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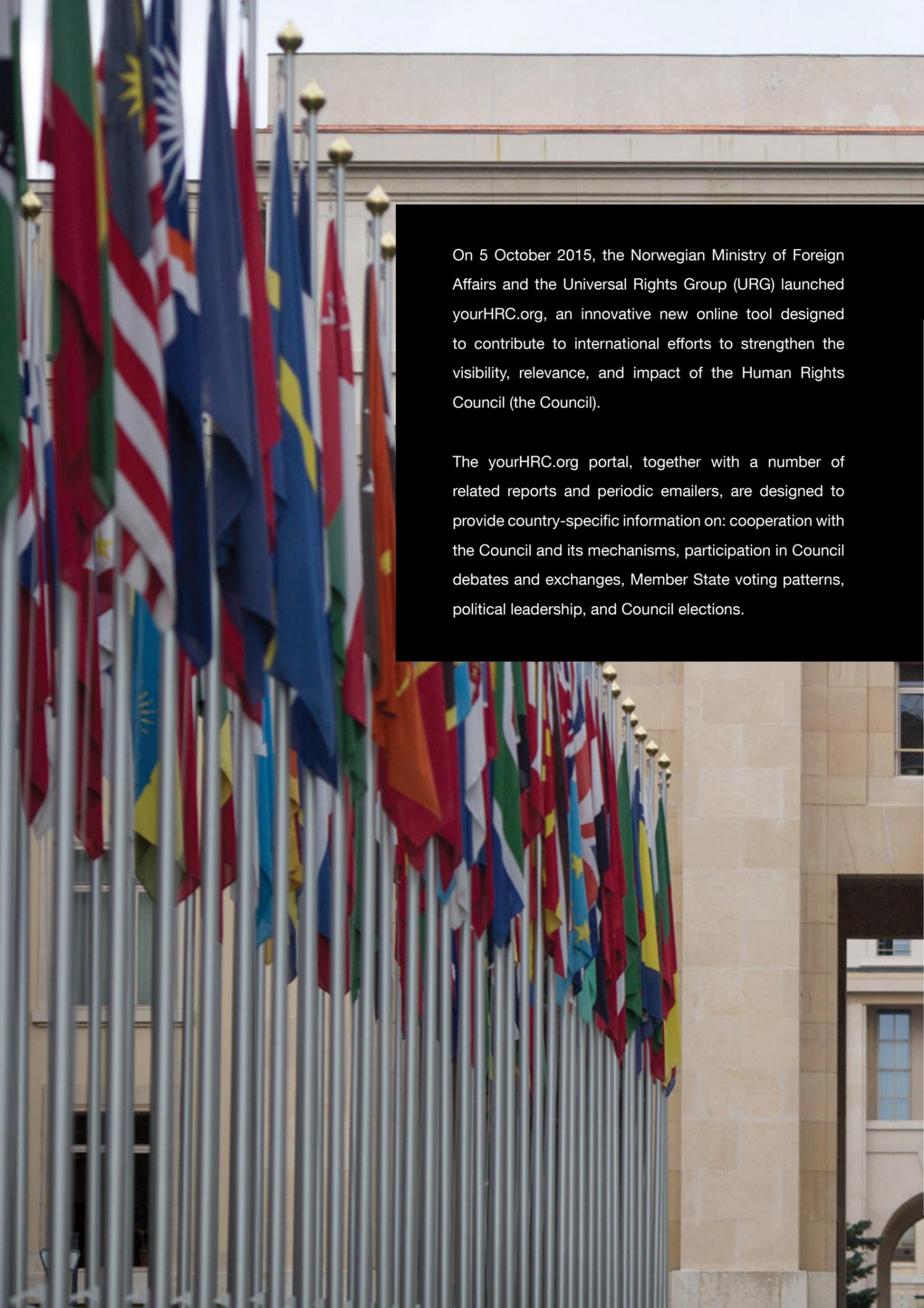
A window onto cooperation, dialogue, leadership,
and policymaking at the UN Human Rights Council



GUIDE TO THE

2017

**UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
ELECTIONS**



On 5 October 2015, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Universal Rights Group (URG) launched yourHRC.org, an innovative new online tool designed to contribute to international efforts to strengthen the visibility, relevance, and impact of the Human Rights Council (the Council).

The yourHRC.org portal, together with a number of related reports and periodic emailers, are designed to provide country-specific information on: cooperation with the Council and its mechanisms, participation in Council debates and exchanges, Member State voting patterns, political leadership, and Council elections.

A window onto the work of the UN's human rights pillar...

In 2006, Member States took a significant step to strengthen the human rights pillar of the United Nations (UN) and established the Human Rights Council (the Council) as the UN's principal body responsible for 'promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.'

The Council seeks to influence the on-the-ground enjoyment of human rights in a number of ways including, *inter alia*, by:

- **Serving as a forum for dialogue on human rights** - General Assembly (GA) resolution 60/251 recognises that in order to promote and protect human rights, the Council's work should be based on the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue, and aimed at strengthening the capacity of States to comply with their human rights obligations.
- **Adopting resolutions** – at the end of every session, Council members adopt a series of resolutions or decisions expressing the will of the international community on a given human rights situation or issue.
- **Elaborating universal human rights norms** – the Council is responsible for making recommendations to the GA for the further development of international law in the field of human rights.
- **Promoting State cooperation with the human rights mechanisms** – the Council has created a number of mechanisms (e.g. Special Procedures, UPR) to promote the full implementation of the human rights obligations undertaken by States, and/or to respond to the violation of those rights.

To pursue and realise the mandate of the Council and thereby to 'promote universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,' the GA decided that the new body would consist of 47 member States, elected by a majority of the members of the GA. It was made clear that elected members should uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights and fully cooperate with the Council and its mechanisms. Moreover, it was agreed that all States, including member States, would promote methods of work that would be: transparent, fair and impartial, enable genuine dialogue, be results-oriented, allow for subsequent follow-up discussions to recommendations and their implementation, and allow for substantive interaction with Special Procedures and other mechanisms.

yourHRC.org was created with a view to promoting transparency around the degree to which the Council and its members are delivering on the crucial mandate, passed to them by the GA and, ultimately, entrusted to them by 'the Peoples of the United Nations' described in the UN Charter.

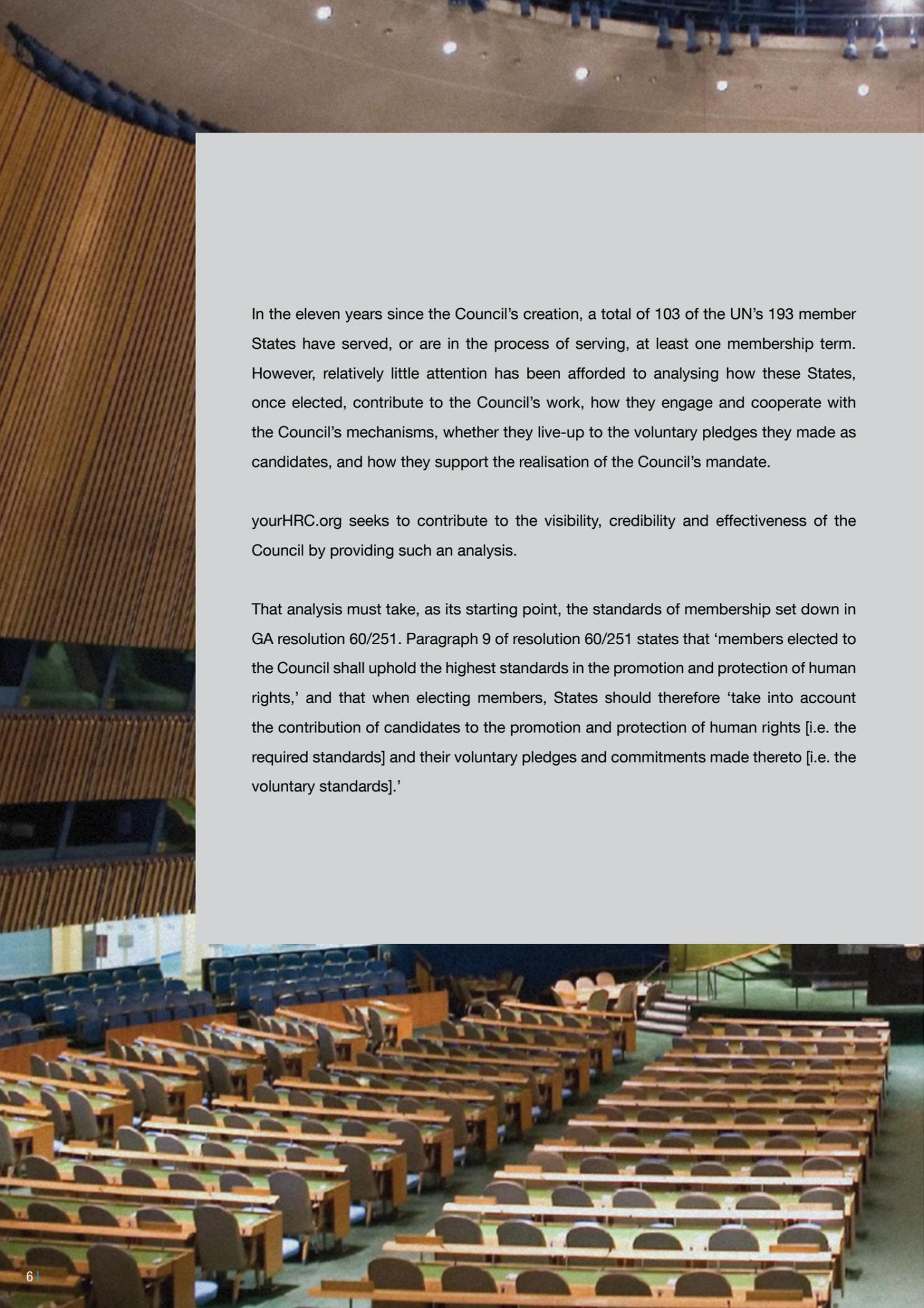
Membership of the Council

GA resolution 60/251, which officially created the Council, made five critical changes to the body's system of membership as compared with its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights:

- 1 The total number of members was reduced from 51 to 47.
- 2 Council members would be elected by the entirety of the GA, rather than the 54 members of ECOSOC, with successful candidates needing at least 96 votes in support.
- 3 In voting for Council members, States would be required to 'take into account the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights and their voluntary pledges and commitments made thereto;'
- 4 Council members would be ineligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.
- 5 Council members could have their membership rights suspended by the GA in the event that they committed gross and systematic violations of human rights.

When the GA adopted resolution 60/251 on 15 March 2006, these new membership procedures and requirements were the most commonly discussed issue in States' explanations of their votes. Many States complained that the membership criteria were not strong enough. Others emphasised the need to ensure that elected members were fully deserving of their position.





In the eleven years since the Council's creation, a total of 103 of the UN's 193 member States have served, or are in the process of serving, at least one membership term. However, relatively little attention has been afforded to analysing how these States, once elected, contribute to the Council's work, how they engage and cooperate with the Council's mechanisms, whether they live-up to the voluntary pledges they made as candidates, and how they support the realisation of the Council's mandate.

yourHRC.org seeks to contribute to the visibility, credibility and effectiveness of the Council by providing such an analysis.

That analysis must take, as its starting point, the standards of membership set down in GA resolution 60/251. Paragraph 9 of resolution 60/251 states that 'members elected to the Council shall uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights,' and that when electing members, States should therefore 'take into account the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights [i.e. the required standards] and their voluntary pledges and commitments made thereto [i.e. the voluntary standards].'

Guide to the 2017 UN Human Rights Council Elections

The present document is the third annual 'yourHRC.org election guide.' It provides general information on the 2017 Human Rights Council elections (tentatively scheduled for the 16 October at the GA in New York), when States will compete to win seats for new three-year terms (2018-2020).

The Guide is divided into six parts. The first part presents an overview of the 2017 elections, the number of seats available, and the candidates in each UN regional group vying for those seats. The next five parts of the report then present more detailed comparative information on the candidates for each of the five UN regional groups. This includes objective information on the State's historic engagement and cooperation with the Council and the wider UN human rights system, its voting record (where the country concerned has previously been a Council member), an analysis of its new voluntary pledges and commitments (for the 2017 elections), and an analysis of the extent to which it has fulfilled its previous voluntary pledges and commitments (again, where the country concerned has previously been a member).



