Morocco

Morocco 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 the universal level.

Regional: African System and Arab System

Morocco rejoined the AU in January 2017, but has not yet ratified the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights (African Charter). Therefore, the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR) does not have jurisdiction to monitor its human rights policies and practices or receive complaints against it. Morocco has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights.

Although Morocco is a Member State of the Arab League, it has not ratified the Arab Charter on Human Rights. Therefore, the Arab Human Rights Committee does not monitor its human rights policies and practices.
United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Morocco 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, Morocco’s policies and practices are monitored by UN treaty bodies. It has accepted the complaints procedure of three treaty bodies.

Morocco 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)
- Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED)
- 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)

Morocco has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: CAT, CEDAW, CRC, CED, CERD, CMW.

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

Morocco has ratified optional protocols or made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit complaints against the State alleging violations of the CAT, CRPD, and CERD. Additionally, certain UN treaties include inquiry procedures, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Morocco has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT, CED, and CRPD.

Morocco has not extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Morocco to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention went on a mission to Morocco in December 2013, and published a report in August 2014.

For more information on Morocco’s engagement with UN human rights bodies, visit http://www.ohchr.org/EN/countries/MENARegion/Pages/MAIndex.aspx.

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