

## **Report on the implementation of recommendations received by the Republic of Belarus during the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review**

*Report prepared by a coalition of Belarusian human rights organisations: Belarusian Helsinki Committee, Belarusian Association of Journalists, Human Constanta, Human Rights Center “Viasna”, Lawtrend, Legal Initiative, Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, PEN Belarus, Respect-Protect-Fulfill, - as well as Belarusian Association of Human Rights Lawyers, Belarusian Coalition of Civil Society Organisations, Initiatives and Activists against Gender-based and Domestic Violence, Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions, environmental organisation “Ecohome” Medical Solidarity Foundation (BYMEDSOL), under the overall coordination of the Belarusian Helsinki Committee.*

The report was prepared by a coalition of Belarusian human rights organisations participating in the UPR procedure since its first cycle, with the involvement of other Belarusian NGOs to provide a more comprehensive analysis of the implementation of recommendations.

The civil society organizations that participated in the preparation of the report are open for communication and to provide additional information on the implementation of the recommendations. In case of questions, please contact [office@belhelcom.org](mailto:office@belhelcom.org).

*Executive summary:*

Of the 266 recommendations received by Belarus in the third cycle, 14 were not assessed due to lack of sufficient information.

Of the 252 recommendations assessed, only 2 are implemented, 24 are partially implemented and 226 are not implemented.

Of the 9 recommendations **accepted** by Belarus, 6 are partially implemented and 3 were not assessed.

Of the 124 recommendations **accepted** by Belarus **as implemented**, 2 are implemented, 17 are partially implemented, 94 are not implemented and 11 were not assessed.

Of the 18 recommendations **partially accepted** by Belarus, 1 is partially implemented, 17 are not implemented.

4 recommendations **accepted** by Belarus **as currently being implemented** are not implemented.

The implementation of the recommendations made to Belarus in the third cycle of the UPR is analysed in detail below:

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation Evaluation system: <div style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">recommendation is implemented</div> <div style="background-color: #FFD700; padding: 2px;">recommendation is partially implemented</div> <div style="background-color: #FFB6C1; padding: 2px;">recommendation is not implemented</div> <div style="background-color: #F0F0F0; padding: 2px;">not assessed</div>
<b>Theme: Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</b>			
138.2 Carry out an assessment and identify international treaties that correspond to national interests and can be implemented into legislation in the short and long term (Tajikistan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  There is no public information about the conduct of such an assessment by the authorities. On the contrary, during the reporting period Belarus denounced the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and withdrew from two international treaties related to human rights and environmental protection: the Aarhus and Bern Conventions.
138.3 Consider ratifying the main human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party, in particular the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Ecuador); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Death penalty - Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  There is no public information about such a consideration. In addition, considering the increasing international isolation of Belarus, and the denunciation of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights there is no reason to believe that such an assessment will be carried out in

		<p>INSTITUTIONS</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>the near future.</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.4 Continue its sound strengthening of human rights law, including through international treaties (Nicaragua);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.2 and 138.3.</p>
<p>138.5 Take further steps to consider acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Since 2010, the Belarusian authorities have stated that they are studying the feasibility of accession to the Convention. The last mention of such work was in 2016-2018, when a joint initiative of the European Commission and the International Center for Migration Policy Development (MIEUX) was implemented in Belarus.</p>
<p>138.7 Consider acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Enforced disappearances</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There is no public information about the consideration by the authorities of the issue of accession to this Convention.</p>
<p>138.9 Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Nepal) (North Macedonia);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.12 Implement the legislation and policies needed for the abolition of the death penalty, including through the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Ukraine);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>During 2022 and 2023, the authorities consistently, contrary to the international obligations of Belarus, took steps to expand the scope of application of the death penalty.</p> <p>On May 29, 2022, amendments to the Criminal Code (CC) came into force, according to which the death penalty can be applied not only for the most serious crimes that caused the death of a person, but also for attempted crimes under Part 2 of Article 124, part 3 of Article 126, part 3 of Article 289 and part 2 of Article 359 of the CC. Considering the current practice of arbitrarily classifying protest actions as a terrorist act, this may lead to the use of the death penalty without taking into account the real public danger of what has been done.</p> <p>On March 25, 2023, amendments to the CC entered into force.</p>

			<p>introducing the death penalty for high treason committed by an official in a responsible position, an official holding a public position, or a person to whom the status of a military man applies. Between 2020 and 2024, six death sentences <a href="#">were issued</a>. In 2022, it became known about the execution of the death sentence against <a href="#">Viktar Paulau</a>, when his case was still under consideration by the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC). The HRC noted that since 2010, Viktar Paulau has already been the 15th person executed by the Republic of Belarus during the consideration of the case in the HRC, despite the Committee's repeated requests to suspend the execution of the sentence while considering his complaint about alleged violations of his rights. In 2021, <a href="#">Viktar Skrundzik's death</a> sentence was re-imposed and entered into force. In 2023, it became known that in July 2022, he was executed.</p> <p>On October 19, 2023, Aliaksandr Taratuta was sentenced to death.</p> <p><a href="#">Ilya Kostseu, and Stanislau Kostseu</a> – were pardoned.</p> <p>For the first time in history, a foreign citizen has been sentenced to death on “extremist” charges. At the end of June 2024, the Minsk Regional Court sentenced German citizen <a href="#">Rico Krieger</a> to death on charges of blowing up railway tracks, but he was later pardoned and handed over to the German authorities.</p> <p>Until now, human rights activists do not know the fate of Viktar Serhel, who was sentenced to death on October 25, 2019.</p> <p>In all cases where appeals were submitted to the Human Rights Committee, the authorities disregarded requests for urgent measures and did not suspend executions. The Human Rights Committee has issued findings recognizing human rights violations in the cases of previously executed individuals, including Pavel Sialiun, Siamion Biarezchny, and Ihar Gershankou (Views concerning comm. No. 3196/2018 and No. 3209/2018 (Natalya Berezhnaya and Lyudmila Gershankova v. Belarus)).</p>
<p>138.19 Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Georgia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Rights related to name, identity &amp; nationality</li> </ul> <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Since 2018, the Belarusian authorities have announced the implementation of domestic procedures for accession to the Conventions.</p> <p>In 2021, Resolution of the Council of Ministers No. 719 was adopted, which approved the State Programme “Ensuring Law and Order” for 2021-2025. One of the items of the programme is “preparation and adoption of the Law of the Republic of Belarus on accession to the UN Conventions relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954 and the Reduction of Statelessness of</p>

			1961” with the implementation period of 2021-2022. However, to date such laws have not been adopted and the conventions have not been ratified by Belarus. Moreover, Belarus contributes to statelessness through amendments to the Law on Citizenship, according to article 19 of which one of the grounds for deprivation of citizenship is now the commission of “extremist activities”.
138.20 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and criminalize domestic violence (Italy); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Violence against women - Sexual & gender-based violence <b>SDGs:</b> - 5 - GENDER EQUALITY	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.242, 138.246.
138.1 Ratify the international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Costa Rica); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
138.6 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France); Promptly ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan); Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Enforced disappearances <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
138.8 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Bulgaria) (Slovakia); Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as previously recommended (Croatia); Sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Honduras); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.10 Ratify the Second Optional	Not supported	- Ratification of & accession to international	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

<p>Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and consider establishing a moratorium on executions as the first step towards the official abolition of the death penalty (Argentina); Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and as an interim measure establish a moratorium on executions as soon as possible, as previously recommended (Belgium); Introduce a moratorium on the death penalty as a short-term objective and consider the full abolition of the death penalty and accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Austria); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition, and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Latvia); Establish a de facto moratorium on the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as previously recommended (Portugal); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty as a first step towards the definitive abolition of the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Spain);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>instruments                      - Death penalty  <b>SDGs:</b>                      - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p>	<p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.11 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty , and as a first step establish an official moratorium on executions (Finland);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<p>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments                      - Death penalty  <b>SDGs:</b>                      - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>

<p>138.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Cyprus) (Denmark); Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.110.</p>
<p>138.16 Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Honduras); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- International criminal &amp; humanitarian law (including crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<p>138.17 Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended (Latvia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- International criminal &amp; humanitarian law (including crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<p>138.18 Ratify the Rome Statute in its 2010 version as well as the Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (Kampala amendments) (Liechtenstein); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- International criminal &amp; humanitarian law (including crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<p>138.21 Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Honduras); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The amendments made to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus as a result of a referendum held by the authorities in February 2022 indicate the rejection of the status of a nuclear-weapon-free State. In addition, the government announced the <a href="#">deployment of nuclear weapons of the Russian Federation</a> on the territory of Belarus. In August 2023, A. Lukashenko announced the relocation of tactical nuclear warheads to the territory of Belarus.</p>



138.22 Expedite accession to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Malta); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<b>Theme: Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</b>			
138.44 Ensure that any constitutional reform process includes all relevant stakeholders and guarantees the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as enshrined in international and regional human rights treaties (Austria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The <a href="#">constitutional reform</a> of 2022, announced by the authorities after the 2020 presidential elections, was cancelled and replaced by the process of introducing amendments to the Constitution that do not improve, and in some respects deliberately worsen the democratic component of state building. Preparations for the referendum took place against the background of a deep socio-political crisis and the most severe atmosphere of repression, as well as a tense international situation, which began immediately after the 2020 presidential election.</p> <p>The authorities have not made any attempts to eliminate the factors that led to the onset of the post-election crisis in August 2020 in the legal regulation of electoral procedures.</p> <p>The discussions, organised in an unreasonable time frame and not inclusive, were also not transparent and represented agitation in support of the project proposed by the authorities.</p> <p>As a result, the proposed amendments to the Constitution caused fair criticism of the expert community and citizens.</p> <p>The preparation and conduct of the referendum did not comply with a number of basic international standards for conducting democratic and fair electoral campaigns and were accompanied by numerous violations of these principles and requirements of national legislation. This was primarily due to the atmosphere of fear on the eve and during the referendum, caused by the repression of the authorities against citizens, civil society organisations and independent media, the lack of impartial election commissions, unequal access to state media for supporters and opponents of constitutional amendments, the use of administrative resources to support the text of constitutional amendments submitted for the referendum, arbitrary deprivation of the right to vote of citizens, which are located outside the Republic of Belarus, numerous facts of forcing voters to participate in early voting, the closure of electoral procedures for observers.</p> <p>All of this, as well as the introduction by the CEC of restrictions on the number of observers in polling stations, resulted in a lack of independent observation of all types of voting (early, election</p>



			<p>day and mobile voting) and of the vote count. These important stages of the election campaign were conducted in a completely non-transparent manner. The presence of pro-government observers at polling stations and in commissions cannot be called independent and effective observation.</p> <p>Thus, there is no reason to trust the results of the referendum.</p>
<p>138.45 Continue efforts aimed at ensuring respect for the foundations of the country's political and legal system and preserving constitutional standards (Syrian Arab Republic);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Since the presidential election-2020 of the Republic of Belarus, the authorities have systematically and widespread persecuted participants in peaceful assemblies and dissenters using torture and other forms of prohibited treatment.</p> <p>In addition, at least 45,000 people were detained and subjected to short-term arrests for up to 30 days (in some cases more). At least 8,800 people had been subjected to politically motivated criminal prosecution by March 2025, of whom more than 3,900 had been imprisoned pending trial or convicted.</p> <p>The situation of the realisation of fundamental rights and freedoms - freedom from torture, freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, association, etc. - remains critical. (See 138.102, 138.103, 138.111, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.147, 138.78, etc.).</p> <p>Moreover, in 2023 there was a <a href="#">tendency</a> to depart from the principle of formal equality in violation of constitutional norms. The Belarusian authorities have adopted legal acts of a discriminatory nature on the basis of political views, sexual orientation and gender (See 138.69, 138.71, 138.237).</p>
<p>138.48 Continue efforts to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by all its citizens (Nigeria);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.45, 138.61, 138.78</p>
<p>138.61 Undertake the necessary constitutional reforms and establish a national dialogue with civil society (Kazakhstan);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>Civil society</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The constitutional reform carried out in 2022, including the referendum, did not meet international standards and the goals of the country's democratic development, but was aimed at strengthening the authoritarian nature of the government. (See 138.44)</p> <p>The constitutional amendments adopted in 2022-2023 and related legislative acts, including the Law "On the Foundations of Civil Society", have worsened rather than improved the legal</p>

			<p>framework for possible national dialogue and civil society participation (See 138.59, 138.60 and 138.62).                  From September 2021 to April 2025, decisions on <a href="#">forced liquidation</a>, including out-of-court liquidation, were taken against at least 1188 non-profit organisations, and decisions on self-liquidation were taken by at least 729 organisations.                  In March 2023, leaders of the respected human rights centre “Viasna” were sentenced to long prison terms (7-10 years in prison), including Nobel Peace Prize laureate Ales Bialiatski.                  All previously existing opposition political parties in the country were forcibly liquidated by the Supreme Court at the suit of the Ministry of Justice as having failed to re-register.                  In 2022, all independent trade unions and the national trade union association Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions were liquidated by the courts. Leaders of independent trade union organisations Henadz Fiadynich, Siarhei Antusevich (released), Viachaslau Areshka, Yaraslau Yarashuk and others were sentenced to long prison terms.</p> <p>See 138.45, 138.146</p>
<p><b>Theme: Legal &amp; institutional reform</b></p>			
<p>138.46 Continue efforts to fulfil international obligations by further developing and implementing comprehensive national plans and programmes (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Legal &amp; institutional reform                  - Right to development  <b>SDGs:</b>                  - 17 - PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>During the reporting period, the National Action Plan for Ensuring Gender Equality in the Republic of Belarus for 2021-2025 and the National Action Plan for Improving the Situation of Children and Protecting Their Rights for 2022-2026 were adopted.</p> <p>Despite the fact that the adoption of National Plans in the field of Human Rights illustrates the attention of the State to the relevant problems, in practice a significant number of problems in the areas of gender equality and child rights remain unresolved and are only exacerbated by the actions of the State (See 138.70, 138.71). A State's declaration of its commitment to relevant international standards often has superficial populist motives, rather than a real intention to respect the rights of the relevant groups. The lack of cooperation with independent civil society organizations, both at the development and application stages, undermines the effectiveness of the implementation of these plans.</p> <p>In addition, the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Republic of Belarus for 2017-2025 continued to</p>

			operate, and several environmental plans were adopted: the National Action Plan for the Development of a Green Economy in the Republic of Belarus for 2021-2025, the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity for 2021-2025, The State program “Belarusian forest” for 2021-2025, The National Action Plan for the Adaptation of Forestry in Belarus to climate Change until 2030, the National Action Plan to increase the absorption of greenhouse gases by forest sinks for the period up to 2030, the Strategy for the Adaptation of Forestry in Belarus to Climate Change until 2050.
138.49 Further support the development of a system of specialized State and public institutions for the protection and promotion of specific categories of human rights (Tajikistan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Legal & institutional reform - National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.50.
138.47 Make an earnest effort to address the human rights situation in the country (Japan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Legal & institutional reform - Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation - Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>SDGs:</b> - REDUCED INEQUALITIES	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.45, 138.61, 138.78.
<b>Theme: National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</b>			
138.50 Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution fully compliant with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Afghanistan); Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (India); Step up efforts to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nepal); Take steps to establish a national human rights institution and bring it in to line with the Paris Principles (Pakistan); Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Sudan); Continue to make efforts to establish a national human	Accepted as implemented	- National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  A national human rights institution has not been established. The issue of its establishment has not been considered by the authorities, and there have been no public discussions on the subject. Existing state institutions are not independent and cannot serve as a substitute for an NHRI.

rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, as previously recommended (Malaysia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1			
138.52 Continue its efforts to establish a national human rights institution with a view to overseeing, coordinating and setting standards for the effective implementation of human rights priorities (Turkey); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.50.
138.51 Establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Burkina Faso); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.50.
138.53 Establish a functioning and independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.50.
138.54 Create a national institute for human rights in line with the Paris Principles (Senegal); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.50.
<b>Theme: Equality &amp; non-discrimination</b>			
138.70 Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that defines all forms of discrimination in accordance with international standards, and guarantee women equal access to work (Greece); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Equality & non-discrimination - Labour rights and right to work - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 5 - GENDER EQUALITY - 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Women & girls Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Belarus lacks comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that clearly defines direct and indirect discrimination, as well as other forms of its manifestation, or provides effective enforcement mechanisms. While the principle of equality is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and other legislative acts, it remains too vague to be effectively applied in cases of discrimination complaints. The Labor Code and the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, containing the concept of discrimination, provide protection in a very limited number of cases. The absence of specialized regulations and legal procedures prevents victims from accessing adequate protection, limiting their ability to seek justice. Although Article 130 of the Criminal Code formally addresses hate crimes, it has never been an effective tool for combating discrimination. Since 2020, authorities have increasingly used this provision as a means of repression rather than for its intended purpose. Restrictions on the rights of individual social groups have

			<p>increased at the level of legislation and law enforcement practice (See 138.71, 138.69, 138.75, 138.237).</p> <p>Women continue to face systematic discrimination in the labour sphere. The list of prohibited professions for women (although it as reduced more than twofold in the reporting period), the gender pay gap and the “glass ceiling”, and harassment remain.</p>
<p>138.71 Take further targeted measures to prevent discrimination in all its forms (Iraq); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination <b>SDGs:</b> - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES <b>Affected persons:</b> - Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The measures taken by the State during the reporting period were not aimed at preventing discrimination. On the contrary, a number of legislative initiatives and changes directly <a href="#">reinforce</a> discriminatory approaches at the normative level.</p> <p>Furthermore, Decree No. 278 of 4 September 2023 excluded the possibility for Belarusian citizens living abroad to renew their passport and to carry out a number of other administrative procedures at the consulate of their place of residence, which constitutes direct discrimination on the basis of political opinion. Nevertheless, de facto discrimination on such grounds has a long-lasting and systemic character.</p> <p>See 138.71, 138.69, 138.75, 138.237.</p>
<p>138.72 Pursue government activities to improve the national system of social protection to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, especially persons with disabilities (Lebanon); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination - Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation - Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion - Right to social security <b>SDGs:</b> - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children in vulnerable situations (abused, living on the street, institutionalized, indigenous, migrant children etc.) - Vulnerable persons/groups - Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>An <a href="#">accessible, sustainable and adequate system</a> has been created and, in general, is effectively functioning, including one or more programs aimed at providing benefits in the event of appropriate social risks and unforeseen circumstances, as well as including the establishment of minimum levels. However, the system is not transparent, does not sufficiently target vulnerable and marginalised groups, and is based on formal criteria.</p> <p>Measures to adequately educate the population on access to social security programmes, particularly in rural and poor urban areas, and among linguistic and other minorities, <a href="#">are inadequate or non-existent</a>.</p> <p>With regard to the rights of persons with disabilities, there is a selective approach: the attention of the State is paid to infrastructure projects of state institutions (medicine, expertise, rehabilitation, social state institutions, state educational institutions), but there is neglect to ensure and protect the personal rights of PWDs (prohibition and protection from discrimination, protection from violence, adequate access to medicine, equality, gender diversity, independent living, access to adequate social services, freedom of choice).</p> <p>The situation is aggravated by the forced liquidation of non-</p>

