

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 49th SESSION

WEEK 4: 21 – 27 March 2022

During its **fourth week of work**, the UN Human Rights Council will continue consideration of **country situations** under Agenda Item 4, in **Myanmar** and **DPRK**, followed by a General Debate.

To finalize Agenda Item 3, the Council will hold an Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on **minorities**. Under Agenda Item 5, the Council will consider the presentation of reports of Forums on **Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law**; Forum on **Minority Issues**; and **Social Forum**. It will also consider the Secretary General's report on the **prevention of human rights violations**, the report on the 27th **annual meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives** held 31 August to 3 September 2021 and consider the **communications report** of the special procedures, followed by a General Debate.

During the second part of the week, under Agenda Item 6, the Council will consider and adopt the final outcomes of the **Universal Periodic Reviews** of Greece, Suriname, Samoa, Hungary, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Papua New Guinea, Tajikistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Eswatini, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Thailand and Ireland, followed by a General Debate. Under Agenda Item 7, the Council will hold an Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the **OPT** and consider the reports of the High Commissioner and Secretary General on the human rights situation in **Palestine and other occupied Arab territories**, followed by a General Debate.

The Council will hold a General Debate under Agenda Item 8 on the Follow-up to and implementation of the **Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action**. It will also consider the presentation of the report on the implementation of the **Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** submitted under Agenda Item 9 by the Intergovernmental Working Group, followed by a General Debate, which will continue during the upcoming Week 5.

Additionally, the Council will also hold a **Panel** on public policies on COVID-19.

Panels:

22 March (10h00-12h00): Panel discussion on the importance of **robust public policies and services for the protection of economic, social and cultural rights in contributing to the COVID-19 pandemic recovery**. The debate will be informed by the report of the Secretary General.

[A/HRC/49/28](#): The report provides an overview of the **continuing impacts of the COVID-19** pandemic on economic, social and cultural rights and outlines key elements of a human rights-based approach towards building and financing **inclusive public policies and services**, with particular **emphasis on social protection**. The report concludes with recommendations for establishing human rights-based social protection systems and **operationalize the call for a renewed social contract** underpinned by a **global new deal** in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic recovery. The report's recommendations include urging States to establish solid legal and institutional frameworks to guarantee legitimacy, effectiveness and sustainability of social protection; to give priority to disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups; and to move from targeted approaches to poverty reduction.

Item 3¹: Thematic reports

22 March: Interactive dialogue on the report of Special Rapporteur on **minority issues**, **Mr. Fernand de Varennes**.

¹ Agenda Item 3: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

[A/HRC/49/46](#)¹ The report provides an overview of activities undertaken since the Special Rapporteurs previous report and discusses **conflict prevention through the protection of the human rights of minorities**. Violent conflicts have increased around the world in recent years and most of the drivers of these conflicts involve minority grievances of **exclusion, discrimination and inequalities** linked to violations of the human rights of minorities. It is necessary to **mainstream the human and minority rights framework** to provide a more effective **early warning tool** and help prevent violent conflicts. The international community must fill the **significant gaps in conflict prevention mechanisms**, which are failing to focus on the main drivers in most contemporary conflicts. The report reminds of the mandate's webpage² for detailed information and affirms that the Special Rapporteur will continue an increasing **focus on visibility and raising awareness** of minority issues. The Special Rapporteur looks forward to continuing dialogue with Cameroon, India, Jordan, Kenya, Nepal, South Africa, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste and Vanuatu, to which he has made **requests to visit**, and is appreciative of the Governments of Paraguay and the Russian Federation, which have indicated their willingness for the Special Rapporteur to conduct a visit in 2022.

[A/HRC/49/46/Add.1](#)³: The report documents the official visit of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues to **the U.S.** (8 - 22 November 2021) to identify good practices and address existing gaps in the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. The Special Rapporteur **thinks the U.S. for the invitation**, support and cooperation, however, **regretting** that no official of the **State of Texas** was available or accepted meeting him.