2017 HUMAN RIGHTS
COUNCIL ELECTIONS

16 October 2017 (tentative),
UN General Assembly, New York

FOR MEMBERSHIP TERM 2018-2020

**CANDIDATE ANALYSIS BY
REGIONAL GROUP**

Latin America and Caribbean Group **CLEAN SLATE ALERT**

Historic clean slate elections **5/11**

8 seats at HRC seats available: **3** candidates: **3**

	Voluntary pledges & commitments	Number of previous terms
Chile	✓	2
Mexico	✓	3
Peru	✓	2

Western European and Others Group **CLEAN SLATE ALERT**

Historic clean slate elections **7/11**

7 seats at HRC seats available: **2** candidates: **2**

	Voluntary pledges & commitments	Number of previous terms
Australia	✓	0
Spain	✓	1

Eastern European Group **CLEAN SLATE ALERT**

Historic clean slate elections **5/11**

6 seats at HRC seats available: **2** candidates: **2**

	Voluntary pledges & commitments	Number of previous terms
Slovakia	✓	1
Ukraine	✓	2

African Group **CLEAN SLATE ALERT**

Historic clean slate elections **9/11**

13 seats at HRC seats available: **4** candidates: **4**

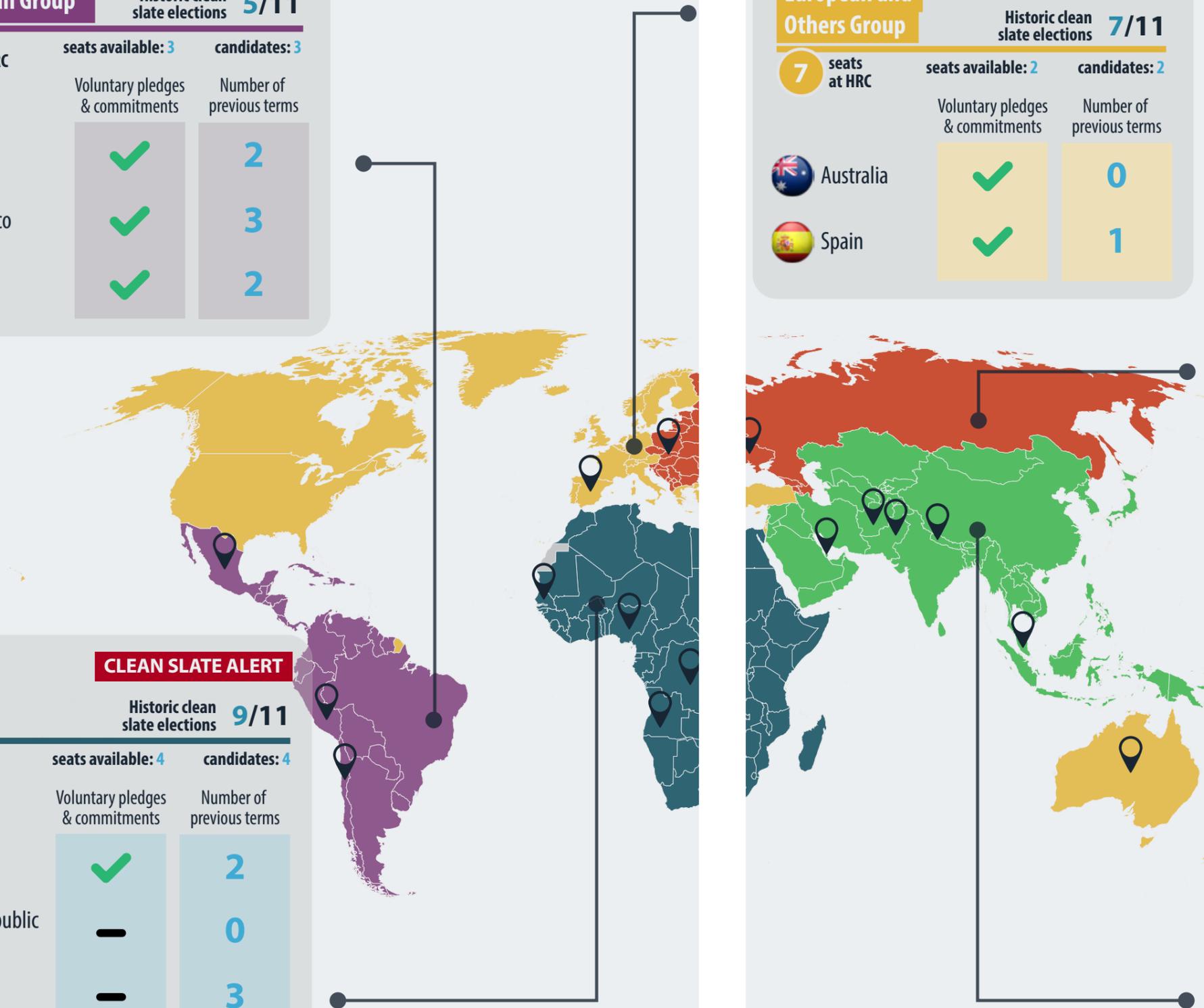
	Voluntary pledges & commitments	Number of previous terms
Angola	✓	2
Democratic Republic of the Congo	—	0
Nigeria	—	3
Senegal	—	2

Asia Pacific Group **CLEAN SLATE ALERT**

Historic clean slate elections **7/11**

13 seats at HRC seats available: **4** candidates: **5**

	Voluntary pledges & commitments	Number of previous terms
Afghanistan	✓	0
Malaysia	✓	2
Nepal	✓	0
Pakistan	✓	3
Qatar	✓	3



state standing for election

African Group (AG)

Overview of Candidates

	Membership of HRC bureau	Voluntary contribution to OHCHR (2016)	NHRI accreditation status	Previous membership terms	OHCHR presence
Angola	Vice-President (2010-2011)	X	—	2	—
Democratic Republic of the Congo	N.A.	X	—	0	Human rights component of peace mission
Nigeria	President (2008-2009)	X	A	3	Human rights advisers
Senegal	—	X	B	2	Regional office

Note: for comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see end note.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Angola tabled voluntary pledges and commitments in support for its candidacy for membership for the period 2010-2013 on 5 May 2010.

Internationally, Angola committed to: revise the Council's agenda to avoid the duplication of material, financial, and human resources; mainstream human rights across the UN system; participate actively in the work of the Council; engage NGOs in the work of the Council; respond effectively to human rights crises; cooperate with the UPR and Special Procedures; and submit regular periodic reports to the Treaty Bodies. It also pledged to consider signing the CAT, ICRMW, CRPD, OP-CRPD, and the CPED; and to deepen its relationship with the OHCHR.

Domestically, Angola made further commitments to: consider implementing recommendations made through the UPR.

An analysis of steps taken by Angola in fulfilment of its international level pledges shows that as a member of the Council, it participated in less than 10% of panel discussions, interactive dialogues, and general debates. As pledged, Angola joined consensus on two civil society resolutions (2013) that aimed to, *inter alia*, increase the participation of NGOs in the international human rights system. Regarding cooperation with Special Procedures, Angola accepted five out of 13 visit requests, and responded to half of the 12 communications received. Angola is Party to five of the eight core conventions and generally presents its periodic reports late. It has, however, moved to sign some of the instruments mentioned in its voluntary pledges, including the CAT (2013) and the CPED

(2014), but it has yet to sign the ICRMW. Angola ratified the CRPD and the OP-CRPD in 2014.

Democratic Republic of the Congo has not previously held a seat on the Council.

The voluntary pledges and commitments tabled by **Nigeria** in support for its candidacy for membership for the periods 2009-2012 and 2015-2017 are not available.

Senegal tabled its contribution and commitments in support for its candidacy for membership (2009-2012) on 24 April 2009.

Internationally, Senegal pledged to: ratify the CRPD and OP-CRPD; support Special Procedures mandate-holders in their work; submit periodic reports to Treaty Bodies on time; submit its national report under the UPR mechanism; and strengthen cooperation with NGOs.

Domestically, Senegal committed to: allocate '40% of its national sector' to the education sector; provide free healthcare and better care for persons with disabilities in accordance with the CRPD; reduce maternal mortality; and combat impunity through its own courts and international courts.

An analysis of steps taken by Senegal in fulfilment of its international pledges shows that it did ratify the CRPD in 2010, but has yet to ratify the OP-CRPD. Although it does not have a Standing Invitation, Senegal has facilitated six out of nine Special Procedures visit requests. Senegal has ratified all the core conventions, but tends to be late in submitting its periodic reports. It is currently pending to submit three of these reports, its most overdue report is the ICCPR, which has been outstanding for over 17 years.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Angola has presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020. Key pledges include :

At the international level:

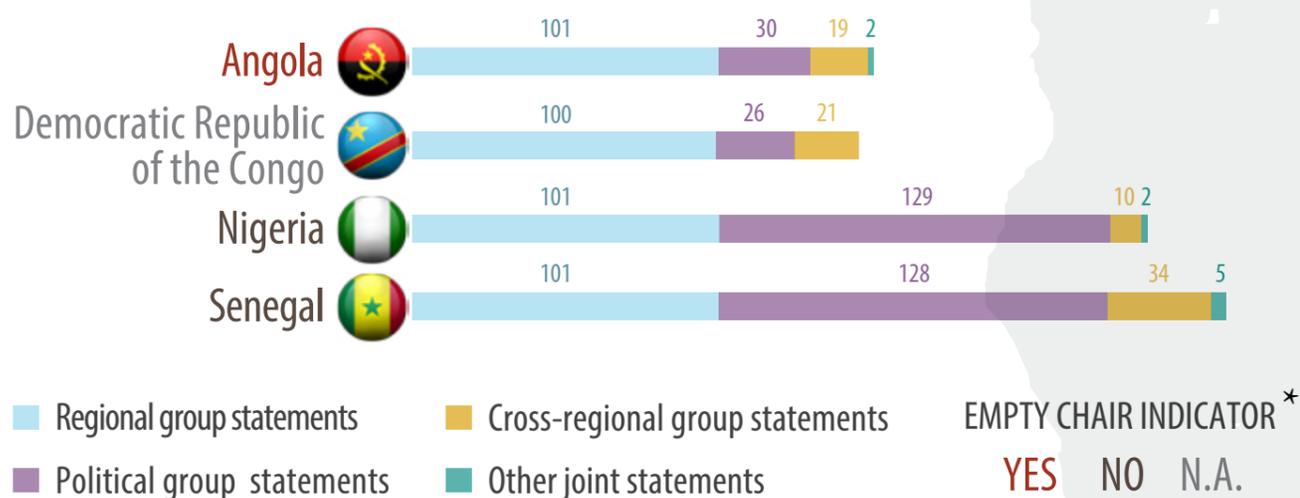
- Strengthen dialogue and cooperation within the Council.
- Commit to the universality and indivisibility of all human rights, including the right to development.

- Support the regional and international processes that seek to increase human rights compliance.
- Ensure adequate and effective responses to human rights crises.
- Ratify the CAT, the OP-CAT, and the ICERD.
- Ratify the ILO conventions and adhere to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

At the national level:

- Maintain cooperation with the OHCHR, the ACHPR, the UN, and regional Special Procedures mandates-holders, and the UN Resident Coordinator.

Participation in joint statements during Council debates, panel discussions, and dialogues



* Name of a State in black means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in more than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues; on the contrary, when the name of a State appears in red it means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in less than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. The grey colour (N/A) means that the country has never been a member of the Council before.

- Implement the accepted UPR recommendations.
- Improve engagement and cooperation with civil society organisations.
- Adopt a national human rights action plan.
- Advance human rights domestically, be investing in, *inter alia*, education and health, and by adopting special measures to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities, the rights of children, and women's rights, as well as combating gender-based violence.

Democratic Republic of the Congo's voluntary pledges and commitments, in support of its candidature for membership of the Council for the period 2018-2020, were unavailable at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Nigeria's voluntary pledges and commitments, in support of its candidature for membership of the Council for the period 2018-2020, were unavailable at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Senegal's voluntary pledges and commitments, in support of its candidature for membership of the Council for the period 2018-2020, were unavailable at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Voting history during previous membership terms

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2007, **Angola** has (in the absence of consensus) tended to either abstain on, or vote in favour of, resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention) and country-specific resolutions tabled under item 2. Angola has abstained during votes on resolutions

on the situations in Belarus, Islamic Republic of Iran, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Sudan. It has voted in favour of resolutions on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Angola has consistently voted in favour. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Angola has joined consensus on all resolutions except for one that was voted on during the period of its membership: on the situation in the DRC (Angola voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Angola has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, Angola nearly always voted in favour. The three exceptions are: a 2008 OIC resolution on defamation of religion (Angola did not vote); a 2010 resolution on the same subject (again, it did not vote); and a 2011 South African-led resolution on sexual orientation (Angola voted against).

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Angola has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, all adopted texts.

Principal sponsor: N/A.

Democratic Republic of the Congo has not previously held a seat on the Council.

