

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 56th SESSION

Overview of Week 2 (24 – 28 June 2024)

*During the second week of the UN Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner and the Special Rapporteurs will continue discussions under **Agenda Item 3**¹, including on the right to health, on the right to education, on the human rights of migrants, on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on discrimination against women and girls, and on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, among others. Additionally, the Council will hold the **annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women regarding the themes namely, economic violence against women and girls and human rights economy and women's rights.***



Panel discussions



28 June: Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women

Panel 1: Economic violence against women and girls

Panel 2: Human rights economy and women's rights

Agenda Item 3: Presentation of Reports and Interactive Dialogues



24 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the [right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health](#), **Tlaleng Mofokeng, focusing on drug use, harm reduction, and the right to health.**

[A/HRC/56/52](#): The report explored how harm reduction relates to both drug use and drug use disorders, as well as to drug laws and policies, analyzed and addressed the related outcomes that adversely impact the enjoyment of the right to health. In doing so, the Special Rapporteur focuses on drugs whose production, distribution and consumption have been subject to control under the international drug control conventions, including how the approach to such control has negatively affected the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of certain drugs used as medicines. She considers harm reduction interventions particularly important for populations that are often stigmatized and discriminated against in the context of drug use and the enforcement of drug laws and policies. In conclusion, the **SR recommended** States to move from a reliance on criminal law and instead take a human rights-based, evidence-based and compassionate approach to harm reduction in relation to drug use and drug use disorders. States are obliged to develop national health legislation and policies, and to strengthen their national health systems and budgets.

[A/HRC/56/52/Add.1](#): **Visit to Luxembourg, from 17 to 26 April 2023**. The SR commended the adoption of universal health care coverage in October 2022, which ensures access to health care for vulnerable groups of

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

the population who do not have compulsory health insurance. Health protection must be guaranteed to everyone, regardless of their professional or administrative situation. She noted some good practices, including the collaborative relationships between ministries and associations, and non-governmental organizations. She welcomed the agreement between the Government and the National Health Fund implemented as of 1 April 2023, which ensures access to contraceptives through health coverage under the social security system, with no age limit. However, she was concerned about the lack of national mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of national health strategies and action plans. She **recommended** that Luxembourg establish multidisciplinary, multisectoral, interdepartmental institutional responsibility for the implementation of the right to health national strategy and plan of action.

[A/HRC/56/52/Add.2](#): **Visit to Costa Rica, from 18 to 31 July 2023**. The SR noted good practices, including the adoption of specific legislation, policies and agreements in that regard. She remains concerned about the challenges related to mental health exacerbated by the coronavirus disease pandemic, in particular affecting youth, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, asexual and other sexually or gender-diverse persons, migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees, Indigenous Peoples, persons of African descent, persons deprived of their liberty and persons who use drugs. She recommended that Costa Rica collect disaggregated data from an intersectional perspective to inform policy and the allocation of resources. The Special Rapporteur recommended that Costa Rica impose a moratorium on the application of criminal laws concerning abortion.

24 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the **right to education**, **Farida Shaheed**.

A/HRC/56/58²: The report examined the right to academic freedom from a right-to-education perspective. **Academic freedom is the freedom to access, disseminate and produce information**; to think freely; and to develop, express, apply, and engage with a diversity of knowledge within or related to one's expertise or field of study, regardless of whether it takes place inside the academic community or outside the academic community, including with the public. It is a human right the exercise of which carries special duties to seek truth and impart information according to ethical and professional standards, and to respond to contemporary problems and needs of all members of society.

In conclusion, the **SR set several recommendations for implementing the right to academic freedom**. States and other stakeholders should ensure constitutional and legal recognition of academic freedom as an autonomous right at the national level, clarifying that it is applicable at all levels of education, for researchers, educators and students; promote knowledge of the importance and meaning of academic freedom amongst academic, research and teaching institutions as well as the wider public; and refrain from both direct repression of people exercising their academic freedom, as well as more subtle methods; among others.

