

AMERICAS

INTRODUCTION

OHCHR's Americas programme covers 35 countries. The regional presences include the Office for South America (ROSA), based in Chile; and the Office for Central America, the Dominican Republic and English-speaking Caribbean region (ROCA), based in Panama. In addition, there are four country offices, in Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and Honduras; one human rights component in the peace

mission in Haiti; 14 HRAs to UN RCs and UNCTs, in Argentina, Bolivia, Belize, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Paraguay, Uruguay; and three technical missions in Bolivia, El Salvador and Venezuela. Engagement with Canada, Cuba and the United States conducted from Headquarters.

CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS CONTEXT

With notable exceptions, the countries of the Americas region have robust legal and institutional frameworks, NHRIs, strong civil society networks, and the highest level of treaty ratification. In general, Member States have good cooperation with OHCHR and engage actively with the UN human rights mechanisms, including with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms and special procedures.

OHCHR's early warning, monitoring and reporting mandate has enabled it to identify and assess protection gaps and shortcomings in the Americas. The region displays some of the highest levels of socio-economic inequality in the world and the Covid-19 pandemic is disproportionately affecting groups in vulnerable situations, including women, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, people living in poverty, persons deprived of their liberty, LGBTI persons, and migrants, among others.

OHCHR's priorities in the region include strengthening accountability systems; improving access to justice and reparations for victims of gross human rights violations; combating discrimination; reducing inequalities; widening civic space; supporting technical cooperation and institution building; and facilitating dialogue, early warning, and prevention and protection of human rights in situations of conflict and insecurity, including during electoral processes. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the need

to create and strengthen existing structures to guarantee economic, social and cultural rights, including by fostering strategies and enhancing advocacy. The capacities of OHCHR field presences to support CCA/UNSDCF processes and socio-economic response plans, as well as engagement on economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development, will continue to be enhanced by the contributions of an economist (deployed in Chile) and a human rights officer with expertise on the SDGs (deployed in Panama). The establishment of a regional adviser post on racism should enhance work on discrimination against racial and ethnic minorities. Subject to the availability of funding, it is planned to strengthen expertise on priority thematic issues, such as migration, gender, and human rights and the environment.

The main trends are:

- Shrinking democratic space. During 2019, social unrest erupted across the region, reflecting a widening gap between popular expectations and economic and social realities. Polarization, frustration with political leadership, and acts of repression, have increased pressures on democratic space. More regulations have been adopted that restrict the rights to freedom of expression, participation, peaceful assembly and association. Repressive laws have been spreading throughout the region, and civil society

organizations have faced restrictions on registration and their operations. New technologies have helped civil society networks to grow, but they have also been used to control civil society activities and media freedoms, often on the basis of security justifications. In a number of countries of the region, media freedom is seriously restricted and fundamental freedoms are violently repressed.

- Human rights defenders and journalists. Latin America is considered one of the most dangerous regions in the world for human rights defenders (HRDs), who continue to be threatened by harassment, stigmatizing narratives, unsubstantiated prosecutions, arbitrary detention, and attacks on their life and physical integrity, with almost complete impunity. The HRDs most at risk include environmental and land rights defenders, members of indigenous peoples or traditional communities, peasants, LGBTI persons, and persons of African descent. The protection mechanisms that some countries have established have not been effective in countering these trends.
- Poverty, inequality and discrimination. Important shortcomings in the realization of economic, social and cultural rights have affected groups subject to discrimination and reinforced inequality. Falling rates of economic growth and austerity measures have exacerbated the situation, causing social protests that the authorities have often met with repression. Indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants are among those most affected by structural political, economic, social, environmental and health inequalities. Development projects and the growth of extractive industries have further affected the rights of indigenous peoples and traditional communities. Racial discrimination remains a significant barrier to the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights and to political participation by all. The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated long-term inequalities in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Due to structural inequalities and discrimination, groups in vulnerable situations are less likely to be vaccinated. This is particularly a risk for populations living in remote rural areas, indigenous peoples, traditional Afro-descendant communities, persons living in poverty, persons with disabilities, migrants, particularly undocumented migrants, persons deprived of liberty, and others experiencing marginalisation. Lack of policies that guarantee access to vaccines in rural areas, inadequate participation by and consultation with communities, the requirement for identification documents, and the digital divide, all contribute to a vaccination deficit among these groups. In virtually all countries, the absence of disaggregated information on groups in vulnerable situations significantly complicates attempts on make a human rights analysis of Covid-19 vaccination data. In some countries, official information about the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic has lacked transparency and credibility. In several countries, populations protested, angered by vaccine shortages or perceptions that Governments had spent public funds corruptly in the course of combatting Covid-19. During the pandemic, Latin America and the Caribbean have closed schools for longer than any other region.
- Widespread violence and insecurity. In a number of countries, Governments continued to adopt security approaches that fall short of human rights standards, militarized public security, introduced criminal laws that undermined due process and fair trial guarantees, applied tough anti-terrorist laws, employed private security companies without appropriate oversight, or increased levels of pre-trial incarceration.
- Impunity and transitional justice. Structural problems in administration and access to justice, which particularly affect indigenous peoples and women, continue to impede the realization of human rights in the Americas. There have been important steps to advance the right to truth, justice, reparation for victims and non-repetition of violations, in a region that has a legacy of armed conflicts and authoritarian regimes. Yet major obstacles persist. Some countries have made little progress or even regressed, for example by

renewing attempts to pass amnesty laws. Judicial independence is under attack in a number of countries, amid patterns of corruption, lack of resources and the politicization of the judiciary. Efforts to combat corruption through national processes or UN/OAS-backed mechanisms have experienced setbacks in recent years as well as some progress.

