

# United Nations **HUMAN RIGHTS** **APPEAL** 2017

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UNITED NATIONS  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

**I WILL  
RESPECT  
YOUR  
RIGHTS  
NO  
MATTER WHO**

**ARE  
YOU**

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Back cover picture: The Human Rights Adviser in Rwanda promotes the Stand up for someone's rights campaign, December 2016.  
Credit: OHCHR

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# Foreword

Our world has entered a period of profound uncertainty. In numerous countries, even the rules are under attack - xenophobia and calls for racial and religious discrimination have entered mainstream discourse and every day, seemingly, are more widespread and more deeply rooted. A collective failure to prevent, minimize and resolve conflicts and proxy wars is feeding brutal extremist groups and creating wave upon wave of the most shocking human suffering, including forcing millions of people to flee their homes and everything they have ever known.

This is cause for grave alarm – but not dejection. It is a cry not to despair but to action. And, it is evidence of the pressing need for broad based compassion, stability and inclusive development that human rights underpin.

Freedom from any form of discrimination. The right to a fair trial. The right to a fair share of basic resources, services and opportunities. The right to participate. These and other fundamental human rights principles build up resilient and peaceful societies. Investments in human rights today makes for prevention tomorrow – prevention of escalating violations and of the shattering impacts of conflict. Human rights upheld returns stability to entire countries and regions by advancing justice for all.

Conversely, as we see now with utmost clarity in numerous countries, degradation of human rights undermines social justice; erodes political and economic stability; and, eats away at every measure of human development. The outcome for people is calamitous.

Yet, together, we can stand in the way of this roll-back of human rights. The expertise developed by my Office through our presence in more than 60 countries and with our partners worldwide, does work. Promoting the values of justice, equality, dignity and peace, our work changes laws, and saves lives. It helps protect the most vulnerable. It helps support and sustains thousands of local actors who exercise their rights to build a better world every day. Our human rights advocacy helps persuade authorities, at every level, to better protect rights; and our technical assistance, from torture prevention to advancing women's equality, helps build local and enduring capacity so that these fundamental responsibilities can be fulfilled.

The need for this work is urgent and widespread. So, our 2017 programme is our most ambitious to date, with our extra budgetary funding requirements amounting to US\$252.9 million. With support, we can undertake strong preventive work, including for early warning and the prevention of hatred, xeno-

phobia and violence. We can promote a broadening of inclusive democratic space; advance sound migration governance; and give strong support to the grounding of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in human rights. But support is essential.

Because we believe it is time for everyone to step up and take action for human rights, we have launched a new global campaign “Stand up for someone’s rights today”, to promote solidarity for global values and to add encouragement to people across the world to speak out against injustice and for tolerance.

More than ever, we need strong partners to stand with us. My Office is dramatically and chronically underfunded. Our regular budget largely fails to fund the extensive field work that is essential to the fulfilment of our mandate. In the past year alone, 12 countries have requested our support in vain – because no matter how great their need, we are simply unable to afford to provide the support they request.

We are grateful to the 81 donors - including 65 Member States - who last year contributed US\$129.5 million to the Office – a 2.9% increase on 2015. The ex-

tensive support that we delivered to people around the world was thanks to this. Today, however, we must further deepen our relationship with current donors, encourage all Member States to provide a voluntary contribution and reach out more broadly to additional private donors, so that we can deliver more human rights assistance more widely.

The time to stand up for human rights is now. We can push back against the current assaults on values and build a future for our children – one that protects humanity from the suffering, fear and deprivation that are the off spring of a world bereft of justice.

To take a stand for principle and peace, please make your response to this Appeal a priority. With your help, we can act swiftly and effectively to uphold the principles which keep human dignity safe. On behalf of the people we serve, I thank you in advance for standing with us and supporting our work.

**Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein**  
High Commissioner for Human Rights

The High Commissioner for Human Rights on mission in Colombia, 2016. © OHCHR





© EPA/OLIVER WEIKEN

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Join us and “Stand up for someone’s rights today.”  
We want to encourage, support and amplify what you do in your everyday life to defend human rights. Together, let’s take action for greater freedoms, stronger respect and more compassion.

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# AND P R ONE'S HTS

ND UP  
R SOMEONE'S  
HTS TODAY



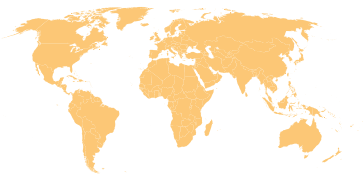
© EPA/KHALED ELFIQI

- 1. Inform yourself and others about why human rights matter.**
- 2. Speak out/up when another's rights are at risk or under attack.**
- 3. Stand with others' human rights.**
- 4. Call on leaders to uphold human rights.**
- 5. Support human rights in everyday life.**

# FACTS & FIGURES IN 2016



**250,000** publications and materials promoting human rights distributed around the world

**96** 

country visits or missions by special procedures


Subsequent to special procedures' intervention, the Brazilian authorities suspended a dam project which was considered incompatible with indigenous peoples' constitutional rights.

**1,121** 

workshops held for **40,000** people, at least **10,000** of whom were women

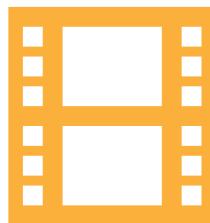
**605** trials  monitored

**3,241**  monitoring missions undertaken

 **4,425** conflict-related incidents that caused civilian casualties were verified by UN missions in Afghanistan

**Human rights indicators**

were established in Jamaica, Mexico and Paraguay



OHCHR produced the first United Nations video to raise awareness of the human rights of intersex children with a call on parents and Governments to protect them from harmful surgeries




materials  
rights  
the world

2,719   
visits to places  
of detention




1,724  
detainees  
released

10   
country  
visits by the  
Subcommittee  
on the Prevention of Torture

47,000  25,000  
victims of torture in  
80 countries & victim of slavery in  
34 countries  
received rehabilitation support

475   
NGO side-events  
organised during  
Human Rights  
Council sessions

 138  
indigenous or minority persons  
attended Human Rights  
Mechanisms sessions in Geneva

 2,080  
oral statements,  
delivered by NGOs,  
during HRC sessions

168   
State party reports to the  
Human Rights Treaty Bodies  
reviewed

# The UN Human Rights Office around the world



Headquarters



Regional offices



Country,  
Stand-alone offices  
Missions

## AMERICAS (11)

- Central America - Panama City (2007)
- South America - Santiago (2009)

- Colombia (1997)
- Mexico (2002)
- Guatemala (2005)
- Bolivia (2007)
- Honduras (2015)

- Paraguay (2010)
- Jamaica\* (2014)
- Dominican Republic\* (2014)

- Haiti - MINUSTAH (2004)

- New York

## AFRICA (24)

- East Africa - Addis Ababa (2002)
- Southern Africa - Pretoria (1998)
- Central Africa - Yaoundé (2001)
- West Africa - Dakar (2008)

- Uganda (2005)
- Guinea (2009)
- Burundi (2015)

- Chad (2011)
- Kenya (2008)
- Madagascar (2011)
- Rwanda (2007)
- Sierra Leone\* (2014)
- Malawi\* (2014)
- Nigeria\* (2014)
- Mozambique\* (2015)

- Sudan - UNAMID (2008)
- South Sudan - UNMISS (2011)
- Democratic Republic of Congo - MONUSCO (2010)
- Côte d'Ivoire - UNOCI (2004)
- Liberia - UNMIL (2003)
- Central African Republic - MINUSCA (2014)
- Guinea Bissau - UNIOGBIS (1999)
- Somalia - UNSOM (2013)
- Mali - MINUSMA (2013)

## EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA

- Central Asia - Bishkek (2006)
- Europe - Brussels (2009)

- Ukraine (2014)

- Southern Caucasus - Tbilisi (2006)
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - Serbia (2007)

- Kosovo<sup>1</sup> - UNMIK (2015)