Principal sponsor: N/A.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Nigeria** has (in the absence of consensus): voted

in favour of three item 4 resolutions on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic; voted against four item 4 resolutions on the situations in Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (2009), and Sudan; and abstained during votes on item 4 resolutions on Belarus, Burundi, Islamic Republic of Iran, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (2010, 2011, and 2015) and the Syrian Arab Republic. However, in 2012, 2016, and 2017 Nigeria joined consensus on item 4 resolutions on Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Nigeria has either voted in favour of, or joined consensus on, item 2 resolutions. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Nigeria has always voted in favour. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Nigeria has joined consensus on all item 10 resolutions except for resolutions: on cooperation with Ukraine (Nigeria abstained in 2015, but voted in favour in 2016 and 2017); on cooperation with Georgia (this time too, Nigeria abstained), and on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (it voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Nigeria has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has nearly always voted in favour. Notwithstanding, Nigeria voted against two resolutions on sexual orientation and gender identity (2011 and 2016), one on civil society space (2016), and one on the question of death penalty (2015). Nigeria abstained during voting on defamation of religion, religious intolerance, religious discrimination, 'human rights, democracy and rule of law', 'human rights and transitional justice', and 'the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests'.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Nigeria has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, nearly all adopted texts; except on the 2016 resolution on water and sanitation (Nigeria abstained).

Principal sponsor: establishment of the Office of the President of the Human Rights Council; high-level panel on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Human Rights Council; human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; situation of human rights in Eritrea; the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet; the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; and trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Senegal** has (in the absence of consensus) tended to vote in favour of, or abstained during the voting on, most item 4 resolutions (situations that require the Council's attention). It voted against a 2010 resolution on the situation in Sudan. Senegal abstained during a 2012 vote on an item 2 resolution on the situation in Sri Lanka. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Senegal has always voted in favour. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Senegal has joined consensus on all resolutions except for one that was voted on during the period of its membership: on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Senegal voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Senegal has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has nearly always voted in favour. Notwithstanding, Senegal voted against a 2011 resolution on sexual orientation, and abstained during the voting on religious intolerance (2007), religious discrimination (2009), and torture (2009).

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Senegal has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, all adopted texts.

Principal sponsor: extreme poverty and human rights; mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Minority issues; regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights; promoting the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council; access to medicines in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights; rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities; human rights education and training; and World Programme for Human Rights Education; and extreme poverty and human rights

Inclusivity / Access

Percentage of Regional Group members that have held a seat on the Council

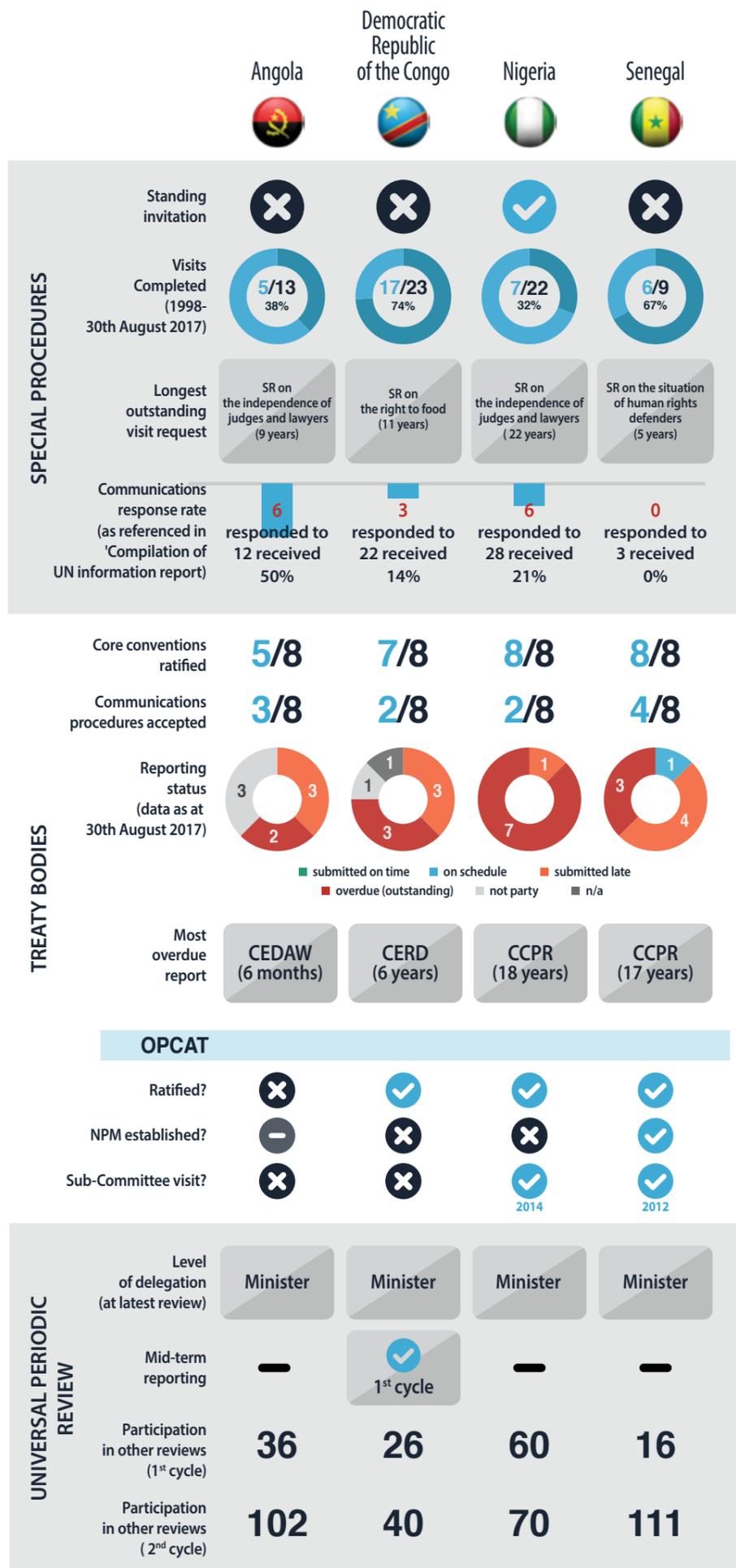
57%

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2012-2016)?*

			
Angola	DRC	Nigeria	Senegal
N	Y	N	N
	N		

 Cited in the report 2012-2016?  Response provided to allegations?

** The Secretary-General's reports are entitled: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.' In his most recent such report, the Secretary-General notes that it has been 'submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 12/2, in which the Council invited the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the Council on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (A/HRC/27/38, para 1). See endnote for full details of methodology. The '2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.



Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT); the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD); and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Note: for more comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes and methodology, please see end note.

Asia-Pacific Group (APG)

Overview of Candidates

	Membership of HRC bureau	Voluntary contribution to OHCHR (2016)	NHRI accreditation status	Previous membership terms	OHCHR presence
Afghanistan 	N.A.				Human rights component of peace mission
Malaysia 					
Nepal 	N.A.				
Pakistan 					
Qatar 					Regional centre

Note: for comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see end note.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Afghanistan has not previously held a seat on the Council.

Malaysia tabled pledges and voluntary commitments in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2010-2013, on 23 April 2010.

At national level, Malaysia pledged to: raise human rights awareness among all segments of the population; establish policies to advance the rights of women; encourage dialogue between the government and the civil society; implement human rights conventions; and monitor the implementation of recommendations from the UPR process.

Internationally, Malaysia made commitments to: deepen cooperation with the UN and its mechanisms; further the UN's development agenda; and work with partners under the ASEAN framework to promote human rights in the region.

An analysis of Malaysia's efforts to engage with the UN human rights system shows that it has joined a high number of political statements. However, it has only accepted and facilitated around 30% of Special Procedures visit requests, and responded to 18% of Special Procedures communications. Malaysia is not Party to many international human rights instruments, and where it is Party it generally submits its periodic reports late. It has not accepted any of the Treaty Body communications procedures, nor is it Party to OP-CAT.

Regarding UPR, Malaysia actively participated in the UPR reviews of 109 other States during the first cycle and of 161 States during the second cycle, but has never submitted a mid-term review.

Nepal has not previously held a seat on the Human Rights Council.

Pakistan tabled voluntary pledges and commitments in support for its candidacy for membership for the period 2013-2015 on 28 September 2012.

The document presented by Pakistan provides a comprehensive summary of its constitutional framework, relevant legislation, relevant national commissions, and its ratification of seven of the eight core international human rights treaties. The document also outlines Pakistan's commitment to an active role in the UN human rights machinery, including as a founding member of the Council and coordinator of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

In terms of future commitments, Pakistan pledged to: enhance human rights education and training domestically; strengthen the implementation of international conventions to which it is Party; cooperate with civil society; play an active role in both the normative and operational work of the Council; participate fully in the UPR of Pakistan and of other countries; engage constructively and cooperate with Special Procedures; promote dialogue and cooperation in addressing 'situations of concern' in the Council; and help strengthen the OHCHR and its independence.

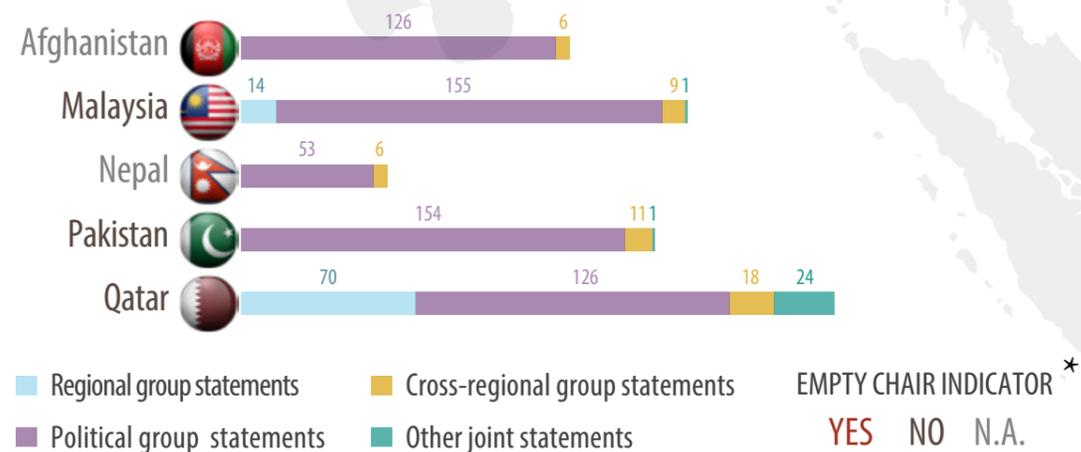
An analysis of steps taken by Pakistan in fulfilment of its international level pledges shows that Pakistan has now ratified nearly all the core international human rights treaties. However, in terms of cooperation with the Treaty Bodies, Pakistan tends to submit its periodic reports late, and still has two overdue reports (CRPD and CEDAW). As a member, Pakistan delivered individual statements in more than 10% of panel discussions, interactive dialogues, and general debates. Turning to cooperation with Special Procedures, Pakistan responded to 60% of all communications received, but has facilitated only 16% of visits. Regarding its own UPR, Pakistan participated at ministerial level. Pakistan also participated in the review of 75 other States during the first UPR cycle, and it increased its participation to 111 reviews, during the UPR second cycle.

Qatar tabled 'voluntary pledges and commitments' in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2015-2017 on 16 September 2014. The document presents Qatar's national, regional, and international level commitments and pledges for its membership term.

At national level, Qatar pledged to: continue to strengthen and support its NHRI; to develop and support public policies that protect the rights of women and children; continue to integrate human rights into school curricula; and to work with local civil society.

At regional level, Qatar committed to: promote human rights in regional forums; support bilateral and multilateral programmes on human rights; and play a crisis mediation role.

Participation in joint statements during Council debates, panel discussions, and dialogues



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At international level, Qatar pledged to: continue to support the OHCHR documentation centre in Doha; cooperate fully with the Council and its mechanisms; implement accepted UPR recommendations; maintain a Standing Invitation to Special Procedures; and accede to remaining core human rights conventions.

An analysis of steps taken by Qatar in fulfilling its international pledges shows that it did make a voluntary contribution to OHCHR in 2014, 2015, and 2016 and it continues to support the regional documentation centre. Regarding engagement with the Council's work, Qatar, as a member of the Council, has delivered individual statements in more than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. Concerning cooperation with the Special Procedures system, Qatar has completed 50% of all visits requests, and has responded to all communications received. Furthermore, it has extended a Standing Invitation. Qatar has yet to ratify the CPED, ICCPR, ICESCR, and the OP-CAT; and to submit its periodic report for the CERD.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Afghanistan presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 in November 2016. Key pledges and commitments include:

At the national level:

- Approve laws on the prevention and prohibition of torture.
- Consider signing the OPCAT.
- Strengthen its relationship with the International Criminal Court.

- Establish a high council of governance, rule of law and anti-corruption, and finalise the anti-corruption plan.
- Prepare a national judicial reform process.

At the international level:

- Commit to the promotion and protection of political, civil, economic, social, and cultural rights globally.
- Work to improve the effectiveness of the international community's efforts to further strengthen human rights institutions and mechanisms.
- Utilise the UPR for the promotion and protection of human rights.
- Stress the importance of the non-politicization of the Council mechanisms.
- Use of the Special Procedures mechanism to bring to the Council the voices and needs of the most vulnerable.
- Seek to increase the effectiveness of international cooperation in addressing human rights challenges through dialogue, capacity building, and technical assistance.