The report outlines the **many persisting minority issues** in the country, recognizing the **historically contradictory relationship** of the country with international human rights. The U.S. has not signed and ratified any of the human rights treaties that would allow citizens to present individual complaints to the UN human rights treaty bodies and international rights treaties are generally **not recognized as rights** in United States courts. Due to legal exceptions between territories, hundreds of thousands of citizens – mainly minorities and indigenous peoples – **do not fully enjoy equal rights** with other Americans. **Significant gaps** between the **White majority and the African-American and Hispanic minorities** remain, including in access to health care, education, wealth and power, and these inequalities have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The report **regrets the growing hate speech** in social media poisoning minds and proving toxic to social cohesion. Many spoke of a growing feeling that the **U.S. is becoming “a darker, nastier and more divided society.”**

The report **recognizes the numerous positive steps** to improve the situation and rights of minorities following the 2020 federal elections, as the **Biden Administration has expressed commitment** to respect international human rights and reconnect with the international community. The U.S. has issued a standing invitation to UN Special Procedures mandate holders. The report concludes in several recommendations, stating, among others, the urgent need to adopt comprehensive national legislation and to revamp current piecemeal and narrow civil rights laws to better conform to universal human rights obligations.

Item 4⁴: Country situations

21 March: Interactive dialogue on the report of the High Commissioner on **Myanmar**.

[A/HRC/49/72](#)⁵: The report sets out the trends and patterns of violations and significant regressions in human rights that have occurred in Myanmar since February 2021. Myanmar is caught in a **downward spiral of violence** characterized by the increasingly **brutal repression of individuals** actually or seemingly opposed to military rule, by violent resistance to the coup and by several active non-international armed conflicts. Over 1,500 individuals have died for exercising their fundamental rights and freedoms or while in custody; over 10,000 persons have languished in prison, arbitrarily detained, with hundreds if not thousands having been subjected to torture; over 440,000 persons have been displaced by armed clashes and **14.4 million people** are **urgently in need of humanitarian assistance**. The military has created an environment in which meaningful negotiations and dialogues cannot occur and in which the **people of Myanmar have no voice**. The report calls for action to stem the pace at which individuals are being targeted by the military authorities and **stripped of their rights, lives and livelihoods**. The report addresses recommendations to all parties, including the military authorities, the international community and the UN system, calling all parties in Myanmar to

² www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Minorities/SRMinorities/Pages/SRminorityissuesIndex.aspx

³ Advanced Unedited Version in English is available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) as of 14 March 2022.

⁴ Agenda Item 4: Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.

⁵ Advanced Edited Version in English is available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) as of 15 March 2022.

cooperate fully with the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General and ASEAN and to **develop dialogue** with all stakeholders. The report recommends the international community to **extend protection** for all individuals crossing international borders, including members of the Rohingya population, and to take immediate action to **prevent the supply of arms** to the military of Myanmar or other armed parties in the country.

21 March: Interactive dialogue on the report of the Special Rapporteur on **DPRK, Mr. Tomás Ojea Quintana**.

[A/HRC/49/74](#)⁶: The report is the **final report of the current mandate-holder** who regrets that DPRK continues to oppose his mandate. Over the past six years, the Special Rapporteur has examined and raised concerns about the **coercive system of governance** that deprives the fundamental freedoms of people in DPRK, including arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment, restrictions on freedom of expression, religion and thought, access to information, freedom of movement and the practice of forced labour. The report regrets that **the situation has not improved** – on the contrary, control over the population has further tightened, particularly since the beginning of 2020 in the context of COVID-19 prevention measures. Full-scale border shutdown and travel restrictions between cities and regions enforced since January 2020 as part of COVID-19 quarantine measures continue.

The report expresses grave concern about the **deteriorating human rights situation** under **further isolation** of the country, in particular the **aggravation of the food crisis** and stricter control of people's freedoms. Throughout the Special Rapporteur's term, **chronic food insecurity has not improved** with the numbers of food insecure people consistently above 10 million, representing over 41 per cent of the population. Only 29 per cent of children aged 6-23 months are receiving the minimum acceptable diet and **malnutrition remains a leading cause of maternal and child mortality**. The report also expresses concern over **conditions in detention**, as even before the pandemic prisons lacked basic necessities such as food, drinking water and medical care. The report regrets the failure of the Government to instigate meaningful reform and calls for political will to take action including legal and institutional reforms to tackle conditions and treatment in places of detention, arbitrary arrest and detention, and economic and social policies that prevent the distribution of goods and services in an equitable, non-discriminatory manner.