			<p>governmental organisations involved in helping people with disabilities, including the Office for the Rights of People with Disabilities.</p> <p>See 138.225.</p>
<p>138.74 Set up social integration programs for Roma, enabling them to exercise their rights (Senegal); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roma, Gypsies, Sinti &amp; Travellers</li> <li>- Vulnerable persons/groups</li> <li>- Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>A comprehensive program of social integration of the Roma population <a href="#">has not been developed to date</a>. Since the State does not seek to eradicate negative stereotypes about Roma, the exercise of their constitutional rights is significantly hindered. Some Roma do not have Belarusian citizenship, as well as identity documents.</p> <p>See 138.235.</p>
<p>138.69 Adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination, including protection against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Racial discrimination</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)</li> <li>- Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There is no comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that provides, among other things, protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Moreover, sexual orientation and gender identity are still not explicitly included among the prohibited grounds of discrimination in national legislation.</p> <p>At the same time, the State is developing legislation aimed at infringing and discriminating against LGBTQ+.</p> <p>Thus, it is proposed to introduce administrative responsibility for “<a href="#">propaganda of LGBTQ+, gender transition and pedophilia</a>.” Equating mental disorders and crimes against the sexual integrity of minors with LGBTQ+, which is a manifestation of identity, is a deliberate manipulation of public opinion, an example of hate speech and stigmatisation of LGBTQ+. As a result of such policies, the LGBTQ+ community risks facing consequences such as increased stigma and risk of hate violence.</p> <p>On March 19, 2024, the Ministry of Culture <a href="#">adopted</a> Decision № 24, equating LGBTQ+ with “non-traditional sexual relations,” alongside necrophilia and pedophilia, and classifying its demonstration as “pornography.” This is the first real step by the Belarusian authorities to restrict the rights of LGBTQ+ persons at the legislative level. Amendments to the Law on the Rights of Children, <a href="#">adopted</a> in the first reading, ban LGBTQ+ “propaganda” and restrict access to LGBTQ+ content for minors, further erasing LGBTQ+ visibility.</p> <p>See 138.70, 138.71.</p>



<p>138.73 Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, defining direct and indirect discrimination, as well as other forms of its manifestation (Netherlands); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.70, 138.71.</p>
<p>138.75 Combat discrimination and violence on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and draft specific legislation for the training of law enforcement officers and other officials to avoid discriminatory acts against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Mexico); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Right to physical &amp; moral integrity</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The draft law and adopted legislation (See 138.69) is supported by direct persecution.</p> <p>In September 2024, a <a href="#">wave of repression</a> against representatives of the LGBTQ+ community began in Belarus, which led to the arrest of at least 30 people, 8 of whom are transgender people. According to the transgender support organization TG House Belarus, the detentions were also accompanied by searches, physical and psychological violence. Several detainees were charged with disorderly conduct, and criminal cases were initiated against two transgender people under article 343 of the Criminal Code (“distribution of pornography”).</p> <p>Moreover, law enforcement agencies, when detaining persons who expressed disagreement with the actions of the authorities and related to the LGBTQ+ community, forced them to outing, <a href="#">forcing them to declare their sexual orientation on the so-called “penitential” videos</a>. Such actions, being part of a nationwide repressive policy against dissenters, remain unpunished.</p> <p>All this is accompanied by the general derogatory and hateful rhetoric, the language of hostility directed towards the LGBTQ+ community by government representatives. Both representatives of the authorities and state media have repeatedly used derogatory language, often turning into the language of hostility.</p> <p>There are no statistics on hate crimes against LGBTQ+.</p> <p>In addition, the mass liquidation and persecution of civil society organisations, including organisations working to combat discrimination and stigmatisation of LGBTQ+, have left representatives in the LGBTQ+ community in an even more vulnerable position.</p> <p>See 138.69.</p>
<p>138.76 Design and implement the necessary legal instruments to combat discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as awareness - raising program me s against violence and harassment suffered by the</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Right to physical &amp; moral integrity</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.69, 138.75.</p>



<p>lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (Spain);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)</p>	
<b>Theme: Racial discrimination</b>			
<p>138.68 Adopt comprehensive legislation to prohibit all forms of discrimination, investigate statements inciting racial hatred and racial violence, and establish appropriate sanctions against discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Argentina);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Partially accepted</p>	<p>- Racial discrimination  - Rule of law &amp; impunity  - Support to victims &amp; witnesses  - Access to justice &amp; remedy  - Constitutional &amp; legislative framework  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)  - Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There are no public statistics on cases of discrimination on various grounds, so it is impossible to draw conclusions about whether people file complaints of discrimination and how state authorities and courts respond to them.</p> <p>Post-2020 repressive state policies <a href="#">directly target</a> national minorities, particularly Poles, Lithuanians and Ukrainians, often as part of state propaganda portraying neighbouring states as enemies.</p> <p>There are known cases of persecution of members of the Polish minority that started after 2020. In particular, these include the detention and prosecution of journalists of Polish origin (Andrzej Poczobut, Anzhelika Borys), the demolition of memorials to Polish soldiers in Mikulishki, the transformation of Polish and Lithuanian schools in Hrodna, Volkovysk and a number of other Belarusian towns into schools with instruction in Russian. The latter became possible after the introduction of amendments to the Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 3094-XI of 26.01.1990 “On Languages”, according to which national minorities were deprived of the right to study in their national languages.</p> <p>It is also known about numerous detentions, arrests and expulsions of people with Ukrainian citizenship since 2021. Since most of the trials are closed and the Ukrainian Embassy refuses to comment publicly on the situation, it is impossible to assess the legality of such detentions. However, the Ukrainian side advises its citizens to refrain from travelling to Belarus.</p> <p>See 138.70, 138.71, 138.75.</p>
<p>138.77 Enact specific legislation containing a definition of racial discrimination in line with article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and making racial discrimination an offence punishable by law (Angola);</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<p>- Racial discrimination  - Legal &amp; institutional reform  - Constitutional &amp; legislative framework  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus does not have a separate legal act defining racial discrimination and declaring it a punishable offence. There are also no indications that the possibility of adopting such an act in the future is being considered.</p> <p>The definition of racial discrimination is not included in other acts of national legislation either. The Criminal Code (CC) provides</p>

<p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>- Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</p>	<p>for responsibility for intentional acts aimed at inciting racial, national, religious or other social enmity or discord on grounds of racial, national, religious, linguistic or other social affiliation (CC, art. 130 – currently used as a tool of political persecution (See 138.70) and for committing an offence motivated by racial enmity as an aggravating circumstance (CC, art. 64). Three other articles of the CC (arts. 139, 147 and 443) establish separate qualifications for offences motivated by racial hatred. However, the absence of a definition and qualifying characteristics of racial discrimination, the concepts of direct and indirect discrimination and effective measures to implement the prohibition of racial discrimination make legislation in this area ineffective.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Right to development</b></p>			
<p>138.78 Take further measures aimed at the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including from a human rights perspective (Viet Nam); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- B5 - Right to development</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The provision that any legal acts must comply with the Sustainable Development Goals contained in international legal acts and legal acts of a programme nature, introduced in the Law on Legal Acts in 2018, remains exclusively declarative. Not only the practice of systemic and massive violation of human rights in Belarus, but also the legal acts adopted in the period 2020- 2023 do not comply and often contradict the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 5, 10, 16 and 17. Data from the <a href="#">Belarus Human Rights Index</a>, developed by the Belarusian Helsinki Committee with the involvement of about 50 experts from different fields, illustrate a serious deterioration in the respect for both civil and political rights (from 4.3 in 2019 to 2.1 in 2023) and economic, social and cultural rights (from 5.2 in 2019 to 3.5 in 2023). The State's fulfilment of its obligations in terms of general measures (public policy on human rights, engagement with civil society, engagement with international mechanisms, equality and non-discrimination) in 2023 was assessed by experts at 1.7 out of 10.</p>
<p>138.81 Continue to pursue the human rights development path suitable to its national conditions (China); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- B5 - Right to development</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.45, 138.78.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Human rights &amp; climate change</b></p>			
<p>138.83 Intensify efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks that address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change and disaster risk reduction</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Human rights &amp; climate change - Constitutional &amp; legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 1 - NO POVERTY - 11 - SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The Republic of Belarus has not adopted relevant normative legal acts. In addition, Belarus has demonstrated its unwillingness to follow international principles of environmental protection and</p>

<p>frameworks (Fiji);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>COMMUNITIES  - 13 - CLIMATE ACTION</p>	<p>protection of environmental rights by terminating its participation in two international treaties: Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention); Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention).  The Republic of Belarus has made no progress in developing legislation on climate change and disaster risk reduction. The <a href="#">Action Plan for the implementation of the provisions of the Paris Agreement to the UNFCCC</a> has not been fulfilled, in particular, the Strategy for the long-term development of the Republic of Belarus with a low level of greenhouse gas emissions for the period up to 2050, the National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation have not been approved, and a number of normative legal acts specified in the plan have not been amended.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</b></p>			
<p>138.102 Intensify monitoring of places of detention and ensure impartial and independent investigations into allegations of torture and ill - treatment (Switzerland);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus does not have independent bodies with the authority to visit detention facilities without prior notice, including psychiatric hospitals and other places of forced detention. The existing Public Monitoring Commissions (PMC) can only visit detention facilities with the permission of the Department of Corrections under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. PMC members are prohibited from taking photos or videos and from accepting complaints from prisoners. There is no transparent process for selecting PMC members, and no clear criteria for how candidates are chosen. PMC members are mainly representatives of pro-government organizations, while human rights defenders with expertise in international human rights standards are systematically denied membership without justification.</p> <p>The investigative bodies of the Republic of Belarus received about <a href="#">5,000 complaints (reports)</a> from citizens about unlawful acts of internal affairs officers, servicemen of internal troops and other law enforcement bodies committed on the day of the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus and after the election campaign during the participation of citizens in mass protest actions.</p> <p>In order to coordinate and support the investigation of the circumstances described in the relevant complaints, an <a href="#">interdepartmental commission</a> was established under the auspices of the Prosecutor General's Office.</p> <p>It included representatives of the Prosecutor General's Office, the Investigative Committee, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the</p>

			<p>State Committee for Forensic Medical Examination. The work of this commission was conducted in a non-public and non-transparent manner.</p> <p>Human rights defenders were denied access to information about the personal composition of the commission and the results of its work. Decisions were taken on all applications to refuse to initiate criminal proceedings, despite the presence of clear evidence of the use of torture and other forms of inhumane treatment and punishment by law enforcement agencies.</p>
<p>138.103 Take immediate measures to prevent all torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, investigate promptly and impartially all allegations of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable (Canada); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>To date, no public and unequivocal statement has been made by state authorities condemning the use of all forms of torture, nor a clear warning that any person involved in such acts will be held personally criminally responsible.</p> <p>On the contrary, the actions of the security forces have been repeatedly publicly <a href="#">approved</a> by the authorities, confirming their impunity and encouraging further use of such forms of treatment.</p> <p>See 138.102.</p>
<p>138.104 Prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by allocating sufficient resources to training for law enforcement and the judiciary in addressing cases related to torture, and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Fiji); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Right to physical &amp; moral integrity</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Judges, lawyers and prosecutors</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus lacks an effective system for preventing cases of torture.</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103.</p>
<p>138.109 Include a special provision in the Criminal Code to establish liability for all acts of torture in accordance with the Convention against Torture (Malta); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Scope of international obligations</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Torture is still not defined as a separate offence in the Criminal Code (CC). Currently, the CC contains two articles mentioning torture: the article on “Crimes against the security of humanity” and article 394, part 3, “Coercion to testify”. These articles, however, do not cover all forms of torture and the purposes of torture.</p> <p>The lack of proper criminalisation of torture, namely the absence of a specific offence, entails not only a violation of the obligation to punish torture under the Convention against Torture, but also makes it impossible to monitor the number of specific crimes of torture.</p>

			<p>In addition, the requirement to establish universal jurisdiction over crimes of torture and non-application of statutes of limitations under Belarusian legislation applies only to the articles of the CC from the section “Crimes against Peace, the Security of Humanity and War Crimes”.</p> <p>With regard to the rest of the list of offences, for which, in the opinion of the State, persons who used torture can be prosecuted (for example, abuse of power or official authority, torment, infliction of bodily harm of various degrees of severity, coercion to testify), the CC establishes statutes of limitations from two to fifteen years, depending on the gravity of the offence.</p>
<p>138.111 Treat all detainees in line with international human rights law, including persons sentenced to the death penalty (Poland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Numerous evidence of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by the staff of places of detention certainly indicate that Belarus is not guided by international human rights law, which defines a clear framework for detentions and ignores international standards of detention.</p> <p>In its <a href="#">report</a> dated February 7, 2025, the Group of Independent Experts on the Situation of Human Rights in Belarus establishes that the conditions of detention constituted cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or, in some cases, torture. Victims reported that they were kept in overcrowded cells, the number of which was usually more than twice the set number of people in the cell, and forced to sleep on a concrete floor, without mattresses, bedding and ventilation.</p> <p>As a result of such circumstances and conditions of detention, some detainees suffered from serious illnesses after their release. Seven political prisoners died in custody between 2020 and 2024: Vitold Ashurak (2021), Ales Pushkin (2023), Mikalai Klimovich (2023), Vadzim Kharasko (2024), Ihar Lednik (2024), Aliaksandr Kulinich (2024), and Dzmitry Shletgauer (2024).</p> <p>Between 2022 and 2025, there were 11 documented cases of prolonged incommunicado detention of political prisoners lasting 12 months or more (Siarhei Tsikhanouski, Maksim Znak, Mikalai Statkevich, Ihar Losik, Viktor Babaryka, Uladzimir Kniha, Mikalai Bankou, Andrei Navitski, Aliaksandr Aranovich, and Aliaksandr Frantskevich, Maryia Kalesnikava). In 2025 Maryia Kalesnikava was <a href="#">reportedly</a> transferred from solitary confinement to the general population, which may mean the end of incommunicado detention.</p> <p>In addition to violating the standards of detention of prisoners and creating inhuman conditions for political prisoners, Belarus violates the minimum standards of detention of prisoners sentenced to death penalty. For example, the convicted person is</p>



<p>138.266 Adopt measures to protect refugees, migrants and asylum seekers from torture and ensure the protection of migrant children (Afghanistan);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refugees &amp; asylum seekers</li> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Migrants</li> </ul>	<p>not informed about the date of execution of the death sentence, while the stay on death row lasts for several months.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus has not established an effective system for providing international protection to asylum seekers. The current system of providing international protection in Belarus is complex and does not provide easy access for people who would like to apply. There is no access to translation services when submitting the application. Asylum seekers in Belarus face a long wait for their applications to be submitted, many cannot even begin the process, remaining in prolonged legal uncertainty. The asylum seeker is being held in temporary detention centers that are not suitable for long-term detention and do not have access to legal aid. The system discriminates against applicants from certain countries, and the Belarusian authorities continue to forcibly return asylum seekers to their countries of origin, ignoring the ongoing armed conflicts and the scale of the conflict.</p> <p>Thus, in 2020, Belarus refused international protection and extradited Hijri Mamaş to Turkey, despite the threat of torture in Turkey, as well as urgent measures taken by the UN HRC and a request not to extradite Hijri until a final decision on his case. In 2023, Belarusian authorities refused protection and extradited Tajik activist Nizomiddin Nasriddinov, also ignoring the real threat of torture in Tajikistan and political refugee status in Germany.</p> <p>After the presidential election of 9 August 2020, cases of cruel and inhuman treatment of detainees, <a href="#">including foreigners</a>, during peaceful protests, as well as detention, were recorded. Cases were recorded where the fact of foreign nationality was used as a basis for more brutal treatment at all stages, from the moment of detention of foreigners to the time of serving their arrest in temporary detention centres (in particular, citizens of Ukraine and Russia with a direct reference to more cruel treatment because of their citizenship).</p> <p>Belarus does not have separate facilities for the detention of foreigners, including when they are detained solely for the purpose of forced expulsion from Belarus. They are held in temporary detention centres, which are not designed for long-term detention. However, in practice, foreigners can stay there for many months without access to the outside world in incommunicado conditions, without walks, with poor ventilation in the cells, poor quality of food and poor sanitary conditions. In 2021, the actions of the Belarusian authorities led to the beginning of a humanitarian crisis inside the country and on the border</p>
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			with EU countries, when thousands of migrants became an instrument of political pressure on neighbouring countries. There are known facts of violence against migrants on the part of representatives of Belarusian state bodies, as well as forced detention of entire groups of migrants, including children, in extremely dangerous conditions at the border - in the forest, at low temperatures, without access to shelter, food, drinking water, and medical care. According to human rights activists, at least 120 people are known to have died on the border of Belarus as a result of this crisis.
138.110 Amend the Criminal Code with an article providing for liability for all kinds of torture and join the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and ensure full accountability (Netherlands); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- National Preventive Mechanism (NPM)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The State not only does not accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, but has also denounced the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The HRC stopped accepting applications from Belarusians after 8 February 2023.  See 138.109.
138.14 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Optional Protocol (Chile); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.104, 138.110.
138.112 Release those arbitrarily detained, and investigate all allegations of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, particularly related to people in detention (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  At the moment the number of political prisoners in Belarus is around <a href="#">1200</a> . Since 2020, arbitrary detentions continue to be carried out. Such detention often involves the use of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment during detention. The State continues to ignore the demands of international institutions to stop the practice of arbitrary detention. For example, one of the most recent opinions of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, which recognised the arbitrary detention in custody of Maxim Znak, was ignored. Since 2020, the Working Group has adopted the same opinions on Siarhei Tsikhanouski, Raman Pratasevich. In addition, since 2023, the authorities have been actively opening new criminal cases under article 411 of the Criminal Code (“disobedience to the demands of the correctional institution administration”) to prolong the unlawful imprisonment



