

Tunisia

Tunisia 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 both the regional and universal levels.

Regional: African System and Arab System



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

Although Tunisia is a Member of the Arab League, it has not ratified the Arab Charter on Human Rights and is therefore not subject to monitoring by the Arab Human Rights Committee.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Tunisia to the [African human rights system](#). For example, in *Amnesty International v. Tunisia*, the Commission received a complaint concerning wrongful detention and torture, but found it did not have jurisdiction over the case because the complaint had already been settled by another international body. See ACommHPR, [Amnesty International v. Tunisia](#), Communication No. 69/92, 13th Ordinary Session, 7 April 1993.

In *Baghdadi Ali Mahmoudi v. Tunisia*, the Court deemed inadmissible a request for interim measures against Tunisia in the case of Baghdadi Ali Mahmoudi, the former Libyan prime minister under the dictator Muammar Gaddafi, due to a lack of jurisdiction. See AfCHPR, [Baghdadi Ali Mahmoudi v. Tunisia](#), App. No. 007/12, Judgment of June 26, 2012.

Tunisia has fallen behind in its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has not conducted any [missions](#) to Tunisia.

Tunisia 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
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights



United Nations System

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

Tunisia 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)

Tunisia has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: [CEDAW](#) and [CRC](#).

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

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

On February 28, 2011, Tunisia extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups are welcome to conduct visits in Tunisia. For example, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants visited Tunisia in June 2012, and published a [report](#) in May 2013.

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

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