- Geneva

<sup>2</sup> Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

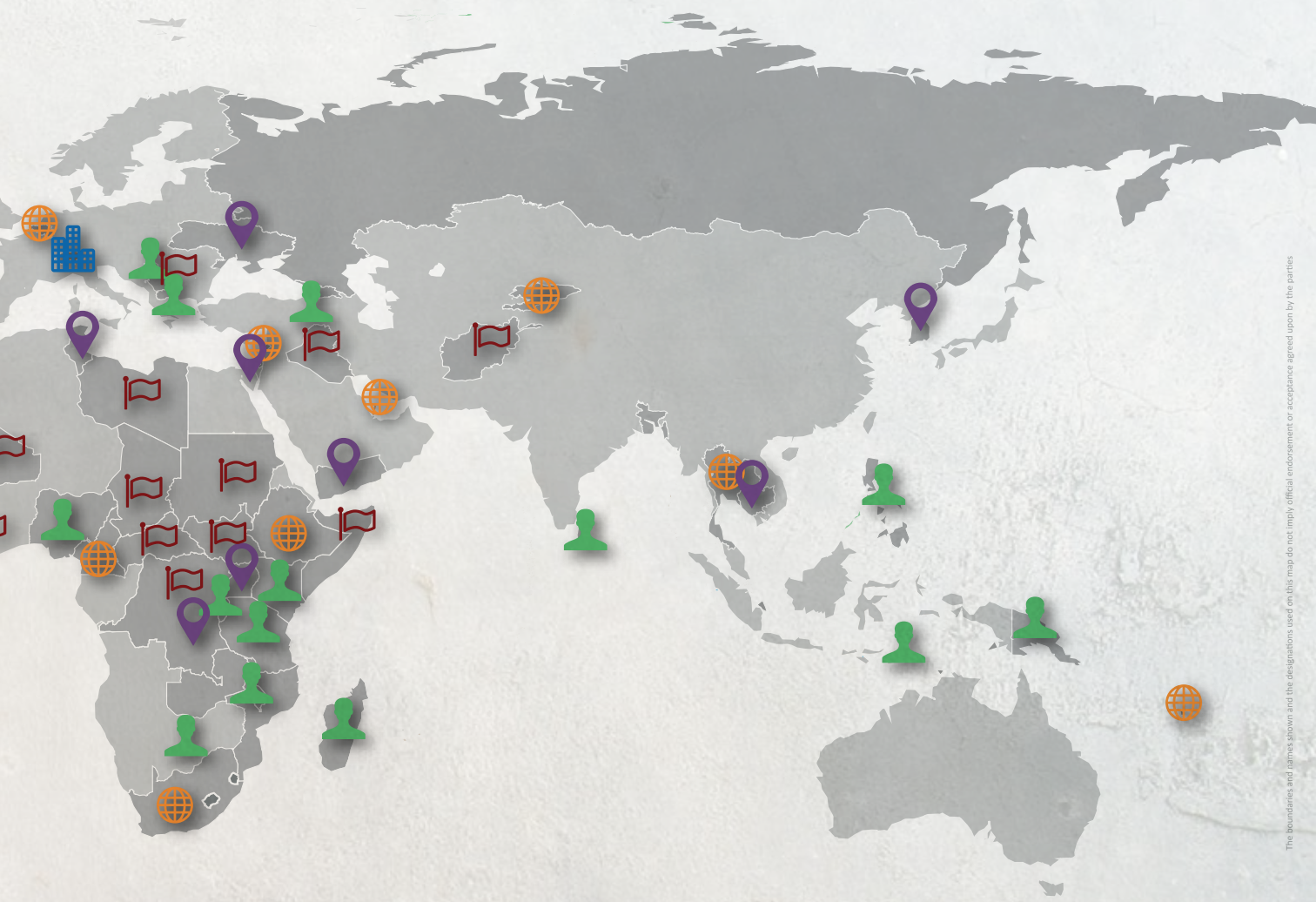
\*\* Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25



## Human Rights Advisers






## Human Rights Components of Peace Missions



A (7)

### MIDDLE-EAST, NORTH-AFRICA (8)

-  Middle East and North Africa - Beirut (2002)  
South-West Asia and the Arab Region - Doha
-  State of Palestine<sup>2</sup> (Gaza 1996 & Ramallah 2000)  
Mauritania (2009)  
Tunisia (2011)  
Yemen (2012)
-  Iraq - UNAMI (2003)  
Libya - UNSMIL (2011)

onia (2007)

### ASIA-PACIFIC (9)

-  South East Asia - Bangkok (2002)  
Pacific - Suva (2005)
-  Cambodia (1993)  
Field-based structure on DPRK\*\* - Seoul (May 2015)
-  Sri Lanka (2004)  
Papua New Guinea (2008)  
Timor Leste\* (2013)  
Philippines\* (2014)
-  Afghanistan - UNAMA (2002)

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance agreed upon by the parties.

<sup>1</sup> Reference to Kosovo shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

\* Human Rights Advisers deployment through the UNDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism.

**All human  
beings are  
born free  
and equal  
in dignity  
and rights**



A young girl during a protest in Pakistan, August 2014.  
© EPA/BILAWAL ARBAB

## In a world of change

Over the next 15 years – the duration of the world’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - one billion people will be added to the world’s population. The largest number of young people that the world has ever seen will emerge into adulthood – a majority to live in fragile settings, have too little access to employment and too few opportunities for participation. With people living for far longer, the numbers of older people will also increase dramatically. More people will be on the move within and across borders, with more living in urban settings than ever before.

The product of scientific and social advances, these seismic demographic shifts take place against a backdrop of rising inequalities within and among countries; of deepening discrimination; of violent extremism and terrorism fuelling in turn greater intolerance and xenophobia; greater climate instability; global health threats.

Yet, at the same time, millions more are accessing education whilst the number of people living in extreme poverty has been reduced by millions. Information and communications technology and scientific and technological innovation are re-shaping global interconnectedness. A wider range of actors – civil society, national human rights institutions, courts, business and other private sector – are more aware of human rights and are demanding accountability more systematically than ever before, including an end to corruption.

A reshaping of power and influence is in play. Established and emerging state powers compete for supremacy with non-state actors that have universalist ambitions (including trans-national, “terrorist” and religious actors). This marks out a contest not only at political, economic and military levels, but increasingly also for normative or “soft power”, bringing critical challenges for the post-World War II system of treaties, institutions, laws and policies and for the core values enshrined by human rights.

## Stand up for someone’s rights today

The politics of intolerance and hatred are on the rise, preying on our deepest fears. Spread by those who crave power, outright lies, twisted logic and false promises feed on fear. In the face of such toxicity, we must stand our ground, defending global values and upholding the fundamental truth that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

All of us can take practical steps of resistance to hate and for our common humanity. Wherever we are, we can make a difference. On the street, on public transport, in school, on the sports field, at work, in the voting booth, on social media and at home: upholding human rights is everyone’s business.

Wherever discrimination flourishes, we can step forward. To whomever abuse is directed, we can help safeguard their right to live free from fear and abuse. We can raise our voices for the values of tolerance and inclusion in the interest of everyone. We can join together to lobby for better leadership, better laws and greater respect for human dignity. But, we have to stand up!

Stand with us for human rights and we will stand with you. Together, our quest for greater freedom, stronger respect and more compassion can succeed. But, it starts with each of us.

[www.standup4humanrights.org](http://www.standup4humanrights.org)

## The 2030 Agenda – a tool for “rights-full” change

Its Member States have made commitments to human rights for as long as the United Nations

has been in existence. The recent universal commitment of Member States to the 2030 sustainable development goals to “end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all” has human rights at its core – as both an enabler of all goals and an end in itself. No one – no rights-holder - is to be left behind and in that, the dignity of the human person - the rights-holder - is fundamental.

A unifying framework, the 2030 Agenda offers the UN system, including the UN Human Rights Office, unprecedented opportunities to advance human rights globally being a foundation on which to build a shared agenda with Member States precisely for that purpose.

## The normative power of International Human Rights Law and UN Mechanisms

International human rights, criminal, humanitarian and refugee law help embed universal values by providing legal standards. United Nations human rights bodies, independent experts and mechanisms such as the Universal Periodic Review help State Parties to uphold those values, act more consistently for human rights, set out action plans advancing rights, while enabling monitoring and reporting of human rights progress. These laws and mechanisms also strengthen the role of the United Nations General Assembly in upholding human rights. The efficiency, effectiveness and continued relevance of this support system for Member States in discharge of their duties rely heavily on OHCHR - both substantively and operationally.

## UN Human Rights

The 1993 World Conference on Human Rights identified the need for a more robust UN human

### New mechanism on international crimes committed in Syria

On 21 December 2016 the General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for the establishment of an “International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of those Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011” (“the Mechanism”) (71/248).

The Mechanism will:

- Collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses; and
- Prepare files in order to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law standards, in national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have or may in the future have jurisdiction over these crimes, in accordance with international law.

The Mechanism, which will be supported by the UN Human Rights Office, will be established in phases until it is fully functioning. It will be based in Geneva and cooperate with and complement the UN Independent International Commission on Syria.

rights mandate underpinned by stronger institutional support. In response, the General Assembly resolution created the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights and enabled the formation of the associated office. Over the course of subsequent decades, with investment and support by Member States, the UN Human Rights Office has developed unique competencies for the protection and advance of human rights; competencies that bridge the humanitarian, peace and development sectors and that have strategic relevance both today and for the world ahead<sup>1/</sup>:

<sup>1/</sup> The High Commissioner’s mandate, and that of the Office, is provided by the General Assembly in resolution 48/141, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and

- **Advocacy and technical assistance** to support and strengthen national human rights standards compliance, coherence, integrity and effectiveness and enable effective functioning of the international human rights system;
- **Advice and best practices expertise** including specifically for accountability to rights-holders affected by discrimination and/or crises;
- **Monitoring, analysis and reporting** on the practical application of international human rights and international humanitarian laws;
- Enabler for the **participation, engagement and contribution by civil society and other actors** in exercise and defence of rights – e.g. by national protection mechanisms and legal, security, economic, religious actors; and
- **Support for and strengthening of human rights-mainstreaming** including across the broader UN Development Group of funds, programmes and agencies.

## Scaling up for human rights in a world of change

An asset to the world in and of itself, the UN Human Rights Office also helps position other parts of the international systems for more strategic driving of positive change for human rights. Only 3.5 per cent of the UN regular budget is allocated directly to human rights activities, including to our Office. From that stand point, “human rights” is not treated as an “equal” to its counterpart pillars of development and peace and security.

“ We will not enjoy development without security, we will not enjoy security without development, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights. ”

**UN Secretary General, 2005**

We envisage a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination; of respect for race, ethnicity and cultural diversity; and of equal opportunity permitting the full realization of human potential and contributing to shared prosperity.

A world which invests in its children and in which every child grows up free from violence and exploitation. A world in which every woman and girl enjoys full gender equality and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment have been removed. A just, equitable, tolerant, open and socially inclusive world in which the needs of the most vulnerable are met.

**Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, A/RES/70/1, paragraph 8**

However, with the UN Human Rights Office competencies deployed strategically and at scale, a more inclusive and sustained achievement of the 2030 Agenda can be leveraged and human rights protection can be advanced globally. The case for this scaling up investment in OHCHR is evident in a number of key strategic areas:

- 1 Strengthening early warning and effective early action;**
- 2 Protecting and expanding civil society space;**
- 3 Peaceful co-existence, prevention of hate and erosion of the politics of fear;**
- 4 Protecting the rights of people on the move and countering xenophobia; and**
- 5 Advancing the 2030 Agenda overall.**

Were these focus areas, through greater investment, to be brought to a greater scale, their resulting impacts would contribute globally and uniquely to Member States’ fulfilment of the transformative 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

# Our focus areas







UN Human Rights staff on their way to conduct a workshop for rural communities in La Gabarra area, Colombia, August 2016. © OHCHR

# 1. Strengthening early warning and effective early action

Invariably conflict, violence and insecurity are preceded by widespread human rights abuse. Clearly identifiable patterns of such abuse, including discrimination, are early indications of potential or emerging crises. Pre-emptive, targeted human rights interventions can have a significant impact - preventing or mitigating deterioration into violence.

Early warning and early action are high on the international agenda. The UN system and the international community have essential roles to play in preventing human rights violations and protecting human rights in such contexts. This cannot be overemphasized. A series of initiatives create opportunities for this work to flourish: The Human Rights Up Front (HRUF) Action Plan, the renewed focus on the importance of early warning analysis in response to emerging crises as set out in the 2015 Secretary-General's Report on the Future of Peace Operations, and the emphasis given to information management by the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit.

The witnessed upswing in conflict and in fragility of recent years point to the relevance and urgency of such early warning and early action work now and for the future.

Through targeted interventions, informed by its expertise and experience in human rights monitoring, investigation, analysis and advocacy, the UN Human Rights Office can help defuse tensions, prevent abuse and reduce potential violence. Member States and the UN system increasingly look to our Office for lead contribution to the development and implementation of systems for early warning. Targeted investments that deepen

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Rapid response teams were deployed to monitor human rights in the State of Palestine<sup>1</sup> during the upsurge in violence; to Congo-Brazzaville in the context of political instability; to several European countries to support migration monitoring; and to Gambia in the context of the presidential elections.

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the capacity of our Office to provide such information and analysis not only will enable the UN and Member States to make decisions for more effective and prompt action relevant to realities on the ground, it can save lives, prevent conflict and advance human dignity.

## Our experience

Our strength lies in our unique capability to monitor, critically analyze and report on human

<sup>1/</sup> Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

rights abuses. Our 60 country and regional presences enable us to act quickly and sustain effort. We work effectively and supportively with Member States, including by providing evidence based briefing, raising awareness and ensuring key actors and decision-makers have up-to-date information and analyses. For example, the Office has monitored and advised on human rights trends and recommended early, preventative action for the people of Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, State of Palestine<sup>1</sup>, Central African Republic, Iraq, the Philippines, Myanmar, Ukraine, Liberia, Nepal, Mauritania, the Pacific, Syria and Yemen.

The UN Human Rights Office's integration into UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions supports implementation of Security Council mandates for protection of civilians under threat of physical violence, including by making human rights information immediately actionable for prevention and response.

## Way forward

Members of the Security Council and the General Assembly more broadly, are upping their requests of the UN Human Rights Office for evidenced-based advice on warning signs. While this provides a unique opportunity to more effectively place human rights at the centre of protection, such demands pose serious challenges when not underpinned by resources.

Opportunities for bringing this work to scale include investments in our capacity in the following areas:

- Providing in-country technical advice and support to Member States on early warning systems, multi-hazard human-rights based risk assessments and emergency preparedness;
- More rapid deployment of human rights experts to document and investigate human rights threats and scope out the implications

<sup>1</sup> Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

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Human rights officers deployed to Yemen supported the monitoring and documentation on civilian casualties, targeting of civilian infrastructure, recruitment and deployment of child soldiers and other human rights violations.

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of human rights' deterioration and emergency situations;

- Strengthening of our information management tools to make accessible both timely and accurate evidence and bring critical early warning information to the attention of decision-makers.

The Special Rapporteur on Cambodia visits a village affected by sugar cane development in Cambodia, October 2016. © OHCHR



## 2. Protecting and expanding civil society space

Vibrant participation in societies is a human right and indispensable to sustainable peace. Civil society provides an essential platform from which people can participate to bring about the very kind of change for which the United Nations advocates and the international community calls for in its 2030 Agenda. In other words, civil society actors help link the international human rights machinery to what is happening at country level, including by identifying areas where States are failing to respond to populations' needs and by giving a voice to those who otherwise might go unheard. In this, civil society is a bridge between people and their governments – seeking and enabling participation, inclusion, transparency and thus accountability too.

According space to civil society is not optional; it is fundamental to the exercise of human dignity. International law protects from arbitrary State interference, the associated public freedoms, and the lives, liberty, physical integrity

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Following support from the UN Human Rights Office to the authorities of South Kivu, DRC, a provincial law on the protection of human rights defenders was adopted in February 2016.

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and privacy of those seeking to exercise them. And, there are other reasons to protect civil society space too. Civic participation contributes to societal cohesion and facilitates participation in public life. A strong civil society contributes to the economy, stimulating innovation and advocating for a rights-based environment that is also to the benefit of businesses and their employees. When the rule of law is upheld, underpinning the stabilities on which business relies, a dynamic, diverse and independent civil society also promotes the exchange of knowledge, the flow of information and the sharing of skills through which economies then thrive.

And yet, such social exchange is often also messy. It can be disruptive, exposing conflicts of interests, values and vision. It may manifest calls for the redistribution of power, control over decision-making, and access to resources. Flourishing exchanges of pluralistic opinion can be tumultuous. Threats from such as non-State armed groups and by the private sector against, for example, environmental and land rights activists are in play while in a number of countries, women human rights defender face disproportionately adverse reactions.

Arguably, leaders' own insecurities are seeding social insecurity. When caught without responsive human rights-based policies, governments and political leaders unprepared for the dynamics of dissent or overly sensitive to criticism, short-sightedly gamble that the benefits of dismantling public freedoms outweigh their costs. And civil society actors – human rights defenders, individuals and groups advocating for accountability – become easy targets of repressive action.

## Our experience

Our engagement with civil society is long standing. This is more than our strategic priority – it is a threshold concern: if space exists for people - through civil society - to engage with their governments and other powerful actors, the likelihood that all rights will be better exercised and better protected is greater:

- Active civil societies are partners in the Office’s objectives, supporting the achievement of human rights and helping address mutual concerns;
- By working closely with governments, civil society actors, the UN family, the private sector and other stakeholders, the Office translates international obligations into action, drawing upon a world-wide compendium of tested experiences and effective practice in promoting and protecting freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and public participation;
- The Office - through its country and regional presences - monitors, reports and advises on the facts of civil society space on the ground and supports civil society actors under threat.

## Way forward

The UN Human Rights Office is the world’s leading, authoritative voice on the legally binding norms - enshrined in international human rights instruments – whose provisions and the policies that flow from these - promote and expand civil society space. Threats to civil society space and abusive practices against human rights defenders are deepening in many countries while globally, the world is being denied the benefits to innovation and global solutions that only a vibrant civil society can provide. The Office – with its unparalleled network of civil society partners can play a vital part in stabilising communities while advancing freedoms.

However, without resources more proportionate to this opportunity, it cannot step up. Yet it is ready to increase its work with partners to:

- Help build Member State capability for the strengthening and protection of civic space, including for the protection of human rights defenders and their support systems including by identifying and promoting good practices;
- Develop and implement strategies that meet new and emerging challenges or impediments to the fostering of pluralism, non-violent dissent and inclusive public scrutiny;
- Guard against, and take decisive action to limit, reprisals and retaliation against human rights defenders and civil society activists;
- Help build public understanding in support of civil society, developing the evidentiary base for response, and convening relevant actors at local, national, regional and global levels.

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With the UN Human Rights Office’s technical support, Tunisia’s High Authority for Audio Visual Communication developed a national barometer on monitoring incitement to hatred, which the Office is replicating in Côte d’Ivoire and Morocco.

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# 3. Peaceful co-existence, prevention of hate and erosion of the politics of fear

Preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) as part of broader counter-terrorism policies and practices, is taking greater prominence with the rise of the so-called Islamic state and tragic attacks against civilians – small and large in scale - the world over. Violence and terrorism feed and are fed by a worsening toxic political discourse rooted in hatred - whether sectarian, religious, national, ethnic or racial. Violent ideologies whose values claim justification for violence, torture and identity-based hatred incite and promote violence including violent extremism.

Efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism (P/CVE) will continue to figure prominently in broader counter-terrorism policies and practices and thus constitute an ongoing focus for the work of the UN Human Rights Office.

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The UN Human Rights Office supported the establishment and strengthening of National Preventative Mechanisms against Torture in Mauritania, Senegal and Tunisia.

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The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, approved by Member States (A/RES/60/288), promotes the address of the conditions that are conducive to terrorism and emphasizes the imperative that human rights must underscore all counter-terrorism approaches as set out in both Pillars I (conditions conducive to terrorism) and IV (human rights).

If implemented properly, the Global Strategy could bring about a shift from narrow and counterproductive conceptions of national security to a much broader, more sustainable approach rooted in an individual's right to security and human dignity. This broadening of the concept of 'national security' to 'human security' means more than a focus on protection from terrorism and abusive security forces. It would open the space for more encompassing frameworks that also tackle issues of personal security in terms of economic, social and cultural rights.

The UN Human Rights Office can inspire positive change in the behaviour of multiple stakeholders and is uniquely placed to support work on P/CVE and the implementation of Pillars I and IV of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the SG's Plan of Action.

## Our experience

The Office is playing an active role in a number of counter-terrorism initiatives including by providing frameworks - such as the Rabat Plan of Action – that guide human rights-

based tackling of extremist discourse. We monitor, report on and highlight the impact of violent extremism on human rights including abuses perpetrated by non-State actors, in for example, Iraq, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and by Boko Haram in the Chad Basin.