- **Gender, women and LGBTI.** A number of countries have strengthened legal and institutional frameworks to protect the rights of women and LGBTI persons. Nevertheless, violence against women, including gender-related killings, remains widespread. Discriminatory socio-cultural patterns persist, including negative gender stereotypes, limiting access to justice, health, education and work, among other human rights. The civic space of women and LGBTI human rights defenders is at risk, notably in the context of Covid-19. These defenders have been subject to online and off-line attacks when they have raised human rights concerns and expressed dissent at the absence of effective policies to overcome the sanitary crisis. Threats and attacks against women defenders persist. Opposition to women's and LGBTI rights, and efforts to seriously restrict gender equality and sexual and reproductive rights have also increased, supported by conservative and religious fundamentalist groups. Femicide rates in the region continued to be among the highest in the world.
- **Migration.** The Americas are experiencing the largest migration flow in recent history. Humanitarian actors estimated that 5.9 million Venezuelans had left by September 2021 and more than six million were expected to have left by the end of the year. Due to persistently high levels of poverty, inequality, violence and political instability, coupled with environmental disasters and climate change, the whole region is also experiencing a migration emergency, marked by a historic movement of migrants from Central America, Mexico, Cuba and Haiti towards the north and the southern border of the United States. In this context, the main human rights

challenges and issues of concern have been the increase in returns at borders, and the detention and deportation of migrants. As borders were closed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the number of people on the move rose, due to structural crises in some countries, migration routes changed, making migrants more vulnerable to violence, exploitation and other human rights violations at borders and in transit. The limited capacity of States in the region to respond meant that the humanitarian needs of the migrant population have mainly been met by civil society organizations and the UN System. This is a matter of concern, owing to limited capacities.

Americas and the United Nations human rights mechanisms

Ratifications, reporting and standing invitations (baseline December 2021)

	CERD	CCPR	CESCR	CAT	OPCAT	CEDAW	CRC	CRC:OPSC	CRC: OPAC	CMW	CRPD	CPED	UPR	Standing invitations to Special Procedure mandate holders
Antigua & Barbuda	X			X				X			X		Nov 2021	No
Argentina						X							Nov 2017	Yes (2002)
Bahamas	X		X	X			X		X		X		Jan 2018	Yes (2013)
Barbados	X		X			X					X		Jan 2018	No
Belize	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Nov 2018	No
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)								X	X				Nov 2019	Yes (2010)
Brazil													May 2017	Yes (2001)
Canada	X		X			X					X		May 2018	Yes (1999)
Chile			X										Jan 2019	Yes (2009)
Colombia		X											May 2018	Yes (2003)
Costa Rica	X		X										May 2019	Yes (2002)
Cuba						X							May 2018	No
Dominica		X	X				X	X	X		X	X	May 2019	Yes (2009)
Dominican Republic	X		X	X				X	X		X		Jan 2019	No
Ecuador													May 2017	Yes (2003)
El Salvador													Nov 2019	Yes (2010)
Grenada	X		X			X		X	X		X		Jan 2020	No
Guatemala													Nov 2017	Yes (2001)
Guyana	X			X			X	X	X		X		Jan 2020	No
Haiti	X		X			X	X						Jan 2022	No
Honduras										X			Nov 2020	Yes (2010)
Jamaica			X				X	X	X	X			Nov 2020	No
Mexico												X	Nov 2018	Yes (2001)
Nicaragua							X			X			May 2019	Yes (2006)
Panama	X			X									Nov 2020	Yes (2011)
Paraguay	X		X	X		X						X	May 2021	Yes (2003)
Peru													Nov 2017	Yes (2002)

Americas and the United Nations human rights mechanisms

Ratifications, reporting and standing invitations (baseline December 2021)

	CERD	CCPR	CESCR	CAT	OPCAT	CEDAW	CRC	CRC:OPSC	CRC: OPAC	CMW	CRPD	CPED	UPR	Standing invitations to Special Procedure mandate holders
St Kitts & Nevis	X					X					X		Jan 2021	No
Saint Lucia	X					X	X	X	X				Jan 2021	Yes (2016)
St Vincent & the Grenadines	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X		Nov 2021	No
Suriname			X				X	X			X		Nov 2021	No
Trinidad & Tobago	X		X			X	X						Nov 2021	No
Uruguay						X	X						Jan 2019	Yes (2005)
USA													Nov 2020	Yes (2021)
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)			X	X		X	X						Jan 2022	No

<input type="checkbox"/>	Treaty ratified
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Overdue report as of December 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outstanding ratification

BOLIVIA

FIELD PRESENCE

At the end of 2019, in the framework of the Peacebuilding Initiative launched by the UN System and the Secretary-General, the UN Human Rights Office deployed a Technical Mission to Bolivia. The Mission monitors the human rights situation and provides technical cooperation to support the authorities' efforts to implement recommendations by human rights mechanisms, inter alia.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Bolivia has ratified the core international human rights treaties, with the exception of the CPPED. In 2021, Bolivia was reviewed by CESCR and CAT. In 2022, Bolivia will be reviewed by CCPR and CERD. Bolivia issued a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate-holders in 2010. It participated in the third UPR cycle in 2019.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Independent Expert on foreign debt (2019).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Progress is achieved in advancing criminal investigations of human rights violations.
	A2 ▶ Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	The judiciary is strengthened and better equipped to respect, protect and fulfil international human rights standards and in particular with respect to the contributions of the Attorney-General's Offices, the Protection Programme for Victims and Witnesses and the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).
P Participation	P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	Increased effectiveness of prevention, protection and investigation mechanisms related to attacks against and prosecution of journalists, human rights defenders and political leaders, especially woman.
	P4 ▶ Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened	Civil society organizations have better tools and methodologies to defend human rights, to support victims of human rights violations at the national and local level, including through accessing regional and international human rights mechanisms.
ND Non-discrimination	ND1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to "leave no one behind", including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Public policies and legislation related to situations of detention and persons deprived of their liberty increasingly comply with international human rights standards.

