









THE ROLE
OF THE VERKHOVNA RADA
OF UKRAINE IN IMPLEMENTING
INTERNATIONAL TREATIES
ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**#EU4RADA** 

## **UN human rights treaties**





There are 9 core international human rights treaties.



**Ten treaty bodies were launched** to supervising the implementation of these treaties.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (adopted in 1966, ratified in 1973)

https://cutt.ly/hym0Mv7



Human Rights Committee



Second Optional Protocol concerning the abolishment of the death penalty (1989 p.)

https://cutt.ly/lym00L8



#### First Optional Protocol

(concerning the individual complaint process) (1966)

https://cutt.ly/Gym00cc

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (adopted in 1966, ratified in 1973)

https://cutt.ly/vym02uw



Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



#### Optional Protocol

(concerning the individual complaint process) (2008)

https://cutt.ly/oym027E

## Human rights treaties addressing specific phenomena



Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

(adopted in 1965, signed by Ukraine in 1966, ratified in 1969)

https://cutt.ly/0ym09E4

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (adopted in 1984, signed by Ukraine in 1986, ratified in 1987)





Committee against Torture

Committee on Enforced Disappearances



International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (adopted in 2006,

signed by Ukraine in 2006, accession of Ukraine - in 2015)

https://cutt.ly/Kym03yo

#### Optional Protocol to CAT

(establishing of a Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) (ratified in 2006)

https://cutt.ly/zym031Q



Subcommittee
on Prevention
of Torture and Other
Cruel, Inhuman
or Degrading
Treatment
or Punishment

# Human rights treaties protecting certain groups



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (adopted in 1979, ratified by Ukraine in 1989)

https://cutt.ly/4ym04ln

•

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

(1

Optional Protocol (complaint process) (adopted in 1999, ratified by Ukraine in 2003)

https://cutt.ly/Wym07qk

Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (ratified by Ukraine in 2003) https://cutt.ly/hymo5yR

Convention on the Rights of the Child (adopted in 1989, ratified by Ukraine in 1991)

https://cutt.ly/Sym07DM



Committee on the Rights of the Child



Optional Protocol
establishing a complaints
procedure (signed by Ukraine
in 2014 ratified in 2016)

https://cutt.ly/rym05MH



Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (adopted in 2000, ratified by Ukraine in 2005) https://gutt.ly/Nym06x0

Ukraine has signed, but did not ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

Committee
on the Protection
of the Rights of All
Migrant Workers
and Members of
their Families



International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (adopted in 1990)

https://cutt.ly/SymPqrN

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (adopted in 2006, ratified by Ukraine

in 2009) https://cutt.ly/jymPet2





Optional Protocol (complaint

procedure)

https://cutt.ly/ JvmAAle





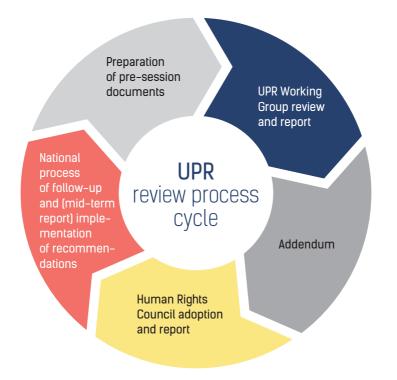
Universal Periodic Review (UPR) — is a new mechanism of the Human Rights Council. It is a review process of the human rights record of all 193 UN Member States once every five years. UPR enables each State to declare what actions have been taken to improve the human rights situation in the country and to fulfil its human rights obligations. Thanks to UPR, countries from all over the world share their best practices in the field of human rights. Currently there exist no other similar universal mechanisms. https://cutt.ty/7ymProX



As a result of the review, the country is provided with recommendations on actions required for the promotion of human rights.

In 2017, 190 recommendations were provided to Ukraine.

https://cutt.ly/symPrMR



# International supervision over the fulfilment of human rights obligations





Special Procedures is a separate mechanism of the Human Rights Council.