These examples demonstrate how the UN human rights system, including the treaty bodies, the Universal Periodic Review, the special procedures, Commissions of Inquiry and our country and regional presences, is a rich source of information on the grievances with which societies and individuals are grappling that can lead to frustration, marginalization and the kinds of radicalization that seeds violent extremism.

## Way forward

The UN Human Rights Office has the capability to inspire and support multiple stakeholders to tackle effectively incitement to hatred and to promote in its place the spread of tolerance, pluralism, peaceful coexistence and overall human security. The Office is uniquely placed to:

- Support human rights-based implementation of international efforts to tackle hate-based ideologies and associated violence;
- Provide critical and fresh assessment of the conditions conducive to hatred and terrorism, including an understanding of associated grievances and make useful recommendations to Member States to help overcome such issues;
- Undertake robust analysis of P/CVE responses and advocate for needed changes and more appropriate mechanisms where associated legislation, policy or practice do not comply with human rights standards and thus will not be counterproductive in the medium and longer terms;
- Identify and develop good practices in responding to incitement to violence – linked

with the implementation of the Rabat Plan of Action, implementation of GA Resolution 16/18 etc;

- Expand and deepen understanding of how measures aimed at ending marginalization and discrimination and promoting tolerance and peaceful co-existence can help prevent violent extremism;
- Initiate specific programmes with civil society and independent national human rights institutions, focusing on such issues as root causes, engagement with women and youth and on the role of human rights education.

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The UN Human Rights Office submitted a report to the Human Rights Council on best practices and lessons learned on how protecting and promoting human rights help to prevent and counter violent extremism (A/HRC/33/29). These messages formed an important focus of the Office's engagement with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

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# 4. Protecting the rights of people on the move and countering xenophobia

International migration is an increasingly complex phenomenon which has involved the often-precarious movement across borders of some 250 million people, an estimated 20 per cent of whom are in an irregular situation. Migrants are disproportionately vulnerable to discrimination, marginalization, exploitation, violence and xenophobia, having limited access also to guarantees of due process and remedies. While migration is a more dangerous and discriminatory endeavor for those who are al-

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As co-chair of the United Nations Global Migration Group Working Group on Human Rights and Gender, The UN Human Rights Office led a multi-stakeholder initiative to develop principles and guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations.

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ready marginalized and stigmatized, months or even years spent on violent and treacherous routes or in informal settlements fosters further abuse. Children, persons with disabilities, older persons and women are at particular risk.

Many States approach migration primarily as a matter of national sovereignty, and regard migrants either as an immediate threat to national security or as economic commodities and enablers of the development of others. Enforcement of national borders is an important piece of the equation, but no enforcement effort can succeed on its own – no wall can be high enough. Building pressure at border points leads only to more death, injury and instability. Within the public narrative on people movement, migrants are being scapegoated for electoral and other advantage, and migration policies in contravention of international norms are premised on fear and prejudice rather than on facts and evidence. Anti-migrant sentiment and xenophobia, increasingly unveiled and hate based, are on the rise, and public resistance to this is ignored or marginalised.

## Our experience

Everyone has rights. To engage effectively for the human rights of migrants, advice and recommended policies must be based on norms and evidence and not on fear or bigoted assumptions. Building a successful, sustainable response depends as well on addressing the push factors (root causes) for migration (including poverty, conflict, climate change, discrimination, and violations of rights). To date, the UN



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## In Serbia, the Government adopted the OHCHR methodology for consulting with Roma communities in the development of an Action Plan on Roma inclusion.

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Human Rights Office has:

- Developed evidence-based responses that break down myths that surround migration, for example, through research that has identified evidence that debunks the notion that there is a ‘welfare magnet’; revealing that migrants contribute more in direct and indirect taxes than they take out (i.e. a migrant is more likely to be working in a hospital than unfairly using its resources.);
- Developed a set of principles and guidelines on implementation of human rights at international borders. This tool provides practical guidance for those on the frontlines of the migration crisis as they identify and respond to the complex human rights challenges they face;
- Highlighted gaps in health and education for migrants, as part of our work on economic and social rights, and we have compiled good practices of states in responding to those concerns.

### Way forward

Within the international system, no single organization is mandated to provide overall oversight and leadership for the specific protection of migrants’ human rights. In this context, the UN Human Rights Office has a clear added value. However, advocacy for human rights in the context of the migra-

tion crisis is challenging and complex. Responses must mingle strategically and normatively the protection needs of those migrating with the most effective, rights-respecting responses available to States. The recently issued Secretary-General report on the large movements of refugees and migrants, for example, calls on States and other stakeholders to place greater premium on the protection, dignity and human rights of refugees and migrants.

Opportunities for the Office to step up the value and impact of its contributions to respect for migrants’ rights, with special attention to groups in vulnerable situations, including in immigration detention and at international borders, include:

- Further development of evidence, guidelines and good practices to better support implementation of human rights at international borders;
- Improving protection and assistance by helping to develop the capacity of relevant State actors through provision of specific tools and training;
- Further provision of evidence-based responses to the myths that surround migration and promotion of community engagement strategies for resistance to xenophobia.

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## The UN Human Rights Office supported consultations by the Government of Kenya with the Endorois indigenous group to develop a county management plan for their ancestral land at Lake Bogoria.

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# 5. Advancing the 2030 Agenda

## Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

Economic, security and environmental crises in various regions of the world illustrate powerfully the interdependence of human rights with development and with peace and security. Economic growth without adequate measures to promote inclusive and participatory development has been shown to be unsustainable, while the root causes of violent conflict are found in discrimination, inequalities, and denials of human rights.

Seeking to engage these realities globally, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a paradigm shift. It sets out a comprehensive and integrated vision of sustainable development, applicable to all people in all countries and anchored explicitly in human rights universal and

indivisible. In doing so, the 2030 Agenda goes far beyond the Millennium Development Goals - not only encompassing economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development, but setting its sights on issues core to the advance too of civil and political rights.

The central message of “leaving no one behind” offers unprecedented opportunities to close the gaps for the most marginalized of people. The principles of non-discrimination and equality are embodied both in the Agenda’s specific goals and across its many other targets and commitments. Critically, Member States have resolved to implement the Agenda “in a manner that is consistent with the obligations of states under international law”, including human rights law.

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The UN Human Rights Office published a Guidance on a human rights-based approach to data in measuring the 2030 Agenda and began developing a methodology for compiling indicators on specific SDGs.

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### Our experience

The UN Human Rights Office contributed influentially in the design phase of the 2030 Agenda, interjecting human rights into key deliberations and establishing a leading profile at the inter-agency level on inequalities, accountability and the measuring and monitoring of the new Agenda.

The Office’s impact is shown by how strongly the new Agenda is anchored in human rights standards, as it aims to “realize the human rights of all.” The coming year offers us a critical window to influence incoming SDG-based policies and development plans as the monitoring and review frameworks for the next 15 years are up and the indicator framework is finalized.

## Way forward

With its universal mandate and global operational reach, the UN Human Rights Office is uniquely placed to lead the UN system's efforts to ensure that the 2030 Agenda is implemented in line with international human rights law. Building the capacity to adequately and persuasively demonstrate the link between our work and SDGs' implementation will also help us tap into new funding sources and partnership frameworks in support of the 2030 Agenda. To this end, the Office is ready to increase its:

- Support for Member States in meeting their commitments and obligations to the Agenda – for instance their reporting of their treaty bodies obligations which in turn will support reporting of their SDG obligations;
- Work on countering discrimination and reducing inequalities, including in relation to persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, minorities and people of African descent;
- Promotion of and support to robust accountability by diverse actors for the implementation of the SDGs, including by the private sector in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and by helping adapt the Universal Periodic Review system in support of Member States' reporting of progress in implementing the SDGs;
- Innovation in support of the application of human rights principles and standards to frontier public policy issues such as in the areas of:
  - ▶ Finance, trade and investment;
  - ▶ Climate change policies and practices;
  - ▶ Data security, privacy and surveillance;
  - ▶ New technologies including those pertaining to robotic and other artificial intelligence.

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## The UN Human Rights Office and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing actively contributed to integrating human rights into the Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and its outcome document.

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Internally displaced children stand outside their family tent after the family fled their home in Saada province and found refuge in Darwin camp, in the northern province of Amran, Yemen. © UNHCR/Yahya Arhab



# Strategic projects



Children in Yemen mark Human Rights Day and the campaign to Stand up for someone's rights, December 2016. © OHCHR

## Human Rights Up Front

The main purpose of the Human Rights Up Front (HRUF) initiative is to strengthen the UN system's ability to effectively prevent and respond to serious human rights violations and complex crisis. This initiative provides a framework for more timely and predictable UN-wide responses to situations involving risks of or on-going violations, and is being realised through new mechanisms, methodologies, tools, training and staffing methods.

While HRUF is a collective endeavour across the UN system, the UN Human Rights Office has lead responsibility in several areas and is expected to deliver a number of outputs. The initiative to establish a common UN information management system on violations is underway, following the endorsement of the Deputy Secretary-General, with an initial focus on country-level stock-taking exercises and the first pilots to be implemented. At Headquarters, system-wide regional reviews are held to analyse situations and respond to potential risks, and our role is key in ensuring that human rights considerations are central to the analysis. The Office also participates e.g. in monthly multi-departmental situational awareness briefings to the Security Council. Moreover, HRUF has improved the UN's operational response, including through the deployment of multi-disciplinary light teams, co-led by the UN Human Rights Office, with political and human rights expertise, in a preventive mode to situations of concern.

