

Egypt

Egypt 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



Egypt 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). Egypt has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. Although Egypt 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 Egypt to the [African human rights system](#). For example, in *Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights and INTERIGHTS v. Egypt*, the Commission held that

Egypt violated the Charter with regard to the detention, torture, denial of access to a fair trial, and sentencing to death of individuals who were accused of orchestrating a series of bombings. See ACommHPR, [Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights and INTERIGHTS v. Egypt](#), Communication No. 334/06, 9th Ordinary Session, February 23 to March 3, 2011.

Egypt has fallen behind in submitting its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country.

Egypt 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

United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Egypt 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, Egypt's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has not accepted the complaints procedure of any treaty bodies.

Egypt 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 on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)

Egypt has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: [ICCPR](#), [ICESCR](#), [CRPD](#), [CERD](#), and [CMW](#). It withdrew reservations to [CEDAW](#) and [CRC](#).

Egypt has ratified the optional protocols to the CRC addressing children in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Egypt has a duty to submit **State reports** to the UN treaty body associated with each treaty Egypt has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Egypt has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Egypt has not ratified **optional protocols** nor made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of any treaties. Additionally, certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Egypt has accepted the inquiry procedure of the CAT.

Egypt has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Egypt to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children conducted a mission to Egypt in April 2010, and published a [report](#) in April 2011.

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

Last updated: September 15, 2017