

Cape Verde

Cape Verde, also known as Cabo Verde, is a Member State of the African Union (AU) and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at both the regional and universal levels.

Regional: African System



Cape Verde has ratified the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter), and its human rights policies and practices are monitored by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), which reviews the State's reports concerning its human rights situation and decides complaints of alleged violations. Cape Verde has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Individuals and groups have not submitted successful complaints of human rights violations committed by Cape Verde to the [African human rights system](#).

Cape Verde has fallen behind in submitting its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR conducted an election observation mission to Cape Verde in [1991](#).

Cape Verde has ratified the following **regional human rights treaties**:

- African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- AU Convention Governing Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa

United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Cape Verde is subject to the oversight of various [UN human rights bodies](#), including the [Human Rights Council](#) and its [Universal Periodic Review](#) and thematic [special procedures](#). As a party to specific universal human rights treaties, Cape Verde's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of two treaty bodies.

Cape Verde has ratified the following **UN human rights treaties**:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)
- International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW)

Cape Verde has ratified the Optional Protocol to CAT; Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aimed at abolishing the death penalty; and optional protocols to the CRC addressing children in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Cape Verde has a duty to submit **State reports** to each UN treaty body that is associated with each treaty it has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis and describe the steps Cape Verde has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Cape Verde has also ratified optional protocols or made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR, ICESCR, and CEDAW. Additionally, certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Cape Verde has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT and CEDAW.

On April 26, 2013, Cape Verde extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups are welcome to conduct visits in Cape Verde. For example, the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing visited Cape Verde in January 2015 and published a [report](#) on that visit in December 2015.

For more information on Cape Verde's engagement with [UN human rights bodies](#), visit <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/countries/AfricaRegion/Pages/CVIndex.aspx>.

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