The report highlights that the **current approach by the international community** is not leading to improvements to the situation of human rights in the country and calls for a **new way of thinking** that requires vision and initiative, driven by the needs of the North Korean people rather than "any other agenda". The report calls for **offering 60 million vaccines** to tackle COVID-19 as a **gateway to broader conversations** on capacity development, including on food production, healthcare and water and sanitation. In conclusion, the report recommends the DPRK urgently invests the maximum available resources, including through international cooperation, to ensure that basic needs are met, prioritizing the most marginalized communities; discusses with the international community on the modalities to ensure the full COVID-19 vaccination for the entire population, and fulfil the necessary technical requirements for receiving vaccines under the **COVAX Facility** and other bodies; and to gradually **open its borders** and urgently **allow for the return of UN agencies**, other INGOs and the diplomatic community, and for economic activity and movement of people; among other recommendations.

Item 5: Human Rights Bodies and Mechanisms:

Presentation of thematic reports by the High Commissioner, Secretary General and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (22 March 2022):

- Report of the Secretary General Current on **the prevention of human rights violations** in the context of **system-wide delivery and financing of, and existing gaps in, technical assistance and capacity-building** that support the implementation by States of their international human rights obligations and commitments.

[A/HRC/49/68](#): The report analyses the current system-wide delivery and financing of, and existing gaps in, **technical assistance and capacity-building** that support the implementation by States of their international **human rights obligations** and commitments, and to make recommendations in order to improve and scale

⁶ Advanced Unedited Version in English is available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) as of March 2022.

up the system-wide delivery and financing of technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights with a view to building national resilience. The report focuses on the **correlation between a society's enjoyment of and commitment to human rights and its resilience to crisis**. It highlights the **need to integrate** human rights in UN common analysis and programming; to **strengthen synergies** between the UN and partners; and to **increase resources and expertise** for technical assistance and capacity-building programmes. The report highlights that **technical assistance and capacity-building programmes and activities are key** to supporting the implementation by States of their international human rights obligations, and to contributing to building **national resilience**. The report further asserts the need to integrate human rights in UN common analysis and programming to develop technical assistance and capacity-building programmes that are inclusive and context-specific, **responding to needs at the country level**.

- Report of the 2021 **Social Forum** focused on good practices, success stories, lessons learned and challenges in the **fight against the COVID-19 pandemic**, with a special focus on international cooperation and solidarity, and from a human rights perspective.

[A/HRC/49/79](#): The report contains a summary of the discussions, conclusions and recommendations of the **Social Forum** held in Geneva on 11 and 12 October 2021. Participants considered good practices, success stories, lessons learned and challenges in the fight against the coronavirus disease (COVID19) pandemic, with a special focus on international cooperation and solidarity, and from a human rights perspective.

The report concludes that the COVID-19 pandemic and other global challenges, such as climate change, armed conflicts and international migration, have shed light on **global interdependence and interconnectedness**. While a global crisis, developing countries, and in particular least developed countries, have been hardest hit by the pandemic. The report also highlights the concern of other potentially lethal pandemics and the **unpreparedness** to prevent and respond to them, acknowledging also the wide **global gap in access** to vaccines and medicines, owing to **inequalities among countries**.

While countries have learned that **health security is an integral part of national security** and socioeconomic security, the report acknowledges that **strong political leadership** and **public health leadership** lead to better preparedness and response. The report notes that COVID-19 vaccines should be a **global public good**, and the **equal access to vaccines** is a human right. It further states that a well-coordinated global approach to the development and distribution of vaccines based on **solidarity of all nations and peoples** is the most effective, **sustainable and moral response** to the pandemic. The report recommends that States and all stakeholders ensure that any recovery from the pandemic is grounded in all human rights; that States ensure universal and equitable access to COVID-19 **vaccines and information**; and that to improve preparedness and resilience, States should strengthen policy coherence, health security, national and socioeconomic security, and political leadership.

- Report of the Chair on the third session of the **Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law**.