<p>138.113 Define “torture” in its Criminal Code as a specific crime in accordance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and investigate all allegations of widespread practices of torture, ill- treatment and the use of disproportionate force against peaceful protesters, particularly in the aftermath of the 2020 elections (Portugal); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Scope of international obligations</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> </ul>	<p>of political prisoners.</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103, 138.111.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103, 138.109.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Conditions of detention</b></p>			
<p>138.228 Improve access to and the quality of health care, including psychiatric care, for prisoners, and increase the number of professional medical staff in all detention facilities (Holy See); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> <li>- Right to health</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Despite the fact that formally the legislation of the Republic of Belarus enshrines the rights of convicts to receive medical care, establishing, inter alia, its accessibility, in practice it remains virtually impossible to receive qualified and prompt medical care in places of detention, and the process of providing such care is closed and non-transparent.</p> <p>Human rights defenders constantly report the lack of proper medical examinations, appropriate conditions and equipment, qualified medical personnel and <a href="#">failure to provide medical assistance</a>. Often the failure to provide medical care is used by the authorities as a form of pressure on political prisoners.</p> <p>There are known cases of forced meetings with psychologists. Psychologists working with persons deprived of their liberty are structurally subordinate to the head of the penitentiary institution. For example, there have been reported cases of political prisoners acquiring extremist status or new criminal cases being opened against them following interviews with psychologists.</p> <p>Human rights activists are aware of at least 13 deaths of people in places of detention, most likely caused by inadequate or untimely medical care, including 7 deaths among political prisoners (See</p>

			138.111). The interim measures of the UN Human Rights Committee regarding the provision of immediate access to medical care are not being implemented, for example, in the case of human rights defender and political prisoner Nasta Loika (communication No. 4277/2022). In the Centre for the Isolation of Offenders and the Temporary Detention Centre on Akrestina Street, people are kept in overcrowded cells, sleep on the floor, no assistance is provided to sick persons, and detainees are not given personal protective equipment, which causes the spread of infection. Moreover, human rights activists are aware of cases of deliberate placement of persons with signs of coronavirus infection in the cells. There are also known about at least 3 deaths that occurred after release from coronavirus infection, which people caught in places of detention (Elena Amelina, Siarhei Shchetinka).
<b>Theme: Good governance &amp; corruption</b>			
138.58 Continue to implement the political initiatives announced by the Belarusian Government, including the launch of a comprehensive national dialogue (Syrian Arab Republic); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Good governance & corruption <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Belarus has consistently pursued a repressive policy against political opponents of the authorities and dissenters.  See 138.45, 138.59, 138.60-138.66, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146.
138.79 Consider including in its national development strategy measures aimed at ensuring increased efficiency and accountability of public service delivery (Azerbaijan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Good governance & corruption - Legal & institutional reform <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	NOT ASSESSED
138.188 Enhance the capacities of institutions to deal with serious organized crime, corruption and other challenges related to the rule of law (Indonesia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Good governance & corruption - Administration of justice & fair trial - Legal & institutional reform <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Law enforcement / police & prison officials - Public officials	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The competence of the State Department for Combating Organised Crime and Corruption (GUBOPiK) has been expanded, however, in violation of the rule of law and human rights. Since 2020, the GUBOPiK has been a repressive body responsible for excessive use of force, arbitrary detention, torture and inhuman treatment of dissenting members of society.
<b>Theme: Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</b>			
138.186 Take measures to guarantee, both in law and in practice, the total independence of the judiciary (Albania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Administration of justice & fair trial - Good governance & corruption <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED After 2020, the problems of independence and <a href="#">interference</a> of the executive branch in the activities of the judiciary have become even more acute, which is undoubtedly reflected in law

## INSTITUTIONS

**Affected persons:**

- Judges, lawyers and prosecutors  
16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

**Affected persons:**

Judges, lawyers and prosecutors

enforcement activities.

The introduction of amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus in 2022 has not significantly affected the solution of key problems of judicial independence. As before, the President appoints the majority of judges and dismisses them from office on the proposal of court chairpersons. The election of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and judges of the Constitutional Court, the Chairman, Deputy Chairmen and judges of the Supreme Court takes place on the proposal of the President, previously agreed with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, which undoubtedly indicates the influence of the executive power on the key issues of judicial independence.

In addition, the procedure for the formation of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly is non-transparent and does not meet the principles of independence and representativeness.

Judges are appointed for a term of five years and can be appointed for a new term or indefinitely. The question of whether to appoint a judge for a new five-year term or indefinitely is decided arbitrarily and without clear criteria established in the law.

In February 2021, a [letter](#) signed by Interior Minister Kubrakou to the secretariat of the Security Council was published, requesting assistance in ensuring the principles of proportionality in sentencing by the courts of the Minsk region, which in one period gave more lenient sentences than the city court.

National courts are now part of a repressive mechanism, systematically passing politically motivated sentences against dissenters in violation of numerous fair trial guarantees. Since 2020 the courts have prosecuted tens of thousands of people in administrative and criminal proceedings, passing disproportionate and unlawful sentences, including imprisoning people for taking part in peaceful rallies, for their opinions, for criticising the authorities, for helping people affected by the violence of the security forces. Courts refuse to initiate judicial proceedings in cases of appealing against the actions of state bodies, including law enforcement agencies, and election commissions. By the end of February 2025, at least 1,188 organisations are being forcibly liquidated, including with the participation of courts.

The Bar of Belarus is also neither de jure nor de facto [independent](#), and the Bar and its attorneys are under the control of the Ministry of Justice. The chairmen of bar associations are elected with the consent of the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry of Justice may propose the dismissal or early termination of the chairmen's powers based on an opinion of the Qualification Commission, which is under the Ministry's authority. Attorneys must undergo attestation every five years. At the request of the

			<p>Ministry of Justice, the attestation may be scheduled more frequently and may be conducted by the Qualification Commission of the Ministry, the majority of the members of which are not attorneys but civil servants, the other part of which are chairmen of bars who are appointed with the consent of the Ministry.</p> <p>Moreover, the Belarusian authorities after the elections in 2020 began to openly create numerous obstacles to the effective performance of attorneys' professional duties: <a href="#">denying lawyers access to clients, wiretapping and recording confidential conversations between them, forcing attorneys to sign non-disclosure agreements on a wide range of case information, and arbitrarily declaring trials closed.</a> These measures severely restricted their ability to provide effective legal defense, particularly in politically motivated cases.</p> <p>Since September 2020, the Belarusian authorities <a href="#">have arbitrarily detained</a> at least 23 attorneys and subsequently used these arrests as a pretext to remove them from politically motivated cases and terminate their licences. Many lawyers have been arbitrarily detained, interrogated, and otherwise harassed; many have been threatened. As of 2025, at least six lawyers are currently <a href="#">serving prison sentences</a> of six to ten years in politically motivated criminal cases (Maksim Znak, Aliaksandr Danilevich, Vitali Braginiec, Anastasia Lazarenka, Yulia Yurgilevich, and Aliaksei Barodko). At least 141 attorneys were <a href="#">disbarred</a> and deprived of the right to practice, some lawyers were prosecuted for their professional activities or for their opinions. Since 2020, the number of attorneys in Belarus has decreased from 2,200 to 1,600.</p>
<p>138.187 Continue to strengthen the national judicial system, including by digitizing its work and increasing avenues for alternative methods of dispute resolution (Sri Lanka); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Judges, lawyers and prosecutors</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There has been some progress in the functioning of electronic proceedings in economic cases. In addition, in 2021, the National Centre for Legal Information together with the Supreme Court, the Belarusian Republican Bar Association, the Belarusian Chamber of Notaries, the National Library of Belarus and the Faculty of Law of the Belarusian State University held the VII International Scientific and Practical Conference “Information Technologies and Law (Legal Informatisation - 2021)”. However, in the system of general courts, the use of electronic court proceedings is still not established.</p> <p>The State has partially digitised the judicial system. Audio and video protocols of court hearings have been introduced in all types of court proceedings, copies of which may be obtained by participants in the proceedings, with the exception of participants in closed court hearings. Videoconferencing has been introduced</p>

			<p>in most types of proceedings.</p> <p>In politically motivated administrative proceedings, the State uses videoconferencing to deprive the person subject to administrative proceedings of the right to a fair trial (the right to defence is violated, the person is not directly present in the court session, witnesses are not warned of responsibility for giving knowingly false explanations or refusal or evasion to give explanations). There are also frequent cases of improper notification of the parties about the date and time of court hearings by sending SMS messages that do not confirm the receipt of such messages by the addressee.</p> <p>The method of mediative conflict resolution is still not popular in society. However, it is positive that legislation in 2021 introduced a mechanism for the recognition and enforcement of international mediation agreements.</p>
<b>Theme: Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</b>			
<p>138.141 Protect the freedoms of expression, assembly and association (Albania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Today, the State not only fails to protect freedom of opinion, assembly and association, but also constantly seeks to strengthen the unlawful restriction of these freedoms.</p> <p>“Anti-extremist” legislation is actively used to suppress freedom of expression, assembly and association.</p> <p>As of 1 January 2025, the Republican List of Extremist Materials contained 6,982 materials, including 2,012 Telegram resources. The list includes websites and social networks of independent Belarusian media; opposition websites, resources of democratic initiatives and aid funds; resources of human rights organisations and other civil society organisations; resources of independent political analysts; resources with political satire).</p> <p>In 2020-2024, at least 8,075 people were convicted for distribution, possession and production of “extremist materials”.</p> <p>As of 1 January 2025, the List of organisations, formations and individual entrepreneurs involved in extremist activity includes 255 groups of citizens, including at least 38 independent media, human rights organisations, opposition political movements, paramilitary opposition organisations, solidarity funds, non-profit organisations, anarchist organisations, channels with political satire, trade unions, professional chat rooms and other groups of citizens.</p> <p>Criminal responsibility is provided for the creation of and participation in an “extremist formation” (article 361-1 of the Criminal Code, up to 10 years of imprisonment), any form of</p>

cooperation with “extremist” resources, including correspondence with representatives, giving interviews, providing information, performing tasks, volunteering is interpreted as “aiding extremist activity” (article 361-4 of the Criminal Code (CC); up to 7 years of imprisonment), any donations to such resources are interpreted as “financing extremist activity” (article 361-2 of the CC; up to 8 years of imprisonment). As of the end of February 2025, at least 249 people have already been convicted under article 361-1, 119 persons under Article 361-2 and 240 under Article 361-4 of the Criminal Code.

Most criminal cases under “extremist” articles of the CC are related to expression of opinion on the Internet, in particular criticism of the authorities and dissemination of undesirable information in public space. Criticism of the authorities, law enforcement officers, Russian military in the context of the war in Ukraine, as well as alternative opinions about the history of anti-communist movements or the history of the USSR are recognized as “Incitement of national hatred”.

The article on “Denial of the genocide of the Belarusian people” (article 130-2 of the CC; up to 10 years of imprisonment) can also be applied for an undesirable opinion about historical facts. On October 30, 2024, the Minsk City Court issued the first verdict under this article: a 54-year-old resident of Minsk was sentenced to 3 years in prison for making statements on the Internet about the deaths of civilians in the village of Khatyn in 1943.

Dissemination of information about the political, economic, military situation of Belarus, which does not coincide with the official version of the Belarusian authorities, is interpreted as “discrediting the Republic of Belarus” (article 369-1 of the CC; up to 4 years of imprisonment). As of the end of February-September 2025, at least 52 sentences under this article have been documented.

Calls for the introduction or tightening of sanctions, boycott of Belarusian goods, strikes, lobbying for restrictive measures in the sports sphere are punishable under the article on “calls for sanctions aimed at harming national security” (article 361 of the CC; up to 12 years of imprisonment). As of the end of February 2025, at least 184 sentences under this article have been documented.

In 2021, criminal responsibility was strengthened for insulting the President of the Republic of Belarus and slandering him, insulting a representative of the authorities and a judge, and disrespecting state symbols.

At the beginning of 2025, criminal liability was introduced for violence or threat of violence against the President of the



Republic of Belarus, including those who have terminated their powers; amendments were also made to Article 367 of the Criminal Code (“Slander against the President of the Republic of Belarus”) and Article 368 of the Criminal Code (“Insulting the President of the Republic of Belarus”), which are now provide for the extension of their actions not only to the current head of state, but also to the person who has terminated his powers.

By the end of March 2025, at least 1368 persons were convicted for insulting Lukashenko and slandering him, at least 1255 persons for insulting a representative of the authorities and a judge, and 221 persons for “abuse” of state symbols (mainly damaging and tearing down state flags).

Over the past three years, the authorities have continued to arbitrarily restrict the freedom of peaceful assembly by dispersing them with excessive force and detaining peaceful demonstrators (See 138.143), as well as by amending legislation (See 138.144). By the end of 2022, it became obvious that any attempt to obtain permission to hold a mass event of an “opposition” nature would be fruitless, and moreover, could become grounds for political persecution.

As of the end of March 2025, decisions on forced liquidation, including out-of-court liquidation, had been taken against at least 1188 non-profit organisations, and decisions on self-liquidation was taken by at least 729 organisations. In March 2023, leaders of the authoritative human rights centre “Viasna” were sentenced to long prison terms (7-10 years in prison), including Nobel Peace Prize laureate Ales Bialiatski. Other representatives of civil society are also in detention.

During 2022, all independent trade unions and their association “Belarusian Congress of Independent Trade Unions” were forcibly liquidated in Belarus and their leaders were sentenced to long prison terms.

Stigmatisation and criticism of organisations receiving foreign funding remains widespread in Belarus. State newspapers and television constantly publish and broadcast materials that stigmatise organisations receiving foreign funding.

The legislation on combating money laundering and counter-terrorism is widely used against civil society organisations, their leadership, employees, members, volunteers and activists. The use of such legislation to justify repressive practices is a clear example of the abuse of international AML/CTF standards to restrict, deprive resources and silence civil society.

A new and extremely harsh practice of obstructing foreign funding of civil society was the reclassification of the criminal [case](#) of the Human Rights Centre “Viasna” from tax crimes to



			<p>smuggling, by which the authorities mean the money legally imported into Belarus for the activities of the human rights organisation in amounts not exceeding the established limits for movement without declaration.</p>
<p>138.143 Refrain from intimidation, harassment, arbitrary arrest of and the disproportionate use of force against people exercising their right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly (Belgium); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Right to physical &amp; moral integrity</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrests and disproportionate use of force have become a daily occurrence in Belarus. Detentions and persecution of peaceful protesters against election fraud and violence in 2020 continued. At least 3000 participants of exclusively peaceful assemblies have been convicted under article 342 of the Criminal Code as of the end of March 2025. Illegal detentions of people were carried out “preventively” before the 2022 referendum, during the referendum, as well as after the referendum, including the next day, when the protest was announced in Minsk and other cities near railway stations. At least 952 people were detained during the month for participation in these protests.</p> <p>During the 2025 presidential election, there was an increased security presence, restrictions on expression and surveillance at polling stations, creating an atmosphere of intimidation and preventing free and democratic elections. The elections did not meet international standards for democratic and free elections, and were accompanied by numerous violations of the electoral legislation of the Republic of Belarus. All stages of the electoral process were not just administratively controlled by the authorities but were organized by them to keep A. Lukashenko in power while imitating his broad popular support.</p> <p>At least 260 people abroad faced the risk of criminal prosecution for participating in public demonstrations held abroad in 2024 and 2025 to celebrate Freedom Day (March 25), a holiday celebrated by Belarusians but not recognized by the current authorities.</p> <p>Arbitrary detentions and persecution also continue against persons expressing dissent in any other way: comments on the Internet, administration of online chat groups, donations to foundations and organisations supporting victims of repression, anti-war activism, etc.</p> <p>In order to intimidate those who disagree with the policies of the current authorities, law enforcement agencies record and disseminate so-called “penitential” videos of detainees in which they “confess and repent for what they have done”, which, in addition, is a form of inhuman and degrading treatment.</p> <p>In order to pressure and intimidate persons who have left Belarus due to political persecution, the authorities threaten to deprive</p>

			<p>them of citizenship. Thus, amendments were made to the Law “On Citizenship”, providing for the possibility of deprivation of citizenship in case of committing an offence of “extremist” nature, and Decree No. 278 “On the Procedure for Issuing Documents and Performing Actions” was issued, depriving the possibility of renewing a passport abroad.</p>
<p>138.144 Guarantee full respect for freedom of opinion and expression, including online, and for freedom of assembly and association, and harmonize national legislation in line with international standards in this area (Ecuador); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In 2021-2025, “anti-extremist” legislation underwent a number of changes that contributed to the expansion of the practice of persecution of dissenters and widespread human rights violations. In 2021, criminal responsibility was introduced for repeated violations of the procedure for organising and holding mass events (article 342-2 of the Criminal Code (CC)); calls for restrictive measures (sanctions) against Belarus (article 361 of the CC); participation in an extremist formation (article 361-1, paragraph 3); financing of extremist activities (article 361-2 of the CC); aiding extremist activities (article 361-4 of the CC); preparation for participation in extremist activities (article 361-5 of the CC); and public calls to organise or hold unlawful assemblies (article 369-3 of the CC).</p> <p>In addition, responsibility was strengthened for insulting a representative of the authorities or their relatives (article 369 of the CC); and discrediting the Republic of Belarus (article 369-1 of the CC).</p> <p>On 5 January 2022, the Law “On the Genocide of the Belarusian People” was adopted, factually establishing the monopoly of the State on the interpretation of the historical events of 1941-1951. The law introduced a new article 130-2 (“Denial of the genocide of the Belarusian people”) into the CC, according to which “denial of genocide” is punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years.</p> <p>On 21 July 2022, Law No. 199-3 “On Amending the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Belarus” was adopted, which introduced the possibility of holding special (in absentia) trials of persons accused under a number of “extremist” and “terrorist” articles and residing abroad.</p> <p>On 24 March 2023, the Law “On Amendments to the Codes on Criminal Responsibility” entered into force, introducing an amendment to the disposition of article 369-1 of the CC (“Defamation of the Republic of Belarus”), establishing responsibility for dissemination of knowingly false information defaming the armed forces, other troops and military formations,</p>

paramilitary organisations of the Republic of Belarus. Criminal responsibility for defamation still remains in force. Moreover, legislative amendments have been adopted to toughen the maximum sanctions for defamatory statements (See 138.166). At the beginning of 2025, criminal liability was introduced for violence or threat of violence against the President of the Republic of Belarus, including those who have terminated their powers; amendments were also made to Article 367 of the Criminal Code (“Slander against the President of the Republic of Belarus”) and Article 368 of the Criminal Code (“Insulting the President of the Republic of Belarus”), which are now provide for the extension of their actions not only to the current head of state, but also to the person who has terminated his powers.

Amendments to the Law “On Mass Media” contain additional restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of the media (See 138.157).

Belarusian legislation on peaceful assembly and the practice of its application remains inconsistent with international standards, continuing to violate the right to peaceful assembly.

