

Vacancies for independent United Nations experts of the Human Rights Council, with extensive professional experience in human rights

Those appointed serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of "experts on mission".

Vacancies to be filled from June 2020 to March 2021

The "special procedures" of the Human Rights Council (HRC) are independent human rights experts with mandates to report and advise on human rights from a thematic or country-specific perspective. Their specific functions are defined in the HRC resolutions creating or extending their mandate.

Mandates can either be exercised by a "special rapporteur" or "independent expert" or a "working group" composed of five members, one from each of the five United Nations regional groups (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Western Europe and others). Only nationals of States belonging to the specific regional groups are eligible for the working group appointments. For example, for the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances – member from Asia-Pacific States, only nationals of Asia-Pacific countries may apply. Please refer to the list of [United Nations regional groups of Member States](#). For vacancies in the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), candidates apply for one of the seven indigenous sociocultural regions for which vacancies are advertised (see Council resolution [33/25](#)).

The position of a special procedure mandate holder involves substantial time commitment, approximately three months per year, and includes examining, monitoring, advising and publicly reporting on either specific country situations (country mandates), or on thematic issues in all parts of the world (thematic mandates). Activities of special procedures also include undertaking country visits, acting on individual cases and concerns of a broader, structural nature, conducting studies and engaging in general advocacy activities. All special procedures report annually to the HRC. Most mandate holders also report to the General Assembly. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights provides support to special procedure mandate holders.

→ Apply for current vacancies

- <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/nominations.aspx>

Find out more

- Special procedures: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Welcomepage.aspx>
- Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/ipeoples/emrip/pages/emripindex.aspx>
- Description of the selection process and frequently asked questions: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx>
- United Nations regional groups: <https://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml>
- Human Rights Council: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Home.aspx>
- For queries about the application and selection process, e-mail the secretariat of the Consultative Group: hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org

FORTHCOMING APPOINTMENTS

Note: The mandates for each session are listed alphabetically. EMRIP experts are appointed in the same way as special procedure mandate holders. Additional appointments may need to be added during the cycle in case of unforeseen resignations or if the Human Rights Council creates new special procedure mandates.

Appointments at the 44th session of the Human Rights Council (15 June to 3 July 2020)

1. **Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes** ([HRC resolution 36/15](#))
2. **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression** ([HRC resolution 34/18](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC43*
3. **Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** ([HRC resolution 42/16](#))
4. **Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children** ([HRC resolution 35/5](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC44*

Appointments at the 45th session of the Human Rights Council (14 September to 2 October 2020)

1. **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan** ([HRC resolution 42/35](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC45*
2. **Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation** ([HRC resolution 42/5](#))
3. **Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities** ([HRC resolution 35/6](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC44*
4. **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, member from African States** ([HRC resolution 42/22](#))
5. **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, member from Latin American and Caribbean States** ([HRC resolution 42/22](#))
6. **Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Latin American and Caribbean States** ([HRC resolution 41/6](#))
7. **Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from African States** ([HRC resolution 36/6](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC45*
8. **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, member from Asia-Pacific States** ([HRC resolution 42/9](#))

¹ The appointment of these mandate holders will be made provided the mandates themselves are extended by the Human Rights Council.



**Appointments at the 46th session of the Human Rights Council
(February/March 2021, dates TBD)**

1. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), member from Africa** ([HRC resolution 33/25](#))
2. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), member from North America** ([HRC resolution 33/25](#))
3. **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia** ([HRC resolution 42/37](#))
4. **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, member from African States** ([HRC resolution 36/23](#))¹ – *mandate itself expiring at HRC45*
5. **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, member from Asia-Pacific States** ([HRC resolution 42/22](#))