[A/HRC/49/80](#): The report contains a summary of the discussions, conclusions, and recommendations of the **Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law**, that held its third session in Geneva on 16 and 17 November 2021 on the theme *"Equal access to justice for all: a necessary element of democracy, rule of law and human rights protection"*. Some of the recommendations presented in the report include urging States to **guarantee equal treatment in the criminal justice system** by addressing prejudice, bias and stereotypes against racial, ethnic and religious minorities, including people of African descent, within law enforcement and criminal justice systems, by requiring gender-sensitivity and by ensuring equal treatment for women and girls. States should establish **compulsory training**, education and capacity-building programmes for law enforcement and judicial officials in human rights, including the rights of minorities, women and persons with disabilities, and include sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics as protected grounds in laws against discrimination and hate crimes. The report also gives recommendations in terms of **access to justice in times of crisis**, including designing and adapting justice systems to ensure crisis preparedness. In taking action to address climate change, States and all other relevant stakeholders should consider the inextricable linkage to issues of fairness, justice and the rule of law, in line with the concept of **climate justice**. Furthermore, States should adopt measures to **protect the independence of the judiciary**; to strengthen the integrity of and to **prevent opportunities for corruption** among members of the judiciary; to promote judicial **transparency**; to ensure that violations and abuses of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of

association and any alleged violence, threats and attacks against journalists and media workers are investigated and that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

- Report of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues on recommendations of the Forum on Minority Issues at its fourteenth session on the theme **“Conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities.”**

[A/HRC/49/81](#): The present report contains the recommendations of the fourteenth session of the **Forum on Minority Issues**, held on 2 and 3 December 2021 in Geneva in a hybrid format on the theme *“Conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities”*. The work of the Forum was guided by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Mr. Fernand de Varennes. The report draws from the discussions and contributions by the **670 participants** including representatives of States, UN mechanisms, bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, intergovernmental and regional organizations and mechanisms in the field of human rights, NHRIs, NGOs, and representatives of minorities, academics and experts on minority issues. The report also reflects the contributions made by the participants of **four virtual regional forums** on the same topic and aim to provide guidance to further implement the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities.

The report concludes in several recommendations, divided into general recommendations; recommendations to address the root causes of contemporary conflicts involving minorities; recommendations to design and implement legal and institutional frameworks ensuring conflict prevention through the protection of the human rights of minorities; recommendations to focus on the rights of minorities and ensure effective early prevention of conflicts; and to recommendations on promoting positive initiatives to better protect the rights of minorities to prevent conflicts. Some of these include urging States to ratify, accede to and adhere to all international and regional human rights instruments that protect and promote the human rights of minorities; making efforts to **raise awareness** of the benefits of protecting the rights of minorities as an effective **means to prevent conflicts**; and holding perpetrators of conflicts involving minorities accountable, investigating and **addressing root causes**, and properly **compensating and assisting victims**.

- Report on the twenty-seventh **annual meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives, independent experts and working groups of the special procedures** of the Council.

[A/HRC/49/82](#)⁷: Twenty-seventh annual meeting of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and chairs of working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

[A/HRC/49/82/Add.1](#)⁸: Facts and figures with regard to the special procedures in 2021.

- **Communications report of Special Procedures** – Communications sent, 1 June to 30 November 2021; Replies received, 1 August 2021 to 31 January 2022.

[A/HRC/49/3](#): Short summaries of all allegations communicated to the respective State or other entity are made available on the Special Procedures communications website.⁹ The communications sent and responses received are also accessible electronically. The website reports all urgent appeals, and letters of allegations sent by Special Procedures mandate holders between 1 June and 30 November 2021 and replies received until 31 January 2022. Communications sent before 1 June 2021 are reported in previous communications reports submitted to the Council and made available on the dedicated website.¹⁰

⁷ Report not available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) by 21 March 2022.

⁸ Report not available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) by 21 March 2022.

⁹ <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/>

¹⁰ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/CommunicationsreportsSP.aspx>

Item 6: Universal Periodic Review Adoptions

Greece: [Report](#) of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (henceforth “Working Group”) lists 239 recommendations received by Greece. Greece accepts (fully or partially) 219 recommendations while it takes note of 20. Troika of rapporteurs: Japan, Senegal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Suriname: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 147 recommendations received by Suriname. Suriname accepted 94 recommendations, will examine 53 and provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Bahamas, Republic of Korea and Somalia.

Samoa: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 145 recommendations received by Samoa. Samoa accepted 112 and noted 33 recommendations and will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Brazil, Denmark and Uzbekistan.

