

# Mali

Mali 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



Mali 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. Additionally, Mali has accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights to hear complaints presented by the Commission, African intergovernmental organizations, and States parties to the African Charter. Mali has also declared that individuals and non-governmental organizations may submit complaints to the Court.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Mali through the [African human rights system](#). For example, the Court declared inadmissible a complaint alleging that local police had failed to adequately investigate a crime committed against the applicants, because they had failed to exhaust domestic remedies. See AfCHPR, [Diakit  Couple v. Mali](#), App. No. 009/2016, Judgment of 28 September 2017.

Mali submitted [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has conducted several missions to Mali, including a fact-finding mission in [2013](#), a promotion mission in [2004](#), and two missions on prisons and conditions of detention in [1998](#) and [1997](#).

Mali 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 Establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
- 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, Mali 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, Mali's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). Mali has accepted the complaints procedure of four treaty bodies. In 2013, the Human Rights Council established the [Independent Expert](#) on the situation of human rights in Mali, whose mandate is monitor and report on human rights conditions in the country.

Mali 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)
- Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED)
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)

Mali has submitted a declaration that modifies its obligations under the [CRC](#).

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

Mali has ratified [optional protocols](#) or made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR, CED, CEDAW, 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. Mali has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT, CED, CEDAW, and CRPD.

Mali has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Mali to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali conducted a mission to Mali in October 2015, and published a [report](#) in January 2016.

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

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