There is no presumption in favour of freedom of peaceful assembly in the legislation, and the process of obtaining permission to hold mass events, including solitary pickets, is subject to excessive requirements and restrictions, including the obligation to pay the costs of holding them. In 2021, the legislation on mass events was amended to reduce the already small number of opportunities for holding peaceful assemblies: the notification procedure for holding them in specially designated places was cancelled. Administrative and criminal responsibility for violation of the rules on holding mass events has been strengthened. A ban on real-time coverage of unauthorized mass events in the media and on the Internet has been introduced.

Legislation and practice regarding the establishment, financing, operation and liquidation of public associations also moved further away from international standards (See 138.184, 138.183). In 2022, at least 2 criminal cases were recorded for organisations operating without registration, including for continuing activities of the Hrodna Children's Hospice, which had previously been forcibly liquidated by a court. (See 138.183).

The 14 February 2023 amendments to the Law “On Public Associations” and “On Political Parties” did not improve the conditions for registration of public associations, and significantly tightened the criteria and conditions for establishing political parties.

Although in 2023 a new political party was registered in Belarus

			<p>for the first time since 2000, this does not indicate a simplification of the registration procedure, as the new party was announced as openly founded by the government and the presidential administration, and its registration took place against the backdrop of the liquidation of 12 of the previously existing parties, including the forced liquidation of all opposition parties by the court in July- September 2023.</p> <p>On December 30, 2023, a <a href="#">law was adopted</a> on “Amendment of Laws on the Activities of Religious Organizations” which introduces a new version of the law “On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations”.</p> <p>The Law No. 334-3 <a href="#">establishes</a> for all religious organizations registered before 6 July 2024, the obligation, within a year after this date, to bring their charters into compliance with the new requirements of the law on religious organizations and to undergo the re-registration procedure or make a decision on liquidation.</p> <p>In other words, all religious organizations will be “deprived” of legal personality from a certain date, and in order to acquire it anew, it is necessary to submit to the registering body the same package of documents as when creating a new religious organization. At the same time, the activity of an unregistered religious organization is prohibited and entails criminal liability. This will lead to a significant reduction in the number of registered religious organizations, as they are unable to meet the stricter requirements.</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143.</p>
138.145 Take further steps towards enhancing freedom of expression of the media and freedom of association and peaceful assembly (India); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as currently being implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.147, 138.149, 138.157, 138.160, 138.155, 138.156, 138.172, 138.183, 138.184, 138.149.</p>
138.146 Enhance efforts to guarantee freedom of expression and association, and protection of the media, journalists and human rights defenders (Italy); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as currently being implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>State policy is repressive, characterised by numerous and flagrant violations of international standards on freedom of association and freedom of expression and media freedom (See 138.147, 138.157, 138.160, 138.155, 138.156).</p>

- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

**Affected persons:**

- Human rights defenders & activists
- Civil society
- Media

In the period from 2021 to 2025, all previously existing opposition political parties and independent trade unions, as well as at least 1900 non-governmental organisations of all possible areas of activity, were forcibly liquidated (including organisations that were forced to decide on self-liquidation) and banned.

A number of previously registered organisations (Belarusian Association of Journalists, Ecohome, trade union REP, SIMPA, etc.) were declared extremist formations in 2022-2025.

It is impossible to openly conduct human rights activities in the country. On 18 and 19 January 2022, searches took place in the homes of the head and four members of the public association “Mahiliou Human Rights Centre”, which at that time was the only remaining human rights association with registered status. In February, the organisation was forcibly liquidated. Before that, in 2021, searches took place at the homes of the leadership, members,

volunteers and in the offices of leading human rights organisations.

The accounts of some of these organisations are still blocked, offices sealed and the organisations themselves forcibly liquidated. Leaders and staff of human rights organisations have been sentenced to long prison terms, including the leader of the Viasna Human Rights Centre, Nobel Peace Prize 2022 laureate Ales Bialiatski, who was arrested in July 2021 and sentenced to 10 years in prison for “smuggling” money to fund human rights activities. Other human rights defenders are also serving prison sentences: “Viasna” Volunteer

Service coordinator Marfa Rabkova

(sentenced to 14 years and 9 months of imprisonment, included in the lists of persons involved in terrorist and extremist activities), “Viasna” volunteer Andrei Chapiuk (sentenced to 5 years and 9 months of imprisonment, included in the lists of persons involved in terrorist and extremist activities), human rights defender Nasta (Anastasyia) Loika (sentenced to seven years of imprisonment, included in the list of persons involved in terrorist and extremist activities).

Leanid Sudalenka, chairman of the Homiel branch of the Human Rights Centre “Viasna”, sentenced to 3 years in prison, and Tatsiana Lasitsa, a volunteer of the Homiel branch of the Human Rights Centre “Viasna”, sentenced to 2.5 years of imprisonment (released after 1 year and 8 months), have already served their prison terms.

Leaders and staff of many of the liquidated organisations and civic initiatives were forced to leave the territory of Belarus in the face of persecution and inability to carry out activities inside Belarus.

<p>138.147 Ensure respect for human rights, including freedom of expression online and offline, freedom of assembly and association, and the freedom of the media (North Macedonia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information - Freedom of association - Right to peaceful assembly <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists - Civil society - Media</p>	<p>See 138.183, 138.184, 138.149, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144. RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The violation by the State of its obligations to respect media freedom has reached unprecedented levels. By abusing legislative, administrative and judicial mechanisms, the State consistently implements a repressive <a href="#">policy</a> oriented towards the “destruction” of the independent media sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Criminal and administrative prosecution of independent media employees.</li> <li>● Application of “anti-extremist” legislation: 38 independent media outlets have the status of “extremist formations/organisations”.</li> <li>● Searches of editorial offices and seizure of professional equipment.</li> <li>● Obstruction of printing and distribution of newspapers of independent media.</li> <li>● Extrajudicial blocking of access to websites of independent media.</li> <li>● Restriction of access to information for independent media representatives.</li> <li>● Tightening of legislative regulation (see commentary to recommendations 138.155, 138.166).</li> <li>● Lack of access to effective remedies.</li> </ul> <p>As a result of this policy, a number of media outlets ceased their activities, while many editorial offices were forced to leave the territory of Belarus and continue their activities from abroad. Restrictions on freedom of association and repression of civil society organisations are part of the state's repressive policy against society as a whole, aimed at silencing any critical voices and suppressing all possible sources of dissent and possible formation of organised opposition to the ruling regime. Any attempt not only to hold, but also to organise a mass event of an “opposition” nature entails serious risks of political persecution, which in fact completely destroys the freedom of peaceful assembly in the State.</p>
<p>138.148 Ensure that everybody can peacefully exercise the rights to freedom of expression and of assembly in conformity with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and</p>	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information - Right to peaceful assembly - Scope of international obligations <b>SDGs:</b></p>	<p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146. RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.147.</p>



<p>Political Rights (Poland);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Human rights defenders &amp; activists  - Civil society  - Media</p>	
<p>138.151 Fulfil its obligations under the international human rights treaties regarding freedom of expression, freedom of the media, free and fair elections, peaceful assembly, and protection against reprisals, ill-treatment or torture (Romania);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  - Rule of law &amp; impunity  - Right to peaceful assembly  - Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)  - Scope of international obligations  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Human rights defenders &amp; activists  - Civil society  - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103, 138.111, 138.112, 138.228, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.147, 138.157, 138.160, 138.155, 138.156.</p>
<p>138.157 Respect, protect and promote freedom of expression, as stipulated in article 19(2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including by facilitating the accreditation of foreign journalists (Cyprus);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  - Scope of international obligations  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In the current cycle, the State has not adopted legal acts aimed at facilitating the accreditation procedure for foreign journalists. However, on 2 October 2020 (on the eve of the end of the 3rd UPR cycle), the Council of Ministers adopted a new Regulation on Accreditation of Foreign Journalists. The Regulation contains a number of <a href="#">innovations</a> simplifying the procedure for foreign journalists to obtain accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● an electronic format for submitting documents for accreditation has been introduced,</li> <li>● the right to independently print out an accreditation card for temporary accreditation has been introduced,</li> <li>● the timeframe for reviewing documents has been shortened,</li> <li>● the possibility of extending permanent accreditation for up to 3 years has been introduced,</li> <li>● the prohibition to work in Belarusian and foreign media at the same time has been eliminated,</li> <li>● the requirement of accreditation for media technical staff has been removed.</li> </ul> <p>Nevertheless, the Regulation also provides for new rules that, on the contrary, make it more difficult for foreign journalists to operate:</p>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the period of validity of temporary accreditation has been reduced (from 2 months to 2 weeks),</li> <li>• a provision has been introduced that, as a rule, citizens of the states in which the given media outlet is registered are registered as journalists of a foreign media outlet (which discriminates against citizens of other states, including</li> <li>• citizens of Belarus working for foreign media outlets),</li> <li>• additional excessively broad grounds for depriving a foreign journalist of accreditation have been introduced,</li> <li>• the “principle of reciprocity” has been enshrined, according to which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may withdraw accreditation from journalists of a foreign media outlet registered in a state where restrictive measures have been taken against a Belarusian media journalist.</li> </ul> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.147, 138.157, 138.160, 138.155, 138.156.</p>
<p>138.159 Protect the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly by ensuring that peaceful demonstrators are not persecuted, intimidated, imprisoned, ill-treated or tortured (Denmark); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as currently being implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention - Rule of law &amp; impunity - Right to peaceful assembly - Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists - Civil society - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.143, 138.102, 138.103, 138.111, 138.112.</p>
<p>138.160 Ensure the safety of all journalists and the freedom of peaceful assembly in line with international standards (Estonia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention - Right to peaceful assembly - Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>According to the <a href="#">Press Freedom Index</a> 2024 prepared by Reporters without borders, Belarus ranks 167th out of 180, being one of the most dangerous countries for journalists in Europe. The state's <a href="#">policies</a> towards journalists continue to pose an immediate threat to their personal safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal prosecution.</li> </ul> <p>At least 40 media representatives are in captivity due to criminal prosecution in connection with their professional activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arbitrary detentions and searches.</li> </ul>

			<p>According to BAJ monitoring data, 113 cases of arbitrary detention of journalists and 146 cases of searches were recorded in <a href="#">2021</a>. In <a href="#">2022</a>, there were 43 cases of arbitrary detention and 55 cases of searches. In <a href="#">2023</a>, there were 46 cases of arbitrary detentions and 34 cases of searches. In <a href="#">2024</a>, there were 27 cases of arbitrary detentions and 66 cases of searches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of anti-extremism and anti-terrorism legislation.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to recognising 38 independent media outlets as “extremist formations / organisations” and holding journalists criminally liable for participation in their activities, the State is also actively adding journalists to the list of persons involved in extremist activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tightening of legislative regulation.</li> </ul> <p>See 138.155, 138.166.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impunity.</li> </ul> <p>Journalists who are victims of violations of their rights do not have access to effective remedies, while, due to the lack of impartial investigations by law enforcement agencies, perpetrators are not held accountable.</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
138.162 Abide by the obligation under international law to respect the rights of journalists, human rights defenders and other individuals to exercise their freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Finland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as currently being implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146.</p>
138.165 Consider taking advantage of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity to strengthen the relevant legal framework (Greece); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The issue of ensuring the safety of journalists and the problem of impunity was not publicly raised in Parliament. Legislative changes during the period under review have further aggravated the situation of independent journalists, including in terms of their safety.</p> <p>See 138.166.</p>
138.167 Continue efforts to fulfil the highest attainable standard of human rights for all Belarusian citizens, including in	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.45, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146.</p>

<p>guaranteeing the freedom of speech, and take all necessary steps to provide human rights training to relevant law enforcement officials (Indonesia);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>raising  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</p>	
<p>138.172 Take the necessary action to ensure freedom of expression, and in particular to ensure media independence and unfettered access to the Internet (Norway);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The State fails to fulfil its obligations to ensure media independence by persecuting media, which editorial policy contradicts the official position of the authorities, as well as by exercising total control over state media. After the mass demonstrations of 2020, during which many employees of the state media quit in protest (at least 80 people in 2020, according to BAJ), the State tightened its organisational control over the state media even further. The editors of these media outlets are appointed on a non-competitive and non-transparent basis and demonstrate absolute loyalty to the authorities, while the media themselves are completely deprived of editorial freedom. The state media are not only sources of official propaganda and disinformation, but also often resort to the use of aggressive rhetoric and hate speech. State media continue to be directly funded from the budget and enjoy other financial preferences.</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.161.</p>
<p>138.175 Guarantee freedom of expression and media freedom by ensuring the safety of journalists and other media workers and refraining from interference and censorship (Sweden);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138. 160.</p>
<p>138.154 Enable a diversity of opinions in the public sphere through free and independent media, and end restrictions on the work of journalists and the media, including foreign media, in line with target 16.10 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Switzerland);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Partially accepted</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 134.147, 138. 160, 138.155, 138.157.</p>
<p>138.105 Immediately cease the brutal</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p>

<p>repression of peaceful demonstrators, unconditionally release all political prisoners and engage in a meaningful and inclusive national dialogue (Italy);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>information  - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention  - Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society  - Right to peaceful assembly  - Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Human rights defenders &amp; activists  - Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</p>	<p>As of 1 April 2025, <a href="#">1,208</a> protesters and dissenters are in detention. The criminal prosecution of the participants of the 2020 protests is still ongoing. More than 2700 people are recognized as former political prisoners.   See 138.61, 138.112, 138.141, 138.143, 138.146.</p>
<p>138.106 Immediately cease the excessive use of force and all other forms of violence against protesters (Liechtenstein);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  - Rule of law &amp; impunity  - Right to peaceful assembly  - Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Human rights defenders &amp; activists</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED   Participants of peaceful demonstrations and pickets after the 2020 presidential election, as well as anti-war protesters and protesters against the referendum on constitutional amendments in 2022, were violently dispersed and detained. They were subjected to torture and other prohibited treatment in detention facilities.   See 138.102, 138.103, 138.111, 138.228.</p>
<p>138.107 Immediately cease police violence against peaceful protesters and journalists, including arbitrary detention, deprivation of liberty and torture (Lithuania);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention  - Right to peaceful assembly  - Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)  - Conditions of detention  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Human rights defenders &amp; activists  - Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials  - Media  - Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED   See 138.60, 138.102, 138.103, 138.106, 138.111, 138.228.</p>
<p>138.108 Halt the arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance and torture and ill-treatment of human rights defenders, journalists and demonstrators (Luxembourg);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<p>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information  - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention  - Rule of law &amp; impunity  - Right to peaceful assembly  - Enforced disappearances</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED   See 138.106, 138.143, 138.160.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Disappeared persons</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	
138.114 Immediately cease its brutal crackdown against the Belarusian people, including threats to use lethal force against peaceful protesters and employment of severe abuses against detainees, and hold those responsible accountable (United States of America ); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Right to life</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103, 138.105, 138.106, 138.111, 138.112, 138.228, 138.143.
138.152 Take immediate action to improve the overall situation regarding fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and freedom of the press (Slovenia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.147, 138.157, 138.160, 138.155, 138.156.
138.155 Guarantee a favourable environment for the work of journalists and bloggers by reviewing the law on mass media to ensure that it does not restrict freedom of expression and media, including by removing the extrajudicial procedure of blocking Internet websites (Austria);	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED As a result of the amendments to the Law “On Mass Media”, the legal situation of media and journalists has only worsened. Not only has the extrajudicial procedure for blocking websites on the Internet not been abolished, but it has become even more arbitrary: - not only the Ministry of Information, but also prosecutors now have the power to block websites extrajudicially,

<p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- blocking may be carried out within 6 months from the moment the grounds arose (previously 3 months),</li> <li>- all “copies” of a website may be blocked together with it,</li> <li>- the list of grounds for blocking has been expanded.</li> </ul> <p>Moreover, additional restrictions on media activities have been introduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the emergence of an extrajudicial procedure for the termination of media output,</li> <li>- additional grounds for depriving journalists of accreditation,</li> <li>- prohibition of publishing unofficial opinion polls on the socio-political situation, elections and referendums,</li> <li>- prohibition of journalists working for more than one media outlet,</li> <li>- additional restrictions on the establishment, registration and distribution of media outlets, as well as additional grounds for revoking media registration,</li> <li>- the Ministry of Information has acquired the authority to ban foreign media outlets in case the activities of a media outlet registered in Belarus are banned on the territory of a foreign state.</li> </ul> <p>“Prohibition” includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ban on any dissemination of materials of the media outlet,</li> <li>● deprivation of accreditation of media journalists,</li> <li>● closure of correspondent offices and branches,</li> <li>● blocking of media websites.</li> </ul>
<p>138.156 Take immediate measures to allow journalists and other media workers to work without fear of detention or undue restriction, and improve access to information (Canada); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138. 160.</p>
<p>138.158 Stop harassing, intimidating and criminalizing all individuals and organizations that are critical of the Government (Czechia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.141, 138.144, 138.146.</p>



<p>138.161 Refrain from Internet shutdowns and blocking or filtering of services (Estonia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>On May 24, 2021, amendments were made to the Law “On Telecommunications”. The law now provides for the possibility to suspend or restrict the operation of telecommunications networks based on the decision of the Operational and Analytical Centre under the President of the Republic of Belarus. Restrictions are imposed, among other things, in case of detection of calls for “mass riots” and “unauthorised mass events,” participation in “extremist activities,” as well as information that poses a threat of group violations of public order or public security. In fact, this law was adopted to legislate the possibility of disabling the Internet without proper judicial control.</p>
<p>138.163 Remove all obstacles to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and ensure that journalists, human rights defenders and civil society can conduct their activities freely and safely (France); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138. 160.</p>
<p>138.164 End harassment and other reprisals against free media outlets and individual journalists (Greece); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 134.147, 138. 160.</p>
<p>138.166 Strengthen legislation to improve press freedom and to ensure the safety of journalists, including through further utilization of its bilateral and regional cooperation (Indonesia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Legislative changes made by the State have created an even greater threat to the safety of journalists. In particular, in 2021, the Criminal Code (CC) was supplemented with a new crime - “violation of media legislation”. The corresponding article 198-1 of the CC provides for a maximum sanction of 2 years of imprisonment for website owners for disseminating “prohibited” information.</p>

			See 138.141, 138.169.
138.168 Allow independent journalists and media to conduct their work free from harassment, intimidation and fear, and cease implementing Internet shutdowns or restrictions (Ireland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Media	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 134.147, 138. 160, 138.161.
138.169 Ensure freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly and a conducive environment for journalism, notably by decriminalizing defamation and amending the Media Act and the law on anti-extremism so that they do not disproportionately limit freedom of expression (Mexico); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information - Legal & institutional reform - Right to peaceful assembly - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Media	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.144.
138.171 Cease repressive tactics against the media, including harassment and imprisonment of journalists, revocation of accreditation, and the blocking of independent media, opposition websites and Internet access (New Zealand); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society Media	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  As of September 1, 2024, the Ministry of Information made decisions to restrict access to almost 14,000 Internet resources, of which more than 5,000 were recognized as “extremist materials” and/or “extremist formations” (that is, which were blocked for political reasons), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Platforms for election observation; for conducting polls and creating petitions;</li> <li>● Opposition chat groups</li> <li>● Platforms for election observation; for conducting polls and creating petitions;</li> <li>● Resources of various opposition political movements;</li> <li>● Resources created to de-anonymize law enforcement officers and record violations of legislation on their part;</li> <li>● Resources that publish methods of resistance to the regime;</li> <li>● Resources with anti-war information;</li> <li>● Resources of independent media (minimum 491 resources);</li> <li>● Resources on human rights issues, as well as websites of solidarity and aid funds for the repressed (minimum of 76 resources).</li> </ul> See 138.147, 138.160.