Hungary: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 267 recommendations received by Hungary, which will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Argentina, Armenia and India.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 156 recommendations received by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Malawi, Pakistan and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Papua New Guinea: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 161 recommendations received by Papua New Guinea, which will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Eritrea, Fiji and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Tajikistan: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 234 recommendations received by Tajikistan, which will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Austria, Burkina Faso and Cuba.

United Republic of Tanzania: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 252 recommendations received by Tanzania. Tanzania accepted 108 recommendations, noted 132 recommendations, and will examine 12 and provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Bangladesh, Gabon and the Russian Federation.

Eswatini: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 222 recommendations received by Eswatini, which will provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: France, Libya and Nepal.

Antigua and Barbuda: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 155 recommendations received by Antigua and Barbuda. Antigua and Barbuda accepted 36 recommendations and noted 119. Troika of rapporteurs: Bahrain, Togo and Uruguay.

Trinidad and Tobago: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 166 recommendations received by Trinidad and Tobago. Trinidad and Tobago accepted 65 and noted 101 recommendations. Troika of rapporteurs: Indonesia, Mauritania and the Netherlands.

Thailand: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 278 recommendations received by Thailand. Thailand accepted 194 recommendations, will examine 84 and provide responses during the 49th session of the Council. Troika of rapporteurs: Bulgaria, China and Côte d’Ivoire.

Ireland: [Report](#) of the Working Group lists 260 recommendations received by Ireland. Ireland accepted 221 recommendations and notes 33. Troika of rapporteurs: Germany, Sudan and Ukraine.

The consideration of the report of the Universal Periodic Review of **Myanmar** is postponed to the 50th session.

Item 7: Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Presentation of reports by the High Commissioner and Secretary General, on the human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories (25 March)

- Report of the High Commissioner on the implementation of Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1.

[A/HRC/49/83](#)¹¹: The report covers the period from 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021 and provides an overview of the **human rights situation in the OPT**. The highlighted issues of concern include violations of IHL during hostilities, collective punishment, excessive use of force, violations of freedom of expression,

¹¹ Advanced Unedited Version in English is available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) as of 18 February 2022.

association and peaceful assembly, violations of the right to life, violence against women, arbitrary detention, ill-treatment and restrictions to freedom of movement. The report concludes with recommendations to the Government of Israel, including to **immediately end all human rights violations and abuses** perpetrated in the OPT, in particular the **unnecessary or disproportionate use of force**, home raids, demolitions and forced evictions, restrictions to freedom of movement and family life. The report urges the Government to take steps to prevent and ensure accountability for **settler violence**; to **end violations against children and protect children** from all forms of violence, including unnecessary or disproportionate use of force resulting in killings and injuries, torture and ill-treatment; to end arbitrary detention, including administrative detention of children; to ensure that in law enforcement activities firearms are used only in cases of imminent threat of death or serious injury as a measure of **last resort**; Conduct prompt, thorough, independent, impartial and effective investigations into all incidents of use of force by the Israeli security forces that have led to the death or injury of Palestinians, among other recommendations.

- Report of the Secretary General on the human rights in the **occupied Syrian Golan**.

[A/HRC/49/84](#): The report is submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/24, in paragraph 1 of which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying power, to comply with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Human Rights Council, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Security Council decided, inter alia, that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel rescind forthwith its decision. The HRC requested the Secretary General to bring the resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent UN organs, specialized agencies, international and regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations, to disseminate it widely, and to report on human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan to the Council at its forty-ninth session.

- Report of the High Commissioner on **Israeli settlements** in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan.

