South Sudan

South Sudan is a Member State of the African Union (AU) and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at the regional and universal levels.

Regional: African System

South Sudan 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. South Sudan has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights.

Individuals and groups may submit complaints of human rights violations committed by South Sudan to the African human rights system. The Commission has not decided any complaints concerning South Sudan.

South Sudan has not submitted any periodic reports to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has not conducted any missions to South Sudan.

South Sudan has ratified the following regional human rights treaties:

- African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights
- AU Convention Governing Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa
United Nations System

As a UN Member State, South Sudan 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, South Sudan's policies and practices are monitored by UN treaty bodies. It has accepted the complaints procedure of one of the treaty bodies.

South Sudan has ratified the following UN human rights treaties:

- 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)

South Sudan has also ratified the Optional Protocol to the CAT. South Sudan has a duty to submit State reports to the UN treaty body associated with each treaty South Sudan has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps South Sudan has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

South Sudan has ratified the Optional Protocol allowing individuals to submit complaints against the State alleging violations of the CEDAW. Additionally, certain UN treaties include inquiry procedures, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. South Sudan has accepted the inquiry procedure of the CAT.

South Sudan has not extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups must seek specific invitations from South Sudan to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on human rights of internally displaced people conducted a mission to South Sudan in November 2013, and published a report in May 2014.

For more information on South Sudan’s engagement with UN human rights bodies, visit http://www.ohchr.org/EN/countries/AfricaRegion/Pages/SSIndex.aspx.

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