138.173 Bring the legislative framework in to line with the recommendations of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (Poland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Cooperation with international organizations</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.155, 138. 166.
138.174 End the repression of protesters, civil society organizations, journalists and human rights defenders who have been trying for months to exercise their right to freedom of expression and peaceful demonstration (Spain); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.160.
138.185 Publicly recognize human rights defenders and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work without harassment and intimidation (Slovakia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.60, 138.61, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.160.
<b>Theme: C13 - Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</b>			
138.115 Continue to contribute to the intensification of global efforts to combat human trafficking, through its initiatives and support for the Group of Friends United against Human Trafficking (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED
138.116 Continue to train law enforcement officials and other government agencies to identify victims of trafficking, and provide	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED

<p>victims with assistance and protection in accordance with the law (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	
<p>138.117 Streamline the operations of the national mechanism designed to identify victims of trafficking in persons and refer them for rehabilitation (Zimbabwe);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED
<p>138.118 Continue its efforts in the field of training and human resources development for combating human trafficking (India);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED
<p>138.119 Strengthen its efforts in the fight against trafficking in persons, protecting refugees and migrants and reducing the number of identified trafficking victims (Islamic Republic of Iran);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refugees &amp; asylum seekers</li> <li>- Migrants</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>CEDAW Concluding observations on the ninth periodic report of Belarus highlight the concern about the challenges in effective enforcement of anti-trafficking and sexual exploitation laws, particularly at the Belarusian-Polish border, leaving women and girls vulnerable to gender-based violence, trafficking, and exploitation (para. 33, CEDAW/C/BLR/CO/9).  U.S. Department of State <a href="#">2024 Trafficking in Persons Report: Belarus</a> confirms heightening third-country migrants' trafficking vulnerabilities, and the fact that "the government did not screen Ukrainian refugees and other migrants for potential trafficking," and the fact that "Belarusian authorities facilitated the transfer of Ukrainian children to Belarus," making all Ukrainian children transferred to Belarus were highly vulnerable to trafficking. Belarus has established a national mechanism for identifying and redirecting victims of human trafficking to rehabilitation. Nevertheless, the Government has made minimal efforts to prevent human trafficking, identify victims of human trafficking, and rehabilitate victims.</p>

			<p>In particular, the Belarusian authorities have significantly simplified the conditions of entry to Belarus and further travel for many migrants from third countries and asylum seekers as part of the humanitarian crisis.</p> <p>The authorities do not check the channels for obtaining visas and entering Belarus for human trafficking. There are also no known cases of investigations into reports of sexual exploitation and forced labor of such migrants on the territory of Belarus.</p> <p>In late 2021 and early 2022, the Belarusian authorities returned migrants <i>en masse</i> to their countries of origin without checking for human trafficking. This increases the vulnerability of migrants to human trafficking.</p> <p>Also, the Government of Belarus does not check Ukrainian refugees for potential human trafficking.</p> <p>Government services to assist victims of human trafficking, although free of charge, are underutilized and have burdensome bureaucratic requirements, delays in the provision of services, and unstable quality of services. Victims face a vacuum of support due to the mass liquidation of civil society organizations to which they could turn.</p> <p>The Belarusian government has liquidated or forced the self-liquidation of 1,917 civil society organizations as of April 2025. This has significantly worsened the work with victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation in Belarus.</p> <p>The system of granting refugee status, subsidiary protection or asylum in the Republic of Belarus remains ineffective and does not meet the interests of foreigners who have concerns related to returning to their state of nationality or former habitual residence. Migrants arriving as part of a humanitarian crisis, as well as those detained in Belarus, report that they often do not have access to international protection procedures in Belarus. The procedure itself remains complex and non-transparent, deviating from the presumption of credibility of applicants. Statistics on forced migration published by the state authorities do not contain information on the reasons for refusal of protection in Belarus and do not allow for an analysis of the legality of the current practice. Moreover, during the consideration of applications for protection, it is not reported whether there is a check for trafficking in human beings.</p>
<p>138.120 Take further measures to fight human trafficking, particularly in women and children (Iraq);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human trafficking &amp; contemporary forms of slavery</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>NOT ASSESSED</p>

		<b>Affected persons:</b> - Women & girls	
138.121 Continue joint work and exchange of experiences at the regional and international levels to enhance efforts and coordination in the field of combating trafficking in persons (United Arab Emirates); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human trafficking & contemporary forms of slavery - Inter-State cooperation and assistance <b>SDGs:</b> - 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH <b>Affected persons:</b> - Women & girls	NOT ASSESSED
138.122 Continue to promote the fight against human trafficking and the protection of refugees (Nicaragua); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human trafficking & contemporary forms of slavery <b>SDGs:</b> - 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH <b>Affected persons:</b> - Refugees & asylum seekers - - Women & girls	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.119.
138.123 Adopt further measures to combat trafficking in persons, and ensure the protection of the rights of victims, as well as the rights of migrants (Nigeria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human trafficking & contemporary forms of slavery - Support to victims & witnesses <b>SDGs:</b> - 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH <b>Affected persons:</b> - Migrants - Women & girls	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.119.
138.124 Continue to strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships on the implementation of the national anti-trafficking legislation (Philippines); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human trafficking & contemporary forms of slavery <b>SDGs:</b> - 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children - Women & girls	NOT ASSESSED
<b>Theme: Rights related to marriage &amp; family</b>			
138.216 Continue to provide support and protection to the family as the fundamental and natural unit of society (Egypt); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Rights related to marriage & family	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Despite the state's visible focus on promoting the institution of the family, practical issues such as domestic violence, including violence against children, and gender stereotypes concerning the roles of men and women within families persist (See 138.242, 138.244, 138.246, 138.248, 138.253). The State not only fails to adopt effective measures to combat these problems but, in some instances, contributes to their proliferation by, for instance, endorsing violence against children or reinforcing the notion that reproduction is a woman's primary role. Government officials and state-affiliated media outlets routinely



			propagate gender stereotypes related to the roles of men and women within the family and society. While protecting the family as the “basic and natural unit of society,” the State frequently crosses the line by prohibiting any alternative forms of relationships, thus infringing on various human rights. A pertinent example is the government's work on a draft law to prohibiting “LGBTQ+ and childfree” propaganda (See 138.69).
138.217 Take further measures to promote and support the institution of the family (Islamic Republic of Iran); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Rights related to marriage & family	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.216.
138.218 Continue its efforts to implement the Demographic Development Outreach Plan in order to raise public awareness on demographic development issues and advocate for traditional family values (Lao People’s Democratic Republic); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Rights related to marriage & family	NOT ASSESSED
<b>Theme: Human rights &amp; poverty</b>			
138.222 Develop a national poverty reduction strategy and budget with a particular focus on children and families in situations of vulnerability (Timor-Leste); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human rights & poverty - Children: definition; general principles; protection - Right to social security - Budget & resources (for human rights implementation) <b>SDGs:</b> - 1 - NO POVERTY <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children in vulnerable situations (abused, living on the street, institutionalized, indigenous, migrant children etc.) - Children - Persons living in poverty - Vulnerable persons/groups	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The State lacks a comprehensive national strategy for reducing poverty.
138.223 Continue to address the challenges posed by the urban / rural dichotomy and to combat poverty in rural areas (Turkey); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human rights & poverty - Right to an adequate standard of living <b>SDGs:</b> - 1 - NO POVERTY <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons living in poverty - Persons living in rural areas	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  Approximately 5% of the population <a href="#">lives</a> below the national poverty line, with higher poverty levels found in rural households.
138.224 Adopt national strategies to fight poverty, particularly in rural areas (Iraq); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human rights & poverty - Right to an adequate standard of living	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

		<b>SDGs:</b> - 1 - NO POVERTY <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons living in poverty - Persons living in rural areas	See 138.222, 138.223.
138.225 Continue its measures on social services, especially in supporting low-income families and families in difficult circumstances, and the benefit system for children (Myanmar); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Human rights & poverty - Right to social security - Right to an adequate standard of living <b>SDGs:</b> - 1 - NO POVERTY - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children in vulnerable situations (abused, living on the street, institutionalized, indigenous, migrant children etc.) - Children - Persons living in poverty - Vulnerable persons/groups	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  An accessible, sustainable, and adequate system is in place and generally functioning well, including one or more programs aimed at providing benefits for relevant social risks and contingencies, as well as the establishment of minimum standards. However, the system is not transparent, does not sufficiently target vulnerable and marginalised groups, and is based on formal criteria (See 138.72). The state's <a href="#">undifferentiated approach</a> to assistance persists. Family aid grants are distributed without consideration of the resources and living conditions of children and those responsible for their care. These grants do not cover essential needs such as food, clothing, housing, water and sanitation, or other necessities if required. Benefits are disbursed without regard to individual needs, and their indexing fails to align with actual economic fluctuations. Despite the existence of legislation pertaining to social support, social policies <a href="#">are not meticulously implemented</a> , with little regard for the needs of vulnerable groups.
<b>Theme: Right to health</b>			
138.226 Continue to adopt measures to further improve health services in order to ensure greater accessibility, especially in rural areas (Algeria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Right to health <b>SDGs:</b> - 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons living in rural areas - Vulnerable persons/groups	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Throughout the reporting period, the accessibility and provision of healthcare, particularly in rural areas, have seen a <a href="#">consistent decline</a> due to the political crisis and repressive government measures. Since 2022, there have been many cases of suspension of private medical centers. The Belarusian government's support for the Russian military aggression against Ukraine has further strained the availability of essential medications and medical equipment, even as the demand for these resources has surged. Belarus's <a href="#">Belkovidvak</a> vaccine faced secrecy, regulatory violations, and efficacy issues. The refusal to procure proven vaccines and reports of unauthorized disposals further eroded public trust and weakened the country's COVID-19 response. The <a href="#">shortage of medical personnel</a> has progressively worsened, driven by doctors leaving the country due to unfavorable working conditions, inadequate compensation, and government

			<p>repressions.</p> <p>Transportation accessibility challenges have hindered access to quality medical care in rural regions.</p> <p>Substantial problems persist in securing access to healthcare facilities, goods, and services without discrimination, alongside multiple breaches of medical ethics. There is a decreasing amount of data being published on the website of the Statistical Committee and other official resources. Key indicators such as birth rates, mortality rates, and morbidity by major nosological groups are missing. The available data is often contradictory.</p>
<p>138.227 Continue to strengthen essential health services, particularly for older persons and other vulnerable groups, and especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic or other public health emergencies (Cuba);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Right to health</p> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <p>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Older persons</p> <p>- Vulnerable persons/groups</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.226.</p>
<p>138.231 Develop and implement school-based mental health programmes aimed at youth on how to protect their own mental health and support those around them (Maldives);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Right to health</p> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <p>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Children</p> <p>- Youth &amp; juveniles</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>During the reporting period, <a href="#">concerns</a> have arisen regarding the ability to provide adolescents with a healthy and supportive environment that enables them to participate in decisions about their health, develop life skills, acquire information, receive guidance, and make informed lifestyle choices.</p> <p>Public arrests of adolescents have taken place as a new <a href="#">practice</a> (See 138.256). Both detained adolescents and children compelled to witness public detentions may experience profound psychological trauma affecting social adaptation, complete development, and the formation of self-esteem, engendering feelings of helplessness, powerlessness, and fear.</p> <p>Ideologization of education, involving the imposition of the “one correct opinion” among children, persists. Students face threats and insults from teachers if their opinions about the president, State, and politics deviate from the “correct” viewpoint.</p> <p>In the backdrop of the conflict in Ukraine, the ideologization of education has evolved into <a href="#">militarization</a>, which extends beyond involving children in military activities to include the establishment of military-patriotic camps. Such an environment, which promotes a socially hazardous way of life, detrimentally affects child development and mental health.</p>
<p>138.232 Enhance its ongoing measures regarding suicide prevention among young people by strengthening anonymous counselling and hotline services</p>	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Right to health</p> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <p>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p>

(Myanmar); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		- Youth & juveniles	
138.229 Repeal laws and policies on mandatory testing for HIV, policies requiring health-care providers to report certain groups to law enforcement, and the criminalization of HIV transmission (Iceland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Right to health - Equality & non-discrimination - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons living with HIV/AIDS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<b>Theme: Sexual &amp; reproductive health and rights</b>			
138.230 Continue to conduct education and awareness-raising programmes on the importance of family planning (Maldives); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Sexual & reproductive health and rights - Rights related to marriage & family - Human rights education, trainings & awareness raising <b>SDGs:</b> - 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION <b>Affected persons:</b> - Women & girls	NOT ASSESSED
<b>Theme: Right to education</b>			
138.233 Maintain the best practice of providing compulsory education free of charge for all children (Ethiopia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Right to education <b>SDGs:</b> - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children	RECOMMENDATION IS IMPLEMENTED  Preschool, primary, and secondary education <a href="#">are provided free of charge to everyone</a> . However, there are often significant indirect costs, including expenses for maintenance and repairs. In rural areas, children receive education and nutrition irrespective of family wealth. Some schools offer first-grade classes for children as young as 5, and rural schools operate during the summer, thus serving a social function.
138.234 Continue its conceptual framework for the development of the education system, looking ahead to 2030 (Lao People's Democratic Republic); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Right to education <b>SDGs:</b> - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION <b>Affected persons:</b> - Children	RECOMMENDATION IS IMPLEMENTED  In November 2020, the Government endorsed the Concept for the development of Belarus's education system until 2030. According to this document, the guiding principles of state education policy are state and public governance, universal values, human rights, humanistic education, ensuring justice, equal access to education, inclusion, and enhancing education quality for everyone. Nevertheless, it is crucial to note that the practical forms, methods, and content of education often do not align with the principles outlined in the Concept (See 138.231).
138.235 Develop programmes to improve the rate of school attendance among Roma children (Peru);	Accepted as implemented	- Right to education <b>SDGs:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

<p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Children  - Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</p>	<p>Enrollment rates for Roma students at all levels of education <a href="#">remain</a> low, and discrimination against them persists.   See 138.74.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Discrimination against women</b></p>			
<p>138.241 Conduct awareness-raising campaigns and educational events aimed at eradicating sexist stereotypes (Burundi);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Discrimination against women  - Equality &amp; non-discrimination  - Advancement of women  - Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION  - 5 - GENDER EQUALITY  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED   See 138.216, 138.239.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Violence against women</b></p>			
<p>138.243 Allocate sufficient resources to training for law enforcement and the judiciary in addressing cases related to violence against women (Fiji);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Violence against women  - Administration of justice &amp; fair trial  - Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 5 - GENDER EQUALITY  - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED   See 138.244.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</b></p>			
<p>138.257 Strengthen access to education for children with disabilities (Afghanistan);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion  - Equality &amp; non-discrimination  - Right to education  <b>SDGs:</b>  - 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION  - 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES  <b>Affected persons:</b>  - Children  - Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED   The revised Education Code enshrines inclusion as one of the fundamental principles of education. However, <a href="#">in practice</a>, a considerable number of children with disabilities continue to receive home-based education as an alternative to inclusive practices. There is an insufficient number of qualified staff capable of providing effective inclusive education, and a barrier-free environment is not adequately provided.  Restrictions on higher and specialised education based on disability, identified through mandatory medical evaluations, continue. The trend of supporting exclusionary education for visually impaired and blind children remains unchanged. This problem is even more urgent in rural areas.</p>

<p>138.258 Pursue the efforts to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities and guarantee equal opportunities in access to education for children with disabilities (Algeria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.72, 138.257.</p>
<p>138.259 Continue to protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Azerbaijan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities: definition, general principles</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.72.</p>
<p>138.260 Intensify its follow-up on the implementation of the national plan of action with regard to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ethiopia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities: definition, general principles</li> <li>- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans</li> <li>- Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM)</li> <li>- Scope of international obligations</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities: protection and safety in situations of risk</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>NOT ASSESSED</p> <p>(due to government concealment of relevant data)</p>
<p>138.261 Continue its efforts to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities, especially their access to higher education (Myanmar); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.72, 138.257.</p>
<p>138.262 Take further steps to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities and</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> </ul>	<p>NOT ASSESSED</p>