<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	<p>ND3</p>	<p>Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote women’s and girls’ autonomy and choice and protect them from violence, including in the digital space</p>	<p>The capacity of the judicial system to prosecute and address cases of GBV, including against LGBTI persons, femicides and to incorporate a gender perspective is increased. Women and girl victims of GBV are empowered and civil society capacities to support victims of GBV is strengthened.</p>
	<p>ND5</p>	<p>Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space</p>	<p>Authorities and other relevant actors address incidents of discriminatory speech and incitement to violence, in particular by promoting tolerance and respect.</p>
<p>D Development</p>	<p>D2</p>	<p>Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively</p>	<p>The business sector, public and private, increasingly applies the UN Guiding Principles, particularly in relation to due diligence procedures.</p>
	<p>D3</p>	<p>State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights</p>	<p>Indigenous peoples have better knowledge of their rights to territory, land and natural resources and are better positioned to participate and advocate in public decisions affecting their rights. Indigenous peoples have stronger means to exercise their political rights through the election of their own representatives.</p>
<p>PS Peace and Security</p>	<p>PS5</p>	<p>Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policy-making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict</p>	<p>Human rights monitoring in the context of elections is conducted, including by civil society organizations.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>The NMRF is re-established and further strengthened.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Global Constituency, Inequalities, Prevention

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Women

HAITI

FIELD PRESENCE

OHCHR has been present in Haiti since 2004. After the closure of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in October 2017, OHCHR became a component of the UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH). Currently, the Office is engaging in the country through the Human Rights Section of the UN Special Political Mission BINUH.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Haiti is a party to six of the nine core international human rights treaties. It has signed but has not yet ratified the CAT, CPPED and CRMW. It ratified the ICESCR in 2013. Haiti has joined the OP-CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. Haiti is up to date with its reports to CRC and CRPD. Haiti appeared before the Human Rights Committee in 2014, and was reviewed by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018. Haiti completed its second UPR review in November 2016 and is due to participate in the third cycle in early 2022.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

The Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Haiti visited in 2017. The mandate for the Independent Expert was discontinued as of March 2017.

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	The Inspectorate General for Police and the CSPJ (Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire) function effectively and consistently investigate and prosecute serious violations.
P Participation	P1 Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	The OPC (Office de la Protection du Citoyen) retains its legal standing and receives the resources it requires to operate independently in all departments.
ND Non-discrimination	ND1 Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Laws criminalize SGBV. No laws are discriminatory with respect to LGBTI persons. Incidents of SGBV and acts of violence against LGBTI persons are investigated and prosecuted. Women’s groups and associations that represent LGBTI persons and children are entitled to advocate on behalf of those they represent.
	ND6 The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected	Steps have been taken to ensure that the rights of Haitian migrants are protected, in particular during deportation cases and where persons of Haitian descent become stateless in the Dominican Republic.

<p>D Development</p>	<p>D5</p>	<p>Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies</p>	<p>The DPC (Direction de la Protection Civile) is strengthened; it works throughout the country and is equipped to address protection concerns associated with different types of disaster, drawing on disaster risk preparedness plans that comply with human rights standards. Haiti receives adequate resources to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.</p>
<p>PS Peace and Security</p>	<p>PS6</p>	<p>United Nations’ support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies, and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the HRDDP</p>	<p>HRDDP implementation mechanisms and procedures have been established; these ensure that HRDDP is implemented fully.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>The Inter-Ministerial Committee meets regularly and, basing itself on a national action plan, takes action to implement recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.</p>

SHIFTS

Global Constituency, Prevention, Frontier Issues: Corruption

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Persons with Disabilities, Young People

MEXICO

FIELD PRESENCE

OHCHR has had a country office in Mexico since 2002.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Mexico is a party to most human rights treaties but has not ratified OP-CESCR, OP-IC CRC, or consented to receive individual communications under article 31 of the CPPED. CPPED conducted its first official visit to Mexico in November 2021. Mexico completed UPR reviews in 2009, 2013 and 2018. It has extended an open invitation to special procedures since 2001.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS.

Working Group on business enterprises (2016); Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders (2017); Special Rapporteur on water and sanitation (2017); Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2017); Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression (2017).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Effective steps have been taken to establish two or more of the following: safeguards during detention including a registry of detentions; a national mechanism for the prevention of torture; exclusion of illicit evidence.
	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Mexico has adopted a national regulatory framework on the use of force that complies with international human rights standards.
	A2 ▶ Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	At least four public policies have been adopted that protect the rights of individuals who are subject to search and identification (with respect to search commissions, registries, protocols, national plans, etc.). At least three public policies have been adopted that address prosecution, sanction and reparation in cases of disappearances of persons, torture, and other human rights violations. These policies are implemented at federal and local level in compliance with international human rights standards.
	A3 ▶ Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively	Relevant authorities take account of international human rights norms and standards in at least four prosecutions for violence against women, femicide, or denial of sexual and reproductive rights.