[A/HRC/56/58/Add.1](#): **Visit to Finland, from 20 to 29 November 2023**, aiming to gather information on the provision and enjoyment of the right to free, quality, and inclusive education for all, and to engage in a dialogue with, and offer recommendations to, the Government and other stakeholders in this regard. The public educational system in Finland has a well-deserved worldwide reputation for excellence. The system is characterized by highly qualified teachers and a high level of cascading autonomy: from national entities to regional State authorities, municipalities, principals and, eventually, individual teachers. It relies fully on, and benefits from, dedicated and committed personnel. Today, the system is facing some critical challenges due to changes within the Finnish education system as well as in the external environment, such as an ageing population, greater diversity in backgrounds and the increasing presence of digital technology in education. Therefore, the SR recommended the Government to adjust the funding schemes to ensure that the teachers are paid competitive salaries; to monitor closely the implementation of anti-bullying programmes; and to collect data, disaggregated by socioeconomic status, gender, language, migrant background, place of origin and other factors, to assess whether and to what extent the educational system allows for social mobility and helps to overcome existing inequalities; among others.

24 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on **the independence of judges and lawyers**, **Margaret Satterthwaite**, focusing on safeguarding the independence of judicial systems in the face of contemporary challenges to democracy.

² As of 22 June, only the English Advanced Version was available.

A/HRC/56/62³: The report provided a brief account of the challenges to democratic governance worldwide, and briefly outlined the international legal standards enshrining the human right to participate in political life and the importance of the rule of law and judicial independence in protecting that right. Research indicates that democracy is in decline around the globe, and elections alone do not guarantee meaningful democracy. The Special Rapporteur then examined the vital role played by the legal professionals who comprise the justice system—judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, as well as community justice workers—in safeguarding democracy. She also explored the threats and obstacles they face in carrying out this work. Finally, the Special Rapporteur **made recommendations to States and justice system actors concerning the steps** they can take **to resist autocratic trends and to advance participatory governance**. To protect the separation of powers, the rule of law and participatory governance, more must be done to revitalize public trust in justice institutions and to defend justice actors and their indispensable role in safeguarding democracy. The most important step any State can take is to **fully respect and ensure the independence of the judiciary, the autonomy of prosecutors, the exercise of the legal profession, and the contributions of CJWs**. States should pay special attention to the roles these institutional and individual actors play in safeguarding fundamental democratic processes such as elections and referenda, public assemblies and protests, and civic discourse and debate.

[A/HRC/56/62/Add.1](#): **Visit to Montenegro, from 19 to 26 September 2023**. The purpose of the visit was to assess the progress made by the country in strengthening the independence of the judiciary and the prosecution service and ensure the effective realization of the principle of separation of powers. The report noted that since the beginning of the accession process to the European Union, Montenegro has made considerable progress in reforming its institutional and legislative framework. The European Union accession process has also marked significant advances in the fight against corruption and organized crime. Notwithstanding these positive developments, the justice system of Montenegro continues to face serious legislative gaps, institutional shortcomings, and practical problems that undermine the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and the prosecution service and limit or prevent access to justice for victims of human rights violations. In relation to the free exercise of the legal profession, more needs to be done to ensure that lawyers are free to carry out their professional activities without any undue interference or pressure. The SR concluded the report by offering a number of recommendations aimed at further strengthening the independence of judges and prosecutors and the free exercise of the legal profession.

[A/HRC/56/62/Add.2](#): **Visit to Mongolia, from 6 to 15 November 2023**. The visit aimed to examine the progress made by the country in implementing its obligations under human rights law to ensure the independence and impartiality of judges and prosecutors and the free exercise of the legal profession. The SR recognised the efforts of Mongolia, and its many achievements, in reforming its judiciary since the country's transition to democracy and the adoption of its Constitution in 1992. However, procedural reforms and increased financial resources are needed before the full effects will be evident. Further steps should be taken to ensure that the role of the President in appointing judges does not risk undermining the separation of powers or the professional pathway to the judiciary that Mongolia has established. The report concluded by offering **several recommendations** aimed at further strengthening the independence of judges and prosecutors and the free exercise of the legal profession. The Government must combat discrimination and welcome members of all communities into the legal profession, the judiciary, and the prosecution service. It should collect and report on data concerning the diversity of the judiciary and prosecution service.

25 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the **human rights of migrants, Gehad Madi**, focusing on revisiting migrants' contributions with a human rights-based approach: a discussion on facilitating and hindering factors.