Malaysia presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020. Key pledges and commitments include:

- Engage constructively with the work of the Council to strengthen its role as an international human rights institution.

- ☑ Continue to support the work of the OHCHR.
- ☑ Continue its active participation in the norm-setting work of the Council.
- ☑ Enhance cooperation within the Council.
- ☑ Promote greater coherence between the work of the Council and other UN agencies and mechanisms.
- ☑ Support international action to advance the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, and persons with disabilities.

Towards the fulfilment of these pledges, Malaysia is committed to:

- ☑ Deepening cooperation at the international level.
- ☑ Upholding the principles of dialogue and cooperation.
- ☑ Supporting and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- ☑ Sharing best practices, experiences, and achievements on the realisation of human rights.
- ☑ Contributing to a supportive environment towards the creation of economic stability, shared prosperity, and equitable gains from globalisation.
- ☑ Engaging with all stakeholders to assess and monitor the implementation of UPR recommendations.
- ☑ Working to promote human rights at the regional level.
- ☑ Continuing to support the role and functioning of the National Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM).
- ☑ Intensifying efforts to raise human rights

awareness among all segments of the Malaysian population, including public officials.

Nepal presented commitments and pledges in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 in July 2016. Key pledges include:

At the national level:

- ☑ Further implement the human rights instruments to which it is Party, and mobilise greater efforts towards the full realisation of human rights.
- ☑ Continue to pursue the goal of graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status, and achieve the status of a middle-income country by 2030.
- ☑ Deliver on an inclusive development agenda, with due consideration to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.
- ☑ Remain committed to addressing the cases of human rights violations that occurred during the Nepal's civil conflict, and provide justice to victims while promoting sustainable peace.
- ☑ Ensure the independence and competence of the judiciary.
- ☑ Foster the growth and diversification of a free and competent media.
- ☑ Create an enabling environment for human rights defenders and civil society organisations.
- ☑ Strengthen the role of its National Human Rights Commission.
- ☑ Cooperate with the Council mechanisms, and implement their recommendations.
- ☑ Implement national action plans and programmes to further comply with its human rights obligations.

- ☑ Roll out national capacity-building and training programmes in the field of the human rights.

At the international level

- ☑ Contribute to the work of the Council.
- ☑ Continue to support OHCHR.
- ☑ Adopt a collaborative approach at the Council, premised on building partnerships.
- ☑ Continue to support the UN agencies, programmes, and funds that facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights.
- ☑ Participate actively in global initiatives on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Pakistan presented commitments and pledges in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 in August 2017. Key pledges include:

At the national level:

- ☑ Implement a National Action Plan that considers national and international human rights obligations.
- ☑ Review, in consultation with all stakeholders, existing human rights legislation, with a view to adapting and better enforcing it.
- ☑ Further enhance the operational effectiveness of national human rights institutions, providing them with adequate human and financial resources.
- ☑ Build the human rights capacity of government officials and other relevant stakeholders.
- ☑ Continue to ensure speedy justice for victims of human rights violations including through strengthening law enforcement agencies and prosecutors.

- ☑ Further human rights education, including in academic and training institutions.
- ☑ Establish more, and strengthen the existing, crisis centers and police stations, with a view to providing standardised rehabilitation services for women victims and survivors of violence.
- ☑ Establish a National Commission for the Rights of Children, and strengthen the National Council for the Persons with Disabilities.
- ☑ Protect the rights of minorities, and promote interfaith harmony through policy and legislative measures.
- ☑ Expand the scope and increase the effectiveness of the national free help lines and of the free legal assistance programmes for the victims of human rights violations.
- ☑ Mainstream human rights in development planning.
- ☑ Make undrake efforts to allocate adequate resources for the promotion and protection of human rights and gender mainstreaming in the Public Sector Development Program.

At the international level

- ☑ Continue to strive to make the Council a forum for genuine dialogue and cooperation in accordance with the Institution Building Package (Council resolution 5/1).
- ☑ Continue to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of the methods of work of the Council and its various mechanisms.
- ☑ Continue to play an active role in the Council with a view to strengthening its promotion of dialogue, cooperation, capacity-building and technical assistance, with due regard to the values and conditions of all States.

- ✔ Continue to promote constructive engagement, dialogue and cooperation with concerns States, to address ‘situations of concern.’
- ✔ Continue to make efforts to further strengthen its participation in the UPR third cycle by, *inter alia*, presenting its report and making action-oriented and useful recommendations to other member States.
- ✔ Continue to work with all member States to maintain and strengthen consensus on initiatives to eradicate religious or belief-based intolerance, negative stereotyping, discrimination, and violence.
- ✔ Continue to support the UN Alliance of Civilizations in order to promote a culture of dialogue, tolerance and cooperation among the nations of the world.
- ✔ Continue to submit all periodic reports to Treaty Bodies in compliance with its treaty obligations, and engage constructively during reviews.
- ✔ Continue to strengthen cooperation and engagement with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Special Procedures, and further support the former.
- ✔ Extend invitations to the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food.

Qatar presented pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 in April 2017. Key pledges include:

At the national level:

- ✔ Adhere to the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights, and mainstream human rights into government activities.
- ✔ Work to consolidate a culture of human rights, with a focus on the rule of law, justice, and human dignity.
- ✔ Disseminate a human rights perspective when implementing national strategies.
- ✔ Continue to improve the output and effectiveness of NHRIs by drawing on international best practices and sharing experiences.
- ✔ Strengthen coordination between NHRIs and the State’s human rights bodies.
- ✔ Continue working to identify the challenges and difficulties hindering the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.
- ✔ Support public policies that promote the human rights of social groups, women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and migrant workers.
- ✔ Integrate human rights into education.
- ✔ Continue to pursue coordination, cooperation, and extensive partnership with all stakeholders in order to establish a culture of respect for, and promotion of, human rights and address all challenges and difficulties.

At the regional level:

- ✔ Create incentives to address human rights issues as priority topics in regional forums, and mainstream human rights in regional forums, programmes, activities and priorities.

- ✔ Support bilateral and multilateral programmes that contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights within the region.
- ✔ Continue to mediate to resolve regional crises from the legal and humanitarian standpoint, in order to protect and address threats to human rights.
- ✔ Continue to support the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region in Doha.

At the international level

- ✔ Preserve the country’s role in advancing human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world, and to safeguard the rights of peoples.
- ✔ Press for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly by strengthening international efforts to report on the progress made in implementing Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✔ Continue supporting and cooperating fully with international organisations and United Nations human rights entities, particularly the Council and its mechanisms.
- ✔ Work to implement accepted UPR recommendations.
- ✔ Maintain the standing invitation extended to Special Procedures.
- ✔ Consider acceding to the international human rights instruments to which it is not yet Party.

Voting history during previous membership terms

Afghanistan has not previously held a seat on the Council.

Principal sponsor: Proclamation of 19 August as the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism; Addressing attacks on school children in Afghanistan.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Malaysia** has (in the absence of consensus) voted in favour of item 4 (situations that require the Council’s attention) resolutions on the Syrian Arab Republic; and against resolutions on the situations in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (2008), and Sudan. Malaysia has abstained during voting on resolutions on the situations in Belarus, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (2009, 2011). For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Malaysia has always either voted in favour or joined consensus. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Malaysia has joined consensus on all resolutions except for one that was voted on during its time as a member: on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Malaysia voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Malaysia has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has tended to vote in favour. Malaysia voted against resolutions on sexual orientation

(2011) and on the question of the death penalty (2013).

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Malaysia has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, all adopted texts.

Principal sponsor: N/A

Nepal has not previously held a seat on the Human Rights Council.

Principal sponsor: N/A

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Pakistan** has voted in favour of two item 4 resolutions (situations that require the Council's attention) on the Syrian Arab Republic (both in 2013); has voted against a number of resolutions on the situations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Sudan; and has abstained on a significant number of resolutions on Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as well as (more recent texts on) the Syrian Arab Republic. Pakistan has voted against country-specific resolutions under item 2 (e.g. the situation in Sri Lanka). Notwithstanding, in June 2015 Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC) presented and joined consensus on an item 2 resolution on the human rights situation of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Pakistan has consistently voted in favour. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Pakistan has joined consensus on all resolutions except for three that were voted on during

the period of its membership: on cooperation with Ukraine (Pakistan twice abstained), and on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Pakistan voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Pakistan has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has tended to vote in favour. Notwithstanding, Pakistan has voted against resolutions on the question of the death penalty, sexual orientation, and peaceful protests.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Pakistan has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, all adopted texts.

Principal sponsor: promoting the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through enhancing capacity-building in public health; ensuring use of remotely piloted aircraft or armed drones in counter-terrorism and military operations in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law; effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social, and cultural rights: the activities of vulture funds; right of the Palestinian people to self-determination; and human rights violations emanating from Israeli military attacks and incursions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2007, **Qatar** has voted (in the absence of consensus) in favour of item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention) resolutions on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran (2016, 2017), and against

resolutions on the situations in the Islamic Republic of Iran (2012) and Sudan (2009, 2010). Qatar has abstained during votes on resolutions on Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Iran (2015). For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Qatar has consistently voted in favour or joined consensus. On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Qatar has joined consensus on all resolutions except for two that were voted on during its time as member: on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Qatar voted in favour), and on cooperation with Ukraine and Georgia (Qatar abstained).

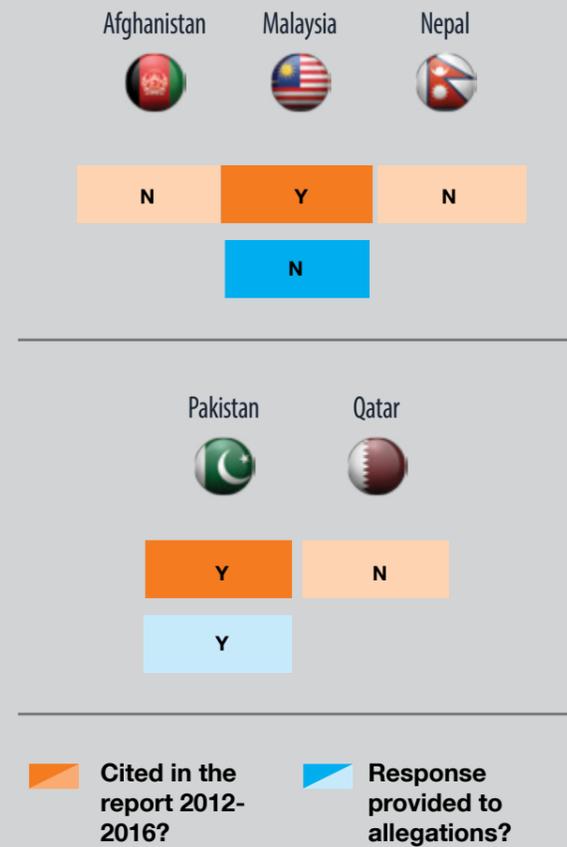
For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Qatar has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has generally voted in favour. Notwithstanding, Qatar voted against the resolutions on sexual orientation and gender identity (2011 and 2016), and two resolutions on the question of the death penalty (2013 and 2015). Qatar has abstained during votes on texts dealing with: religious intolerance (2007); religious discrimination (2009); torture (2009); arms transfers (2013 and 2016); effects of terrorism (2015); the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests (2016); and civil society space (2016).

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Qatar has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, all adopted texts.