Under the UN Development Group (UNDG) Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism, the UN Human Rights Office led interagency efforts to update the human rights guidance note for the Resident Coordinators (RC) system, which is being rolled out and serves as a critical resource in the RCs induction process and leadership training. The Office, through its UNDG engagements, will lead the piloting of peer-to-

peer learning events for RCs as part an overall strategy to strengthen human rights leadership. The Office will also undertake analysis and reviews of Common Country Assessments/ UN Development Assistance Frameworks and other planning tools to assess to what extent HRUF has been reflected in development programming. An online mandatory course for UN staff on the UN human rights responsibilities, developed by us in coordination with UN partners, has been taken by nearly 13,000 UN colleagues.

In 2017, we will deepen our engagement in the above-mentioned areas and beyond, resources permitting, with early warning and prevention at the centre. This will include a phased implementation of the common information management system on violations, the launch of a methodological tool on early warning analysis, increased deployment of light teams as well as other support to strengthen human rights leadership and awareness at all levels. HRUF implementation is critical also for progress on the 2030 Agenda, helping the UN to address the root causes of sustainable development challenges.

## Human Rights Investigations

UN Intergovernmental bodies continue to request the UN Human Rights Office to establish commissions of inquiry (COIs) and fact-finding missions (FFMs) to investigate serious human rights situations. These mandated investigations provide a historical record of serious violations of international law with a view to ensuring accountability and non-recurrence. They serve as avenues of redress for victims and seek to influence changes in law and practice. Many of them have triggered transitional justice mechanisms and have informed peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts by addressing the root causes of the violence and violations from a human rights perspective.

In 2016, pursuant to Human Rights Council mandates, the UN Human Rights Office supported the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan; the Group of Independent Experts established in support of the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; the Commission of Inquiry on Syria and the United Nations Independent Investigation on Burundi (UNIIB). The latter submitted its report, prompting the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, due to start operations in February 2017. In December 2016, the General Assembly established an International Mechanism to assist in the investigation and prosecution of those responsible for the most serious crimes committed in Syria and tasked OHCHR with supporting the Secretary-General in developing its terms of reference. In addition, as requested by the Human Rights Council, the Office has identified staff to be deployed to Yemen to complement the investigative work of the National Human Rights Commission.

Once a new investigative body has been mandated, the UN Human Rights Office drafts terms of reference and budgets for missions and oversees the identification and deployment of qualified personnel through either the internal rapid deployment roster (for investigations lasting up to three months) or external recruitment. We also manage a roster of high-level experts as potential members of COIs and provide guidance, training and advice to staff and experts involved in human rights investigations.

Strengthening our capacity to carry out and support effective and high-quality investigations remains a strategic priority for the Office. In the coming year, we will explore how new technology and communication tools can help reach a wider audience and make our efforts more effective. We will widen the pool of trainers on monitoring to make them available to regional and field offices, and establish a record of good practices in reporting and promote

them with relevant stakeholders and partners.

## World Humanitarian Summit

The first World Humanitarian Summit took place in Istanbul on 23-24 May 2016 and convened 9,000 participants from around the world to support a new shared Agenda for Humanity and take action to prevent and reduce human suffering.

At the Summit, the UN Human Rights Office made 32 commitments to strengthen its engagement in humanitarian action. The Office was part of the round table on 'Upholding the norms that safeguard humanity' and organized a side event on the protection of human rights in humanitarian crises. Our commitments fall under the main core responsibilities of "Respect rules of war", "Leave no one behind", and "Working differently to end need". They are available on the Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation (PACT) at [www.agendaforhumanity.org](http://www.agendaforhumanity.org).

## Global study on children deprived of liberty

The General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty to be funded through voluntary contributions and conducted in close cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and offices, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Office of the

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, as well as the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including Member States, civil society, academia and children (A/RES/69/157).

The Study will be led by Manfred Nowak with the UN Human Rights Office serving as the secretariat. It will focus on a number of areas related to deprivation of liberty, including: detention of children in conflict with law; detention of children because of their migrant and refugee status; children in prison with their parents; children deprived of liberty because of protection needs in care institutions; and detention of children in the context of armed conflict and because of national security reasons. It will be finalized by end 2018.

The core objectives of the Global Study are to:

- Assess the magnitude of this phenomenon, including the number of children deprived of liberty;
- Promote a change in stigmatizing attitudes and behaviour towards children at risk or who are deprived of liberty;
- Provide recommendations for law, policy and practice to safeguard the rights of children concerned, and prevent and significantly reduce the number of children deprived of liberty through effective non-custodial alternatives, guided by the best interest of the child.

This Global Study is not only sorely needed but also long overdue because the children it aims to help are often the most invisible, the most difficult to reach and often the ones who are less likely to receive any support from society.

Refugees try to keep themselves warm in -19 degrees celsius as they cross the border from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Serbia.  
© UNHCR/Igor Pavicevic



# Management



UN Human Rights staff engage with the Electoral Commission in Uganda during the general elections, February 2016. © OHCHR



Investments over the years to make the UN Human Rights Office a fully results-based organization have led to improved management and operational capacities. On a regular basis progress is monitored, results are evaluated and the outcome of lessons learned exercises are factored into ongoing work and planning processes. Following a review of the Office's governance architecture in 2016, the Office will continue to invest in streamlining its management structure and processes for greater efficiency and accountability. In particular, in 2017, increased accountability of the whole Office, including field presences, in shaping and implementing leadership decisions will be sought.

Following the launch of a dedicated evaluation function and a revised evaluation policy, the Office has benefited from the results of several types of evaluative activities during the last three years, ranging from country programme reviews to project and thematic evaluations. The building of an evaluation culture in the Office saw improvements in 2016 with the implementation of vigorous follow-up to evaluations conducted during the previous programming cycle. For 2017 the Office will continue the work on more effectively linking evaluation results to ongoing programmatic and strategic management decisions.

More broadly, the Office has a strong focus on building on the diversity of its staff to reach its full potential, deliver on its mandate and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. Integrating a gender perspective throughout its human rights work, organizational culture and daily management is a priority.

## Measuring impact

Since 2011, the Office has invested considerable efforts into strengthening results-based management. It is now able to demonstrate effective tools and clear processes for managing for results in the organization.

## Change Initiative

To better support the advancement of human rights, the High Commissioner has also proposed a number of changes to maximize on resources and capacities for effective and efficient delivery. These changes aim to:

- Enhance coordination and integration within headquarters and between headquarters and the field;
- Facilitate more strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, including Member and the United Nations system; and
- Shift operations to reduce associated costs.

This proposal will be reviewed as part the budget process for the 2018-2019 biennium.

The OHCHR Management Plan 2014-17 articulates our Theory of Change, and translates this into global targets. The Office has clear guidelines in place to formulate annual work plans and undertake mid-year and end-of-year reviews of their programmes. The web-based Performance Monitoring System is used by all organizational units and field presences to develop and revise their programme documents, to monitor progress and report on results. These tools and processes allow the Office to effectively monitor programme performance, capture results to which we have made a meaningful contribution in the field and report at the global level.

## Setting the strategic direction of the Office

2017, being the last year of our current strategic plan, is also the year in which the Office will (re)define its strategic direction for the next four years. Since we set out our plans for 2014 -2017 the global context has changed in several ways, bringing implications for our operations, resources and, crit-

ically, for our human rights impact too. Our new strategy must be soundly oriented to that context, including to, for example, the Sustainable Development Agenda, if we are to do the very best we can for human rights in the coming years. This process of strategic review and reorientation further provides us the opportunity to engage together – across the organization and with our external stakeholders – to build a shared understanding of the challenges we face, the opportunities we have and the direction we should take. The end result of the strategy making process will also help us make the best use of our core competencies.

## Enhancing outreach and investing in change

To fulfil its mandate and realize the ambitions implicit in its planning, the Office must not only enhance and strengthen outreach to stakeholders and audiences, but also find new ways of communicating human rights messages that resonate with the general public.

Despite an increase in extrabudgetary contributions in recent years, the Office's funding levels are still too low in comparison to the expectations placed on it. While the visibility of the Office has increased markedly in recent years, notably in both traditional and social media outlets, resource limitations mean opportunities for greater influential outreach remain untapped.

In 2017, the Office will invest in its capacity to engage in outreach, fundraising and reporting. At the same time, these areas will be factored into the planning process for the next four years, to balance the strong growth in the Office's substantive work with commensurate capacity to communicate it to the world and thereby increasing levels of awareness and support for human rights broadly.

The Head of UN Human Rights in Cambodia listens to concerns by the Boeung Kak Community, December 2016. © OHCHR





# Funding & Budget



## Extrabudgetary resources

More than 59 per cent of the UN Human Rights Office's budget is funded through voluntary contributions. The Office appeals to all Member States and non-traditional donors and the private sector to raise the funds it needs to implement its mandate.

In 2016, we received US\$129.5 million\* in extrabudgetary contributions, compared to US\$125.8 million in 2015. While this was a welcome increase, the amount is still far from the US\$217.3 million that were needed in extrabudgetary funding for 2016.

For the third time since 2008, earmarked contributions (62%) surpassed unearmarked ones (38%). Earmarked contributions increased by US\$1.2 million in 2016 compared with 2015 (from US\$78.7 million in 2015 to US\$79.9 million in 2016). While some of the increase in earmarking can be attributed to more local funding for field activities and contributions from non-traditional budget lines that are restricted as earmarked funds, other contributions which were previously unearmarked have been transformed into more circumscribed funding. This growing trend toward greater earmarking will require more constant budgetary adjustments over the course of the year and limits the Office's capacity to allocate resources to where they are most urgently required.