[A/HRC/56/54](#): The report examined migrants' sociocultural, civic-political and economic contributions. Migrants are rights holders, and their rights should be protected regardless of the contributions that they make to society. In particular, the report illustrated how xenophobia, racism, hate speech and violence against migrants are becoming normalized, while migrants' well-documented and numerous contributions are ignored or denied. This not only causes immediate harm to victims but also shakes the foundations of diversity, equality and human rights on which peaceful societies are built. However, migrants continue to

³ As of 22 June, only the English Advanced Version was available.

make enormous contributions, leading to sociocultural enrichment, civic-political engagement and economic benefits around the world.

Lastly, the Special Rapporteur offered conclusions and recommendations for States and other actors on upholding the human rights of migrants, supporting migrants' contributions and improving the narrative so that it better reflects the inherent value of migrants and their contributions.

25 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur [on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions](#), **Morris Tidball-Binz**, focusing on the protection of the dead.

[A/HRC/56/56](#): In the report, the Special Rapporteur examined the obligations to protect the dead from a human rights perspective, building on reports by previous mandate holders, including on the protection of mass graves. The Special Rapporteur reviewed the applicable legal frameworks, including relevant international human rights, humanitarian and criminal law, as well as regional and national laws. The rights to life, to be free from torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, to be protected from enforced disappearance to a remedy, to privacy, to religion, and to culture all contain obligations to protect the dead. **All States must protect and respect the dead.** The Special Rapporteur **recommended** the development of human rights-based guiding principles for the protection of the dead through a human rights lens, and called on States, in every case and circumstance of a potentially unlawful death, to treat the body of the deceased with dignity and respect.

[A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#)⁴: Visit to Honduras.

26 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Working Group on the issue of [human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises](#), focusing on investors, environmental, social, and governance approaches and human rights.

[A/HRC/56/55](#): The report outlined how investors can align the environmental, social and governance, and sustainability, approaches. Investors have the responsibility to respect human rights by placing risks for people and the planet at the centre of their decision-making. This includes embedding human rights into their policies and strategies, undertaking ongoing human rights due diligence, and remediating adverse human rights impacts they cause or to which they contribute. States can play a key role by drafting legislation and regulations that enable investors, in their ESG, and sustainability, approaches, to increase alignment with the Guiding Principles, to provide transparent information to stakeholders, to include double materiality requirements, to include effective enforcement provisions, and to ensure effective access to remedies for rights holders for potential or actual adverse human rights impacts as a result of investment decisions. These actions could help to ensure a movement away from a voluntary, piecemeal approach by investors to human rights impacts. In conclusion, the **WG offered recommendations to the financial sector, investors, and States**, including, strengthening and developing regulation and legislation; developing and supporting the implementation of ESG, and sustainability, investment approaches that account for human rights; and establishing robust enforcement mechanisms; among others.

[A/HRC/56/55/Add.1](#): **Visit to Japan, from 24 July to 4 August 2023.** The Working Group commended the important advancements of Japan, including developing a national action plan on business and human rights and the Guidelines on Respecting Human Rights in Responsible Supply Chains. However, challenges remain concerning the business community's capacity to understand and implement human rights due diligence across value chains. The Working Group expressed concern about the difficulties observed in addressing deeply embedded harmful gender and social norms, particularly evident in the workplace discrimination and harassment experienced by women, Indigenous Peoples, Buraku people, persons with disabilities, migrant workers, and LGBTQI+ persons, among other groups. Government and business initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion and to safeguard the rights of these at-risk groups are crucial moving forward. The WG recommended the Government to include a gap analysis of business and human rights policies; improve access to judicial and non-judicial remedies by removing the barriers identified in the present report, ensuring effective protection and assistance for all victims of business-related human rights abuses; and to ratify the ILO Discrimination; among others.

⁴ As of 22 June, only the Spanish Advanced Version was available.

26 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur [on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression](#), **Irene Khan**, focusing on journalists in exile.

[A/HRC/56/53](#): The report focused on journalists in exile who face a variety of physical, digital and legal threats. International human rights and refugee law provide a strong framework to protect journalists in exile; however, the security and safety of journalists in exile remain precarious, because of the failure of States to uphold their international obligations. Political and ideological considerations and bilateral relations heavily influence the ways in which States respond to the plight of journalists in exile. Journalists should not be treated as political pawns but as human beings in distress who, at great cost to themselves, serve a critical social purpose – fulfilling people’s right to be informed of issues that affect their lives.