[A/HRC/49/85](#)¹²: The report provides an **update on settlement activities, illegal under international law, and their impact on the human rights of Palestinians**, from 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021. During the reporting period Israeli settlement expansion continued in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, with 13 new established outposts. Demolitions of Palestinian property and incidents of settler violence reached the **highest levels ever recorded** by the UN and **settler violence became more severe**, while **impunity** for settler violence is widespread. In most incidents, Israeli **Security Forces (ISF) failed to protect the Palestinian population**, often using excessive force against Palestinians. The report highlights an increase in new tenders and construction starts, Israeli authorities issuing tenders for a total of 3,600 units in West Bank settlements, including almost 300 in East Jerusalem, compared with 3,200 units during the previous reporting period. The advancement or approval of new plans decreased, with plans for 7,100 housing units advanced or approved in West Bank settlements, including approximately 500 in East Jerusalem, compared to 9,300 units in the previous period. Settlement construction starts indicated a 40 percent increase, with an average monthly rate of 142 units, compared with 101 units during the previous period. Israeli authorities **demolished** 967 Palestinian-owned structures in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, **displacing** 1,190 Palestinians, including 656 children, 261 women, and 273 men - **the highest number since OCHA started recording demolitions** in 2009. These include 243 donor-funded structures **provided as humanitarian aid**, 86 water, sanitation and hygiene structures, and **two schools**, affecting 643 children. ISF **killed** 70 Palestinians, including 51 men, three women and 16 boys, and **injured** 14,090 Palestinians in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem during this period, **representing a significant spike**. Of them, 10 (four boys and six men) were killed and 10,867 injured (including 795 with live ammunition) in the context of **mainly peaceful protests** against settlement-related issues and the occupation. The report expresses concern over the proposal by the Israeli Prime Minister on 11 October 2021 to **double the population of the occupied Syrian Golan** by the end of the decade eventually increasing Israeli settlers to 100,000 residents, almost four times the current population. In conclusion, the report reaffirms that the transferring of Israel's civilian population into the territories it occupies is **prohibited under IHL** and that such transfers mount to a **war crime** that may engage the individual

¹² Advanced Unedited Version in English is available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) as of 21 February 2022

criminal responsibility of those involved. It recommends that the Israeli authorities **immediately and completely cease and reverse** all settlement development and related activities; rescind all policies and practices contributing to a coercive environment and/or increasing the risk of forcible transfer; review planning laws and policies to ensure they are compliant with the obligations of Israel under IHRL and IHL; refrain from implementing evictions and demolition orders on the basis of discriminatory and unlawful planning policies and practices that may lead to forcible transfer; take all steps necessary to **protect** the Palestinian population and their property from settler violence; and protect the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly of Palestinians.

- Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, **Mr. Michael Lynk**.

[A/HRC/49/87¹³](#): Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967.

Other reports to be presented to the Council

- OHCHR report on the contribution of the respect for all universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing human rights and fundamental freedoms to achieving the purposes and upholding the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

[A/HRC/49/88](#): The report provides an overview of the **contribution of the respect for all universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing human rights and fundamental freedoms to achieving the purposes and upholding the principles of the Charter of the United Nations**. It focuses on areas where human rights have made a notable contribution to the realization of the Organization's objectives of maintaining peace and security, **promoting and encouraging respect for justice** and supporting **sustainable development**.

- Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the **Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** on its nineteenth session, held from 12 to 22 October 2021.

[A/HRC/49/89](#): The report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action provides information on the work done at its nineteenth session, held in Geneva from 11 to 22 October 2021. Participants discussed the situation of **racial discrimination** worldwide, taking into account the implementation of the DDPA. During its session, the Working Group **reviewed the progress** achieved concerning the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent and discussed measures to enhance the effectiveness of the mechanisms established to follow up on the DDPA. The WG reviewed the development of **national action plans** against racial discrimination. The IGWG welcomes the establishment of the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent and the International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in Law Enforcement; reaffirms that the DDPA provide a comprehensive UN framework and solid foundation for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; and reaffirms its commitment to their full and effective implementation. The report **regrets** the untold suffering inflicted on millions of men, women and children as a result of slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, apartheid, genocide and other past tragedies. The report expresses concern the **rise in discrimination**, hate speech, stigmatization, racism, systemic racism, stereotypes, racial profiling, violence, xenophobia and intolerance both **in person and online**; the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on **existing inequalities** and regrets that persons belonging to **racial and ethnic minorities** have been **victims of racist violence, threats, discrimination and stigmatization**, and urges States to address this issue. The report calls on States to show stronger political will in the implementation of the DDPA and urges States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies.

¹³ Report not available on the [OHCHR webpage](#) by 21 March 2022.

General debates:

(21-22 March 2022) **Item 4:** Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.

(22 March 2022) **Item 5:** Human rights bodies and mechanisms.

(24 March 2022) **Item 6:** Universal Periodic Review.

(25 March 2022) **Item 7:** Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.

(25 March 2022) **Item 8:** Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

(25 March 2022) **Item 9:** Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (will continue Monday 28 March).

The Geneva Centre's summaries on selected meetings [available here](#).