<p>A Accountability</p>	A4	States take measures to ensure that their decision-making, policies and actions are more transparent and the public has access to information for accountability purposes	At least ten new federal and local institutions adopt the OHCHR’s indicator framework when they report on the implementation of human rights policies, evaluate the impact of public programmes, or assess the implementation of international human rights recommendations.
	A5	UN efforts for the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core	Selected joint programmes (maternal mortality, migration, other), as well as other documents developed under the UN development assistance framework (UNDAF) and by the United Nations system in Mexico, incorporate international human rights standards.
<p>P Participation</p>	P1	Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	The relevant authorities take effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs) in at least 10% of the cases raised by OHCHR Mexico.
	P2	The UN System and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals)	Public policies that protect HRDs and journalists are strengthened and improved. Specifically, protection programmes for HRDs are more effective; a more enabling environment has been created for HRDs and the media; HRDs and journalists receive broader public recognition; and laws on freedom of expression have been adopted or amended to comply with international standards.
	P6	The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard	Indigenous communities participate more, including through prior consultation, in decisions that affect them, including decisions that create or implement megaprojects.
	P6	The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard	In at least five states, victims of human rights violations and national civil society organizations claim their rights more often and more effectively.
<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Four laws or public policies have been adopted that combat discrimination and the root causes of inequality. They address the rights of indigenous peoples, migrants, and persons with disabilities, as well as gender-based violence, and comply with international human rights standards.
	ND2	Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims	A specific public policy promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities and complies with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	<p>ND6</p>	<p>The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected</p>	<p>National laws recognize the rights to liberty and judicial guarantees of migrants, who enjoy stronger legal protection through national judicial and non-judicial protection mechanisms.</p>
<p>D Development</p>	<p>D2</p>	<p>Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively</p>	<p>Businesses, especially businesses in the energy sector, increasingly apply the UN Guiding Principles, notably in their due diligence procedures.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>Mexico has ratified two international or regional human rights treaties and recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider individual communications.</p>
	<p>M3</p>	<p>Policy-makers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms</p>	<p>The judiciary references international human rights standards more frequently in its decisions and activities; it does so in cases where the OHCHR has submitted a legal brief</p>
	<p>M3</p>	<p>Policy-makers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms</p>	<p>The work plans and activities of national and local institutions of the executive, legislative and judiciary, and other relevant actors, have integrated at least four recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and related mechanisms.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Global Constituency, Inequalities, Prevention, Frontier Issues: Climate Change, People on the Move

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Persons with Disabilities, Women

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN (PANAMA)

FIELD PRESENCE

The Regional Office for Central America, Dominican Republic and the English-speaking Caribbean (ROCA) was established in Panama in 2007. It covers countries without a country office in the region, has a technical cooperation team in El Salvador, and currently deploys HRAs, based in RC Offices, in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Belize, Barbados, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Jamaica.

COUNTRIES OF ENGAGEMENT

Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama (complementing field presences in Guatemala and Honduras). As of 2021, a temporary coordination structure under the ROCA was established to cover the English-speaking Caribbean countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

CENTRAL AMERICA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Most countries in the sub-region cooperate consistently with the human rights mechanisms. All States have completed UPR reviews and most countries have issued a standing invitation to special procedure mandate-holders and have reported on time to the treaty bodies. Since 2019, the Human Rights Council has adopted resolutions on the human rights situation in Nicaragua, requesting the High Commissioner to inform the Council about the human rights situation and to provide recommendations.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS:

Costa Rica: Independent Expert on the rights of older persons (2016); Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2021).

Dominican Republic: Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children (2017).

El Salvador: Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery (2016); Special Rapporteur on the rights of internally displaced persons (2017); Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (2018); Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence (2019).

Panama: Independent Expert on foreign debt (2017).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
<p>A Accountability</p>	<p>A1 → Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems</p>	<p>A mobile monitoring team has been established that strengthens OHCHR’s capacity to gather information on the human rights situation in countries of the region and report on cases and situations; its work enables the international community to make more effective representations to Government on a wide range of concerns.</p>

A Accountability	A2	Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	El Salvador: The Attorney- General’s Office increasingly investigates and prosecutes cases of human rights violations to combat past and present impunity.
	A2	Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	Processes for election of magistrates to higher courts in the region that comply with international standards have been introduced to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary.
	A3	Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively	The decisions of judicial institutions increasingly reference international human rights standards and principles of gender equality in cases of femicide and violence against women.
P Participation	P5	More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place	Governments and other relevant institutions have taken effective steps to protect human rights defenders. The situation and security of human rights defenders is monitored more closely.
	P6	The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard	Groups that suffer discrimination, including women, LGBTI persons, people of African descent, indigenous peoples and people living with disabilities, have increased their advocacy capacity and are able to exercise their right to participate in decision-making processes.
ND Non-discrimination	ND5	Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space	States, civil society and the public increasingly recognize that hate speech, disseminated via digital platforms such as social media, fuels discrimination and other human rights abuses, undermining efforts to achieve the SDGs.
	ND6	The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected	Official migration policies and programmes recognize the need to protect the human rights of migrants, especially those who are in situations of vulnerability, and have taken steps to do so.
D Development	D2	Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively	Costa Rica and Panama have incorporated the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in their national action plans, and actively promote its implementation in all sectors.