Finally, the SR provided **recommendations to States, digital and media companies, international organizations and civil society** to strengthen the safety of journalists and enhance the viability of independent media in exile. In particular, States should establish clear legal pathways for journalists at risk to leave their countries and reside abroad with the right to work until they can return home safely; take all measures to facilitate exiled media outlets to operate freely and on a non-discriminatory basis and support civil society initiatives to enable exiled journalists and media; among others.

[A/HRC/56/53/Add.1](#): **Visit to Honduras, from 16 to 17 October 2023**. While recognizing some important advances, the report described the challenging context of complex and long-lasting human rights problems in Honduras, sustained by a culture of impunity. Honduras faces complex and long-standing human rights problems, which are rooted in poverty, inequality, corruption, organized crime, weak institutions, the marginalization of peasant and Indigenous communities, patriarchal values impeding gender equality and respect for the rights of gender non-conforming individuals and alarmingly high levels of violence by State and private actors against human rights defenders, journalists and social communicators, sustained by a culture of impunity. The Special Rapporteur expressed particular concern about persistently high rates of violence and threats against human rights defenders, journalists and social communicators in Honduras, accompanied by high rates of impunity. The SR made specific recommendations to the Government, concerning the creation of an open and trustful relationship with civil society and Indigenous communities, the fight against impunity, the access to information, addressing disinformation, and the promotion of media freedom, pluralism, and freedom of expression.

[A/HRC/56/53/Add.2](#): **Visit to Serbia and Kosovo, from 28 March to 6 April 2023**. The report underlined the strong legal framework for freedom of expression in *Serbia* but expresses concern that it is being undermined by certain policies and practices, including widespread threats, attacks, hate speech and smear campaigns, online and offline, against journalists, human rights defenders and political opponents, continued impunity for past crimes, slow, ineffective prosecutions and a weak media regulatory body, which is unable to carry out its responsibilities in an independent, effective and competent manner. The SR urged the Government of Serbia to carry out legal, policy and institutional reforms and demonstrate a stronger, unequivocal political commitment to upholding freedom of expression online and offline, in line with its international human rights obligations. With regard to *Kosovo*, the SR recommended the need to improve the inclusivity and diversity of the media, including by providing more sustained support to independent Serbian-language media.

26 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur [on trafficking in persons, especially women and children](#), **Siobhán Mullally**, focusing on trafficking in persons, mixed migration and protection at sea.

[A/HRC/56/60](#): The report underlined that at sea, victims of trafficking or persons at risk of trafficking are often perceived as being without rights, rightless. The rights of victims of trafficking and persons at risk of trafficking continue to exist at sea. Thousands of migrants continue to die or go missing each year along perilous sea routes. Many of those who die or go missing are victims of trafficking. The SR called for urgent, effective, and coordinated actions by States and maritime actors to prevent trafficking in persons in the context of migration at sea and to protect victims of trafficking and persons at risk of trafficking. Such actions must be compliant with international law, recognizing the trauma and serious harm endured by victims of trafficking. Through strengthened international cooperation, accountability must be ensured, prioritizing victims' rights. Moreover, **she recommended States, UN entities, and other international organizations, international**

courts, and tribunals strengthen action to prevent trafficking in persons, by expanding access to safe, regular migration pathways and to refugee protection, ensuring the protection of human rights, to reduce the risks for migrants and refugees taking dangerous journeys by sea; ratify and implement international law of the sea instruments; and ensure training and provision of trained and qualified personnel to identify, assist and protect victims of trafficking and persons at risk of trafficking, at sea and on disembarkation in all reception settings; among others.

[A/HRC/56/60/Add.1](#): **Visit to Colombia, from 22 to 31 May 2023.** The SR welcomed the country's commitment to combating all forms of trafficking in persons; and the progress made in the public policy to dismantle illegal armed groups and criminal organizations, noting their widespread involvement in trafficking in persons for all purposes of exploitation. She was particularly concerned at the continuing impact of the armed conflict, the incidence of conflict-related trafficking and the presence of armed groups engaging in trafficking in persons, especially women and children. Then, she highlighted the potential involvement of family members and informal community networks in trafficking, which requires increased attention and effective action. In conclusion, she **listed several recommendations to the Government concerning the conflict-related trafficking, the trafficking in migration and displacements, trafficking in children**, as well as in the context of improving assistance and protection measures provided to victims of trafficking, including the **right to access effective remedies**, in the context of trafficking for purposes of **labour and sexual exploitations**.

