

4th Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Recommendations noted by Sri Lanka

1. 65.3 Ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (North Macedonia);
2. 65.4 Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile);
3. 65.5 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Argentina) (Brazil) (Colombia) (Ecuador) (Estonia) (France) (Malta) (Mexico) (Panama) (Spain) (Ukraine);
4. 65.7 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with a view to further strengthening child protection (France);
5. 65.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Namibia);
6. 65.9 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (South Africa);
7. 65.10 Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees since there is no national law on asylum (Spain);
8. 65.11 Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol and address refugees' limited access to personal and civil documentation, as a first step to ensure their human rights to housing and work (Portugal);
9. 65.12 Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg);
10. 65.13 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria) (Botswana) (Ecuador) (Estonia) (Timor-Leste);
11. 65.14 Accede to the additional protocols to the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Colombia);
12. 65.15 Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization (Namibia);
13. 65.16 Ratify the International Labour Organization conventions concerning the Maternity Protection Convention; Domestic Workers Convention; and Violence and Harassment Convention (North Macedonia);
14. 65.17 Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (Panama);
15. 65.18 Ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Panama);
16. 65.22 Cooperate with OHCHR and other HRC-mandated mechanisms and procedures (Lithuania);
17. 65.24 Pursue efforts for the decentralization of power (Switzerland);
18. 65.27 Amend the legislation on divorce and the criminal code in order to criminalize sexual corruption an offence (Burundi);
19. 65.28 Intensify efforts to mainstream the marginalized people and to practice pluralism and inclusivity (Bangladesh);
20. 65.35 Undertake a broad-based consultative process to advance constitutional reforms that will guarantee the independence of key institutions, including the judiciary and the Human Rights Commission (Croatia);

21. 65.38 Expand the powers of the Human Rights Commission to enable it to exercise its mandate (Jordan);
22. 65.40 Reinforce the impact of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (Cameroon);
23. 65.42 Institutionalize a focal point Ministry as the National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up as a domestic mechanism to coordinate the implementation of the UPR, with assistance from OHCHR (Malaysia);
24. 65.44 Consolidate its policy of national reconciliation by setting up a genuine system of prevention and repression to combat hate speech and discrimination (Togo);
25. 65.45 Promote interfaith dialogue, spread religious tolerance, prevent hate speech against ethnic and religious minorities, hold perpetrators accountable and combat any discrimination against these minorities (Jordan);
26. 65.46 Take concrete steps to combat any form of discrimination in law and practice against persons belonging to religious minorities and promote inter-faith dialogue (Italy);
27. 65.49 Continue the process of constitutional reforms in order to ensure non-discrimination on any ground (Kuwait);
28. 65.50 Continue the process of constitutional reforms with a view to ensure non-discrimination on any grounds (Algeria);
29. 65.51 Continue further the process of constitutional reforms with a view to ensuring non-discrimination on any grounds (Hungary);
30. 65.52 Continue the process of institutional reforms to ensure non-discrimination on any grounds (Azerbaijan);
31. 65.53 Consider adopting a de jure moratorium on capital executions (Italy);
32. 65.54 Maintain its de facto moratorium on the death penalty and take steps towards its abolition, including ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New Zealand);
33. 65.55 Establish a moratorium with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France);
34. 65.56 Establish a moratorium on executions and commute all death sentences to prison sentences (Belgium)
35. 65.57 Consider abolishing the death penalty (Timor-Leste);
36. 65.58 Abolish the death penalty, and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Latvia);
37. 65.59 Promote the effective abolition of the death penalty by, among others, ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);
38. 65.60 Transform the death penalty moratorium into definitive abolition and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);
39. 65.61 Reform the Penal Code to formally abolish the death penalty (Brazil);
40. 65.62 Abolish the death penalty (Iceland) (Slovenia);
41. 65.63 Commute the 1,300 death sentences still in force, despite they have not been executed since 1976 (Spain);
42. 65.64 Prevent and combat all forms of torture, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention; and ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses (Italy);

