

# Djibouti

Djibouti is a Member State of the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States (Arab League), and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at both the regional and universal levels.

## Regional: African System and Arab System



Djibouti 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). Djibouti has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. Although Djibouti is a Member of the Arab League, it has not ratified the Arab Charter on Human Rights and is therefore not subject to monitoring by the [Arab Human Rights Committee](#).

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Djibouti to the [African human rights system](#). For example, in *Association pour la defense des droits de l'Homme et des libertés v. Djibouti*, the Commission addressed the armed forces' alleged extra-judicial executions, torture, and rape of individuals belonging to the Afar ethnic group in Djibouti. The Commission closed the case after an amicable settlement between involved parties was reached. See ACommHPR, *Association pour la defense des droits de l'Homme et des libertés v. Djibouti*, Communication No. 133/94, 27<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session, May 11, 2000. Additionally, the Commission has issued [provisional measures](#) to protect people in urgent situations of risk in Djibouti.

Djibouti has fallen behind in its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has conducted a promotional mission to Djibouti in [2000](#) and a mission on the rights of women in [2002](#).

Djibouti 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
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
- AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa

## United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Djibouti 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, Djibouti's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of two treaty bodies.

Djibouti 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)

Djibouti submitted, but later withdrew, a reservation that modified its obligations under the [CRC](#).

Djibouti has also ratified the 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. Djibouti has a duty to submit **State reports** to each UN treaty body that is associated with the relevant treaty Djibouti has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Djibouti has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Djibouti has ratified [optional protocols](#) allowing individuals to submit complaints against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR and CRPD. Additionally, certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Djibouti has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT and CRPD.

Djibouti has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Djibouti to conduct a visit within the State.

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

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