<p>ensure their representation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes (Philippines);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	
<p>138.263 Continue its ongoing efforts to build a more inclusive society, including by developing inclusive education policies for children with disabilities and by undertaking further awareness-raising activities at the local level on the key aspects of its disability policies (Singapore);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED
<p>138.264 Take additional steps to mitigate the potential economic exclusion and social isolation of persons with disabilities, including children, considering the COVID-19 pandemic (Singapore);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Right to health</li> <li>- Right to an adequate standard of living</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 - NO POVERTY</li> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In addition to the persistent challenges in the education sector (See 138.257), employment rates for people with disabilities <a href="#">remain low</a>. An inclusive and accessible working environment for people with disabilities is lacking.</p>
<p>138.265 Enact and implement the envisaged bill on the rights and social inclusion of persons with disabilities (Sri Lanka);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities: independence, inclusion</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Law No. 183-3 “On the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Social Inclusion,” enacted in 2022, primarily addresses the social protection of people with disabilities rather than being a comprehensive law on their rights, maintaining a state patronage approach to disability.</p> <p>The law includes numerous declarative provisions, but their <a href="#">effectiveness may be limited</a> due to the absence of strong legal protection mechanisms and the broad, formal nature of the social security system.</p> <p>While the law introduces some positive changes, such as the introduction of the personal assistant role, it still retains a medical understanding of disability at a systemic level (contrary to the approach outlined in the 2008 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). It does not address issues related</p>

			to the deprivation of legal capacity of individuals with disabilities and other aspects in need of reform. The law's provisions require alignment with the Labor Code, further complicating its application.
<b>Theme: Children: definition; general principles; protection</b>			
138.253 Consider developing a comprehensive strategy for preventing and combating all forms of violence against children and put in place robust measures to effectively implement the national plan of action to advance the rights of children (Malaysia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There is no publicly available information about the development of such a strategy. Moreover, there is no legal prohibition against all forms of corporal punishment in family settings, schools, and other institutions. Physical violence against children is still considered an acceptable form of discipline. In the public space, the permissibility of use of physical force against children is voiced, as even government officials have made statements endorsing such practices. Since 2020, the State has routinely employed practices that constitute a form of psychological abuse against children (See 138.256).</p>
138.254 Ensure that poverty and disability are not used as justifications for removing children from parental care (Brazil); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Human rights &amp; poverty</li> <li>- Rights related to marriage &amp; family</li> <li>- Persons with disabilities: protection and safety in situations of risk</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children in vulnerable situations (abused, living on the street, institutionalized, indigenous, migrant children etc.)</li> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Persons living in poverty</li> <li>- Vulnerable persons/groups</li> </ul>	NOT ASSESSED
<b>Theme: Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &amp; requests for technical assistance</b>			
138.38 Continue and strengthen the cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the special procedure mandate holders (Sudan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &amp; requests for technical assistance</li> <li>- Cooperation &amp; Follow up with Treaty Bodies</li> <li>- Cooperation &amp; Follow up with Special Procedures</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus' cooperation with international human rights mechanisms has significantly deteriorated, particularly after 2020. The assessment of Belarus' engagement with these mechanisms has dropped from 3.2 in 2019 to 1.9 in 2023 (on a scale of 1 to 10) according to the <a href="#">National Human Rights Index</a>. In 2022, Belarus withdrew from the Optional Protocol to the</p>

			<p>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, terminating cooperation with the Human Rights Committee as regards individual complaints.</p> <p>Belarus submits reports to treaty bodies but does not engage meaningfully, creating a misleading image of the improving human rights situation and largely ignoring their recommendations. It dismisses HRC's views as advisory and rejects interim measures, particularly in death penalty cases.</p> <p>On 21 June 2021, Belarus suspended the work of the OHCHR Senior Human Rights Adviser, based in Minsk from July 2018. Belarus does not recognize Human Rights Council mandates investigating post-2020 rights violations, including the OHCHR examination and the Group of Independent Experts. The State also consistently refuses to recognize and cooperate with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, does not contribute to its reports, and no longer participates in related interactive dialogues in the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly.</p> <p>Belarus selectively cooperates with thematic special procedures, prioritizing its "national interests".</p> <p>Belarus partially responds to the communications of special procedures, often ignoring key questions, manipulating and hiding important information. Authorities claim the right to withhold substantive replies to inquiries they deem politically motivated.</p> <p>Government officials and state media frequently employ discrediting rhetoric against UN mechanisms, accusing them of lacking independence and impartiality.</p>
138.43 Grant unfettered access to international human rights monitors and engage in full, transparent and constructive cooperation with them (Slovakia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &amp; requests for technical assistance</li> <li>- Cooperation &amp; Follow up with Special Procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
<b>Theme: Cooperation &amp; Follow up with Special Procedures</b>			
138.23 Continue to strengthen its cooperation with thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council and providing them with information upon request (Viet Nam); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; Follow up with Special Procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>During the reporting period, UN special procedures sent 43 communications to the government of Belarus. Responses were received from the state to 25 of these appeals, and during 2024, almost all of the appeals ended with a response from the state, which indicates a trend towards establishing cooperation. At the same time, Belarus selectively responds to the communications of special procedures, often ignoring key questions, manipulating</p>

			and hiding important information. Authorities claim the right to withhold substantive replies to inquiries they deem politically motivated.  See 138.38, 138.112.
138.27 Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as previously recommended (Latvia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  There is no public information confirming that the authorities have considered such an option.
138.31 Pursue its constructive cooperation with human rights mechanisms and special procedures (Nicaragua); Source of Position: A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation & Follow up with Treaty Bodies <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Despite the fact that cooperation with special procedures partially continues, it is carried out selectively and it is not constructive.  See 138.23, 138.38, 138.112.
138.37 Continue to provide thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council with information relating to their mandated activities (Sri Lanka); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.38, 138.112.
138.32 Pursue cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, including by allowing the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus access to the country (Peru); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.33 Meaningfully engage in cooperation with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus and with other United Nations treaty bodies and special procedures (Poland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation & Follow up with Treaty Bodies <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.34 Enhance further cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus by extending an invitation to visit the country (Republic of Korea); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation & Follow up with Treaty Bodies <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.35 Fully cooperate with OHCHR and	Partially accepted	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

special procedure mandate holders, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus (Romania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		- Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.36 Implement and allow full access to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus and to cooperate with other United Nations special rapporteurs and OSCE (Slovenia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The Belarusian government has not cooperated with the OSCE under the Moscow Mechanism, which was initiated twice (in 2020 and 2023) and Vienna Mechanism (2021 and 2024). Furthermore, none of the recommendations made under the Mechanism have been implemented. Instead, the authorities have labelled the report and the initiative to launch the Mechanism as politically motivated, biased, and legally invalid.  As to the UN Special Procedures - See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112
138.24 Improve its cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including by extending a standing invitation to the special procedures, and in particular by fully cooperating with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus (Costa Rica); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.24, 138.112.
138.25 Cooperate with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council by extending a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders and accepting a visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus (France); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.26 Fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, with other special procedures of the Human Rights Council and with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and allow them unfettered access to the country (Greece); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation with human rights mechanisms & requests for technical assistance - Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.28 Engage constructively with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED



human rights in Belarus and other special procedures, and issue a standing invitation to all of them (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.29 Fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, other special procedure mandate holders and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and give them unfettered access to the country (Luxembourg); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation with human rights mechanisms & requests for technical assistance - Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38, 138.112.
138.30 Issue a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Montenegro); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
138.39 Grant unimpeded access to and cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, as well as with OHCHR, as previously recommended (Latvia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures - Cooperation & follow up with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) - Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.23, 138.31, 138.38.
138.40 Cooperate with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus by granting her free, full and unhindered access (Lithuania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation & Follow up with Special Procedures <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.38.
<b>Theme: Cooperation with international organizations</b>			
138.41 Ensure the favourable conditions needed for OHCHR to fulfil its mandate in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 45/1 (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.38.
138.42 Implement the recommendations in the OSCE rapporteur's report under the Moscow Mechanism (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Cooperation with international organizations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.36.
<b>Theme: National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans</b>			
138.55 Adopt a new national action plan for the promotion and protection of human rights in collaboration with relevant	Accepted as implemented	- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans <b>SDGs:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.59.



stakeholders, including civil society (Switzerland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	
138.56 Continue to formulate and to implement national plans to strengthen capacity - building in the field of human rights (China); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  Despite the development of national action plans in certain areas (see 138.46), the Government refused to adopt a comprehensive national human rights plan.
138.57 Continue to implement national programmes and action plans aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights (Cuba); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.46.
<b>Theme: Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</b>			
138.59 Further strengthen cooperation with civil society in the development and application of regulations and laws and the implementation of national policies, strategies and programmes and international technical assistance projects (Tajikistan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Cooperation & consultation with civil society - Legal & institutional reform - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  Between 2021-2025, there was a substantial deterioration in the conditions necessary to facilitate civil society's engagement in the development of regulations and laws, as well as in the cooperation between civil society and the State in the implementation of national policies, strategies and programmes. This deterioration occurred both in terms of legal regulation and <a href="#">law enforcement practices</a> .  The law "On the Fundamentals of Civil Society," enacted on February 14, 2023, significantly restricted the range of potential participants in the dialogue with the State. According to this law, civil society subjects are narrowly defined as "associations of citizens or legal entities based on membership, whose statutory activities are focused on addressing the main tasks of interaction between state bodies (organisations) and civil society, as specified in article 4 of this law." Notably, article 4 does not include various possible statutory activities undertaken by non-profit organisations, such as those related to human rights protection, environmental conservation, gender equality, youth interests, and others. Consequently, the majority of associations do not fall within the category of "civil society subjects" under this law.  Moreover, the law establishes specific forms of state interaction for certain associations that meet highly stringent membership requirements. In spring 2023, the Ministry of Justice classified four public associations and one trade union association as civil society entities eligible for special forms of interaction with state bodies (organisations).  This classification unjustifiably narrows the scope of civil society organisations authorised for comprehensive engagement with the

			<p>State in the decision-making process and fails to represent the full spectrum of public interests, thereby depriving most organisations of the opportunity to represent their groups at the state level, as well as in the law-making process.</p> <p>In practice, the widespread liquidation of non-profit organisations has posed a substantial barrier to cooperation between civil society organisations and the State (See 138.61, 138.146). This has resulted in many groups losing their representation even in the limited existing mechanisms for participation.</p> <p>Activities of unregistered associations remain prohibited, and since 2022, criminal penalties for such activities have been reintroduced, including imprisonment of up to two years under article 193-1 of the Criminal Code.</p> <p>Already scarce civil society representation was diminished by exclusion from most public councils. In 2021, representatives of three independent public associations were removed from the National Council on Gender Policy under the Council of Ministers, while representatives of one public association, the pro-governmental Belarusian Women's Union, remained part of it.</p> <p>Opportunities for public participation in decision-making remained unsatisfactory for the general public and the citizens. The campaign for public debate on the draft new version of the Constitution, which was put to a referendum in February 2022, was conducted with the mere appearance of “popular participation” and “popular support” but was primarily propagandistic in its nature (See 138.44).</p>
<p>138.60 Engage in national dialogue that respects the principles of the rule of law and democracy (Japan);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Civil society's involvement in the development, implementation, and monitoring of public policy can't be characterised as regular, open, and effective. The constitutional amendments and related legislation enacted between 2022 and 2023, including the Law “On the Fundamentals of Civil Society”, have resulted in a worsening of the legal framework for national dialogue and civil society participation (See 138.59).</p> <p>The Supreme Court's <a href="#">liquidation</a> of 11 political parties, including all opposition parties, between July and September 2023, as they had not undergone re-registration as required by the new version of the Law “On Political Parties”, significantly limited the possibilities for political representation of citizens at all levels of political dialogue. By September 2023, only four political parties with legal status remained in Belarus, and all of them support the political course of the president A. Lukashenko, who has ruled continuously since 1994. The amended Law “On Political</p>

			<p>Parties”, enacted on February 14, 2023, obliges all political parties to “ensure compliance with the main directions of domestic and foreign policy, the concept of national security, approved by the All-Belarusian People’s Assembly,” effectively rendering the existence of opposition political parties unfeasible. Leaders of major opposition parties, such as the Belarusian Popular Front and the United Civic Party, which lost their legal status in 2022, were incarcerated as of September 2023. Ryhor Kastusiou, chairman of the BPF, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for allegedly participating in a plot against Lukashenko (released on pardon), while Mikalai Kazlou, the leader of the United Civic Party, was sentenced to 2.5 years in prison.</p>
<p>138.62 Follow up on the positive and constructive engagement with the Belarusian civil society and expand the range of issues covered by this engagement, such as civil and political rights (Lebanon); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The legal and practical opportunities for interaction between state bodies and civil society between 2021 and 2023 have significantly narrowed, partly due to the enactment of the <a href="#">Law</a> “On the Foundations of Civil Society” on February 14, 2023, and the <a href="#">forced liquidation</a> of numerous civil society organisations (See 138.59, 138.61, 138.146). Legal provisions for the participation of civil society organisations in policy implementation, monitoring, and evaluation exist in some areas, such as environmental issues and business legislation, but are lacking in others. There has been a decline in public interest in discussing even the most important draft laws, and the number of regulations open for public discussion has decreased. Crucial bills related to civil and political human rights, including amendments to the Criminal Code criminalising activities related to freedom of speech, freedom of association, and freedom of assembly, are not subjected to public discussion and are often adopted in two readings simultaneously (as was the case with the introduction of criminal responsibility for organising and participating in the activities of unregistered associations under article 193-1 of the Criminal Code on December 21, 2021).</p>
<p>138.64 Initiate an open and inclusive dialogue with representatives of civil society, academia and the general public, aimed at ensuring the right of the people of Belarus to free and fair elections (Norway); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The constitutional amendments and related legislation enacted in 2022-2023, including the Law “On the Foundations of Civil Society,” have resulted in a deteriorating rather than improving legal framework for potential national dialogue and civil society participation (see 138.59, 138.60, and 138.62). In 2022, all independent trade unions and the nationwide trade union association Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade</p>

			<p>Unions were <a href="#">dissolved</a> by court decisions. Leaders of independent trade union organisations, including Henadz Fiadynich, Siarhei Antusevich (released), Viachaslau Areshka, and approximately 40 other trade union members, were sentenced to long prison terms. Additionally, all opposition political parties were dissolved by court decisions in 2023. Leaders of two of the disbanded parties, Ryhor Kastusiu, Belarusian Popular Front (released on pardon) and Mikalai Kazlou, United Civic Party (released), were also imposed long prison sentences, as were hundreds of other activists from opposition parties and movements, journalists, civil society members, and human rights defenders.</p> <p>Thousands of dissenters were compelled to leave Belarus to avoid politically motivated persecution stemming from their opposition to the current regime. In July 2022, the Criminal Procedure Code was amended to allow for special criminal proceedings, conducted in absentia, against persons who are outside Belarus for acts of terrorism, treason or sabotage, setting up an extremist organization or participation in it, participation in mass riots and calling for sanctions. 110 people were reportedly subjected to these proceedings in 2024, compared to 18 in 2023.</p> <p>As of 1 April 2025, decisions on the forced liquidation, including under extrajudicial procedure, <a href="#">were issued</a> against at least 1188 non-profit organisations, and decisions on self-liquidation were taken by at least 729 organisations (See 138.61). Under these conditions of continuous and widespread repression, an atmosphere of intimidation against alternative voices has taken root in Belarus, rendering open and inclusive dialogue unfeasible.</p> <p>On the amendments to the Electoral Code – see 138.213. On presidential elections-2025 – see 138.212.</p>
<p>138.63 Engage in genuine dialogue with civil society represented by the Coordination Council in order to hold free and fair presidential elections in the presence of international observers (Lithuania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &amp; requests for technical assistance</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The Coordination Council was recognised as an extremist formation by the authorities, and any activities aimed at cooperation with it are considered criminal offences. All members of the Coordination Council's praesidium either faced detention or left the country. In 2022, two of them, Maxim Znak and Maryia Kalesnikava, received long prison sentences. All opposition political parties that had previously existed in the country were forcibly dissolved by the Supreme Court between July and September 2023, following a lawsuit by the Ministry of Justice for their failure to re-register.</p> <p>See 138.44, 138.59, 138.60, 138.62, 138.64</p>

<p>138.65 Put an end to all acts of intimidation and repression against its own population and engage in transparent, inclusive dialogue with the opposition (Romania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Freedom of movement</li> <li>- Right to physical &amp; moral integrity</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Liberty &amp; security of the person</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> </ul>	<p>On presidential elections-2025 - see 138.212. RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.59, 138.60, 138.62, 138.63, 138.64, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.66 Engage in a genuine dialogue facilitated by the OSCE Chairperson -in-Office with the voices of Belarusian civil society, including women leading the protests, to determine a democratic path forward in allowing the Belarusian people to determine their future (United States of America); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation &amp; consultation with civil society</li> <li>- Good governance &amp; corruption</li> <li>- Cooperation with international organizations</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.59, 138.60, 138.62, 138.63 и 138.64.</p>
<p><b>Theme: International criminal &amp; humanitarian law (including crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide)</b></p>			
<p>138.67 Join the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as elaborated by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group (Liechtenstein); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International criminal &amp; humanitarian law (including crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide)</li> <li>- Cooperation with international organizations</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Belarus has not acceded to the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes developed by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Rule of law &amp; impunity</b></p>			
<p>138.192 Investigate cases of the use of disproportionate violence by the police (Cyprus); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103.</p>



<p>138.197 Take all measures to combat impunity for acts of torture and sexual violence (France); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103.</p>
<p>138.203 Investigate and punish reports of torture and ill-treatment swiftly and comprehensively on the basis of the provisions of the Convention against Torture, including the total prohibition of torture (Mexico); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.102, 138.103.</p>
<p>138.193 Ensure full enjoyment of freedom of expression, speech, association and peaceful assembly, and progress towards full, impartial and transparent investigation of all allegations of arbitrary deprivation of life, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment and use of excessive force against peaceful demonstrators (Czechia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Partially accepted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to life</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Enforced disappearances</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Disappeared persons</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>No state structures have made efforts to address the cases of disappearances that occurred in 1999-2000 involving political opponents of the regime, including former Interior Minister Yury Zakharanka, former vice-speaker of the Supreme Soviet Viktor Hanchar, businessman Anatol Krasouski, and journalist Dzmitry Zavadski.</p> <p>On December 18, 2019, the suspended preliminary investigation in the criminal case of Y. Zakharanka, V. Hanchar and A. Krasouski was resumed in connection with the interview of former special unit fighter Yury Harauski posted on December 16, 2019 on the website of the radio station “Deutsche Welle”.</p> <p>On March 18, 2020, the resumed preliminary investigation in criminal cases was suspended due to the failure to identify the person to be brought as an accused. Thus, as of September 2023, the preliminary investigation of the cases of Y. Zakharanka, V. Hanchar and A. Krasouski has been suspended. As of September 2023, the status of the cases of disappearances is unknown to relatives and the public.</p> <p>However, in September 2023, a criminal case on the enforced disappearances of Y. Zakharanka, V. Hanchar, and A. Krasouski, brought under universal jurisdiction, was considered in</p>



			Switzerland against Y. Harauski, who was subsequently acquitted. See 138.102, 138.103, 138.112.
138.189 Ensure independent investigations into all allegations of human rights violations related to the 2020 presidential elections (Albania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Good governance & corruption - Rule of law & impunity - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Public officials	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED See 138.102, 138.103.
138.190 Effectively and impartially investigate all allegations of torture or ill-treatment of peaceful protestors and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Austria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Right to peaceful assembly - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED See 138.102, 138.103.
138.191 Ensure independent, transparent, impartial and credible investigations into human rights violations committed following the elections, including the disproportionate use of force against protesters (Costa Rica); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Right to peaceful assembly - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED See 138.102, 138.103.
138.194 Ensure full accountability of members of law enforcement agencies and their commanding officers for all their actions (Czechia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Administration of justice & fair trial - Access to justice & remedy <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Law enforcement / police & prison officials	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED See 138.102, 138.103.
138.195 Allow credible, transparent, independent and impartial investigations to be conducted into all human rights violations and abuses, including in	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED See 138.102, 138.103.