For the last six years, our extrabudgetary expenditure has exceeded annual income. This budget deficit has been absorbed by a surplus that was built up during the years in which the Office received more voluntary contributions than it spent. While those reserves still allow for funding shortfalls to be covered in the 2016-2017 biennium, a situation in which income is not commensurate with spending is not sustainable in the long term.

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Support from private donors represented less than US\$1 million (0.8% of the total income) in 2016. In 2017, we will strengthen collaboration with the private sector, foundations and major donors who through their expertise and financial support can play a crucial role in defending and promoting human rights.

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Recognizing that this trend would not be sustainable, the Office went through a budget reduction exercise in 2014 aimed at limiting extrabudgetary expenditure for 2015 to a projected income of US\$120 million. Similarly, for 2016, the initial extrabudgetary costplans were capped at US\$130 million. This figure increased to US\$149.5 million during the year, as the Office responded to newly-identified needs and opportunities. Estimated expenditure for 2016 amounted to US\$ 135 million\*, thus leaving the Office with an expected shortfall of US\$5 million\*.

## Regular budget

The United Nations regular budget should finance all activities mandated by the General

*\*Figures estimated at the time of print. To be adjusted and confirmed upon the closure of the 2016 accounts.*

Assembly and its subsidiary organs, including the Human Rights Council (HRC).

Human rights is recognized as one of the three pillars of the UN system, the other two being development and peace and security. The Human Rights Up Front programme clearly underscores the centrality of human rights to the work of the entire UN Secretariat.

And yet, the regular budget only allocates to human rights a tiny percentage of the resources that are extended to the other two pillars. With approximately half of all regular budget resources directed to these three pillars, human rights receives less than 7 per cent of those resources. In overall terms, human rights receives just 3.5 per cent of the total UN regular budget. Despite the fact that a letter was sent to the Secretary-General in July 2014 by a cross-regional group of 55 Member States (similar to a letter sent in 2013), requesting that the 2016-2017 budget outline strengthen regular budget funding for human rights activities, the final approved 2016-2017 regular budget is a step backwards from the “zero growth” seen in previous years and includes a number of reductions resulting from General Assembly budgetary decisions. Thus, while the official human rights mandates continue to grow in number and in scope, regular budget reductions have been applied to the Office across nearly all budget lines. The same kinds of reductions are also foreseen for the 2018-2019 biennium.

Notwithstanding the reductions imposed by the General Assembly, the human rights section still saw a net increase in the starting point for the 2016-2017 biennium, reflecting the full implementation of the treaty body strengthening resolution and resources approved for new mandates adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2014 and 2015. The approved regular budget appropriation for the UN Human Rights Office was thus US\$190.5 million for 2016-2017 at the beginning of the biennium. The alloca-

tion for 2016 was increased by US\$5,451,500 during the year, approved in respect of the implementation of urgent mandates of the Human Rights Council. With the approval of additional resources for the implementation of resolutions of the Human Rights Council during 2016, the regular budget allocation for 2017 is currently US\$107.6 million.

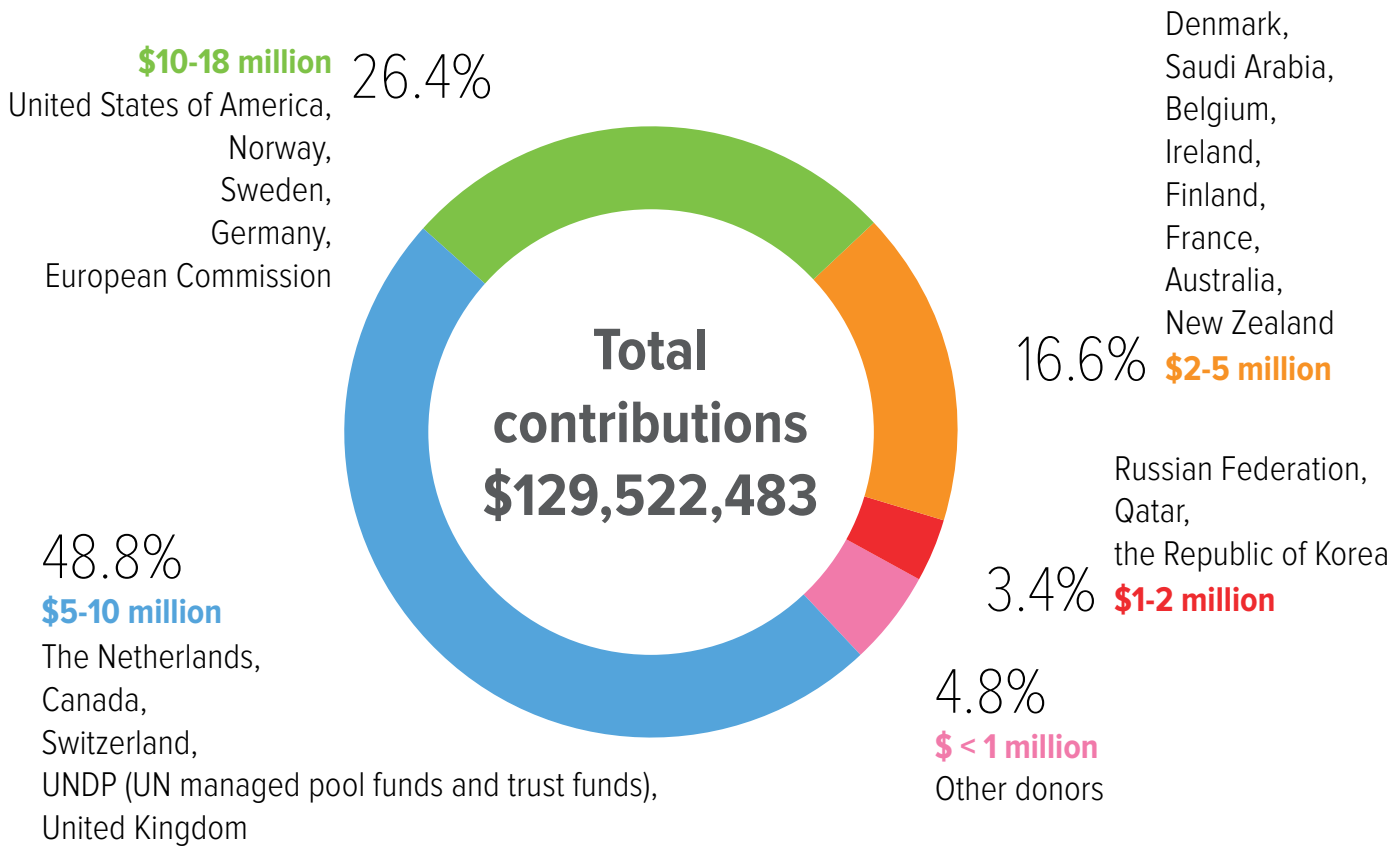
The UN Human Rights Office spends at least 10 per cent of total extrabudgetary resources on mandated activities that ought to be financed by the regular budget. The challenging financial situation of the Office is further exacerbated by the introduction of new mandates at each session of the HRC. Although most of the resources required for new mandates are in fact approved each year, the delay in presentation to the General Assembly means that the Office is forced to rely on existing resources to cover new activities with a more immediate timeline.

## Financial requirements

Total extrabudgetary resources needed for 2017 amount to US\$252.9 million. These are funds the Office would need in addition to its regular budget allocation of US\$107.6 million if it is to respond to requests for assistance it has received for the year.

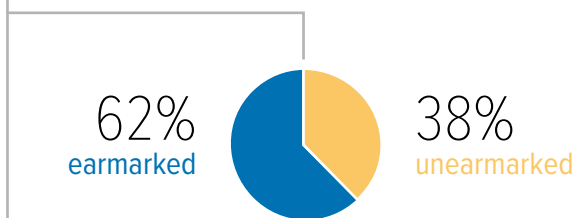
For the second year, the Office demonstrates through this Appeal the full extent of its requirements, as opposed to previous years where it only presented its operating cost plans. Nevertheless, the needs-based budget presented herein is still limited to what could realistically be implemented within a single year. For this reason, and due to the lengthy recruitment process the UN Secretariat must adhere to, some increases, notably in the field, remain modest. To exponentially increase the reach of field presences requires a steady build-up of human resources and budgets over time.

# Breakdown of contributions 2016



# Funding overview 2016

**\$129.5 million**  
in total contributions



**\$5.7 million**  
received from Multi-Partner Trust Funds

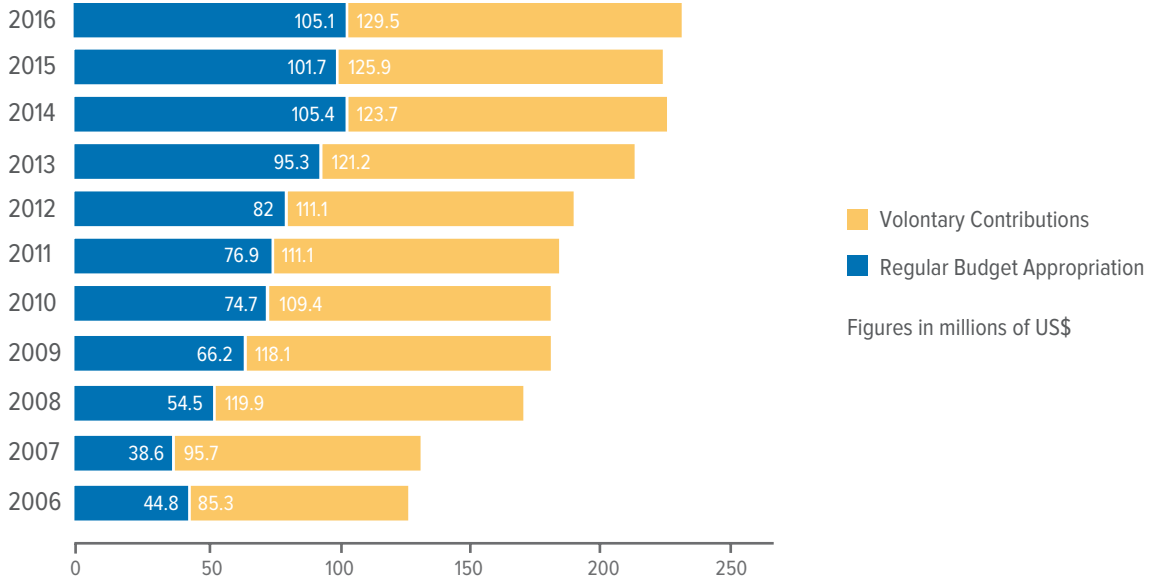
**81 donors**  
(65 Member States)