43. 65.67 Allow immediate investigation of extrajudicial killings and excessive use of force committed by the Security Forces (Czechia);
44. 65.68 Properly investigate and prosecute allegations of torture and extrajudicial killings by police (Costa Rica);
45. 65.69 Adopt a global policy to search for the disappeared and amend the Enforced Disappearances Act to include provisions on the protection of family members and witnesses (Colombia);
46. 65.70 Reform the emergency legislation that allows the deprivation of liberty in a wide variety of situations, leading to arbitrary detentions, as stated by the United Nations Office in the country (Colombia);
47. 65.85 Replace the Prevention of Terrorism Act, cease arbitrary detentions for freedom of expression, and ensure legislation is aligned with international human rights standards (United States of America);
48. 65.86 Avoid the abusive use of the Prevention of Terrorism Act of 1979 as a pretext to carry out arbitrary arrests, repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act and enact a new law in line with international standards (Spain);
49. 65.88 Ensure respect for the human rights of all persons detained under the PTA, ensure fair trials, and immediately release all those arbitrarily detained (Switzerland);
50. 65.89 Step up articulated measures conducive to structural reforms in key areas critical for economic growth, social stability and the rule of law, while keeping the respect for human rights at their core (Romania);
51. 65.90 Work on advancing the independence and integrity of the judicial system (Estonia);
52. 65.91 Expedite the investigation of cases of abduction, unlawful detention, torture and sexual violence by Sri Lanka's security forces to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Botswana);
53. 65.92 Promptly conduct independent and impartial investigations and prosecutions in all cases of human rights violations, including those perpetrated by law enforcement and military (Canada);
54. 65.93 Ensure that a new Human Rights National Action Plan is drafted in the follow-up of the previous one, and that commitments not yet met are pursued and implemented, particularly those meant to protect against gross violations of human rights (Romania);
55. 65.94 Carry out an inventory of the lands occupied by the military during the war and enact legislation establishing procedures for dispossessed and displaced persons to recover their lands, and create a judicial accountability mechanism and a truth search mechanism (Colombia);
56. 65.95 Pursue an inclusive national dialogue with all relevant stakeholders to advance the protection of human rights and revive the vital work on the truth and reconciliation and transitional justice processes (Ireland);
57. 65.96 Pursue an effective transitional justice process to hold the perpetrators of gross human rights violations and abuses accountable, and to uphold victims' rights to truth, justice and reparations (Austria);
58. 65.97 Relaunch, as soon as possible, a general victim-focused strategy on transitional justice and accountability in relation to serious human rights violations committed during the conflict, with a plan with brief timelines to meet pending commitments, including the adoption of measures regarding the establishment of a credible truth-seeking mechanism and a special ad hoc court (Argentina);
59. 65.100 Establish a truth commission and a judicial mechanism to advance investigations and prosecute perpetrators of atrocity crimes (Lithuania);

