic panel discussion on technical cooperation and capacity-building.** *Theme: The role of technical cooperation and capacity-building in strengthening national structures which play a role in promoting and safeguarding human rights, particularly national human rights institutions and national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up* (8th July; [concept note](#)).

WHAT'S IN PRINT?

During HRC59, States will consider **67 reports** from the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner and his Office, and/or the Special Procedures mandate-holders.

These UN reports, which were commissioned by the Council through earlier resolutions, when published, will be made available [here](#).

'L NUMBER' – DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER TEXTS AT HRC59

Based on announcements made during the HRC59 organisational meeting, **22 draft resolutions and other texts** are expected to be tabled during HRC59. Before adoption, these texts would be subject to at least one round of open informal consultations with interested delegations.



Mr. Volker Türk, High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations at a 58th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in headquarters in the United Nations in Geneva. 24 February 2025.

UN Photo / Jean Marc Ferré

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS

**The table below only includes initiatives formally announced during the HRC59 organisational meeting.*

	FOCUS OF RESOLUTION	LEAD SPONSOR (S)	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	VOTE HISTORY
1	Situation of human rights in Eritrea	European Union	2	Vote (20-19-8)
2	Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar	Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC)	2	Consensus
3	Cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights	Ukraine	10	(28-16-3)
4	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights in Colombia	Colombia	10	Consensus

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

**The table below only includes initiatives formally announced during the HRC59 organisational meeting.*

	FOCUS OF RESOLUTION	LEAD SPONSOR (S)	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	PERIODICITY	VOTE HISTORY
1	Accelerating efforts to achieve women’s economic empowerment	Dominican Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Sierra Leone, the United Kingdom	3	New initiative	N/A
2	<u>Access to medicines, vaccines and other health products in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health</u>	Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand	3	Triennial	Consensus
3	<u>The rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association</u>	Chile, Czech Republic, Iceland, Indonesia, Lithuania, Maldives	3	Triennial	Consensus
4	<u>Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons</u>	Austria	3	Triennial	Consensus

	FOCUS OF RESOLUTION	LEAD SPONSOR (S)	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	PERIODICITY	VOTE HISTORY
5	The safety of journalists	Austria, Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar, Tunisia	3	Biennial	Consensus
6	The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights	Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Indonesia, Poland, the United Kingdom	3	Biennial	Consensus
7	The right to education	Portugal	3	Biennial	Consensus
8	Mandate of the working group on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and girls	Chile, Mexico	3	Triennial	Consensus
9	Civil society space	Chile, Ireland, Japan, Sierra Leone, Tunisia	3	Biennial	Consensus

	FOCUS OF RESOLUTION	LEAD SPONSOR (S)	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	PERIODICITY	VOTE HISTORY
10	<u>Impact of arms transfers on human rights</u>	Ecuador, Peru	3	Biennial	Consensus
11	<u>Human rights and international solidarity</u>	Cuba	3	Annual	Consensus
12	<u>The Social Forum</u>	Cuba	3	Annual	Consensus
13	<u>Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls</u>	Canada	3	Biennial	Consensus
14	<u>Mandate of Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity</u>	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Uruguay	3	Triennial	(23-7-17)

FOCUS OF RESOLUTION		LEAD SPONSOR (S)	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	PERIODICITY	VOTE HISTORY
15	<u>Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights</u>	Uganda (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries)	3	Annual	(<u>31-2-14</u>)
16	<u>Elimination of female genital mutilation</u>	Ghana (on behalf of the African Group)	3	Biennial	Consensus
17	<u>New and emerging digital technologies and human rights</u>	Austria, Brazil, Denmark, Morocco, Singapore, Republic of Korea	3	Biennial	Consensus
18	<u>Human rights and climate change</u>	Bangladesh, Philippines, Vietnam	3	Annual	Consensus

THE COUNCIL’S MECHANISMS

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

23 thematic Special Procedures (Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts, and Working Groups) will present their reports and conduct interactive dialogues, including the presentation of **country mission reports**. Additionally, **6 country-specific Special Procedures** will present reports and/or provide oral updates on the human rights situations in their respective countries and their engagement with concerned State(s).

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC MANDATES

MANDATE		PRESENTATION OF REPORT/ORAL UPDATES AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES
1	<u>Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan</u>	16th June
2	<u>Special Rapporteur on Eritrea</u>	<u>16th June</u>
3	<u>Special Rapporteur on Belarus</u>	<u>26th June</u>
4	<u>Special Rapporteur on Burundi</u>	26th June
5	<u>Special Rapporteur on Myanmar</u>	27th June
6	<u>Special Rapporteur on the situations of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967</u>	3rd July

THEMATIC MANDATES

MANDATE		PRESENTATION OF REPORT AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE	COUNTRY MISSION REPORTS
1	<u>Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants</u>	<u>17th June</u>	<u>Colombia</u> Panama
2	<u>Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions</u>	<u>18th June</u>	<u>Ukraine</u>
3	<u>Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression</u>	19th June	Philippines Zambia
4	<u>Special Rapporteur on peaceful assembly</u>	<u>19th June</u>	<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>
5	<u>Special Rapporteur on the right to education</u>	19th June	<u>United States of America</u>
6	<u>Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises</u>	19th June	<u>Colombia</u>

MANDATE	PRESENTATION OF REPORT AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE	COUNTRY MISSION REPORTS
7	<u>20th June</u>	N/A
8	<u>20th June</u>	Albania <u>Poland</u>
9	20th June and 23rd June	Marshall Islands
10	24th June	<u>Dominican Republic</u> <u>Thailand</u>
11	<u>25th June</u>	<u>Guinea-Bissau</u>
12	<u>25th June</u>	<u>Colombia</u>

MANDATE		PRESENTATION OF REPORT AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE	COUNTRY MISSION REPORTS
13	<u>Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences</u>	25th June	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland United Arab Emirates
14	<u>Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers</u>	25th June	<u>Chile</u>
15	<u>Independent Expert on international solidarity</u>	25th June	<u>Denmark and Greenland</u> <u>Suriname</u>
16	<u>Special Rapporteur on climate change</u>	30th June	<u>Vanuatu</u>
17	<u>Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism , racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</u>	3rd July	<u>Brazil</u>

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

The **UPR outcome reports of 14 States** will be considered for adoption by the Council during HRC59 (expected 30th June to 2nd July).

- Angola
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)*
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Fiji
- Gambia*
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Iraq
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Madagascar
- San Marino
- Slovenia

*Council Members

TRUST FUND TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF LDCS AND SIDS

The Trust Fund to support the participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the Council, set up in 2012, will be supporting 10 government officials (5 female and 5 male) to participate in HRC59. They come from:

- Bangladesh*
- Burundi*
- Cabo Verde
- Democratic Republic of the Congo*
- Dominican Republic*
- Ethiopia*
- Fiji
- Gambia*
- Malawi*
- Maldives*

* Council Members

An Executive Training Course for 17 Geneva-based SIDS/LDCs diplomats was conducted from 4 to 5 June 2025. Co-organised by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the UN in Geneva, the training conducted by the Geneva Academy focused on equipping participants with the procedural knowledge and practical skills needed to effectively engage in the work of the HRC, especially in drafting, negotiating and adopting resolutions.

MOST COMMON THEMES OF HRC59*



*Based on all announced resolutions, interactive dialogues, panel discussions, and reports.

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