[A/HRC/56/60/Add.2](#): **Visit to Central African Republic, from 24 to 30 November 2023.** The SR welcomed the political will of the President and the Government to combat trafficking in persons and to strengthen prevention, protection and accountability. She commended the Government's engagement in an open and constructive dialogue on the challenges faced in combating the serious human rights violation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children. While efforts have been made, urgent action is needed to progress a human rights-based response to trafficking, prioritize effective prevention and ensure the rights of victims to assistance and protection. The SR was particularly concerned at the devastating impact of trafficking in persons on children and young people. She recommended that the Government's Authorities should strengthen efforts for the rehabilitation and social integration of children associated with armed conflict and to ensure that all persons; the UN entities and international partners should prioritize the implementation of a human rights-based response to trafficking in persons by providing resources to strengthen capacity for the prevention of trafficking, in particular in women and children, and ensuring effective access to protection; and integrate effective measures to combat conflict-related trafficking in persons, in particular in women and children, into peacebuilding measures to ensure prevention, protection and accountability; among others.

26 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on **human rights and international solidarity**, **Cecilia M. Bailliet**, focusing on the participation of civil society organizations seeking to express international solidarity through transnational, international and regional networks.

[A/HRC/56/57](#): The report affirmed that international solidarity provides a future-oriented universal narrative of inclusion and recognition of the diversity of civil society in the enjoyment of human rights that also serves to combat inequality, polarization and fragmentation among and within nations. There is an imperative to create strategic networks and coalition alliances between civil society, States, international organizations, academia, businesses, human rights institutions and faith-based institutions in order to design and implement international solidarity initiatives. International solidarity merits both normative recognition and institutional implementation to guarantee its fair enjoyment and protection from censorship and oppression. The SR confirms the growing trend of shrinking civic space in both the physical and the digital arenas, which has a negative impact on opportunities for expressing international solidarity. She provided **recommendations** to States, companies and international organizations to better support civil society's right to exchange international solidarity ideas, including creating a digital international solidarity platform. Suppression of the non-violent expression of international solidarity will only incite violence. States should create new channels for the expression of solidarity to support social cohesion.

27 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Working Group on **discrimination against women and girls**, focusing on gender equality: escalating backlashes and the urgency to reaffirm substantive equality and the human rights of women and girls.

[A/HRC/56/51](#): The report focused on the escalating gender backlash, which has reached extreme proportions in certain countries, including gender apartheid, and reaffirms its commitment to countering it, while charting a path towards the equal enjoyment of all human rights for women and girls. The report covered the main activities of the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, and included its stocktaking and vision-setting for the future. Despite some advancements, no country has achieved gender equality. Humanity is in the midst of a backlash aimed at curtailing the equal enjoyment by women and girls of their rights in all major areas of life. The backlash is escalating and undermining current achievements and prospects for further progress, reaching extreme proportions in certain countries, including the regime of gender apartheid imposed by the Taliban in Afghanistan. In its recommendations, the Working Group called for a commitment to substantive gender equality and for coordinated efforts to counter the gender backlash. In particular, international, regional and national human rights mechanisms should develop coherent, systematic, comprehensive and coordinated efforts to reaffirm the universality of women's and girls' rights, as well as the inalienable, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated nature of all human rights, with a view to pushing back on denials and retrogressions with regard to women's and girls' rights and misinformation campaigns. States should also consider recognizing gender apartheid as a crime against humanity in the draft convention on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity.

[A/HRC/56/51/Add.1](#): **Visit to Mauritania, from 25 September to 6 October 2023.** The report assessed the situation of the human rights of women and girls in the country, noting achievements, challenges and pathways to progress, taking into account the context of the country's current legal, institutional and policy framework for promoting gender equality and the participation of women in the family and economic, social, cultural, political and public life, paying particular attention to discriminatory laws and sociocultural norms and gender-based violence against women and girls. It concluded with **recommendations** for making further progress in eliminating discrimination and promoting gender equality, including the ratification and implementation of the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW; and the implementation of existing legislation on the protection of women's rights and gender equality, among others.