connection to the 2020 presidential elections (Estonia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Public officials	
138.196 Take immediate and effective steps to end and prevent the arbitrary arrest, torture and ill-treatment of peaceful protesters and other individuals, and to bring those responsible to justice (Finland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Arbitrary arrest & detention - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103, 138.112.
138.198 Conduct an independent investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, including an effective and verifiable process for holding to account those who are responsible, and immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners (Germany); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) - Conditions of detention <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103, 138.112.
138.199 Investigate all allegations of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, disproportionate use of force against peaceful protesters, and torture and ill-treatment in detention of critics, journalists and peaceful protesters, and hold those responsible to account (Greece); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Arbitrary arrest & detention - Enforced disappearances - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) - Conditions of detention <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society - Media - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103, 138.112, 138.193.
138.200 Allow for credible, transparent, independent and impartial investigations to be conducted into human rights violations and abuses committed in the run-up to,	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote <b>SDGs:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103.

during and after the 2020 presidential elections (Italy); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society	
138.201 Conduct independent investigations into the human rights violations that took place in the aftermath of the 2020 presidential elections, including cases of enforced disappearance and alleged cases of torture (Liechtenstein); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Right to peaceful assembly - Enforced disappearances - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) - Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103, 138.112, 138.193.
138.202 Ensure prompt independent investigation of all allegations of torture and bring perpetrators to account (Lithuania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103.
138.204 Duly conduct prompt, impartial and full investigations into the alleged practice of ill-treatment and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials, including the detention of minors, and prosecute the alleged perpetrators (Montenegro); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Law enforcement / police & prison officials - Children - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  As of the end of August 2023, there were 11 persons that became political prisoners when they were minors; among them are Mikita Zalatoriou, Siarhei Hatskevich, Eduard Kudyniuk, Maksim Imhavik, Ivan Patsiaichuk, Dzianis Khazei, Aliaksandr Viniarski, Pavel Piskun, Aleh Dobrydnev, Artsiom Vaitsiakhovich, and Mikita Brui. It should be taken into account that the conditions of imprisonment for those convicted on political grounds are tougher than for ordinary prisoners. They are actually deprived of correspondence, parcels, visits, and are constantly punished by placement in a penal isolation cell.  See 138.102, 138.103.
138.205 Undertake effective and impartial	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

<p>investigations into allegations of arbitrary detention and torture of peaceful demonstrators by security forces, and take action to implement its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (New Zealand);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>The State fails to fulfill its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failing to enact effective legislative, administrative, judicial, and other measures to prevent acts of torture.</li> <li>• Failing to ensure that all acts of torture are prosecuted under criminal law, and furthermore, leaving those involved in torture unpunished and denying the occurrence of torture.</li> </ul> <p>See 138.102, 138.103.</p>
<p>138.206 Cooperate fully with all relevant human rights mechanisms for a comprehensive independent investigation of recent events (North Macedonia);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &amp; requests for technical assistance</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Enforced disappearances</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Disappeared persons</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Law enforcement / police &amp; prison officials</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In the investigation and prosecution of individuals responsible for human rights violations in the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election, Belarus disregards both national and international mechanisms. Despite the large number of reports of human rights violations made both by the victims in the course of the attempts to utilise national remedies and reports of the commission of crimes against humanity confirmed at the international level, not a single criminal case has been initiated in Belarus so far against representatives of the authorities, law enforcement officers, and security apparatus. Victims of human rights violations during the protests that began in 2020 have little hope of having their rights restored at the national level.</p> <p>Additionally, the State shows no interest in cooperating with international mechanisms, as evidenced by its disregard of communications and statements from various international bodies, such as the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. The denunciation of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights exemplifies the state's disinterest in investigating human rights violations and lack of cooperation with international mechanisms.</p>
<p>138.207 Ensure that its domestic mechanisms on accountability and the rule of law are functioning to facilitate inclusive dialogue and address alleged human rights violations (Philippines);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Judges, lawyers and prosecutors</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.206.</p>
<p>138.208 Bring to justice the individuals responsible for human rights violations, in</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

particular in the run-up to and the aftermath of the 2020 presidential elections (Poland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		<b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society - Law enforcement / police & prison officials	See 138.102, 138.103.
138.209 Conduct independent and transparent investigations into the allegations of serious human rights violations in connection with the recent demonstrations (Republic of Korea); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Access to justice & remedy - Right to peaceful assembly - Enforced disappearances - Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) - Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders & activists - Civil society - Law enforcement / police & prison officials	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103.
138.210 Enable independent, transparent and impartial investigations into all allegations of human rights violations, aimed at ensuring access to justice, redress for victims and accountability for perpetrators (Romania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Support to victims & witnesses - Access to justice & remedy <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103.
138.211 Fully investigate all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, including of those detained during the recent post-election protests, and bring all those responsible to justice (Slovakia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Rule of law & impunity - Administration of justice & fair trial - Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment) - Conditions of detention <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.102, 138.103.
<b>Theme: Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</b>			
138.212 Organize the holding of free and fair elections, in line with international standards and in the presence of OSCE	Accepted as implemented	- Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Cooperation with human rights mechanisms &	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The seventh presidential elections in Belarus <a href="#">took place</a> against

observers (France);

**Source of Position:** A/HRC/46/5/Add.1

requests for technical assistance

**SDGs:**

- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

the backdrop of a deep human rights crisis caused by the repression that followed peaceful protests against fraud in the previous presidential election.

The appointment of the elections for January 26, 2025, 6 months before the expected date of their holding (and 7 days before the deadline for registration of initiative groups to nominate presidential candidates), indicates the instrumentalization of electoral procedures and manipulation of legislation.

The monitoring of all stages of the election campaign conducted by the Human Rights Defenders for Free Elections campaign allows us to conclude that the presidential elections did not meet international standards for holding democratic and free elections, and were accompanied by numerous violations of the electoral legislation of the Republic of Belarus. All stages of the electoral process were not just administratively controlled by the authorities, but were organized by them to keep A. Lukashenko in power while imitating his broad support. This is evidenced by:

- the complete suppression of the right to freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association and other human rights, without the proper implementation of which it is impossible to talk about free and democratic elections;
- non-transparent formation of election commissions at all levels;
- candidates approved by the authorities who based their election programs not on criticism of A. Lukashenko's policies, but on his full support (with the exception of A. Kanopatskaya);
- collection of signatures aimed at creating the appearance of support only for A. Lukashenko (more than a third of all voters have been declared to be collecting signatures), using administrative resources and coercion, since the lists are open and refusal to sign could become the basis for political persecution;
- campaigning, in which all candidates except A. Lukashenko were practically invisible in the information space, and an administrative and propaganda resource was used in support of A. Lukashenko to simulate political activity and broad support, which can practically be called serving the cult of A. Lukashenko.;
- continuation of the practice of forcing voters to participate in early voting;
- an atmosphere of intimidation with bans on photographing and taking out ballots, and several police officers on duty at all polling stations;
- non-transparent vote counting procedure; the reported record turnout figures (85.7%), including in early voting (41.81%), exceeding the 2020 figures (84.38% and 41.70%, respectively), when the level of politicization and mobilization of society was



			significantly higher, as was evident from the queues at polling stations on election day; - the complete absence of independent observers (both national and international).
138.213 Reform the Electoral Code and related legislation, taking into account the recommendations of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Election Observation Mission's final report, of 4 March 2020 (Germany); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Cooperation with human rights mechanisms & requests for technical assistance - Constitutional & legislative framework <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  The new version of the Electoral Code, which was adopted on February 16, 2023, did not incorporate the recommendations of domestic civil society organisations or previous recommendations from OSCE observer missions, including those stemming from the contentious and heavily contested 2020 presidential election. The authorities did not make any efforts to address, through legal regulation of electoral procedures, the factors that contributed to the post-election crisis in August 2020. The constitutional norm restricting the active suffrage of citizens imprisoned on charges of committing a crime was removed from the Constitution and electoral legislation.
138.214 Reform the Electoral Code in order to bring it in to line with international standards of fair and democratic elections (Romania); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Legal & institutional reform <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.213.
138.215 Implement all the electoral recommendations from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, as stated in its observation mission reports (Sweden); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote - Cooperation with human rights mechanisms & requests for technical assistance <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.212, 138.213.
<b>Theme: Death penalty</b>			
138.86 Consider abolishing the death penalty (Fiji); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.87 Take further steps towards abolition of the death penalty (Georgia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.89 Take steps to abolish the death penalty under all circumstances (Norway); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.

		<p>INSTITUTIONS</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	
<p>138.90 Consider the full abolition of the death penalty and accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Romania);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.93 Adopt measures to establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Cyprus);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.96 Consider introducing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its permanent abolition (Holy See);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.97 Consider introducing a moratorium on executions with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty and signing the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Italy);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>
<p>138.13 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and immediately take appropriate measures to release all political prisoners in the country (Slovenia);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.12.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	
138.84 Abolish the death penalty (Canada); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.85 Abolish the death penalty (Timor-Leste) (Liechtenstein); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.88 Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> <li>- Ratification of &amp; accession to international instruments</li> <li>- Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.91 Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Switzerland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.92 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Chile); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.94 Establish quickly a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Death penalty</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.

		<b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	
138.95 Establish, without delay, a moratorium on the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Germany); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Death penalty - Ratification of & accession to international instruments - Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.98 Establish an immediate moratorium on the death penalty and abolish it in law and practice (Luxembourg); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.99 Immediately implement a formal moratorium on executions, and take steps towards the total abolition of the death penalty (New Zealand); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.100 Immediately commute all death sentences to terms of imprisonment and establish an official moratorium on executions (Slovakia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
138.101 Introduce a national moratorium on the use of the death penalty, as a first step towards its abolition (Sweden); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	- Death penalty <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Persons deprived of their liberty & detainees	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.12.
<b>Theme: Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</b>			
138.242 Adopt the necessary legal measures and reforms to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination, as well as violence against women, in particular domestic and sexual violence (Ecuador); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	- Sexual & gender-based violence - Violence against women - Legal & institutional reform - Constitutional & legislative framework - Discrimination against women <b>SDGs:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED  There is still no comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation (See 138.70). Criminal liability for domestic violence and marital rape is also not established.  Nevertheless, amendments were made to the Law of the Republic

		<p>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>of Belarus dated January 4, 2014 No. 122-Z “On the basics of crime prevention activities”. Now the law establishes the concept of “domestic violence”, which includes not only physical and psychological, but also sexual violence. Economic violence and harassment were not included in the law, although they are quite common in Belarus. A protective order may be issued by the internal affairs body for up to 15 days, but its extension after 30 days is not provided for by law. A register of information about domestic violence has been created, which contains sensitive personal information of victims, aggressors and witnesses of domestic violence, to which security services have access. Correctional programs for aggressors are voluntary, which is ineffective. There is no officially approved model for dealing with aggressors.</p> <p>Assistance to victims of domestic violence is not specialized, but is provided on a general basis, which often leads to ignoring their special needs, especially older citizens, women with children, women with disabilities, and rural residents.</p> <p>When domestic violence in a family with children is identified, child protection authorities place the child in a “socially dangerous position,” but in practice they do not take measures to reduce domestic violence, but focus on living conditions and place the responsibility for solving the problem on the child’s mother, who is a victim of domestic violence.</p> <p>As part of a widespread campaign aimed at elimination of NGOs, organisations dedicated to safeguarding women’s rights and addressing domestic violence through legal aid, shelters, and related services ceased their operations.</p> <p>Given the overall repressive environment in the country, the ideological orientation of the competent authorities to whom victims of domestic violence might turn for help, the liquidation of organisations that disseminated information about available remedies and provided other support to victims, as well as the diminishing accessibility of quality legal assistance, victims of violence are reluctant to use existing mechanisms out of fear of drawing the attention of law enforcement agencies that may find grounds to hold the applicant accountable for allegedly holding alternative (to pro-state) views.</p>
138.244 Redouble efforts in conducting awareness-raising and training for duty bearers towards preventing and addressing gender-based violence and ensuring victims’ access to appropriate services	Accepted as implemented	<p>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</p> <p>- Violence against women</p> <p>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</p> <p>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The National Action Plan for Gender Equality in the Republic of Belarus for 2021-2025 formally includes various measures such as trainings for employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and</p>

<p>(Philippines);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<p>- Access to justice &amp; remedy  <b>SDGs:</b>                  - 5 - GENDER EQUALITY  <b>Affected persons:</b>                  - Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>the State Border Committee on recognizing and addressing cases of sexual and gender-based violence against migrants, monitoring the organisation of efforts to prevent domestic violence, including the functioning of “crisis rooms”, the establishment of an interagency resource center for the prevention of domestic violence at the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, and advanced training in gender-based violence (with focus on a domestic violence) prevention for judges. However, there is a lack of information regarding the practical implementation of these measures, and monitoring the situation is complicated by the liquidation of specialised NGOs (see 138.239). Clarifications of the new legislation, including <a href="#">information</a> on existing remedies, as well as <a href="#">information</a> on the organisation of targeted discussions, can be found in the state media and on the websites of state bodies. A republican preventive campaign “A House without Violence” is being organised.</p> <p>Inter-agency councils for assisting victims of domestic violence have been legally regulated and are being established in practice. There are examples when a victim of domestic violence and an aggressor are invited to interdepartmental councils at the same time, and officials try to reconcile spouses/partners, while, as a rule, responsibility is assigned to the woman as the “keeper of the hearth” and responsible for family well-being. This practice contributes to the additional victimization of affected women, and also violates the principle of confidentiality, since “random” people get access to sensitive information (the membership of interdepartmental councils is not personal). Some protocols of interdepartmental interaction, which are the legal basis for the activities of interdepartmental councils, contain an outright ban on criticism of government agencies in the field of domestic violence prevention.</p> <p>As to the overall ineffectiveness of existing mechanisms, due to the repressive environment that discourages victims of gender-based violence from seeking help from the competent authorities, see 138.242.</p>
<p>138.246 Develop specific legislation to combat domestic violence, including by establishing complaints mechanisms and strengthening the role of civil society in laws, policies, program me s and services to prevent and protect against domestic violence (Costa Rica);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence                  - Violence against women                  - Rule of law &amp; impunity                  - Support to victims&amp; witnesses                  - Access to justice &amp; remedy                  - Constitutional &amp; legislative framework                  - Discrimination against women  <b>SDGs:</b></p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Legal restrictions on the operations of civil society organisations, coupled with ongoing political repression since 2020, pose significant obstacles to the work of non-governmental organisations engaged in domestic violence prevention and protection.</p> <p>As of April 2025, at least 1188 non-profit organisations have faced <a href="#">forced liquidation</a> decisions, including extrajudicial</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>liquidation and at least 729 organisations were forced to decide to self-liquidate, since 2021 (See 138.61). At the same time, the legislation prohibits the activities of unregistered public associations and criminalises them as of 2022, with penalties of up to two years' imprisonment under article 193-1 of the Criminal Code (See 138.183).</p> <p>Among the organisations that lost their registration as part of this liquidation campaign was Radislava, a public association established by women who were victims of violence. Since its inception in Autumn 2001, it had been active in combating domestic violence, operating shelters, providing psychological support, and offering legal counseling to hundreds of women. The organisation's hotline, which used to provide support at any time of the day, ceased to function following its liquidation. Female employees of Radislava faced administrative and criminal prosecution.</p> <p>In 2021, a Supreme Court ruling, at the request of the Ministry of Justice, compelled the liquidation of Gender Perspectives, an organisation that established and managed a nationwide hotline for domestic violence victims. This led to the hotline's termination. The organisation had previously led a coalition of NGOs advocating for the adoption of a special law against domestic violence, which had never been passed.</p> <p>The inability to exercise their civil rights, including unprecedented pressure on independent non-profit organisations, the atmosphere of intimidation and impunity in Belarus, compelled many women human rights defenders and activists to leave the country. Abroad, they often find themselves in a vulnerable position and do not feel safe.</p> <p>See 138.242.</p>
<p>138.247 Consider undertaking the necessary reforms to criminalize violence against women, in particular domestic and sexual violence (Peru);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There is no public information about the authorities' consideration of this issue.</p> <p>See 138.242.</p>
<p>138.248 Adopt effective legislation criminalizing violence against women, namely domestic and sexual violence</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Most criminal cases of domestic violence remain cases of private</p>

(Portugal); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>prosecution, meaning they are initiated only at the request of the affected women, where they are given full responsibility for collecting evidence about incidents of violence. Private prosecution cases may also be terminated upon reconciliation of the parties.</p> <p>See 138.242.</p>
138.249 Continue to take steps to combat violence against women, including through legislative reforms (Malaysia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.242.</p>
138.250 Adopt legislation specifically criminalizing violence against women, particularly domestic and sexual violence (Angola); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.242, 138.248.</p>
138.251 Develop a legal framework aimed at combating domestic and gender-based violence (Croatia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.242.</p>
138.252 Launch awareness-raising campaigns to fight domestic violence and to raise further awareness about the consequences of it (Kuwait); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>As a result of public criticism of the concept of a specialized law, in 2018 the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus stopped publishing statistics on offenses and crimes in the field of</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>domestic violence on its website in the relevant section, although until that time it had been doing this regularly and in sufficient detail. Other government agencies also publish such statistics irregularly, the data is often not comparable and incomparable with the same period in previous years, there is no data disaggregation by gender, age, region of residence, presence of children in the family, disability and other important characteristics.</p> <p>In 2023, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in an official response to a petition from citizens, indicated that statistics on domestic violence were “official information of limited distribution.” While crimes and offenses in the field of domestic violence are considered acts that pose a public danger, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus does not see the need to inform the public about the results of the fight against such illegal actions.</p> <p>See 138.244.</p>
<p>138.245 Adopt a comprehensive law criminalizing all forms of violence against women, particularly domestic and sexual violence (Brazil); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.242, 138.248.</p>
<b>Theme: Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</b>			
<p>138.125 Immediately release all those who have been arbitrarily detained solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, protect human rights defenders and stop all forms of gender-based violence (Austria); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112.</p>

138.126 Immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners and provide them with full rehabilitation (Belgium); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.
138.127 Release immediately and unconditionally all political prisoners who are detained illegally and arbitrarily (Chile); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.
138.128 Unconditionally and immediately release all political prisoners and prisoners of conscience, end the criminal proceedings against them and provide them with full rehabilitation (Czechia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.
138.129 Release immediately and unconditionally all political prisoners and those arbitrarily detained (Estonia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.
138.130 Immediately release unlawfully detained persons and enable an independent, transparent and impartial international investigation into all	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Violence against women</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.