Principal sponsor: protection of the family; the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic; the safety of journalists; the grave and deteriorating human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic; enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights; the role of freedom of opinion and expression in women's empowerment; assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights; the

deteriorating situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic, and the recent killings in El-Houleh; the escalating grave human rights violations and deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic; human rights, democracy and the rule of law; and situation of human rights in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2012-2016)?**



Note: See endnote for full details of methodology. The 2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

** The Secretary-General's reports are entitled: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.' In his most recent such report, the Secretary-General notes that it has been 'submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 12/2, in which the Council invited the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the Council on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (A/HRC/27/38, para 1). See endnote for full details of methodology. The '2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

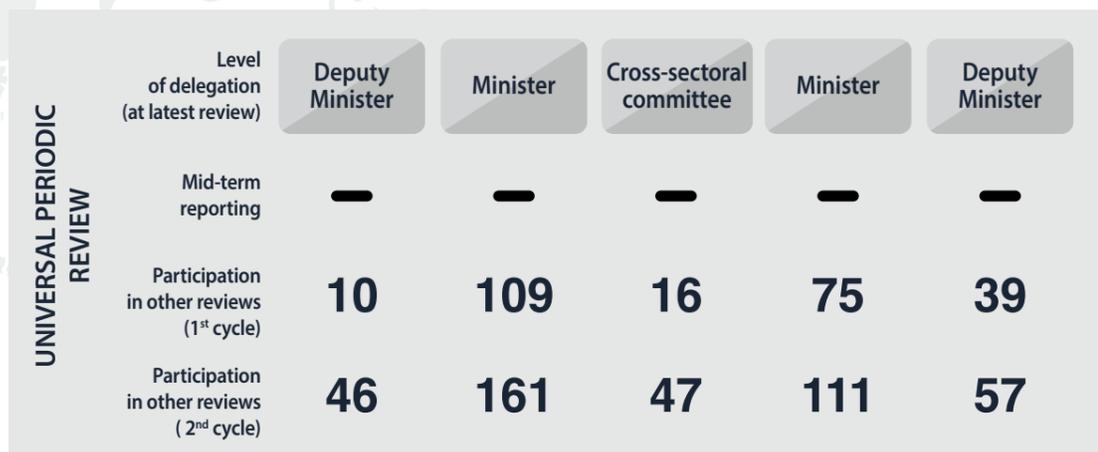
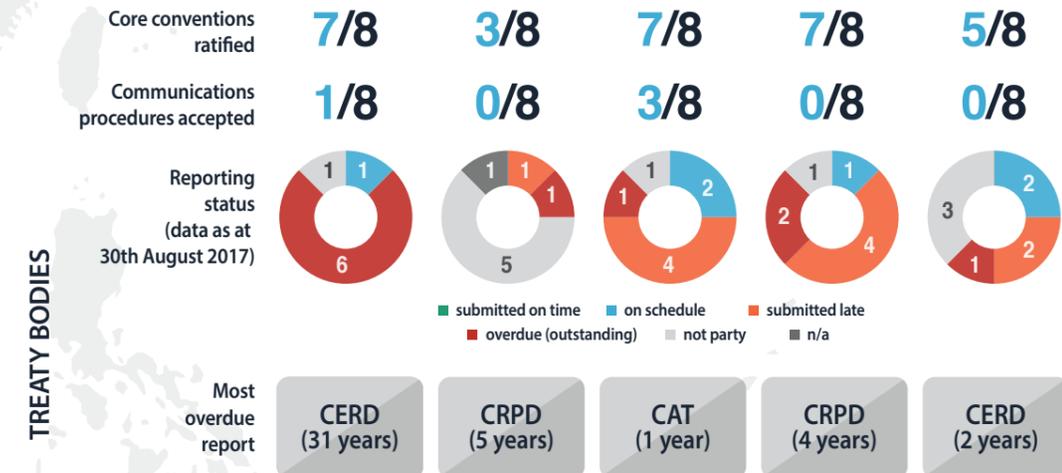
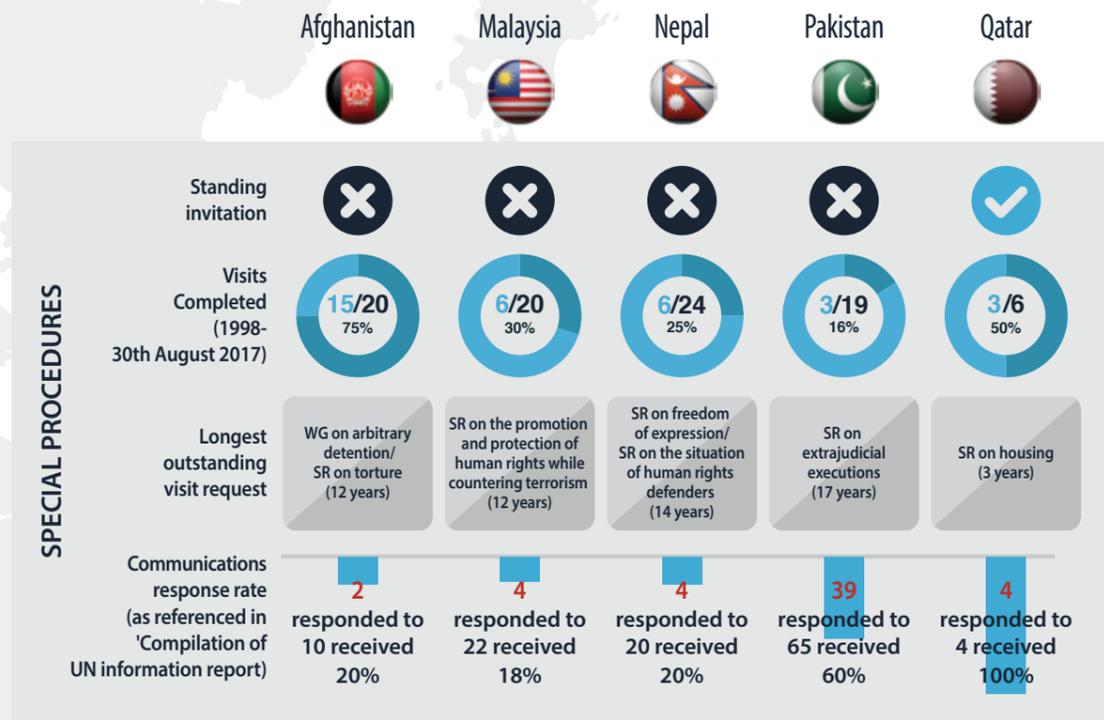
Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CAT, the CPED, the CEDAW, the CRC, the CERD, and the CRPD.

Note: For more comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.

Inclusivity / Access

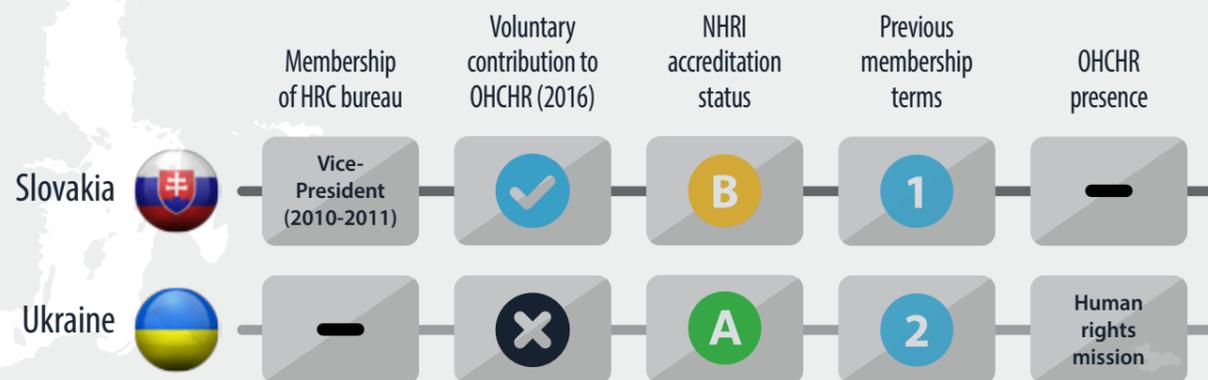
Percentage of Regional Group members that have held a seat on the Council

43%



Eastern European Group (EEG)

Overview of Candidates



Note: for comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see end note.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Slovakia tabled pledges and commitments in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2008-2011 on 4 March 2008. Slovakia made a number of pledges and commitments at both international and national level.

Internationally, Slovakia pledged to: take an active part in activities and negotiations at the Council; enhance genuine dialogue among all member States; consolidate and strengthen Council mechanisms; actively engage in the UPR; cooperate with the UN Treaty Bodies and strive for a timely submission of national periodic reports; and ratify the CPED and the CRPD.

At domestic level, Slovakia made commitments to: protect vulnerable and marginalised groups; implement policies against discrimination, racism, xenophobia and intolerance; protect the rights of children and women; suppress human trafficking; increase assistance provided to priority countries; inform the public about activities undertaken by international bodies in the field of human rights; and support the activities of independent institutions.

An analysis of steps taken by Slovakia in fulfilment of its international pledges shows that Slovakia did indeed ratify the CRPD (in 2010) and CPED (in 2014). Regarding participation at the Council, Slovakia delivered individual statements in over 10% of all panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. In terms of cooperation with Treaty Bodies, Slovakia has submitted all its periodic reports, although four of these were

submitted late. Slovakia is a committed participant in the UPR, participating in the reviews of 98 other States during the first cycle and of 126 other States during the second cycle.

Ukraine tabled pledges and commitments in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2008-2011 on 8 February 2008.

At international level, Ukraine pledged to: contribute to the UPR; support resolutions aimed at protecting children's rights; cooperate with UN Special Procedures; implement recommendations; and facilitate interaction between the Council and individual countries.

Domestically, Ukraine committed to: protect and promote the rights of national minorities, indigenous people, children and women; submit timely periodic reports on the implementation of the international human rights

instruments; and ratify the CRPD, OP-CRPD and the CPED.

An analysis of steps taken by Ukraine in fulfilment of its international pledges shows that it has ratified the CRPD (2010), the OP-CRPD (in 2010), and the CPED (in 2015). Regarding cooperation with Special Procedures, Ukraine maintains a Standing Invitation, has accepted eight out of 13 visit requests, and has responded to eight of 14 communications sent. For those instruments to which Ukraine is Party, it has no overdue periodic reports, although its latest reports under CEDAW and CERD were submitted late.

Participation in joint statements during Council debates, panel discussions, and dialogues



* Name of a State in black means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in more than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues; on the contrary, when the name of a State appears in red it means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in less than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. The grey colour (N/A) means that the country has never been a member of the Council before.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Slovakia presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 on 8 May 2017. Key pledges include:

At the national level:

- ☑ Strengthen the protection of the rights of women, and the effectiveness of the mechanisms for the protection and support of victims of violence against women and domestic violence.
- ☑ Fulfil action plans to avoid all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance.
- ☑ Fulfil national plans and strategies to ensure the rights and protection of, inter alia, the Roma population, persons with disabilities, national minorities and ethnic groups, older people, and children.
- ☑ Foster social inclusion and strengthen the human rights of the 'excluded groups'.
- ☑ Support the identity and cultural values of national minorities, the education and training on their rights, and an inter-ethnic and intercultural dialogue and understanding.
- ☑ Build effective mechanisms for the prevention and suppression of human trafficking, and implement a national plan to combat it.
- ☑ Promote education and training for human rights and democratic citizenship.
- ☑ Support the activities of independent institutions, including the National Human Rights Institutions and the national commissioners for children and persons with disabilities.

At the international level:

- ☑ Intensify cooperation with developing countries, including through projects aimed at building democratic institutions and protecting human rights.

Ukraine presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020. Key pledges include:

- ☑ Play an active role on the international stage.
- ☑ Cooperate with the Council.
- ☑ Adapt the human rights norms and standards existent in Europe in light of Ukraine's course for European integration.

Voting history during previous membership terms

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2008, **Slovakia** has voted in favour of, or has joined consensus on, all resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention). For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Slovakia frequently abstains. When it does vote, it has voted against resolutions related to the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza conflict, but in favour of others (e.g. on Palestinian self-determination).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Slovakia has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has voted in favour of resolutions on: sexual orientation; torture; and religious discrimination. It has voted against: OIC resolutions on defamation of religions, and Cuban resolutions on the right to peace.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Slovakia has joined consensus on a majority of texts. Resolutions that it has voted against include: Cuban resolutions on the effects of foreign debt, NAM resolutions on unilateral coercive measures, and Cuban resolutions on international solidarity. It votes in favour of NAM resolutions on the right to development.

Principal sponsor: the right to a nationality: women's equal nationality rights in law and in Practice; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure; and open-ended Working Group on an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to provide a communications procedure.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Ukraine** has voted in favour or has joined consensus on all resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention), except for the 2011 resolution on the situation in Belarus (Ukraine did not vote). For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Ukraine usually votes in favour or abstains. However, it voted against the 2011 resolution on the report of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict.

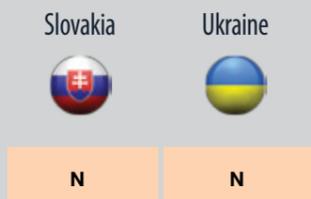
For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Ukraine has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has voted in favour of resolutions on: sexual orientation; torture; religious discrimination; and the elimination of intolerance. It has voted against: OIC resolutions on defamation of religions; Cuban resolutions on the right to peace; and African Group texts

on complementary standards to the CERD and more generally about racism.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Ukraine has joined consensus on a majority of texts. Resolutions that it has voted against include: Cuban resolutions on the effects of foreign debt; NAM resolutions on unilateral coercive measures; Cuban resolutions on international solidarity; and an LMG text on the effects of Globalisation. In 2009 it abstained in the vote on the resolution on the right to development. But in 2010 and 2011, it voted in favour.

Principal sponsor: cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights; establishment of the Office of the President of the Human Rights Council; and the role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2012-2016)?**



Cited in the report 2012-2016? Response provided to allegations?

