

Equatorial Guinea

Equatorial Guinea 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



Equatorial Guinea 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. Equatorial Guinea has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Equatorial Guinea to the [African human rights system](#). For example, the ACHPR received a complaint concerning the conviction and imprisonment of an individual who was denied

access to legal counsel while on trial for charges of insulting the president and attempting to overthrow the government. However, the ACHPR cited insufficient evidence and found it could not establish clearly that the African Charter had been violated in this case. See ACommHPR, [Courson v. Equatorial Guinea](#), Communication No. 144/95, 22nd Ordinary Session, 22 November 1997.

Equatorial Guinea has not submitted any [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has not conducted any [missions](#) to Equatorial Guinea.

Equatorial Guinea 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, Equatorial Guinea 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, Equatorial Guinea's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of two treaty bodies.

Equatorial Guinea 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 the Child (CRC)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

Equatorial Guinea has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: [CERD](#) and [CAT](#).

Equatorial Guinea has ratified the Optional Protocol to the CRC addressing the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Equatorial Guinea has a duty to submit **State reports** to each UN treaty body that is associated with the treaties it has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis and describe the steps Equatorial Guinea has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Equatorial Guinea has also ratified [the optional protocols](#) allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR 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. Equatorial Guinea has accepted the inquiry procedures of CAT and CEDAW.

Equatorial Guinea has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Equatorial Guinea to conduct visits in the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment conducted a mission to Equatorial Guinea in November 2008 and published a [report](#) on that visit in January 2009.

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

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