

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967



Mr. Makarim Wibisono
English
sropt@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance



Mr. Mutuma Ruteere
English
racism@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences



Ms. Urmila Bhoola
English
srslavery@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity



Ms. Virginia Dandan
English
iesolidarity@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia



Mr. Bahame Tom Mukirya Nyanduga
English
ie-somalia@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan



Mr. Mashood Baderin
English
iesudan@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic



Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro
English, French, Spanish
sr Syria@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism



Mr. Ben Emmerson
English
srct@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment



Mr. Juan Ernesto Méndez
Spanish, English
sr-torture@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence



Mr. Pablo de Greiff
English, Spanish
srtruth@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children



Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro
English, French
srtrafficking@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences



Ms. Rashida Manjoo
English
vaw@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation



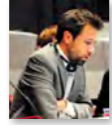
Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque
English, French, Spanish
srwatsan@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment



Mr. John Knox
English
ieenvironment@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes



Mr. Baskut Tuncak
English
srtoxicwaste@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons



Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte
French, Spanish, English
olderpersons@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the enhancement of capacity building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights



TO BE APPOINTED

eicotedivoire@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

TO BE APPOINTED

The Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council are independent human rights experts with mandates to report and advise on human rights from a thematic or country-specific perspective. The system of Special Procedures is a central element of the United Nations human rights machinery and covers all rights: civil, cultural, economic, political, and social. As of 1 August 2014, there are 52 Special Procedures (38 thematic mandates and 14 mandates relating to countries or territories) with currently 73 mandate-holders.

With the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Special Procedures undertake country visits; act on individual cases and concerns of a broader, structural nature by sending communications to States in which they bring alleged violations to their attention; conduct thematic studies and convene expert consultations, develop international human rights standards, engage in advocacy, raise public awareness; and provide advice and support for technical cooperation. Special Procedures report annually to the Human Rights Council; the majority of the mandates also report to the General Assembly.

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The OHCHR website (<http://www.ohchr.org>) provides information on the system of Special Procedures, including details on each mandate (also accessible by clicking on the photos in this Directory). The website also contains details of the Coordination Committee as well as country visits, links to reports and press statements.

OHCHR SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH

c/o OHCHR-UNOG
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland

Fax: +41 22 917 90 06

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E-mail: urgent-action@ohchr.org

For media enquiries

E-mail: pressinfo@ohchr.org

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DIRECTORY OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS

Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living



Ms. Leilani Farha
English, French
srhousing@ohchr.org

Working Group of experts on people of African descent



Ms. Monorama Biswas
English
africandescent@ohchr.org

Working Group of experts on people of African descent



Ms. Mireille Fanon-Mendes-France
English, French
africandescent@ohchr.org

Working Group of experts on people of African descent



Ms. Mirjana Najcevska
English
africandescent@ohchr.org

Working Group on people of African descent



Mr. Sabelo Gumedze
English
africandescent@ohchr.org

Working Group on people of African descent



Ms. Verene Shepherd
English
africandescent@ohchr.org

Working Group on arbitrary detention



Mr. Mads Andenas
English, French
wgad@ohchr.org

Working Group on arbitrary detention



Mr. Sètondji Roland Jean-Baptiste Adjovi
French, English
wgad@ohchr.org

Working Group on arbitrary detention



Mr. José Guevara
Spanish, English
wgad@ohchr.org

Working Group on arbitrary detention



Mr. Seong-Phil Hong
English
wgad@ohchr.org

Working Group on arbitrary detention



Mr. Vladimir Tochilovsky
Russian, English
wgad@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises



Mr. Michael K. Addo
English
wg-business@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises



Ms. Alexandra Guáqueta
English, Spanish
wg-business@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises



Ms. Margaret Jungk
English
wg-business@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises



Mr. Puvan J. Selvanathan
English
wg-business@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises



Mr. Pavel Sulyandziga
Russian
wg-business@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus



Mr. Miklós Haraszti
English
sr-belarus@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia



Mr. Surya Prasad Subedi
English
srcambodia@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic



Ms. Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum
French, English
ie-car@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography



Ms. Maud De Boer-Buquicchio
English, French
rsaleofchildren@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea



Ms. Sheila B. Keetharuth
English, French
sr-eritrea@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights



Ms. Farida Shaheed
English
srculturalrights@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order



Mr. Alfred de Zayas
English, Spanish, French, Russian
ie-internationalorder@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea



Mr. Marzuki Darusman
English
hr-dprk@ohchr.org

Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice



Ms. Emna Aouij
French
wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice



Ms. Kamala Chandrakirana
English
wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice



Ms. Frances Raday
English
wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice



Ms. Eleonora Zielinska
English
wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and practice



Ms. Alda Facio
Spanish, English, French
wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the right to education



Mr. Kishore Singh
English, French
sreducation@ohchr.org

Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances



Mr. Olivier de Frouville
French, English
wgeid@ohchr.org

Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances



Mr. Ariel Dulitzky
Spanish, English
wgeid@ohchr.org

Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances



Ms. Jasminka Dzumhur
English, Russian
wgeid@ohchr.org

Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances



Mr. Osman El-Hajje
Arabic, French
wgeid@ohchr.org

Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances



Ms. Houria Es Slami
French, Arabic, English
wgeid@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions



Mr. Christof Heyns
English
eje@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights



Mr. Philip Alston
English, French
srextremepoverty@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the right to food



Ms. Hilal Elver
English
srfood@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights



Mr. Juan Bohoslavsky
English, Spanish
ieforeigndebt@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression



Mr. David Kaye
English
freedex@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association



Mr. Maina Kiai
English
freeassembly@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief



Mr. Heiner Bielefeldt
English
freedomofreligion@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti



Mr. Gustavo Gallón
English, French, Spanish
ie-haiti@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health



Mr. Dainius Puras
English
srhealth@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders



Mr. Michel Forst
French, English
defenders@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers



Ms. Gabriela Knaul
English, Spanish
srindependencej@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples



Ms. Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz
English
indigenous@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons



Mr. Chaloka Beyani
English
idp@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran



Mr. Ahmed Shaheed
English
sr-iran@ohchr.org

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali



Mr. Suliman Baldo
Arabic, French, English
ie-mali@ohchr.org

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination



Ms. Patricia Arias
English, Spanish, French
mercenaries@ohchr.org

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination



Ms. Elzbieta Karska
English
mercenaries@ohchr.org

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination



Mr. Anton Katz
English
mercenaries@ohchr.org

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination



Mr. Saeed Mokbil
English, French
mercenaries@ohchr.org

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination



Mr. Gabor Rona
English
mercenaries@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants



Mr. François Crépeau
French, English
migrant@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on minority issues



Ms. Rita Izsák
English
minorityissues@ohchr.org

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar



Ms. Yanghee Lee
English, French, Spanish
sr-myanmar@ohchr.org