Inclusivity / Access

Percentage of Regional Group members that have held a seat on the Council

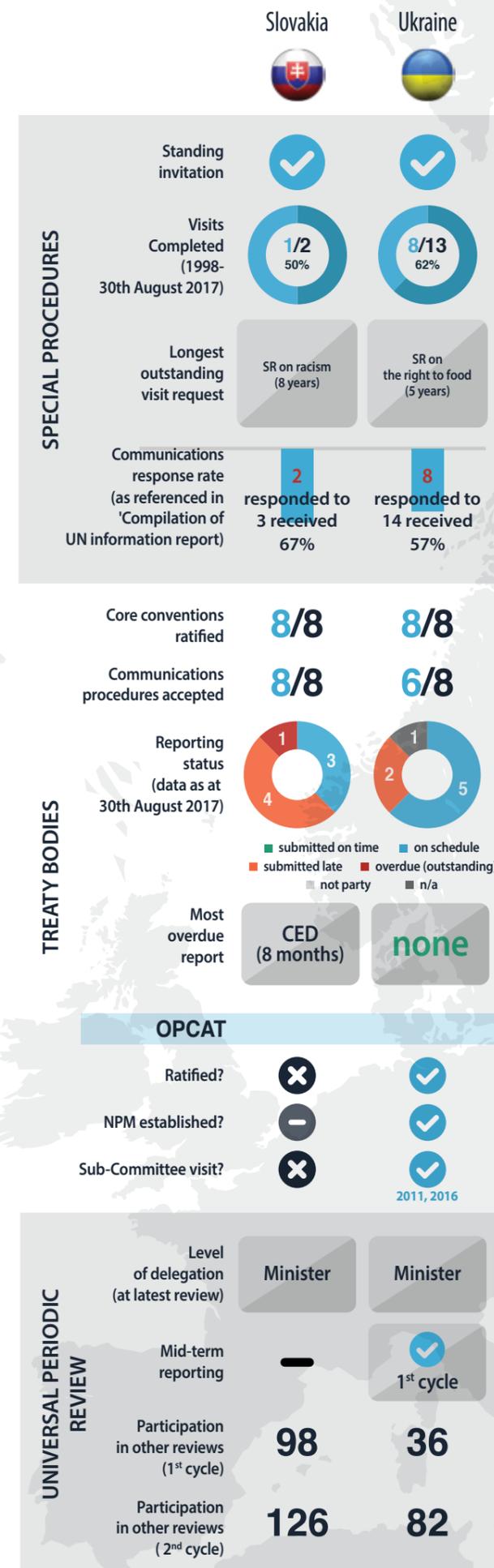
78%

** The Secretary-General's reports are entitled: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.' In his most recent such report, the Secretary-General notes that it has been 'submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 12/2, in which the Council invited the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the Council on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (A/HRC/27/38, para 1). See endnote for full details of methodology. The '2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

* Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CAT, the CPED, the CEDAW, the CRC, the CERD, and the CRPD.

Note: for more comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.



Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)

Overview of Candidates

	Membership of HRC bureau	Voluntary contribution to OHCHR (2016)	NHRI accreditation status	Previous membership terms	OHCHR presence
Chile	Vice-President (2009-2010)	✓	A	2	Regional office
Mexico	President (2006-2007)	✓	A	3	Country office
Peru	—	✓	A	2	—

Note: for comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Chile tabled its voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2011-2014 on 18 October 2010.

The majority of the document describes Chile's previous and existing international and national commitments. There are few concrete pledges or new commitments.

Where there are pledges, Chile committed to: pursue a 'comprehensive policy to enhance, disseminate, and recognise their [indigenous peoples] contribution to multicultural heritage' and to 'protect the victims of human rights violations.' One concrete pledge made was

to press for the improved efficiency and effectiveness of the Council - something Chile has consistently done during its time as both a member and an observer State.

Internationally, Chile pledged to urge international institutions, in particular the Council, to promote and protect human rights in 'the most efficient and effective manner.'

Mexico tabled voluntary pledges and commitments in support for its candidacy for membership for the period 2014-2016 on 26 November 2012. Mexico made a number of concrete pledges and commitments at international, regional, and national levels.

At international level, Mexico pledged to: contribute to the further strengthening of the work and output of the Council; as a member, respond to urgent human rights situations around the world; help fill normative gaps; engage actively and constructively in Council deliberations; cooperate with the Council and its mechanisms; participate in and support the UPR; help strengthen the Treaty Body system; support efforts to improve the regular budget allocation for human rights; support OHCHR and defend its independence; and promote the mainstreaming of human rights across the UN.

At regional level, Mexico committed to comply with the judgements of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission.

At domestic level, Mexico pledged to comply with its international obligations, reporting to Treaty Bodies on a timely basis, follow-up on the implementation of UN

human rights recommendations, and redouble efforts to bring about appropriate constitutional reform with respect to human rights (particularly the incorporation of international standards).

An analysis of steps taken by Mexico in fulfilment of its international level pledges shows that, as a member, Mexico delivered individual statements in more than 10% of Council panels, general debates, and interactive dialogues. It also leads on a number of norm-setting thematic initiatives, but does not lead on initiatives focused on responding to urgent situations. In terms of cooperation with Special Procedures, Mexico maintains a Standing Invitation and has facilitated a large number of country missions (21 out of 27 requested). However, it responded to just 36% of the 115 communications it received during the period under review. Its UPR report was presented by a ministerial-level delegation, and Mexico participated in the review of 172 and 192 other UN member States during the first and second UPR cycles, respectively. Mexico is Party to all the core UN human rights conventions. Mexico made voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2014, 2015, and 2016, and hosts an OHCHR country office.

Peru tabled its 'commitments...to human rights' in support of its candidacy for membership for the period 2011-2014 on 6 April 2011.

At the domestic level, Peru pledged to: scale up the implementation of policies on social inclusion and poverty eradication; eliminate discriminatory practices and promote equality; provide access to justice and guarantee the right to due process; reaffirm its commitment to the victims of the violent acts suffered during the 1980s and

1990s by providing collective, symbolic, educational and health reparations under the Comprehensive Reparation Plan; improve dialogue with indigenous people; and implement policies adopted under the National Human Rights Plan.

At international level, Peru pledged to: promote the ratification of all international instruments; collaborate with Treaty Bodies by submitting pending periodic reports and implementing the recommendations; participate in the five-year review of the Council; respond to UPR recommendations; encourage more States to extend Standing Invitations to Special Procedures; promote the rights of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples; and promote the exchange of information between the UN human rights system and regional systems.

An analysis of steps taken by Peru in fulfilment of its international pledges shows that it has ratified all the core UN human rights conventions. It only has one

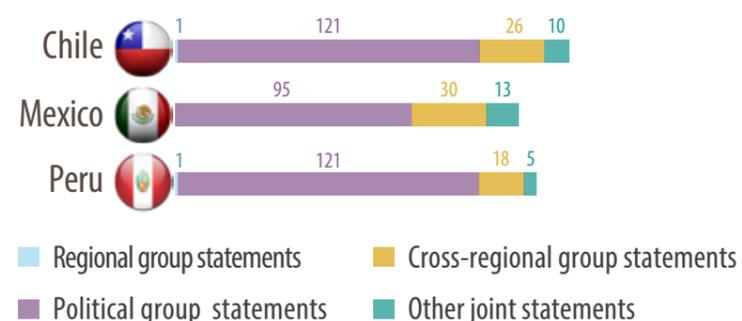
overdue periodic report (ICESCR), submitted late three reports (CAT, CED, and CERD), and is on schedule on the reports for the ICCPR, the CRC, and the CRPD.

In terms of cooperation with the Special Procedures mechanism, Peru maintains a Standing Invitation for mandate-holders to visit, has facilitated 11 of 19 visits (58%), and responded to eight out of the 20 communications received during the period under review. During the five-year review, Peru, together with other GRULAC States, made a number of proposals to improve the work of the Council.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Chile has presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020. Key pledges include:

Participation in joint statements during Council debates, panel discussions, and dialogues



EMPTY CHAIR INDICATOR *
YES NO N.A.

* Name of a State in black means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in more than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues; on the contrary, when the name of a State appears in red it means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in less than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. The grey colour (N/A) means that the country has never been a member of the Council before.

- ☑ Support an operational and effective multilateral system that recognises the close interrelationship between peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights.
- ☑ Support and safeguard the participation of civil society and the input of human rights defenders.
- ☑ Encourage a conciliatory approach at the Council, emphasising the need for progressive development of international human rights law.
- ☑ Continue to cooperate with the Council's mechanisms. For example, Special Procedures invitations (2017) have been extended to the mandates on: adequate housing; the right to food; and the rights of indigenous peoples.
- ☑ Support the strengthening of the Council and its mechanisms, including by supporting its prevention and protection work, by streamlining its agenda, and by drawing attention to the underfunding of the UN's human rights pillar.
- ☑ Formulate and adopt a four-year national human rights plan, including goals and targets, and put in place a national mechanism for implementation, measurement, and follow-up.
- ☑ Consider the creation of a ministry of indigenous peoples and a national council of indigenous peoples.
- ☑ Consider the creation of an office of the ombudsperson for children's rights.
- ☑ Establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture in compliance with OP-CAT.
- ☑ Consider draft legislation criminalising enforced disappearance, in compliance with ICED.

Mexico presented voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020 in September 2017. Key pledges include:

- ☑ Consolidate and strengthen the work of the Council.
- ☑ Strengthen the international human rights protection system by promoting the objective and effective treatment of human rights situations in all parts of the world.
- ☑ Promote initiatives that positively influence the enjoyment of human rights at the national level.
- ☑ Preserve its proactive and constructive norm-setting role at the Council.
- ☑ Contribute to mainstreaming human rights across the UN system.
- ☑ Encourage cooperation and dialogue at the Council.
- ☑ Support the strengthening of the prevention and early warning functions of the Council.
- ☑ Maintain its openness to scrutiny by international bodies and mechanisms, and cooperate with them to follow-up on recommendations.

Peru presented its voluntary pledges for election for the term 2018-2020. In the document, Peru pledges, if elected, to:

At the national level:

- ☑ Promote social inclusion, equality, non-discrimination, and poverty eradication policies - with a gender perspective.

- ☑ Continue work to guarantee the right to health.
- ☑ Improve access to justice and fight against impunity.
- ☑ Reaffirm its commitment to the victims of violence in the 1980s and 1990s through the Comprehensive Reparations Plan.
- ☑ Strengthen dialogue with indigenous peoples and intensify efforts to improve their quality of life.
- ☑ Pursue the effective implementation of the National Human Rights Plan 2017-2021.
- ☑ Strengthen public policies aimed at protecting groups in vulnerable situations, including LGTBI persons, domestic workers, and human rights defenders.
- ☑ Continue to implement policies aimed at ensuring equal access to quality education, especially to people in vulnerable situations, including people with disabilities, and indigenous peoples.
- ☑ Continue to combat all forms of discrimination against women and girls; eliminate all forms of violence against women, including trafficking and sexual exploitation; and encourage effective participation and equal opportunities for women in political, economic, and public life.

At the international level:

- ☑ Continue to participate constructively in the UPR and take due account of recommendations derived from the mechanism.
- ☑ Support the strengthening of Special Procedures of the Council, and encourage more States to extend Standing Invitations.
- ☑ Continue to present or sponsor resolutions on issues of importance.
- ☑ Continue to support OHCHR.

- ☑ Strengthen cooperation with the Treaty Body system, including by submitting periodic reports in a timely manner, and following up on implementation.
- ☑ Promote cooperation and exchange of information between the UN human rights system and regional systems.
- ☑ Foster international cooperation among States in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Voting history during previous membership terms

During previous membership terms, **Chile** either voted in favour of or joined consensus on all resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention), and country-specific resolutions under item 2. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Chile generally voted in favour (although on two occasions it abstained – in 2010). On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Chile joined consensus on all resolutions except for two that were voted on during the period of its membership: on cooperation with Ukraine (Chile voted in favour); and on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Chile voted in favour).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Chile has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, Chile has nearly always voted in favour. The exceptions to this rule are the 2009 and 2010 votes on the OIC's annual resolutions on defamation of religion – Chile voted against the texts.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Chile has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, nearly all adopted texts. The exceptions are resolutions on foreign debt – Chile consistently abstains during voting.

Principal sponsor: local government and human rights; human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity; civil society space; the role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights; high-level panel discussion to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action; extreme poverty and human rights; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure; open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to provide a communications procedure; and integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Mexico** has either voted in favour of or has joined consensus on nearly all resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention), and country-specific resolutions tabled under item 2. The exception is Mexico's position on resolutions dealing with the situation in Belarus (Mexico abstains).

For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Mexico has generally voted in favour (although on four occasions it has abstained – three of those times on resolutions dealing with the 'follow-up to the report of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict). Regarding item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Mexico has joined consensus on all resolutions except for three that were voted on during the period of its membership: on cooperation with Ukraine and on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Mexico voted in favour of all three.