This can be either an individual (called "Special Rapporteur" or "Independent Expert") or a working group of five members. Special Rapporteurs usually do country visits; work on individual cases of alleged violations and concerns of a broader. structural nature by sending communications to States: conduct thematic studies and arrange expert consultations



With effect from the date of entry of an international treaty into force, the states are committed to adopt domestic laws and to take relevant measures to ensure proper promotion of human rights.



Also, the states are required to report periodically to the treaty bodies (UN Committees) on the steps they have taken.



Currently there is a trend for a simplified reporting procedure, whereby the State's answers to the Committee's questions constitutes its report under the specific treaty. Thus, simplification involves combining steps 1 and 2.

# International supervision over the fulfilment of human rights obligations





### This year Ukraine







Has already reported on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and received more than 50 recommendations from the UN Committee.

https://cutt.ly/AymPtKR



Must submit the national report on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, a report with answers to questions regarding the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



Received 25 questions on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. https://cutt.ly/lymPymb



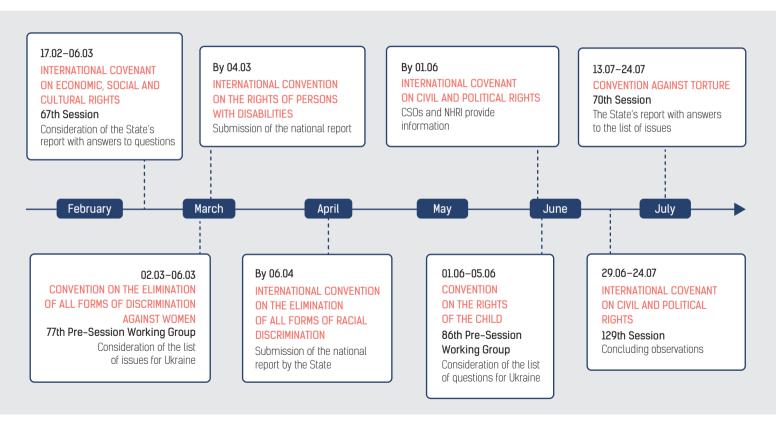
Must defend before the UN Committees the reports on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights prepares, from time to time, the Compilation of recommendations of the United Nations human rights mechanisms addressed to Ukraine. As of December 2019, more than 400 recommendations are provided to Ukraine.

https://cutt.ly/qymPuEK

## This year Ukraine





# The Parliament's role in ensuring the fulfilment of the international human rights obligations



### Monitoring of the fulfilment of the commitments



Expert examination of the draft laws for compliance with the human rights standards and international commitments.



Participation in the preparation of national reports to UN Committees, discussion thereof along with alternative reports prepared by the national human rights institution or non-governmental organizations.



Encouraging of the inclusion of Members of the Parliament into national delegations that report to UN Committees and ensuring that the Parliament is kept informed about hearings in UN Committees.



In cooperation with the Government, planning measures to implement the recommendations provided by the UN Committees to improve the human rights situation.



Preparation of Parliamentary Human Rights Action Plans.



Effectiveness of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights as one of the tools for exercising parliamentary control over the observance of human rights in Ukraine. In addition, all Conventions provide for the possibility of prepare the National Human Rights Institution submissions.



Cooperation with the National Human Rights Institution and Civil Society in the context of implementing the recommendations.

# The Parliament's role in ensuring the fulfilment of the international human rights obligations





## Giving the consent to be bound by the international treaty

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine gives its consent to be bound by an international treaty for Ukraine by signing, ratifying it or acceding to it. It is up to the Parliament to decide on whether the State will undertake commitments under the treaty. If necessary, the Verkhovna Rada shall prepare a ratification package of documents to amend the legislation. The conclusion of international treaties that contravene the Constitution of Ukraine is possible only following relevant amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine.



### Implementation of the undertaken commitments

The Parliament shall:



adopt the necessary laws to promote human rights;



approve the State Budget of Ukraine with the necessary funds allocated for the implementation of the human rights standards;



implement the recommendations of the UN Committees by adopting relevant laws.

This publication was prepared jointly by the EU-UNDP Parliamentary Reform Project and Human Rights for Ukraine Project which is being implemented by UNDP in Ukraine and is financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark in 2019 – 2023.

Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark or UNDP.