[A/HRC/56/51/Add.2](#): **Visit to Malta, from 26 June to 7 July 2023.** The report commended the remarkable advancements in gender equality, since 2004. Nevertheless, in 2024, the country also confronts continuing discrimination against women and girls. There has been increasing recognition of the need to challenge harmful traditional gender roles and promote gender equality. The State requires system-wide national data to track improved responses. In conclusion, the Working Group recommended the Government to increase the representation and meaningful participation of women at all levels of government, with a view to achieving gender parity; investigate acts of intimidation and harassment of women activists, journalists and human rights defenders in order to ensure accountability, justice and compensation; and end the impunity for gender-based violence, including femicide and domestic violence; among others.

27 June: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the [rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association](#), on the reports of the previous mandate holder, **Clément Nyaletsossi Voule** during an interactive dialogue with the new mandate holder, **Gina Paola Romero Rodriguez**.

A/HRC/56/50⁵: In the face of expanding authoritarianism, backsliding of democracies and increasing clampdowns on civic space and fundamental freedoms globally, this report highlighted the key gains made to advance the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association since the establishment of the mandate in 2010, and identifies the deepening and emerging threats to these rights. It should serve as a wake-up call for urgent unified action from States, international actors and other stakeholders to ensure these important gains are preserved, so these rights can continue to play their historic role in safeguarding human rights, democracy and peace and security. These rights are at the heart of movements for equality, peace and justice; they are fundamental for effective global governance. However, these rights are increasingly and systematically undermined, curtailed and attacked. The report called for collective action to counter the closing of civic space, and protect democracy and our collective values, and the enjoyment of all human rights and freedoms. Among others recommendations, **States should** condemn publicly and promptly any incitement, including by public officials, of hatred, discrimination or violence against individuals and groups for exercising their fundamental freedoms. **The SR provided recommendations also to donors, civil**

⁵ As of 23 June, only the English Advanced Version was available.

society, lawyers, trade unions, and academia, international and regional organizations as well as business and investors, media companies and digital platforms.

[A/HRC/56/50/Add.1](#): Visit to Peru, from 8 to 17 May 2023. The SR expressed concerns about reports of excessive use of force by security forces in the context of protests as well as increasing restrictions in law and in practice, which have impaired the effective enjoyment of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. The rights to peaceful assembly and association serve as vital democratic tools for marginalized groups to peacefully voice their grievances, and to prompt authorities to address their needs. Guaranteeing and facilitating these rights enables peaceful resolution of social conflicts, and leads to the adoption of policies addressing the concerns of affected groups. The Special Rapporteur recommended that the Government ensure accountability, foster national dialogue, and implement legal and policy reforms to protect the rights to freedom of assembly and association, as part of measures to overcome underlying causes of the recent waves of protests, in particular persistent discrimination against and marginalization of Indigenous rural communities. The Special Rapporteur remains committed to working with the Government and the people of Peru in their efforts to meet the State's obligations under international human rights law.

[A/HRC/56/50/Add.2](#): Visit to Algeria in September 2023. The Special Rapporteur acknowledged the desire of the Government of Algeria to ensure safety and stability. However, long-term safety and security cannot be achieved without respecting human rights and ensuring that all persons, including critics of the Government, can exercise their fundamental rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. For true and long-standing peace and security, Governments must treat civil society as a valued partner and not as a threat. The SR remained concerned about the continued repression and intimidation of individuals and associations critical of the Government and the continued use of unconstitutional laws and practices from the pre Hirak era to severely limit the exercise of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. Among others, the SR recommended the Government to publicly recognize the important work of civil society associations and avoid statements, especially by senior officials, portraying civil society negatively or that put civil society at risk, in order to build mutual trust with civil society, for the benefit of Algeria and all Algerians.

28 June: Interactive Dialogue on the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on **[new and emerging digital technologies and human rights](#)**, focusing on mapping the work and recommendations of the HRC, OHCHR, the treaty bodies and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council in the field of human rights and new and emerging digital technologies, including artificial intelligence.

[A/HRC/56/45](#).

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