<p>D Development</p>	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work, particularly through mainstreaming human rights in the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF) in LAC.</p>
<p>PS Peace and Security</p>	<p>PS5</p>	<p>Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policy-making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict</p>	<p>The Regional Office has increased its capacity to gather, analyse and manage information relevant to early warning, advocacy and response to critical situations of violence and insecurity; as a result, it has contributed significantly to key regional and national processes and discussions.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>Structures to report to human rights mechanisms and follow up their recommendations have been established or strengthened. They are equipped to consult and coordinate with the human rights mechanisms and relevant national actors, manage information, and engage appropriately with the mechanisms, the authorities and the public.</p>
	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, NHRI and UNCTs have increased by at least 25% the number of contributions they submit to the UN human rights mechanisms.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Global Constituency, Inequalities, Prevention, Frontier Issues: People on the Move

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Women, Young People

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN AND SURINAME

COUNTRIES OF ENGAGEMENT

OHCHR has HRAs in Guyana, Belize and Trinidad and Tobago (as of 2021 also covering Suriname) in addition to a Regional HRA in Barbados, who also covers the Organization of Eastern-Caribbean States and an HRA in Jamaica, who also covers The Bahamas. The deployment of an HRA to Suriname is foreseen for 2022. OHCHR is dedicated to increasing engagement with Member States in order to better operationalize the High Commissioner’s mandate in the English-speaking Caribbean.

In light of the number of early warning risks and growing demands for OHCHR prevention support, it is planned to establish a small dedicated sub-regional team in the region from 2022. The team will enable OHCHR to move from a reactive to a preventive role in the region; provide timely and more cost-efficient monitoring and analysis, advocacy and technical support to governments; and ensure the sustainability of OHCHR’s work in the Caribbean.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

The majority of countries in the sub-region have a low number of ratifications. The CRC, CRPD and CEDAW have been ratified by all countries. CAT, CPPED, ICRMW and optional protocols that provide complaint mechanisms have not been ratified by the majority of the countries. Only Bahamas, Saint Lucia and Dominica have issued a standing invitation to special procedures. All countries were reviewed during the third UPR cycle.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Bahamas: Special Rapporteur on violence against women (2017).

Guyana: Working Group on People of African descent (2017).

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: Special Rapporteur on the environment (2021).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 → Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	At least three countries will have made significant progress towards institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials.
	A1 → Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	At least three countries have discussed and undertaken first steps to design and/or establish a NHRI in accordance to the Paris Principles.
ND Non-discrimination	ND1 → Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	At least two countries ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. At least one Caribbean country ratifies the CAT. At least one Caribbean country ratifies the CMW.

<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	<p>ND1</p>	<p>Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality</p>	<p>At least in three countries, laws and/or policies provide better protection of the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, migrants and/or religious minorities.</p>
	<p>ND3</p>	<p>Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote women’s and girls’ autonomy and choice and protect them from violence, including in the digital space</p>	<p>In three Caribbean countries legislative change and/or policy reform regarding domestic violence, marital rape and/or sexual harassment is underway.</p>
<p>D Development</p>	<p>D4</p>	<p>Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants</p>	<p>In at least 2 countries policy - and/or legal frameworks have enhanced provisions in the areas of SRH on access to SRH and HIV information and care on a non-discriminatory basis.</p>
	<p>D5</p>	<p>Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies</p>	<p>In at least 2 countries Disaster Risk Assessment and Response strategies as well as projects and policies addressing environment and climate change effects (by enhancing levels of resilience and adaptation of vulnerable population) have integrated safeguards for the rights of affected population in particular vulnerable groups.</p>
	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms’ outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>In all six Caribbean UN Country/Sub regional Teams HRBA is integrated in MSDF CIPs /M&E framework, interpretation of SDGs.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>At least six Caribbean countries have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow up.</p>
	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>At least ten treaty body reports are submitted by Caribbean countries which substantially to fully conform to reporting guidelines.</p>

<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M2 ▶ Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>At least five civil society organizations have produced alternative reports to a treaty body or a stakeholder report in the third UPR cycle. At least ten civil society organizations have produced alternative reports to a treaty body or a stakeholder report in the fourth UPR cycle.</p>
--------------------------------	---	--

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Inequalities, Prevention

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Persons with Disabilities, Women

JAMAICA

FIELD PRESENCE

An HRA is assigned to the RC’s Office in Jamaica, and, in addition, covers the Bahamas.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Jamaica and the Bahamas are parties to most human rights treaties and the majority of optional protocols. Jamaica has not ratified CAT or CPPED; the Bahamas has not ratified CAT or ICRMW. Both countries were reviewed during the third cycle of the UPR. The Bahamas has established a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up to human rights recommendations. The Bahamas has issued a standing invitation to special procedures.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Special Rapporteur on violence against women (2017).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Jamaica and the Bahamas make considerable progress towards institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials.
	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Jamaica and Bahamas will have made significant progress towards institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials.
	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Jamaica and the Bahamas have discussed and undertaken first steps to design and/or establish a NHRI in accordance to the Paris Principles.
ND Non-discrimination	ND1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	At least in three countries, laws and/or policies provide better protection of the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, migrants and/or religious minorities.
D Development	D7 ▶ States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms’ outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work	The UNCTs in Jamaica and Bahamas make progress in integrating a human rights approach in Country Implementation Plans.

