



GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Organizational Meeting

#HRC60 • 25 August 2025



OVERVIEW

The sixtieth session of the Human Rights Council (#HRC60) will span through four and a half weeks of interactive dialogues and panel debates held in the historic **Assembly Hall** (AH) of the *Palais des Nations* from Monday, 8 September 2025 until Friday, 3 October 2025. However, the adoption of draft proposals will take place in the newly refurbished **Room XVI** from 6 to 8 October 2025. An **additional overflow room** will also be made available in **Room XII** (Italian Room) for the Council from 6 to 8 October 2025, while stressing that the arrangements for the last few days of the session are far from ideal. In this regard, UNOG stresses this is the only possibility in terms of room availability due to other activities of importance that are taking place at the same time, among them the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION

For **State** delegations, the online system for the inscription on the list of speakers for **all general debates, interactive dialogues and panel discussions** will open on Tuesday, 2 September at 4 pm and will be close 2 hours before the sitting-in for each debate is scheduled. Following the closure of the online inscription system, delegations may still register or withdraw by sending an



email to OHCHR-hrclistofspeakers@un.org. The list of speakers will be closed approximately 15 minutes after the start of each debate. The President invites all delegations to kindly respect these deadlines to ensure compliance with scheduled meetings and make the best use of the Council's limited resources.

With regard to the inscriptions to the lists of speakers for **panel discussions and interactive dialogues**, the Council will follow the same procedure adopted during previous sessions. Therefore, interested delegations are requested to rank panel discussions and interactive dialogues in order of preference. Speaking slots will be allocated by the system based on the expressed preferences. If the number of States indicating the highest priority for a particular dialogue exceeds the maximum number of available speaking slots, the slots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Turning to inscriptions to the list of speakers for the **UPR outcome documents** will open on Monday, 15 September at 9 am and close on Thursday, 18 September 18th at 6 pm. No registration will be possible after the set deadline.

For **national human rights institutions and non-governmental organisations**, the online event system for including speakers on all debates of the session will be opened on Tuesday, 2 September at 2 pm. With regard to **Indigenous peoples**, the list of speakers for the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples and with the expert mechanism on the rights of Indigenous people (EMRIP) at this session will also be opened online on 2 September at 2 pm via the online registration system.

At the closure of the organisational meeting of the 59th regular session of the UNHRC held on 2 June 2025, it was decided that for the 60th session, the **speaking time at the general debates** would be set at one minute 30 seconds for all. With reference to the modalities of #HRC60, members and observers of the Council as well as NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC and NHRIs enjoying A-status, will continue to have the possibility to deliver their **statements in person or via pre-recorded video**. Video statements shall be recorded with appropriate sound quality suitable for interpretation purposes.

DOCUMENTATION AND DIGITAL TOOLS

The President shares some important technical information with regard to documents relating to the fifty-eight session. **44 out of 95 reports** prepared for the session are already available in all the official UN languages and published on the Council's website. The remainder will be available in the coming weeks.

All participants are requested to upload the **electronic versions of oral statements** via the online system or to send them to the relevant email addresses. The President further reminds delegations that **all oral statements must be submitted electronically** to the interpreters at least one hour before the statement is to be delivered. This is essential for the quality of the interpretation.

The President further informs that the **tri-annual 2025-27 Programme of Work** and the voluntary annual calendar of UNHRC thematic resolutions are available on the extranet. Furthermore, the preliminary version of the **HRC Mapper** is already available online. This UNHRC mapping tool allows to understand the set of activities that have been recently mandated and upcoming, including the mechanisms and existing reports of the Council. The **main sponsors of resolutions**



are encouraged to use these resources when they are proposing different initiatives. The President seizes this opportunity to encourage all delegations to take into account the need to ensure **effectiveness and rationalisation** of the work of the Council.

ACCESSIBILITY

In line with UNHRC resolution 16/21, the Working Group on the accessibility to the UNHRC is deploying efforts to improve access and participation of persons with disabilities in the work of the Council. The President mentions as a reference person for any question **H.E. Mr. Razvan Rusu as Chair of the Working Group on accessibility** and focal point for accessibility. Requests related to accessibility can be also communicated to the Secretariat through the Indico platform while registering for the 60th session.

Recalling that inclusion and participation of all must be the guiding principle of the Council's work, the President encourages delegations to envisage the request that certain debates and panels are indeed accessible in order to guarantee subtitles indirect and sign language interpretation. Furthermore, delegations are requested to **upload their oral statements in an accessible Word format**.

ZERO TOLERANCE FOR REPRISALS

The President stresses the imperative to guarantee a climate of trust and security at the Council. States should prevent and ensure adequate protection against any act of intimidation or reprisals against persons or groups that cooperate or cooperated with the United Nations representatives of the UN or mechanisms in the area of human rights, as reflected in UNHRC resolution 16/21.

Intimidation and reprisals can take different forms, they can target persons that take the floor during the sessions of the Council, the sessions of the UPR Working Group or national processes as part of special procedures during visits or during the submission of mission information to mandate holders. Experts and speakers that are invited to participate in the meetings of the Council can also be concerned. It is everyone's duty to ensure that intimidation and reprisals related to cooperation with the United Nations in the area of human rights do not take place in any circumstance.