

Senegal

Senegal 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



Senegal 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, Senegal 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.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Senegal through the [African human rights system](#). For example, the Commission found inadmissible a complaint concerning the arrest and detention of the Secretary General of the National Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Senegal and other union members, because the complainant had not exhausted domestic remedies. See ACommHPR, [Union Nationale des Syndicats Autonomes du Sénégal \(UNSA\) v. Senegal](#), Communication No. 226/99, 28th Ordinary Session, 6 November 2000. The Court found it lacked jurisdiction to decide a complaint concerning the criminal proceedings against Hissain Habré, the former Head of State of Chad, who had asylum in Senega, because Senegal had not authorized individual complaints against it. See AfCHPR, [Michelot Yogogombaye v. Senegal](#), App. No. 001/08, Judgment of 15 December 2009.

Senegal has fallen behind in submitting its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has conducted promotion missions to Senegal in [1996](#) and [2002](#).

Senegal 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

United Nations System

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

Senegal 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)

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

Senegal has also ratified **optional protocols** and made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR, CEDAW, CAT, 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. Senegal has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT, CED, and CEDAW.

Senegal has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Senegal to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants visited Senegal in August 2009, and published a [report](#) in February 2011.

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

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