<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1 ▶ National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>Jamaica and the Bahamas have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow up.</p>
--------------------------------	--	--

SHIFTS

Inequalities, Prevention

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Persons with Disabilities, Women

GUATEMALA

FIELD PRESENCE

OHCHR’s office in Guatemala was established in 2005 to provide a human rights monitoring presence at the end of the UN Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA). Its mandate includes technical cooperation and human rights monitoring. The agreement of the Office with the Government of Guatemala was extended in 2008, 2011, 2014 and 2017, on each occasion for three years. In 2020 and 2021 the agreement was renewed for one year.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Guatemala has ratified all the core treaties, except CPPED, ICCPR-OP2 and OP-ICESCR. It has not signed ILO Convention 189 and does not recognize CERD’s competence under Art. 14, or the CRC’s competence under Articles 5, 12 and 13 of OP-CRC-IC. Guatemala has issued a standing invitation to special procedures. It completed UPR reviews in 2008, 2012 and 2017, but did not accept recommendations related to land, LGBTI rights or sexual and reproductive rights.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2018).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	The Attorney General’s Office, the Public Defence Institute, the judiciary, the Constitutional Court, Congress, and key State institutions increasingly integrate human rights standards in their policies and decisions. National and international civil society organizations, the Congress, and other actors, advocate for abolition of the death penalty and ratification of the second optional protocol of the ICCPR.
P Participation	P2 The UN System and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals)	Institutional mechanisms to protect human rights defenders are robust, comply with international standards, and are appropriately sensitive to gender and culture.
	P6 The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard	Rights holders, especially women, youth, indigenous peoples and other under-represented groups, defend human rights and make their voices heard.
ND Non-discrimination	ND1 Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	National laws, policies and practices take a human rights-based approach, and in particular respect the rights of indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTI persons, and other groups that experience discrimination.

ND Non-discrimination	ND1	<p>Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality</p>	<p>Indigenous peoples, women, and other groups subject to discrimination make use of strategic litigation to demand their rights and hold to account individuals and institutions that violate human rights.</p>
	ND6	<p>The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected</p>	<p>Institutions that implement migration policies adopt a human rights-based approach. Civil society organizations, State institutions, United Nations agencies and other relevant actors cooperate more actively to monitor, enforce, and ensure respect for migrants’ human rights.</p>
	ND7	<p>Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases</p>	<p>The society speaks out on critical human rights issues, reports abuses, demands the necessary changes and participate in decision-making processes.</p>
D Development	D1	<p>Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims</p>	<p>Businesses and other economic actors are increasingly held to account for rights abuses. Public institutions, including the judicial authorities and the Ombudsman’s Office, are equipped to ensure that the rights of communities affected by natural resource projects are protected and that victims of abuses associated with business projects have access to remedies.</p>
	D3	<p>State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights</p>	<p>Selected State institutions incorporate international human rights standards more consistently in their interventions and policies on land, housing, poverty and related rights.</p>
	D3	<p>State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights</p>	<p>Rights holders, especially rural dwellers, women, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and other groups affected by discrimination, actively participate in preparing laws, policies and strategies that relate to food, housing and land.</p>
	D6	<p>Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects</p>	<p>State institutions design protocols, policies and strategies compliant with international human rights standards and with the full participation of indigenous peoples especially women and indigenous young people.</p>

<p>D Development</p>	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>The SDG strategies of UN entities, the evaluation of the 2014-2019 UN development assistance framework (UNDAF), and the design of its successor (2020-2024), integrate a human rights based approach.</p>
<p>PS Peace and Security</p>	<p>PS3</p>	<p>Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection</p>	<p>The policies and conduct of State institutions that are responsible for the security of citizens increasingly comply with international human rights standards; they give special attention to the rights of indigenous people, women, children, migrants and other groups subject to discrimination, as well as civil society organizations.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>Civil society organizations use Treaty Body or UPR follow-up procedures to submit individual cases.</p>
	<p>M3</p>	<p>Policy-makers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms</p>	<p>In coordination with other institutions, the Presidential Commission for Human Rights (COPREDEH) improves compliance with requests from international human rights mechanisms.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Inequalities, Prevention

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Persons with Disabilities, Women, Young People

HONDURAS

FIELD PRESENCE

A country office was established in May 2015.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Honduras is a party to most human rights treaties but has not ratified OP-CEDAW, OP-CRC or OP-CESCR. It was elected as a member of the Human Rights Council in 2021. Honduras was reviewed by CMW, CESCR and CEDAW in 2016 and by CRPD and Human Rights Committee in 2017. In 2018, the CPPED and CERD issued concluding observations. Honduras passed the third cycle of the UPR in November 2020. It has extended an open invitation to special procedures and has received numerous communications.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (2016); Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders (2018); Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice (2018); Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges (2019); Working Group on business and human rights (2019).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023	
A Accountability	A1	Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Laws, policies and practices on security, including the participation of military forces in citizen security tasks, comply more fully with human rights standards.
	A2	Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	The Supreme Office and the Office of the Attorney General strengthen their technical and institutional capacity to prosecute human rights violations promptly, impartially and effectively.
	A2	Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	As part of its strategic working plan, the Supreme Court adopts and implements strategies that improve the access to justice of marginalized groups, including migrants, women victims of violence, indigenous people, members of the LGTBI community, and persons living with disabilities.
P Participation	P2	The UN System and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals)	Legal frameworks, public policies and institutions, and the national protection mechanism, increasingly apply international standards and practices that protect human rights defenders, including from intimidation and attack.
	P5	More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place	Relevant authorities take effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against human rights defenders in cases raised by OHCHR Honduras.