Donor breakdown by regional group:

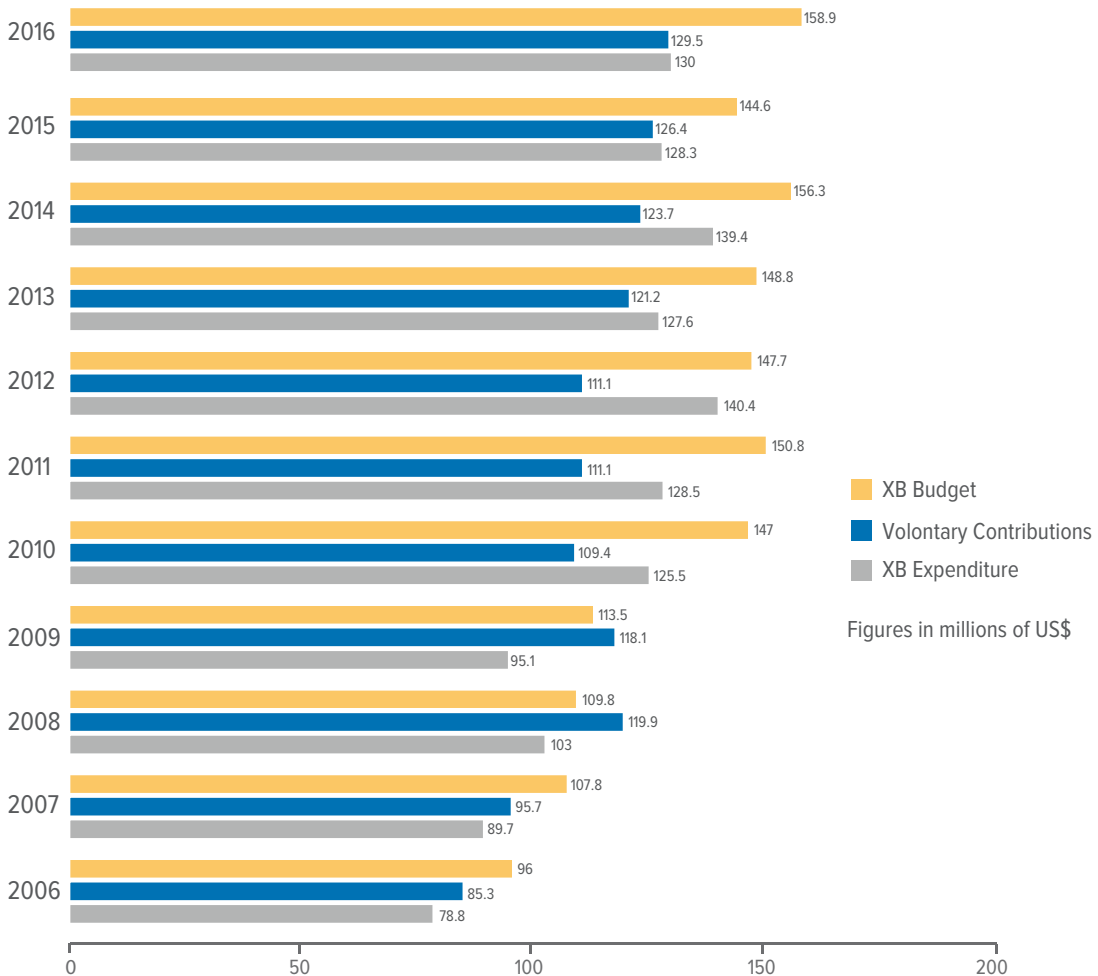
- 5 out of 54 States from the African group
- 16 out of 54 States from the Asian Group
- 13 out of 23 States from the Eastern European Group
- 7 out of 33 States from the Latin American Group
- 24 out of 29 States from the Western and Other Group

**108**  
donor agreements signed

## OHCHR Funding Overview 2006-2016



## OHCHR Contribution vs Budget vs Expenditure 2006-2016





## Regular budget allocation and extrabudgetary requirements for 2017 - Overview

	Regular budget	Extrabudgetary requirements	Total (planning figures)
<b>Operating Resources</b>			
<b>Programme of Work</b>			
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	13,965,400	21,586,500	35,551,900
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	15,097,500	9,154,900	24,252,400
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation Division <sup>1</sup>	18,793,200	21,055,500	39,848,700
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures	21,931,400	21,753,700	43,685,100
<b>Headquarters</b>			
Executive Direction and Management and New York Office	8,336,300	19,750,400	28,086,700
Polymaking Organs	9,706,700	-	9,706,700
<b>Other</b>			
Headquarter effectiveness	-	3,509,300	3,509,300
Right Up Front Initiative Action Plan	-	6,424,400	6,424,400
Support to the Programmes	5,156,600	10,083,000	15,239,600
<b>Subtotal Headquarters</b>	<b>92,987,100</b>	<b>113,317,600</b>	<b>206,304,700</b>
<b>Field Presences</b>			
Africa	2,512,000	40,076,300	42,588,300
Americas	1,724,000	28,445,400	30,169,400
Asia and the Pacific	3,431,700	12,111,800	15,543,500
Europe and Central Asia	1,932,100	12,112,000	14,044,100
Middle East and North Africa	3,324,400	24,100,600	27,425,000
Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation	1,648,000	-	1,648,000
Programmatic, Outreach and Administrative Functions at Regional Level	-	6,416,000	6,416,000
<b>Subtotal Field Presences</b>	<b>14,573,100</b>	<b>123,262,100</b>	<b>137,835,200</b>
<b>Total HQ + Field Presences</b>	<b>107,560,200</b>	<b>236,579,700</b>	<b>344,139,900</b>
<b>Other Trust Funds</b>			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	-	11,414,500	11,414,500
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	-	592,000	592,000
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	1,265,500	1,265,500
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	-	1,033,400	1,033,400
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	-	968,700	968,700
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the HRC's work	-	450,200	450,200
Special Fund for the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture	-	645,000	645,000
<b>Total Other Trust Funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,369,300</b>	<b>16,369,300</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>107,560,200</b>	<b>252,949,000</b>	<b>360,509,200</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes regular budget allotments for commissions of inquiry.

## Regular allocation and extrabudgetary requirements for 2017 - Headquarters

	Regular budget	Extrabudgetary requirements	Total (planning figures)
<b>Subprogramme 1 - Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>			
Coordination and Management	421,400	1,136,900	1,558,300
Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch	5,124,000	8,524,000	13,648,800
Development, Economic and Social Issues Branch	5,573,500	11,924,900	17,498,400
Human Rights Council Mandates	2,846,500	-	2,846,500
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 1</b>	<b>13,965,400</b>	<b>21,586,500</b>	<b>35,551,900</b>
<b>Subprogramme 2 - Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>			
Coordination and Management	403,900	-	403,900
Human Rights Treaties Branch	14,693,600	8,644,500	23,338,100
Treaty Bodies Webcasting Arrangements	-	510,400	510,400
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 2</b>	<b>15,097,500</b>	<b>9,154,900</b>	<b>24,252,400</b>
<b>Subprogramme 3 - Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation Division</b>			
Coordination and Management	3,091,700	6,173,800	9,265,500
Africa Branch	2,170,800	2,757,500	4,928,300
Americas, Europe and Central Asia Branch	2,591,600	2,677,400	5,269,000
Asia-Pacific, Middle East and North Africa Branch	3,191,400	4,465,700	7,657,100
Human Rights Council Mandates	6,201,000	-	6,201,000
Commissions of Inquiry	1,546,600	-	1,546,600
Investigation Capacity	-	4,981,000	4,981,000
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 3</b>	<b>18,793,200</b>	<b>21,055,500</b>	<b>39,848,700</b>

	Regular budget	Extrabudgetary requirements	Total (planning figures)
<b>Subprogramme 4 - Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>			
Coordination and Management	417,600	1,163,100	1,580,700
Human Rights Council Branch	2,746,100	2,083,000	4,829,100
Universal Periodic Review Branch	4,325,500	2,659,800	6,985,300
HRC and UPR webcasting	-	760,900	760,900
Special Procedures Branch	7,824,700	11,783,500	19,608,200
Special Procedures Branch - Earmarked/Specific funding	-	3,303,400	3,303,400
Human Rights Council Mandates	6,617,500	-	6,617,500
<b>Subtotal subprogramme 4</b>	<b>21,931,400</b>	<b>21,753,700</b>	<b>43,685,100</b>
<b>Executive Direction and Management (EDM) and New York Office</b>			
Polymaking Organs	8,336,300	19,750,400	28,086,700
	9,706,700	-	9,706,700
<b>Other</b>			
Headquarter effectiveness	-	3,509,300	3,509,300
Right Up Front Initiative Action Plan	-	6,424,400	6,424,400
Support to the Programmes	5,156,600	10,083,000	15,239,600
<b>Subtotal Headquarters</b>	<b>92,987,100</b>	<b>113,317,500</b>	<b>206,304,600</b>
<b>Other Trust Funds</b>			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	-	11,414,500	11,414,500
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	-	592,000	592,000
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	1,265,500	1,265,500
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	-	1,033,400	1,033,400
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	-	968,700	968,700
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the HRC's work	-	450,200	450,200
Special Fund for the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture	-	645,000	645,000
<b>Total Other Trust Funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,369,300</b>	<b>16,369,300</b>
<b>Total Headquarters and Trust Funds</b>	<b>92,987,100</b>	<b>129,686,800</b>	<b>222,673,900</b>