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Mexico has generally joined consensus. Where

there has been a vote, Mexico has nearly always voted in favour. The exceptions to this rule are the 2008 (abstained), 2009 (abstained) and 2010 (against) votes on the OIC's resolutions on 'defamation of religion;' a 2015 resolution on the effects of terrorism on human rights (Mexico voted against); a 2007 resolution on 'concrete action against racism' (abstention); and a 2008 resolution on the right to peace (Mexico abstained).

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Mexico has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, nearly all adopted texts. The exception is Mexico's voting record on resolutions on the effects of foreign debt on human rights – Mexico has tended to abstain.

Principal sponsor: independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors, and the independence of lawyers; mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the right to privacy in the digital age; protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; the question of the death penalty; protection of journalists in situations of armed conflict; regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights; high-level panel on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Human Rights Council; right to work; contribution of the Human Rights Council to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem of 2016; Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; protection of the human rights of migrants: the global compact for safe, orderly, and regular migration; elimination of discrimination against women and girls; birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law; human rights of migrants:

mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; human rights and indigenous peoples: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous people; human rights and indigenous people; Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and the right to a nationality: women's equal nationality rights in law and in practice.

Since it first became a member of the Council in 2006, **Peru** has either voted in favour of or has joined consensus on all resolutions tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention), and country-specific resolutions under item 2. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Peru has consistently voted in favour (or joined consensus). On item 10 resolutions (capacity-building and technical assistance), Peru has joined consensus on all resolutions except for one that was voted on during the period of its membership: on cooperation with Ukraine (Peru abstained).

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, Peru has generally joined consensus. Where there has been a vote, it has nearly always voted in favour. The exceptions are Peru's position on two resolutions on 'defamation of religion' (2007 and 2008) and on a resolution on 'concrete action against racism' (2007), Peru abstained on these texts.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Peru has either joined consensus on, or has voted in favour of, nearly all adopted texts. The exceptions are its votes on a number of resolutions on 'the effects of foreign debt on human rights' and on 'the effects of economic reform policies on human rights.' Peru abstained on these texts.

Principal sponsor: consideration of the elaboration of a draft declaration on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent; human rights, democracy and the rule of law; equal participation in political and public affairs; impact of arms transfers on human rights; human rights and preventing and countering violent extremism; human rights and the regulation of civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms; Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence; national policies and human rights; extreme poverty and human rights; human rights and the environment; guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights; and working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994.

Inclusivity / Access

Percentage of Regional Group members that have held a seat on the Council

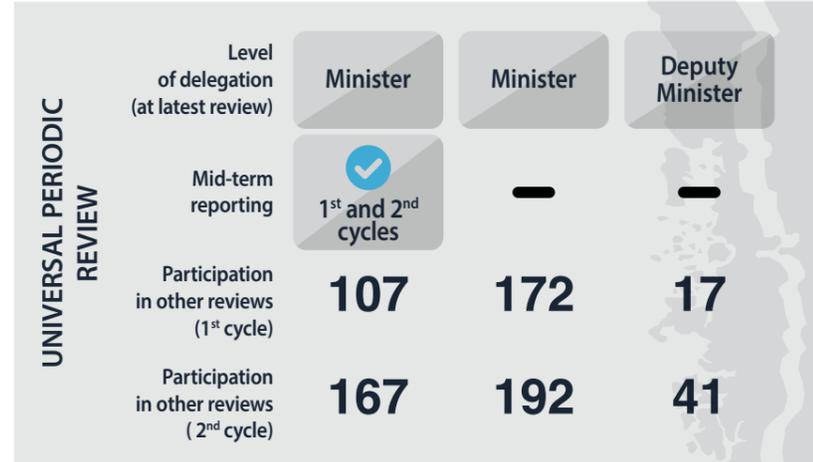
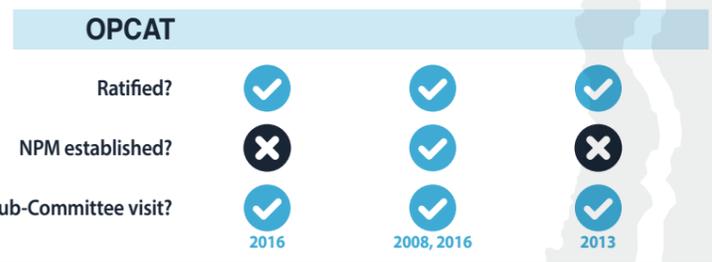
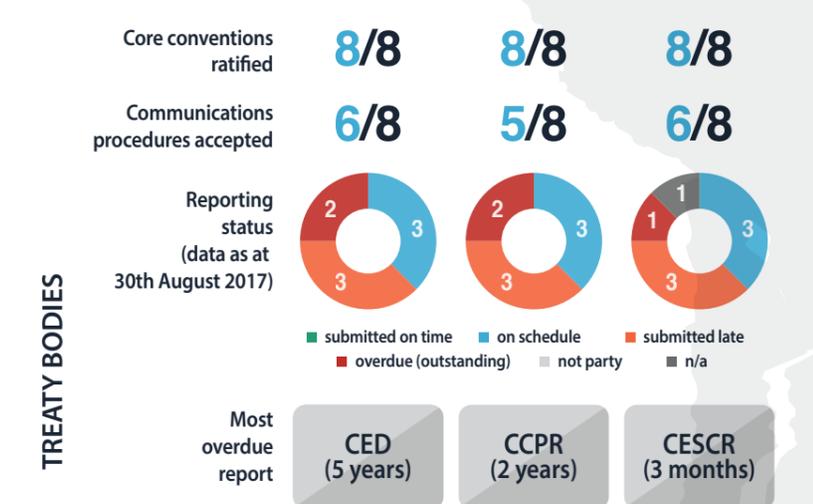
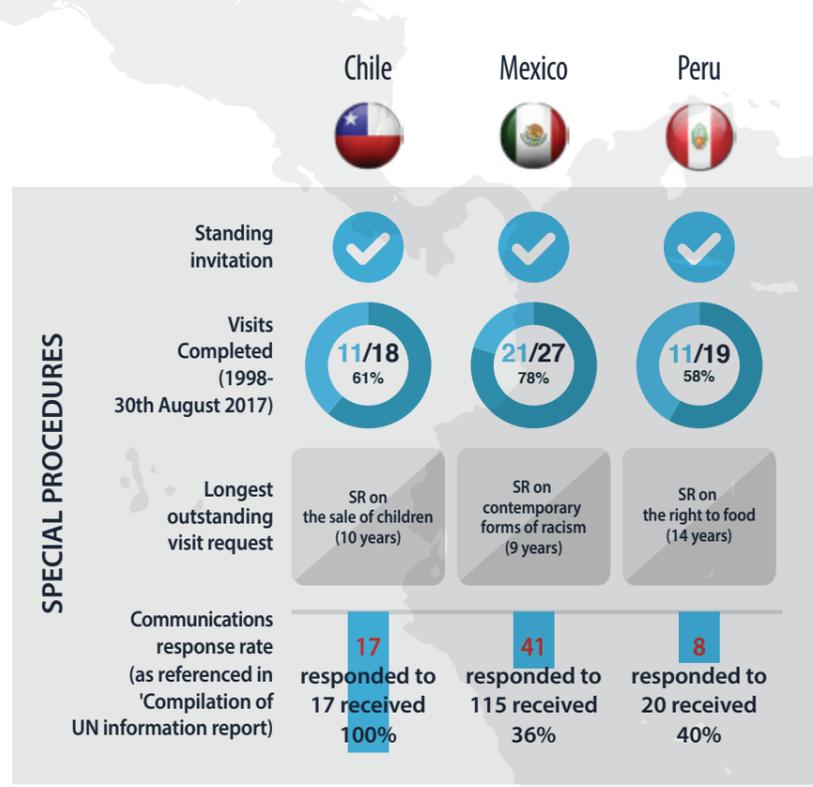
48%

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2012-2016)? **

Chile	Mexico	Peru
		
N	Y	N
	Y	

 Cited in the report 2010-2015?  Response provided to allegations?

** The Secretary-General's reports are entitled: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.' In his most recent such report, the Secretary-General notes that it has been 'submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 12/2, in which the Council invited the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the Council on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (A/HRC/27/38, para 1). See endnote for full details of methodology. The '2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.



Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

* Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CAT, the CPED, the CEDAW, the CRC, the CERD, and the CRPD.

Note: for more comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.

Western European and Others Group (WEOG)

Overview of Candidates

	Membership of HRC bureau	Voluntary contribution to OHCHR (2016)	NHRI accreditation status	Previous membership terms	OHCHR presence
Australia	N.A.	✓	A	0	—
Spain	—	✓	A	1	—

Note: for comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Australia has not previously held a seat on the Council.

Spain tabled voluntary pledges and commitments in support for its candidacy for membership for the period 2010-2013 on 10 March 2010. The majority of the document described Spain's existing commitment to human rights and its engagement with the UN human rights system. The only concrete pledge tabled by Spain was to 'uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights'. It is therefore not possible to assess the fulfilment of Spain's pledges.

Participation in joint statements during Council debates, panel discussions, and dialogues



* Name of a State in black means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in more than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues; on the contrary, when the name of a State appears in red it means that, as a Council member, that State has participated in less than 10% of panel discussions, general debates, and interactive dialogues. The grey colour (N/A) means that the country has never been a member of the Council before.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Australia's campaign is built on five pillars: advancing the rights of women and girls; good governance; freedom of expression; the rights of indigenous peoples; strong national human rights institutions and capacity-building. Under each of those five pillars, Australia has made a number of pledges and commitments. They include:

1. Advancing the rights of women and girls

- ✓ Continue to support gender equality throughout its aid programme.
- ✓ Work collaboratively with other States to encourage equality before the law, reduce

violence against women, and promote gender equality.

- ✓ Take measures to eliminate gender-based discrimination and promote policies to increase women's workforce participation.

2. Promoting good governance and democratic institutions

- ✓ Promote and uphold good governance and the rule of law around the world.
- ✓ Promote good governance and strong democratic institutions in Australia.
- ✓ Continue to support developing countries, through its aid programme, to strengthen public services and develop effective rule of law and justice agencies.

3. Promote and protect freedom of expression

- Advocate for the protection of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society.
- Work with other countries to ensure that individuals are able to enjoy the same human rights online as they do enjoy offline, including freedom of expression.

- Advocate for measures that facilitate the early warning of potential mass human rights abuses as well as for appropriate preventative measures.

Additionally, Australia has committed to ratify the OP-CAT by the end of 2017.

Spain presented voluntary pledges in support of its candidature for membership for the period 2018-2020. Key pledges include:

4. Advance human rights for indigenous peoples

- Work towards a referendum to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution as Australia's First Peoples.
- Continue to give practical effect to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Strengthen the capacity of multilateral system to engage on issues affecting the world's indigenous peoples.

- Conduct inclusive and transparent consultations on all issues.
- Safeguard the role and contribution of civil society at the Council.
- Promote equality and non-discrimination, especially gender discrimination, gender-based violence, and trafficking and sexual exploitation.
- Defend the rights of persons with disabilities, including by promoting ratification of the CRPD and participating in relevant Council negotiations.
- Promote and protect economic, social, and cultural rights, including by continuing the Council initiative on the right to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- Promote democracy and rule of law.
- Combat racism, xenophobia, and hate crime.
- Contribute to reforms at the Council aimed at improving the body's effectiveness.
- Act as a bridge between North and South, East and West.

5. Promote strong national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and capacity building

- Work with other States to support the implementation of international human rights obligations.
- Build capacity and strengthen NHRIs and civil society, especially in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Support the efforts of other States to address human rights violations and abuses, and hold those responsible to account.

Voting history during previous membership terms

Australia has not previously held a seat on the Council.

During its last membership term, **Spain** either voted in favour of or joined consensus on every resolution tabled under item 4 (situations that require the Council's attention), and country-specific resolutions under item 2. For item 7 resolutions (human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories), Spain either voted in favour or abstained (almost equally) - it never voted against. Spain joined consensus on all item 10 resolutions.

For thematic resolutions dealing with civil and political rights, where a vote was called, Spain tended to vote in favour or abstain. Texts where Spain voted in favour included: arms transfers; the question of the death penalty; human rights, democracy and rule of law; multiculturalism; and sexual orientation.

For thematic resolutions dealing with economic, social, and cultural rights, Spain has joined consensus on a majority of texts. Resolutions that it tends to vote against include those on: the effects of foreign debt; international solidarity; and unilateral coercive measures. It abstained on votes on African Group resolutions on the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin. Spain voted in favour of all resolutions on the right to development.

Principal sponsor: the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation; contribution of parliaments to the work of the Human Rights Council and its universal periodic review; moratorium on the use of the death penalty; alliance of Civilizations; and elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief.