<p>P Participation</p>	<p>P6</p>	<p>The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard</p>	<p>Rights holders, especially women, indigenous peoples and other under-represented groups, participate in selected public processes at local and national level.</p>
	<p>ND6</p>	<p>The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected</p>	<p>Legislation, policies and institutions increasingly protect the rights of migrants, returnees, IDPs and other people with international protection needs.</p>
<p>D Development</p>	<p>D2</p>	<p>Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively</p>	<p>The Government and businesses take steps to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.</p>
	<p>D3</p>	<p>State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights</p>	<p>Rights holders enjoy improved protection of their rights with regard to land, territory and natural resources.</p>
	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>Selected government entities align their programmes on labour rights and poverty reduction with international economic, social and cultural rights.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>An effective National Monitoring and reporting Mechanism is established and functioning.</p>
	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>The NHRI, civil society organizations, and UN agencies cooperate with UN human rights mechanisms and use their recommendations, guidance and jurisprudence in advocacy.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Global Constituency, Inequalities, Leveraging Data for Human Rights, Prevention, Frontier Issues: Corruption, People on the Move

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Women, Young People

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH AMERICA (SANTIAGO DE CHILE)

FIELD PRESENCE

The Regional Office for South America (ROSA) has been based in Santiago, Chile, since 2009. ROSA currently deploys HRAs to RC Offices in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

COUNTRIES OF ENGAGEMENT

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Almost all countries in the sub-region have ratified all the core human rights treaties. Some optional protocols, in particular concerning individual communications, are pending. All countries have issued a standing invitation to mandate-holders. All have engaged actively with the UPR mechanism.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST 6 YEARS:

Argentina: Special Rapporteur on racism (2016); Special Rapporteur on violence against women (2016); Working group on arbitrary detention (2017); Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity (2017); Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2018); Special Rapporteur on torture (2018); Working Group on People of African descent (2019); Special Rapporteur on privacy (2019).

Brazil: Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2016); Special Rapporteur on toxics (2019); Special Rapporteur on leprosy (2019); Independent Expert on albinism (2020).

Chile: Special Rapporteur on the right to education (2016); Working Group on disappearances (2017); Special Rapporteur on the right to housing (2017).

Ecuador: Independent Expert on democratic international order (2017); Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression (2018); Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2018); Special Rapporteur on the right to health (2019); Special Rapporteur on violence against women (2019); Working Group on people of African descent (2019).

Paraguay: Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2016); Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery (2017).

Peru: Working Group on business and human rights (2017); Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders (2020); Working Group on people of African descent (2020).

Uruguay: Special Rapporteur on the environment (2017); Independent Expert on the rights of older persons (2018).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
<p>A Accountability</p>	<p>A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems</p>	<p>Victims of gross human rights violations and their families have enhanced access to information that is still classified. States effectively implement reparation measures, including measures recommended by truth and reconciliation commissions.</p>
	<p>A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems</p>	<p>Mechanisms are in place that monitor detention centres effectively; cases of torture are consistently reported to and prosecuted by the authorities.</p>
	<p>A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems</p>	<p>Steps have been taken to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty and to improve detention conditions. Improved terms and conditions/contracts enable judges and prosecutors to be properly independent.</p>
<p>P Participation</p>	<p>P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling</p>	<p>Indigenous peoples, women, LGTBI rights advocates, human rights defenders, and people of African descent have increased capacity to make use of national, regional and international human rights mechanisms to protect their rights. Human rights defenders and indigenous peoples participate more actively in public affairs and consistently monitor decisions that affect them.</p>
	<p>P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling</p>	<p>State institutions and NHRI are better equipped to monitor protests and document human rights violations.</p>
	<p>P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling</p>	<p>Laws on freedom of expression and assembly comply with international human rights standards.</p>
	<p>P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling</p>	<p>Police protocols regulating the use of force comply with international standards.</p>

<p>P Participation</p>	P1	Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	States have adopted laws and taken measures to protect human rights defenders.
	P1	Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	NHRIs have developed early warning and rapid response mechanisms that prevent conflict and protect human rights defenders.
<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support.
	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Discrimination and gender equality laws comply with international human rights standards.
	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Judges and prosecutors are better equipped, in terms of law and training, to prosecute discrimination and gender crimes successfully.
	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	State policies protect indigenous peoples against discrimination; consultation protocols have been adopted. Policies provide effective protection to communities that live in isolation or are making initial contact.
	ND1	Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality	Schools are increasingly running awareness-raising campaigns and education programmes on human rights and diversity, to combat discrimination, bigotry and hate.
<p>D Development</p>	D2	Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively	Business enterprises (particularly in Brazil, Chile, and Peru) progressively adopt human rights policies and due diligence procedures that comply with human rights standards and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

<p>D Development</p>	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>States implement the 2030 Agenda using national development plans that integrate recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.</p>
	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>States' procedures for reviewing and follow-up make increasing use of national human rights mechanisms, and adopt a human rights-based approach to data.</p>
	<p>D7</p>	<p>States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work</p>	<p>State institutions responsible for data collection apply human rights-based methods to address patterns of discrimination and inequality, enabling Governments to target their interventions more precisely.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M1</p>	<p>National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations</p>	<p>NMRFs function effectively in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.</p>
	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>Civil society organizations report regularly to UN mechanisms, participate in sessions (including through the use of technology), and use concluding observations and reports for advocacy and follow-up purposes.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Inequalities, Leveraging Data for Human Rights, Frontier Issues: Climate Change, People on the Move

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Persons with Disabilities

COLOMBIA

FIELD PRESENCE

OHCHR Colombia was established in 1997. The headquarters is in Bogotá; nine sub-offices operate in other departments.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Colombia is party to all core international human rights treaties, but has not acceded to the OP-ICESCR, OP-CAT, OP-CRC on a communications procedure, or the OP-CRPD. Colombia issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate-holders in March 2003. It completed the third UPR cycle in 2018.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders (2018).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023
A Accountability	A1 ▶ Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	The Government adopts or strengthens policies that prevent human rights violations from occurring in the context of the justice system. For instance, it limits military criminal jurisdiction in cases of gross human rights violation; limits the selection and accumulation of cases by the National Attorney General's Office (Fiscalía General de la Nación); and orients prosecutorial policy to strengthen the operations of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace.
	A2 ▶ Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	The Government strengthens the mechanisms for collective reparation and land restitution.
	A3 ▶ Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively	The national justice system investigates and prosecutes gender-related crimes more effectively.
P Participation	P1 ▶ Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling	Relevant national, regional and local institutions apply a human rights-based approach in public policies and programmes that result from implementation of the Peace Accords; they emphasize participation and accountability in particular.