60. 65.101 Ensure an effective transitional justice process to hold perpetrators of gross human rights violations and abuses accountable, and to uphold victim's rights to truth, justice and reparations (Montenegro);
61. 65.105 Allow all communities freely to commemorate and memorialize victims of the civil war (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
62. 65.110 Fully leverage assistance provided by OHCHR to support the national reconciliation process (France);
63. 65.127 Establish a comprehensive and victim-centered strategy on transitional justice and accountability, including an independent investigation and prosecution of international crimes committed during the civil war (Belgium);
64. 65.128 Prepare and implement a comprehensive strategy on transitional justice and accountability, and ensure the independence and effectiveness of the Office of Missing Persons and Office for Reparations (Croatia);
65. 65.129 Allow the investigation and prosecution of those who may have committed violations of international humanitarian law and of human rights, guaranteeing access to truth, justice and reparation for the victims (Ecuador);
66. 65.130 Prepare and implement a comprehensive strategy on transitional justice and accountability for alleged violations of human rights law and humanitarian law, with clearly defined timelines (Finland);
67. 65.137 Cease surveillance of journalists or human rights defenders by intelligence services, the military and the police (Czechia);
68. 65.140 Continue to take measures to ensure that fundamental freedoms and human rights of all its citizens, in particular all Tamil speaking citizens, are fully protected (India);
69. 65.147 Uphold the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and release all individuals who have been detained for participation in peaceful protests (Norway);
70. 65.150 Step up measures to avoid the disproportionate use of force against peaceful demonstrators by the military and security forces in the context of the current situation of large citizen mobilizations (Argentina);
71. 65.153 Adopt a public policy that promotes interreligious dialogue and tolerance, and prevents radicalization, to counter hostility against religious minorities, especially Tamils (Costa Rica);
72. 65.178 Continue with policy measures to strengthen Sri Lankan economy and combating poverty and its impact on the vulnerable segments, including Indian Origin Tamils (India);
73. 65.197 Implement the commitment made at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) to strengthen sexual and reproductive health education in schools, and adolescent and youth-friendly health services with the partnership of the Ministries of Health, Education, Vocational Training and Youth Affairs (Panama);
74. 65.199 De-criminalize abortion and legalize in cases of rape (Iceland);
75. 65.220 Continue the effort to streamline personal laws particularly for women and girls with equality and end discrimination provisions of the constitution (Ethiopia);
76. 65.228 Strengthen efforts to protect women's rights, including by setting a quota to increase women representation in the leadership role, both in public and private sectors, as well as step up efforts to increase investment in gender equality and women's empowerment (Timor-Leste);
77. 65.231 Put an end to forced conversions and marriages of women and girls belonging to religious minorities, ensuring that those responsible are brought to justice (Spain);

78. 65.239 Ensure the protection of women and men, girls and boys from sexual harassment and gender-based violence, for example by adopting ILO Convention 190 (Germany);
79. 65.240 Take measures to criminalize marital rape and to prevent and punish domestic violence against women, including awareness campaigns, legal services, support and shelter for survivors (Israel);
80. 65.241 Remove all marital rape exceptions from laws criminalizing rape, and require police to investigate and appropriately prosecute all acts of gender-based violence, including against a woman by her husband (Latvia);
81. 65.243 Strengthen measures to eliminate all forms of violence against women, amongst others by criminalizing marital rape (Belgium);
82. 65.244 Adopt a law prohibiting all forms of female genital mutilation and establish a national plan of action to eradicate the practice throughout the country, including allocating sufficient resources for prevention and education (Costa Rica);
83. 65.245 Ensure the investigation, punishment and reparation of cases of rape and sexual violence, including marital rape (Mexico);
84. 65.246 Amend the legal definition of rape to include marital rape without exceptions (Costa Rica);
85. 65.247 Recognize female genital mutilation as a violation of the rights of women and girls by strengthening its legislative framework, creating multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms and adopting policies to prevent and eliminate all harmful practices (Burkina Faso);
86. 65.248 Enhance efforts by law enforcement authorities to eradicate the practice of female genital mutilation (Israel);
87. 65.249 Reform the Penal Code to protect against all forms of rape, including marital rape and remove gender restrictions on the perpetrator and victim of rape (Iceland);
88. 65.251 Take further measures to protect children from abuse, exploitation, and child marriage (Bangladesh);
89. 65.256 Set the minimum age for marriage at 18 years without exceptions (Costa Rica);
90. 65.258 End all forms of violence and discrimination against women, including domestic violence and child, early and forced marriage (Italy);
91. 65.262 Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to eliminate child, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation, and other harmful practices (Latvia);
92. 65.271 Take administrative, legislative and other measures to guarantee indigenous peoples fundamental rights, among others, the recognition of their legal status, access to land, linguistic identity, access to health, education and other fundamental rights (Paraguay);
93. 65.272 Repeal sections 365 and 365A of the Penal Code, and end criminalization of same-sex conduct and ensure equality and non-discrimination in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
94. 65.273 Ensure the rights of LGBTIQI+ persons are respected and take steps to end discrimination and harassment of the LGBTIQI+ community, including by amending the penal code to decriminalize same sex relations (United States of America);
95. 65.274 Amend the penal code in order to decriminalize sexual conduct between consenting persons of the same sex, and take concrete measures to combat discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons (Uruguay);
96. 65.275 Repeal the regulatory framework and administrative acts that criminalize, restrict and stigmatize relationships between people of the same sex and/or gender with a view to guaranteeing

- respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms of all members of the LGBTIQ community (Argentina);
97. 65.276 Amend laws and policies to guarantee the equal rights of women and LGBTI individuals, including by decriminalizing consensual same sex conduct (Australia);
 98. 65.277 Decriminalize same-sex relations by repealing Sections 365 and 365A of the penal code (Canada);
 99. 65.278 Continue efforts to guarantee the rights of LGBTIQ+ people, considering the ban on conversion therapies and repealing laws that criminalize homosexuality (Chile);
 100. 65.279 Repeal all legal provisions criminalizing homosexuality (Costa Rica);
 101. 65.280 Repeal section 365A of the Penal Code criminalizing homosexuality, and introduce legislation to prevent criminal and hateful behaviour towards LGBTQI persons (Czechia);
 102. 65.281 Receive the visit requested by the independent expert on sexual orientation and gender identity (France);
 103. 65.282 De-criminalize and legalize same-sex relations of consenting adults (Iceland);
 104. 65.283 Ensure all persons can obtain or amend identity documents as per their self-perceived gender identity free from medical or diagnostic requirements (Iceland);
 105. 65.284 Decriminalize same-sex activities in accordance with international human rights standards (Israel);
 106. 65.285 Increase steps taken to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and sexual identity, including through relevant legislation (Israel);
 107. 65.286 Repeal all laws that criminalise same-sex relations between consenting adults (Latvia);
 108. 65.287 Repeal articles 365 and 365A of the Penal Code and specific articles of other laws that criminalize homosexuality (Mexico);
 109. 65.288 Amend the Penal Code, particularly Sections 365 and 365A, to decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct and displays of affection, and repeal the Vagrants Ordinance (Netherlands);
 110. 65.289 Take further steps to eradicate all forms of discrimination and violence against minority communities including women, girls, disabled and LGBTQI+ communities (New Zealand);
 111. 65.290 Repeal sections 365 and 365A of the Penal Code and sections of other laws that criminalize homosexuality (Norway);
 112. 65.291 Review legislation to fully guarantee the right to equality and non-discrimination, particularly concerning decriminalization and non-discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Brazil);
 113. 65.292 Introduce legal provisions that ensure that all rape and non-consensual sexual acts are recognised at law as illegal regardless of sexual orientation or gender (Malta);
 114. 65.293 Strengthen measures to protect the rights of migrants and refugees (Morocco);
 115. 65.294 Ensure the socio-economic growth and address the marginalization faced by the formerly stateless Tamils of Indian origin in the country (South Africa).

Recommendations rejected by Sri Lanka

1. 65.109 Fully implement a credible transitional justice and reconciliation mechanism consistent with HRC resolution 51/1 and renews commitments under resolution 31 (Australia);

2. 65.112 Implement Human Rights Council resolutions 30/1, 46/1 and 51/1 promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka (Netherlands);
3. 65.120 Continue the cooperation with the OHCHR, support the accountability project and ensure the independent work of the Office of Missing Persons and the Office for Reparations (Germany);
4. 65.125 Implement fully the recommendations of HRC resolution 51/1 and take steps to implement an inclusive transitional justice process in the country (Norway);
5. 65.126 In accordance with resolution 51/1, constructively promote post-conflict reconciliation, domestic accountability and human rights (New Zealand);
6. 65.134 End impunity for human rights violations, abuses, and harassment, especially against members of ethnic and religious minority communities, by holding those responsible to account, including security forces and government officials, and implementing HRC resolution commitments (United States of America);