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2012-2016)?**

Australia	Spain
Y	N
Y	

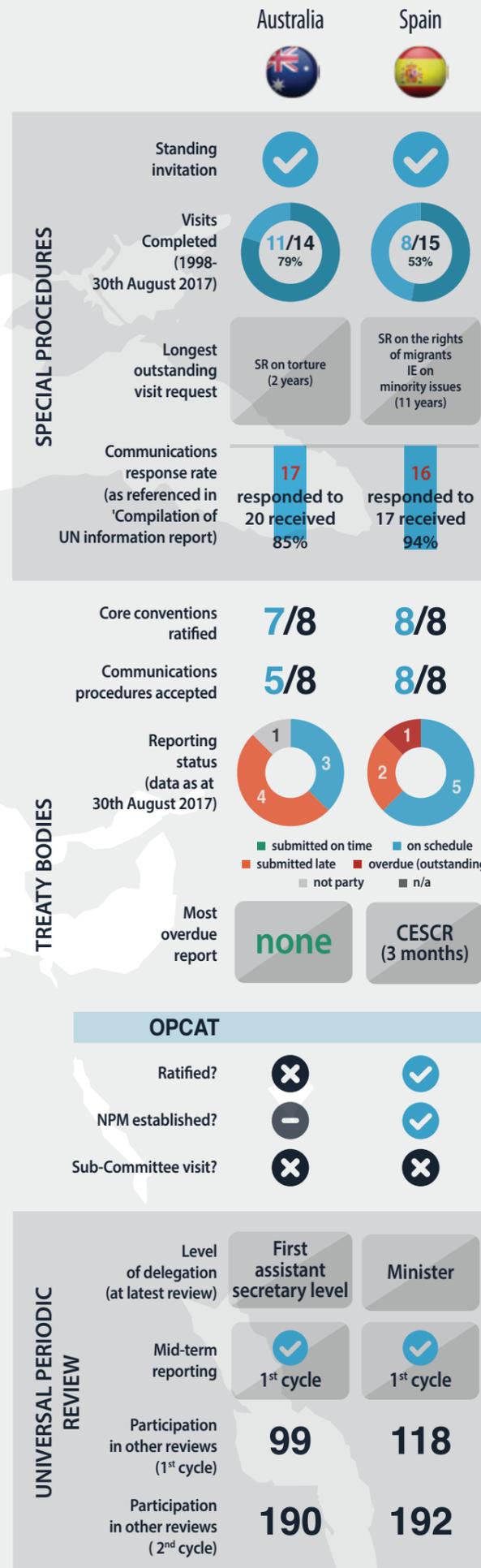
Y Cited in the report 2010-2015? **N** Response provided to allegations?

** The Secretary-General's reports are entitled: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.' In his most recent such report, the Secretary-General notes that it has been 'submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 12/2, in which the Council invited the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the Council on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (A/HRC/27/38, para 1). See endnote for full details of methodology. The '2017 report by the Secretary General on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN' was not available at the time the yourHRC.org 2017 Election Guide went to press.

Inclusivity / Access

Percentage of Regional Group members that have held a seat on the Council

52%



Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

* Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CAT, the CPED, the CEDAW, the CRC, the CERD, and the CRPD.

Note: for more comprehensive information on data sources, timeframes, and methodology, please see endnote.

Methodology Notes

yourHRC.org uses independent and objective data as the basis of its summaries and analyses. The origin of that data is primarily official UN documents and information produced by other international organisations. To ensure transparency, information on the sources of all data used, together with the methodology applied and the timeframe, is presented below.

Overview of Membership

Membership of HRC Bureau

Source: OHCHR website. Presidency and bureau.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Presidency.aspx>

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Bureau.aspx>

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Voluntary contribution to OHCHR (2016)

Source: OHCHR website. Our donors. Voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2016.

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/AboutUs/FundingBudget/VoluntaryContributions2016.pdf>

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

NHRI Accreditation Status

Source: Chart of the Status of National Institutions, accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI);

<http://nhri.ohchr.org/EN/Documents/Status%20Accreditation%20Chart%20%2826%20May%202017.pdf>

Data as at: 26 May 2017.

Previous Membership terms

Source: OHCHR website. Membership of the Human Rights Council.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Bureau.aspx>

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

OHCHR Presence

Source: OHCHR website. Human Rights Appeal 2017.

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/AboutUs/UNHumanRightsAppeal2017.pdf>

[UNHumanRightsAppeal2017.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/AboutUs/UNHumanRightsAppeal2017.pdf)

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Fulfillment of previous voluntary pledges and commitments

Source: UN General Assembly website; OHCHR website.

Data as at: 22 August 2017

Note: yourHRC.org summarises the specific, forward-looking pledges made by States when presenting their candidatures for membership of the Human Rights Council. GA resolution 60/251 establishing the Human Rights Council stipulates that, when electing members of the Council, States shall take into account: the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights; and their voluntary pledges and commitments made thereto. Beyond this provision, the GA provided no further guidance and established no particular framework for the form and content of electoral pledges, commitments, and statements. Notwithstanding, OHCHR has published a helpful document on 'suggested elements for voluntary pledges and commitments by candidates for election to the Human Rights Council' which states that voluntary pledges and commitments should be 'specific, measurable, and verifiable.' The paper then provides a general framework for assessing pledges and commitments against this benchmark. yourHRC.org uses this framework to identify the number of specific pledges presented by candidates. yourHRC.org also presents a short analysis of the degree to which members of the Council have fulfilled the international-level pledges they made when running for their current or last term of membership. This analysis aims to be independent and objective, without value judgements. The analysis is mainly based on data in the yourHRC.org analysis of member State engagement with the UN human rights system.

Contribution to Council debates and dialogues

Source: HRC Extranet.

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: The participation of the candidates in group statements was calculated based on all joint statements listed on the HRC Extranet from September 2014 until June 2017 (i.e. during HRC sessions 27-35). Figures include statements not delivered due to lack of time. Statements not listed on the Extranet were not counted, nor were we able to count joint statements on behalf of a group of States that were not individually listed.

Empty chair indicator: Shows whether the relevant State delivered individual statements in less than 11% of all Panel Discussions, General Debates, and Interactive Dialogues (combined) during its two last (most recent) membership terms.

Key pledges and commitments for 2017 election

Source: Document submitted by the candidates either formally, or informally to the URG.

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: yourHRC.org summarises the key specific, forward-looking pledges made by States when presenting their candidatures for membership of the Human Rights Council. GA resolution 60/251 establishing the Council stipulates that, when electing members of the Council, states shall take into account: the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights; and their voluntary pledges and commitments made thereto. yourHRC.org presents these key pledges in a factual manner, without value judgement. Notwithstanding, the lists of key pledges are non-exhaustive – with selection based on an analysis and the judgement by URG analysts.

Voting history during previous membership terms

Source: URG HRC Voting Portal (<http://www.universal-rights.org/country-voting-history-portal/>) which in turn is updated with the information published on the HRC Extranet.

Data as at: 22nd August 2017.

Note: The yourHRC.org analysis aims to be purely factual, without value judgement as to the merit of individual resolutions, or moral or legal judgements about the nature of State voting patterns. For each member State of the Council, past and present, URG analysts looks for patterns in State voting on both country-specific resolutions (items 2, 4, 7, and 10) and thematic resolutions (both civil and political, and economic, social, and cultural – including the right to development).

Cited in the Secretary General's reports on 'alleged reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' (2010-2015)

Source: 'Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights' report by the Secretary General (UN Docs. A/HRC/21/18; A/HRC/24/29; A/HRC/27/38; A/

HRC/30/29; A/HRC/33/19).

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: Self-calculated figures based on the past and current members, as reported by the OHCHR.

Inclusivity/Access

Source: OHCHR website. Membership of the Human Rights Council. <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/PastMembers.aspx>

Data as at: 22th August 2017.

Note: Self-calculated figures based on the past and current members, as reported by the OHCHR.

Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

Special Procedures

Standing Invitation

Source: OHCHR website. Special Procedures: Standing Invitations.

http://spinternet.ohchr.org/_Layouts/SpecialProceduresInternet/StandingInvitations.aspx

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Visits Completed & longest outstanding visit

Source: OHCHR website. Special Procedures: Country and other visits. Country visits since 1998. http://spinternet.ohchr.org/_Layouts/SpecialProceduresInternet/ViewCountryVisits.aspx?Lang=en

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: The number of total country visits since 1998 includes all visits undertaken, visits agreed by the State concerned but which have not yet taken place, visits cancelled or postponed, and requests and invitations that have received no reply, as listed on the OHCHR website. The number of visits undertaken includes only visits that have actually taken place, as listed on the OHCHR website (i.e. visits reported as completed or with report forthcoming). The dates for the most overdue visit are calculated according to the initial request date of the corresponding visit (regardless of subsequent reminders) or with the agreed dates of the visit, when available. When initial request date

is not available, the date taken to calculate the time a visit is overdue was the earliest reminder published in the OHCHR website. When no dates are available for a certain visit, such visit was considered in the number of total country visits, but not for the calculation of the most outstanding visit.

Communications response rate

Source: "Compilation of UN Information" report during the State's latest UPR.

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: The response rate to Special Procedures communications (i.e. to letters of allegations and urgent appeals) is based on the information provided in the 'Compilation of UN Information' report submitted to the most recent UPR review of the state concerned.

Treaty Bodies

Status of Ratification and Reporting

Source: OHCHR website. Country Pages. Ratification Status.

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: Ratification and reporting is recorded for the eight 'core human rights conventions,' which include: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT); the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD); and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Treaty body reporting dates relate to the State's current reporting cycle, as listed on the OHCHR website. In cases where there is no deadline for the current reporting cycle, the status of reporting of the previous cycle was used, where available.

Explanation of Options:

- **SUBMITTED ON TIME:** The State Party Report submitted the report before the due date;
- **ON SCHEDULE:** the current cycle due date is in the future. This occurs when a State's reporting cycle changes, so the deadline for the next report is set.
- **SUBMITTED LATE:** The State Party Report has been submitted for the current cycle, but was submitted late;
- **OUTSTANDING (OVERDUE):** the current cycle report has not yet been submitted, and is overdue;
- **NOT PARTY:** The State has not ratified the respective Treaty;
- **N/A:** where data was not available.

The 'most overdue' report time is for the outstanding report that is the most overdue.

OP-CAT

Source: OHCHR website. Country pages. Ratification Status.

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

NPM Established:

Source: OHCHR website. National Preventive Mechanisms <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/OPCAT/Pages/NationalPreventiveMechanisms.aspx>

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Universal Periodic Review

Level of delegation

Source: the Head of a State's delegation (for its last UPR) was determined using the "Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review." Where the rank of the representative was not clear,

the URG followed up with the relevant missions as far as possible.

Data as at: 22th August 2017.

Sub-Committee visit:

Source: OHCHR website. Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (CAT-OP). Country Visits.

http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/CountryVisits.aspx?SortOrder=Alphabetical

Data as at: 22 August 2017.

Note: Indicates whether the country has been visited by the Sub-Committee against torture, and the years in which this occurred, when applicable.

Mid-term reporting

Source: OHCHR website. <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRImplementation.aspx>

Data as at: 22th August 2017.

Note: The 'mid-term reporting' score relates to whether the state has submitted a mid-term report for the first and/or the second cycles of UPR.

Participation in other reviews

Source: UPR Info 'Statistics of UPR Recommendations.' The information reported for Australia was provided directly by the Mission of Australia to the United Nations in Geneva.

Data as at: 22th August 2017.

Note: Participation in other reviews relates to the number of other 1st and 2nd cycle reviews (out of 192) during which the State concerned presented its own recommendations.

Note: For updated information on all current and former Council members, visit yourHRC.org.

About yourHRC.org

The yourHRC.org project has four component parts:

1

A universally accessible and free-to-use web portal - yourHRC.org – providing information on the performance of all 103 States that have stood for and won election to the Council, and of the candidates for the 2017 election that have never been members of the Council before. An interactive world map provides information on the Council's membership in any given year, and on the number of membership terms held by each country. Country-specific pages then provide up-to-date information on: the voting record of the State; its sponsorship of important Council initiatives; its level of participation in Council debates, interactive dialogues and panels; its engagement and cooperation with the Council's mechanisms (UPR and Special Procedures) and with the Treaty Bodies; and the degree to which it fulfilled the voluntary pledges and commitments made before its previous membership term.

2

An annual 'yourHRC.org Election Guide,' providing at-a-glance information on candidatures for upcoming Council elections.

3

An annual 'yourHRC.org end-of-year report' (published each December), providing information on levels of Member State engagement and cooperation over the course of that year.

4

Periodic 'Know yourHRC members' and 'Know yourHRC candidates' email alerts, to be sent to stakeholders profiling Council members, or informing them of candidature announcements for future Council elections.



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A window onto cooperation, dialogue, leadership
and policymaking at the UN Human Rights Council