<p>P Participation</p>	<p>P2</p>	<p>The UN System and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals)</p>	<p>Institutions that are responsible for the protection of human rights defenders investigate and prosecute crimes against human rights defenders that are brought to their attention by OHCHR.</p>
	<p>P6</p>	<p>The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard</p>	<p>Victims, indigenous peoples and women participate more fully in decisions that concern them.</p>
<p>ND Non-discrimination</p>	<p>ND1</p>	<p>Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality</p>	<p>National institutions, namely the Ombudsman’s office, the Ministry of the Interior, the Procurator General’s Office, the Ministry of the Environment, the national police, and the Presidential Office for Women’s Equity, combat discrimination against ethnic minorities, women and LGBTI persons more effectively.</p>
<p>D Development</p>	<p>D2</p>	<p>Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively</p>	<p>The national action plan on business and human rights is fully implemented. The institutions responsible for economic and investment policies and for departments, districts and municipalities (including indigenous areas) are more fully engaged.</p>
	<p>D3</p>	<p>State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights</p>	<p>Laws, policies and strategies on poverty, land and housing that the Social Prosperity Agency, Illicit Crop Substitution Division, National Land Agency, Rural Development Agency, and Territorial Renovation Agency adopt and implement increasingly comply with human rights standards.</p>
	<p>D4</p>	<p>Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants</p>	<p>Populations in situations of vulnerability (including afro-Colombian and indigenous people) participate more fully in realizing their right to health.</p>
	<p>D4</p>	<p>Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants</p>	<p>The policies and programmes of the comprehensive health assistance system (MIAS) and the comprehensive indigenous intercultural health system (SISPI) increasingly comply with human rights standards.</p>

<p>PS Peace and Security</p>	<p>PS1</p>	<p>Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights and humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians</p>	<p>All actors involved in peace operations increasingly recognize and comply with international human rights standards and humanitarian law and enhance protection of civilians.</p>
	<p>PS3</p>	<p>Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection</p>	<p>The Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the General Command of Military Forces, the National Police, the Procurator General’s Office and the Ombudsman’s Office act proactively to prevent human rights violations and enhance their response when human rights violations occur.</p>
	<p>PS4</p>	<p>Justice mechanisms, including for transitional justice, provide increased accountability for conflict-related violations</p>	<p>Transitional justice mechanisms increase accountability for conflict-related violations of human rights and humanitarian law.</p>
<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>The NHRI, civil society organizations, individuals, and UN agencies make substantive contributions to the Treaty Bodies, special procedures, and UPR submissions.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Prevention

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

People of African Descent, Women

VENEZUELA

FIELD PRESENCE

Since 2019, the UN Human Rights Office has worked in Venezuela as part of the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator. The Office provide support to effective implementation of recommendations issued in OHCHR reports, and by other UN human rights mechanisms, and continues to credibly assess the human rights situation in Venezuela and challenges on the ground.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Venezuela has ratified the core international human rights treaties, with the exception of the CPPED and OP-CAT. Venezuela was due to be examined under the third cycle of the UPR in January 2022.

VISITS BY SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

Independent Expert on international order (2017); Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures (2021).

PILLAR	PILLAR RESULT	EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION THROUGH 2023	
A Accountability	A1	Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	State authorities increasingly address human rights violations committed in the context of law enforcement and the justice system.
	A1	Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems	Improved conditions of detention in certain detention centres and more effective national mechanism responsible for the prevention of torture. Increased access to justice for victims of human rights violations.
	A2	Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights	National mechanisms that provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights are strengthened.
P Participation	P4	Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened	NGOs increase their capacity to document and analyze human rights violations and use international human rights mechanisms.
	P5	More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place	Monitoring of enabling environment and threats to civic space using remote monitoring tools to provide credible information to international community.

ND Non-discrimination	ND3	Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote women’s and girls’ autonomy and choice and protect them from violence, including in the digital space	The protection and promotion of women’s rights is improved, including the Government’s capacity to respond, and women are empowered, including through the strengthening of civil society in women’s rights issues. Women’s access to justice increases.
	ND6	The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected	Civil society and NHRI foster their capacity to support migrants and refugees to accede to justice and protection mechanisms.
	ND7	Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases	Increased visibility and attention given to violations of the rights of indigenous peoples, and the improvement of their situations.
D Development	D7	States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms’ outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work	The international community pressures authorities to address critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR, in particular situations related to the right to food and to health.
PS Peace and Security	PS5	Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policy-making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict	Early warning, prevention and protection capacities strengthened including through monitoring by presence in country.
M Mechanisms	M1	National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations	Number of reservations to international human rights treaties decreases.
	M1	National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations	A NMRF is established and operational.

<p>M Mechanisms</p>	<p>M2</p>	<p>Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes</p>	<p>Civil society actors increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their recommendations to advocate for human rights protection and redress.</p>
	<p>M3</p>	<p>Policy-makers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms</p>	<p>Increased compliance with international human rights obligations and increased access to justice and redress for victims.</p>

SHIFTS

Civic Space, Prevention, Frontier Issues: People on the Move

SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Women