## Extrabudgetary requirements for 2017 - Field

### Africa

#### Country Offices

Burundi	7,099,000
Chad	1,960,800
Guinea	3,471,600
Uganda	5,579,700

#### Regional Offices

Central Africa, Yaoundé - Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy	290,900
East Africa, Addis Ababa	2,033,600
Southern Africa, Pretoria	1,029,800
West Africa, Dakar	5,753,900

#### Human Rights Advisers

Chad	627,000
Kenya	871,500
Madagascar	1,206,500
Malawi*	254,300
Mozambique*	260,000
Niger	164,000
Nigeria	462,200
Rwanda	547,500
Sierra Leone*	351,600

#### Human Rights Components in Peace Mission

Central African Republic	596,100
Côte d'Ivoire	39,600
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6,457,800
Guinea-Bissau	86,900
Liberia	91,800
Mali	265,400
Somalia	222,000
South Sudan	118,400
Sudan, Darfur	234,500

#### **Subtotal Africa**

**40,076,300**

### Asia and the Pacific

#### Country Offices

Cambodia	2,454,600
Republic of Korea - Field-based structure	234,500

#### Regional Offices

South-East Asia, Bangkok	3,649,200
- Myanmar - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	1,660,500
Pacific, Suva	1,083,500

#### Human Rights Advisers

Papua New Guinea	1,015,200
Philippines*	309,300
Sri Lanka	648,000
Thailand -Regional Human Rights Adviser Asia-Pacific*	33,900
Timor-Leste*	618,600

#### Human Rights Components in Peace Mission

Afghanistan	404,500
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#### **Subtotal Asia and the Pacific**

**12,111,800**

\* Human Rights Advisers funded by the UNDG Human Rights Working Group

## Americas

### Country Offices

Bolivia	1,766,900
Colombia	13,052,000
Guatemala	5,279,700
Honduras	2,643,300
Mexico	3,188,500

### Regional Offices

Central America, Panama City	498,400
South America, Santiago	612,900

### Human Rights Advisers

Dominican Republic*	227,300
Jamaica *	219,600
Paraguay	617,100

### Human Rights Components in Peace Missions

Haiti	339,700
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### Subtotal Americas

**28,445,400**

## Europe and Central Asia

### Regional Offices

Central Asia, Bishkek	1,399,300
Europe, Brussels	640,400

### Human Rights Advisers

Moldova	694,000
Russian Federation	931,000
Serbia	656,600
Southern Caucasus	759,800

### Human Rights Mission

Ukraine	6,219,200
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### Human Rights Components in Peace Missions

Kosovo <sup>1</sup>	40,100
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### Other

Azerbaijan	439,600
Georgia	332,100

### Subtotal Europe and Central Asia

**12,112,000**

## Middle East and North Africa

### Country Offices

Mauritania	1,418,900
State of Palestine <sup>2</sup>	3,214,500
Tunisia	2,979,700
Yemen	4,393,400

### Regional Offices

Middle East and North Africa, Beirut	4,369,400
South-West Asia and the Arab Region, Doha - Training and Documentation Centre	1,239,400

### Human Rights Components in Peace Missions

Iraq	618,900
Libya	214,700

### Other

Bahrain	47,600
Saudi Arabia	1,603,900
Syria	4,000,200

### Subtotal Middle East and North Africa

**24,100,600**

Programmatic, Outreach and Administrative Functions at regional Level	6,416,000
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## Grand Total HQ + Field Presences

**123,262,100**

\* Human Rights Advisers funded by the UNDG Human Rights Working Group.

<sup>1</sup>Reference to Kosovo shall be understood in full compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

<sup>2</sup>Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with UN General Assembly resolution 67/19.

# Trust Funds



Children participate in the Peace Bell Ceremony at the United Nations in New York, 2007 © UN Photo/Paulo Filgueiras

Voluntary contributions to support OHCHR's activities are channelled and managed through nine United Nations trust funds. In addition, the Office works with two small funds which are not trust funds as per the UN Financial Regulations and Rules (the OP-CAT Special Fund and the Contingency Fund) and multi-donor trust funds. While OHCHR encourages funding to be unearmarked whenever possible, contributions to these Funds must be specifically earmarked to be attributed.

## Funds administered by the UN Human Rights Office

The **UN Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights** was set up in 1993 to supplement regular budget resources. It is the largest fund administered by OHCHR and is used to manage approximately 75 per cent of all extrabudgetary funds (especially unearmarked funds).

The **UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the field of Human Rights** was established in 1987 to support national efforts at building human rights protection frameworks, including strong legal frameworks, effective national human rights institutions, independent judiciaries and vibrant civil society organizations.

OHCHR also administers and manages the **UN Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia** that was established in 1992. The objective of the Fund is to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme in Cambodia to promote the understanding of and respect for human rights.

The **UN Voluntary Fund for Participation in the UPR** mechanism was established in 2008 to facilitate the participation of official repre-

sentatives from developing and least developed countries in the UPR and trainings for the preparation of national reports.

The **UN Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the UPR**, also established in 2008, provides financial and technical support to implement recommendations issued by the UPR during the review process, at the request of and in consultation with the country concerned.

**Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council.** This Fund was established in 2013 through Human Rights Council resolution 19/26 to enhance the institutional and human rights capacity of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States through the provision of targeted training courses, travel assistance for delegates attending Council sessions and fellowship programmes.

OHCHR acts as the Secretariat for three grant-making trust funds that were each established by a General Assembly resolution. These funds provide financial assistance to civil society organizations and individuals working in specific fields of human rights.

The **UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture**, established in 1981, awards grants to organizations working to alleviate the physical and psychological effects of torture on victims and their families. The types of assistance provided by Fund-supported organizations range from psychological, medical and social assistance to legal aid and financial support.

The **UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery**, set up in 1991, distributes small grants to grassroots projects that provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of contemporary forms of slavery. The Fund pri-

marily focuses on projects that assist individuals who are suffering from the most severe forms of human rights violations occurring in the context of contemporary forms of slavery and other forms of exploitation.

The **UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples**, established in 1985, provides indigenous peoples with the opportunity to raise issues faced by their communities at the international level and participate in the development and implementation of international standards and national legislation for the protection of their rights. Funds are distributed in the form of travel grants to enable indigenous peoples to participate in UN meetings and events.

#### **OHCHR Contingency Fund**

A Contingency Fund of US\$1 million was established by the Office to enable it to respond to human rights emergencies in a timely and adequate manner. The revolving Fund is maintained through voluntary contributions for rapid response activities and is used to facilitate, implement or carry out activities within the priorities, overall strategies and policies of the Office, in particular in the context of the establishment of a rapid response capacity. The Fund has greatly increased the capacity of OHCHR headquarters to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations that require a rapid response.

#### **Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture**

The objective of this Fund is to help finance the implementation of recommendations issued by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), following a visit of the Subcommittee to a State Party, as well as education programmes of national preventive mechanisms (NPMs). Recom-

mendations have to be contained in a report made public upon request of the State Party. Applications may be submitted by State Parties and NPMs, by national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles and NGOs, provided that the proposed projects are implemented in cooperation with State Parties or NPMs.

The **Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum**, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights was created by Human Rights Council's decision 24/118 of 27 September 2013. It aims to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders, and to give priority to the participation of local or national-level non-governmental organizations active in relevant fields, with particular attention being paid to participants from Least Developed Countries, in the annual meetings of the three forums. The Special Fund became operational soon after the receipt of the first contributions in 2014.

## Multi-Donor Trust Funds

(not administered by OHCHR)

#### **The UNDG Human Rights Working Group and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund**

This Fund, set up in 2011, provides support to the work of UN agencies and UN Country Teams in mainstreaming human rights and strengthening coherent and coordinated responses to national needs. Over the last decade, there has been significant progress in mainstreaming human rights into the work of the UN system. An increasing number of UN agencies are not only integrating human rights into their internal policies, but are also actively advocating for human rights through their mandated work. The Trust Fund is used to support the placement of hu-



man rights advisers in UN Country Teams.

### **Multi-Donor Trust Fund on Indigenous Peoples**

This Fund was established to advance the goals of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP). The UNIPP promotes the rights of indigenous peoples and supports governments, indigenous peoples and organizations in establishing effective dialogue processes, mechanisms and partnerships aimed at guaranteeing indigenous peoples' rights. The Partnership includes ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and OHCHR. The UNIPP Fund, administered by UNDP, was established in May 2010.

### **Multi-Donor Trust Fund on Disability**

This Fund was established to achieve the objectives of the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). The partnership aims to develop the capacities of national stakeholders, particularly governments and organizations of persons with disabilities, for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The MDTF brings together six UN entities: the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP, UNICEF, ILO, WHO and OHCHR. The Disability Fund, also administered by UNDP, was officially launched in December 2011.

In the newly established Pagarinya 2 camp in Adjumani District, northern Uganda, a group of young South Sudanese refugee children are enjoying the freedom to run and laugh in the sun. They recently crossed the border to escape new outbreaks of violence.

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