allegations of torture, sexual and gender-based violence, and other ill-treatment of detained persons (Iceland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual &amp; gender-based violence</li> <li>- Prohibition of torture &amp; ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	
138.131 Immediately, and unconditionally, release all political prisoners and human rights defenders and refrain from such detentions in the future (Ireland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112.
138.132 Immediately cease the arbitrary detention and forceful oppression of citizens (Japan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of thought, conscience &amp; religion</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.
138.133 Release all individuals forcefully detained for participation in peaceful protests and on political grounds (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.
138.134 Release immediately and unconditionally all political prisoners, including former presidential candidates,	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

<p>their supporters and those detained during post-election protests, and refrain from judicial harassment and reprisals (Lithuania);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>Former presidential candidate Viktor Babaryka has been held incommunicado for about 2 years — since May 2023 — without the possibility of contacting his family and lawyer. Presidential candidates Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya and Valery Tsepkala were sentenced <i>in absentia</i> to long prison terms.</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.135 Release all persons arrested in the context of the events surrounding the August 2020 presidential elections, drop administrative proceedings or penalties aimed at them, and stop Internet cut-offs (Luxembourg);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.136 Release all political prisoners and provide them with full rehabilitation (Malta);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.137 Ensure the unconditional release of people who have been arbitrarily detained or otherwise unlawfully deprived of their liberty, including members of the opposition, human rights defenders, journalists, media workers, civil society activists and political prisoners, and ensure access to justice (Norway);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Support to victims &amp; witnesses</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.138 Immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners and ensure their full rehabilitation (Poland);  <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>



<p>138.139 Immediately release all political prisoners and those detained for participation in election-related protests, and demonstrate a commitment to its international human rights obligations (United States of America ); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Rule of law &amp; impunity</li> <li>- Access to justice &amp; remedy</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.105, 138.112, 138.143.</p>
<p>138.150 Amend its law on mass media, putting an end to arbitrary arrests and criminal prosecution in relation to mass media and freedom of speech, and ensuring freedoms of expression, assembly and association for civil society and human rights defenders (Portugal); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.61, 138.141, 138.144, 138.146, 138.155, 138.160, 138.172.</p>
<b>Theme: Freedom of thought, conscience &amp; religion</b>			
<p>138.153 Ensure that no restrictions are imposed on the right to freedom of religion and belief (Holy See); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of thought, conscience &amp; religion</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In addition to the legal restrictions imposed by the authorities (See 138.144), many denominations face bans on holding services outside officially approved locations, effectively limiting their freedom of assembly. The authorities actively interfere in the activities of religious communities, increasing control over their leaders and clergy. Religious activities are prohibited without state approval, and foreign clergy often face visa denials. Additionally, state media and officials frequently conduct propaganda campaigns against “undesirable” religious groups, further stigmatizing and discriminating against believers, especially religious minorities. Repressions against religious organizations are often accompanied by arrests, fines, and administrative prosecution of activists. The Catholic Church and Protestant communities suffer particularly severe pressure, as their representatives have openly opposed political repression. Many religious leaders are subjected to interrogations and arrests on charges of “extremism” or “undermining state security,” and</p>

			some are forced to flee the country. Thus, the Belarusian authorities systematically suppress freedom of religion, turning religious activities into a target of strict state control. (See <a href="#">National Human Rights Index</a> , Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion).
<b>Theme: Right to peaceful assembly</b>			
138.142 Fulfil its obligations under international human rights law with regard to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and freedom of opinion and expression (Argentina); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146.
138.181 Make further efforts to bring into full compliance with international standards its national legislation and practices that regulate freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association (Republic of Korea); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146.
138.182 Fully respect the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and bring legislation into line with its international commitments (Slovakia); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.
138.176 Respect the right of peaceful assembly, and release all individuals arbitrarily detained for participation in peaceful protests (Canada); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Partially accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention</li> </ul> <b>SDGs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <b>Affected persons:</b>	RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.

<p>138.177 Ensure the right of people to peaceful assembly and the ability to peacefully protest, without limiting the rights of participants, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Iceland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<p>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees - Right to peaceful assembly <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists - Civil society - Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
<p>138.178 Strictly adhere to its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including ensuring full and unhindered exercise of the freedom to peacefully protest (Ukraine); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<p>- Right to peaceful assembly - Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation - Scope of international obligations <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
<p>138.179 Ensure that all people can exercise their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and guarantee upholding of peaceful protests (Malta); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Partially accepted	<p>- Right to peaceful assembly <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists - Civil society - Media</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
<p>138.140 Guarantee freedom of assembly and ensure that all those who have been arbitrarily detained are immediately and unconditionally released (Sweden); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<p>- Right to peaceful assembly - Arbitrary arrest &amp; detention <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists - Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.105, 138.112, 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
<p>138.170 Act immediately to provide a safe environment for peaceful assembly and freedom of expression, for the Belarusian people, non-governmental organizations and civil society (New Zealand); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	Not supported	<p>- Right to peaceful assembly - Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information <b>SDGs:</b> - 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS <b>Affected persons:</b> - Human rights defenders &amp; activists</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED  See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144, 138.146, 138.150.</p>

<p>138.180 Immediately halt the violent repression of peaceful demonstrations, and respect the legitimate right of the people of Belarus to participate in public life (Norway); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.143, 138.144.</p>
<b>Theme: Freedom of association</b>			
<p>138.184 Consider simplifying the rules that regulate the registration of civil society organizations and political parties (Peru); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to participate in public affairs &amp; right to vote</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human rights defenders &amp; activists</li> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>The procedure for the registration of public associations and political parties in Belarus remains complex, burdensome, and costly, creating substantial barriers to the formation of public associations and making it extremely difficult to establish new political parties (See 138.141, 138.144). Despite the 14 February 2023 amendments to the Law “On Public Associations” and the Law “On Political Parties”, the conditions for registration of public associations remained unchanged, while the criteria and requirements for establishing political parties became even more stringent. The amendments include an increase in the mandatory minimum number of party founders from 1,000 to 5,000 and a requirement for parties to have registered branches across most parts of the country and in all regions. Regarding public associations, the only positive change brought by the new version of the law is the option to submit registration documents online. The registration process for public associations takes one month, and this period can be extended through registration suspension. The legislation also provides state authorities with broad discretion to reject registration applications on seemingly minor or implausible grounds. For the registration, applicants must prepare more than a dozen documents in strict compliance with numerous mandatory requirements, including using a specific unique font and maintaining precise margin sizes. Registration authorities do not provide guidance on document accuracy. Consequently, if authorities identify any errors, even minor ones, in the application documents of an organisation being established, they can use them as a basis for refusal.</p>

			<p>Subsequently, after all identified deficiencies are addressed, and the same set of documents is resubmitted, the registration authority may again deny the application on different grounds. One significant challenge for all forms of associations is the requirement for organisations, including local branches, to have a legal address in non-residential premises as an office, with private residential premises not qualifying as a legal address for these purposes.</p>
<p>138.183 Bring legislation on freedom of association into full compliance with its international obligations, including by repealing article 23.88 of the Code of Administrative Offences (Denmark); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Partially accepted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In January 22, 2022, a law <a href="#">came into effect</a>, reinstating criminal responsibility for participating in the activities of organisations without state registration and establishing such organisations (article 193-1 of the Criminal Code), a provision that had been previously repealed in July 2019.</p> <p>This article applies to the activities of unregistered public associations, including political parties, trade unions, religious organisations, and foundations.</p> <p>The content of the new article 193-1 is almost identical to the criminal article that was cancelled in 2019, and it includes the same penalties: a monetary fine, arrest for up to three months, or imprisonment for up to two years. The only difference in the updated article is the added provision that it should not be applicable in cases where the more severe article 423-1 of the Criminal Code, which deals with non-enforcement of decisions to suspend and liquidate organisations deemed “extremist,” is applicable.</p> <p>Article 193-1 of the Criminal Code replaced article 23.88 of the Code of Administrative Offences, which is a significant increase in punishment for the activities of public associations without registration.</p> <p>Two criminal cases have been initiated under this article. One case is against an association that continued its activities after a court decision ordered its liquidation, and the other pertains to "carrying out the activities of a public association without registration under the guise of a commercial organisation. In June 2022, it became known that a criminal case under article 193-1 had been initiated against Volha Velichka, the former head of the public charity organisation “Hrodna Children's Hospice,” which had been liquidated in August 2021. This marked the third criminal case against her. There are instances of activists receiving warnings about actions that might lead to responsibility under article 193-1.</p>

<p>138.149 Immediately lift restrictions on freedoms of association, peaceful assembly and expression, including on independent media and the Internet (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Not supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedom of association</li> <li>- Right to peaceful assembly</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> </ul>	<p>See 138.141, 138.144, 138.150, 138.184. RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.141, 138.144, 138.146, 138.150, 138.183, 138.184.</p>
<b>Theme: Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</b>			
<p>138.80 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, improve livelihoods and enhance peoples' well-being (China); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Right to an adequate standard of living</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>According to the <a href="#">National Human Rights Index</a> developed by the Belarusian Helsinki Committee with the participation of approximately 50 experts from various fields, the situation concerning the fulfilment of economic, social, and cultural rights has significantly deteriorated.</p> <p>In 2023, the assessment of each right separately resulted in an overall rating of 2.4, which is 1.9 lower than the 2019 assessment. It should also be noted that the deterioration is also seen in civil and political rights, where the rating in 2023 is 2.1, falling by 1.9 compared to 2019, as well as in economic, social and cultural rights (from 5.2 in 2019 to 3.5 in 2023).</p> <p>Mass repression and violations of civil and political rights inevitably impact the realisation of economic, social, and cultural rights, thereby reducing the overall standard of living and well-being of citizens.</p>
<p>138.82 Continue to implement socially oriented policies aimed at further improving the well-being of citizens (Democratic People's Republic of Korea); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.72, 138.80, 138.225.</p>
<p>138.219 Continue to strengthen efforts to ensure the provision of adequate education and health care for everyone (Kazakhstan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Right to health</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</li> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Despite the general accessibility of education in Belarus, the <a href="#">quality</a> of primary, secondary, and higher education has significantly decreased over the past three years due to ideologization and the militarization of education, particularly with the outbreak of the war in Ukraine.</p> <p>The suppression of any opinions not aligned with the state ideology, as well as the use of law enforcement and security forces practices in educational institutions (See 138.256), contradicts the obligation to provide education in the spirit of</p>



			human rights, mutual understanding, and tolerance.  As to the healthcare, see 138.226 RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED
138.220 Continue with its effective protection of family rights, social security, the right to work, the right to education and the rights of children and of women (Nicaragua); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Rights related to marriage &amp; family</li> <li>- Advancement of women</li> <li>- Labour rights and right to work</li> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Right to social security</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 - NO POVERTY</li> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> <li>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>Protection of family rights: see 138.216, 138.242, 138.244, 138.246, 138.253;</p> <p>Social security: see 138.72, 138.225, 138.257;</p> <p>The right to education: see 138.219, 138.233;</p> <p>The rights of children and women: see 138.70, 138.216, 138.236, 138.237, 138.238, 138.242, 138.244, 138.246, 138.253, 138.256.</p> <p>As to <a href="#">the right to work</a>, despite the prohibition of forced labor by legislation, various forms of involuntary labor continue to exist. These include medical and labor dispensaries, unpaid work for unemployed or underemployed parents whose children are under state care, and the involvement of employees of state and private entities, including minors, in seasonal agricultural harvesting and unpaid weekend labor (subbotniks).</p> <p>Since 2020, employees from both public and private sectors have faced unfair dismissal based on their political views. Attorneys face mass repressions due to the exercise of their professional duties. With the mass liquidation of independent trade unions as part of a broader campaign to eliminate civil society organisations, workers' access to effective means of protecting their rights significantly diminished. (See 138.61, 138.141)</p> <p>See 138.264</p>
138.221 Continue to make efforts for the provision of social security, primary health care and access to preschool education (Pakistan); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</li> <li>- Right to health</li> <li>- Right to social security</li> <li>- Right to education</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 - NO POVERTY</li> <li>- 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</li> <li>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.72, 138.225, 138.257, 138.226. 138.233</p>
<b>Theme: Labour rights and right to work</b>			
138.238 Take specific measures to reduce the gender pay gap, and combat the negative stereotypes regarding women in the area of work (Angola); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	Accepted as implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Labour rights and right to work</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Discrimination against women</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Systemic discrimination against women in the labor sphere persists, with prohibited professions for women, gender pay gaps, the glass ceiling, and harassment continues. The proportion of</p>

		<p>- 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>men taking parental leave remains extremely low, and state officials actively promote the narrative of a woman's primary role as fulfilling the reproductive function.</p> <p>See 138.70.</p>
<b>Theme: Advancement of women</b>			
<p>138.236 Draft and implement a new national action plan to ensure gender equality (Burundi);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Advancement of women</p> <p>- Legal &amp; institutional reform</p> <p>- National Human Rights Action Plans (or specific areas) / implementation plans</p> <p>- Discrimination against women</p> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <p>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In 2020, the government adopted the National Action Plan for Ensuring Gender Equality in the Republic of Belarus for 2021-2025. The plan assumes that special attention will be paid to “gender equality issues will be given special attention in the framework of work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” and “the introduction of the gender factor into the implementation of state policy as an integral condition for the equal development of human capital of women and men.” Domestic violence, as well as the presence of well-established traditional gender stereotypes are highlighted as problems. At the same time, there are still problems regarding the implementation of the national plan and the actual provision of gender equality. Women are subjected to systemic discrimination in educational, labor and other social spheres, suffer from unequal conditions of admission to educational institutions, a ban on choosing certain professions, lower salaries, unequal distribution of household responsibilities due to the stereotypical role of “housewife” assigned to a woman by society, etc. Despite the fact that gender-based violence is also a widespread problem, a legislative act prohibiting all forms of violence against women and providing legal remedies against such treatment still has not been adopted. The lack of cooperation with independent civil society organizations, both at the development and application stages, undermines the effectiveness of the implementation of this plan.</p> <p>See 138.70, 138.238, 138.242, 138.246.</p>
<p>138.237 Continue to make efforts to provide educational facilities and opportunities to girls and women and advance equal access to vocational training facilities (India);</p> <p><b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<p>- Advancement of women</p> <p>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</p> <p>- Right to education</p> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <p>- 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <p>- Women &amp; girls</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>In Belarus, there is still no opportunity for women to enroll in a number of higher educational institutions, or unequal conditions are created for admission (for example, the number of places is significantly lower than for men). Such universities include the Military Academy, the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the University of Civil Protection of the Ministry of Emergency Situations.</p>

			<p>Moreover, in 2023, the Ministry of Health issued an Order determining the number of places for subordination in surgery and anaesthesiology “separately for male and female students.” The order states that this practice is justified by the optimization of resources in the field of higher medical education to meet the demand for specialist doctors. However, this distribution directly discriminates against women, since the number of places allocated to them is disproportionately smaller compared to male students. Consequently, men are given places despite lower scores.</p> <p>In addition to the illegality of such unequal treatment in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Belarus and its international obligations, this policy <a href="#">violates the right to education</a>. Female students, despite their high scores and abilities, are limited in the free choice of the desired specialisation, while male students are forced to pursue undesirable specialties solely because they are men.</p>
<p>138.239 Take measures to raise public awareness on gender-based discrimination, in consultation with non-governmental organizations (Burkina Faso); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advancement of women</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Human rights education, trainings &amp; awareness raising</li> <li>- Discrimination against women</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>Among the organisations forcibly liquidated (See 138.61) were both specialised NGOs dealing with issues of combating domestic violence and gender discrimination, and organisations that implemented separate programs in the field of strengthening the role and support of women (including, among others, the authoritative public association “Radislava” and the Public Association “Gender Perspectives”) (See 138.246).</p> <p>The possibility of raising awareness with the participation of civil society has been negatively affected by the repression of women human rights defenders and activists. Since the 2020 elections and until the end of 2022, at least 323 women have been recognized as political prisoners. At least 162 women are currently serving their sentences.</p> <p>Despite the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the activities carried out by the Belarusian authorities within the framework of national action plans for gender equality do not go beyond ensuring the social and economic rights of women and do not include measures to support human rights defenders, civil activists and non-governmental organisations defending women's rights.</p> <p>In 2021, representatives of 3 independent public associations were excluded from the National Council on Gender Policy under the Council of Ministers, and representatives of only one public association remained in its composition - the pro-government Belarusian Union of Women.</p>

<p>138.240 Regularly cover in the national media the issue of gender equality (Burundi); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advancement of women</li> <li>- Equality &amp; non-discrimination</li> <li>- Discrimination against women</li> <li>- Freedom of opinion and expression &amp; access to information</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 - GENDER EQUALITY</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women &amp; girls</li> </ul>	<p>See 138.59. RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>See 138.216.</p>
<p><b>Theme: Children: juvenile justice</b></p>			
<p>138.255 Review the juvenile justice system and introduce a juvenile criminal law with a view to developing alternatives to detention and reducing prison sentences for offenders under 18 years of age (Germany); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children: juvenile justice</li> <li>- Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</li> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> <li>- Constitutional &amp; legislative framework</li> <li>- Conditions of detention</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Youth &amp; juveniles</li> <li>- Persons deprived of their liberty &amp; detainees</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>There is no information on the revision of the juvenile justice system and related legislative changes. Based on <a href="#">judicial statistics</a>, the proportion of minors who have been sentenced to imprisonment is increasing every year (17.2% of the total number of convicted minors in 2022), as is the total number of convicted minors.</p> <p>See 138.204.</p>
<p>138.256 Reform the juvenile justice system to ensure that the rights of children and the best interests of the child are respected in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Spain); <b>Source of Position:</b> A/HRC/46/5/Add.1</p>	<p>Accepted as implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children: juvenile justice</li> <li>- Children: definition; general principles; protection</li> </ul> <p><b>SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</li> </ul> <p><b>Affected persons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Youth &amp; juveniles</li> </ul>	<p>RECOMMENDATION IS NOT IMPLEMENTED</p> <p>One of the tools of repression against dissenters used after the 2020 elections is the practice of recording (often with the use of pressure and violence) the “penitential” videos and distributing them through official law enforcement and propaganda channels. In these videos, individuals (including teenagers) allegedly admit to committing offences, repent of it and disclose personal information about themselves, sometimes of a sensitive nature. Another common practice that humiliates the dignity of the individual is the demonstrative public detention of teenagers suspected of committing crimes in the assembly halls of executive committees or the police department in the presence of other teenagers.</p> <p>See 138.204.</p>