

Uganda

Uganda 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



Uganda 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, Uganda 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 Uganda to the [African human rights system](#). For example, the Commission addressed the embargo that Uganda and other States had imposed on Burundi after the overthrow of Burundi's democratically elected government and the installation of a retired military ruler, Major Pierre Buyoya. See ACommHPR, *Association pour la sauvegarde de la paix au Burundi v. Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zaire (DRC), Zambia*, Communication No. 157/96, 33rd Ordinary Session, 29 May 2003.

Uganda has fallen behind in submitting its [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has conducted several missions to Uganda, including a promotional mission in [2013](#) and a mission on indigenous populations in [2006](#).

Uganda 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, Uganda 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, Uganda's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of two treaty bodies.

Uganda 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)
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)

Uganda has submitted a reservation that modifies its obligations under the [CMW](#).

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

Uganda has also ratified [optional protocols](#) allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR 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. Uganda has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT and CRPD.

Uganda has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that special rapporteurs and working groups must seek specific invitations from Uganda to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on the right to health conducted a mission in February 2007, and published a [report](#) in March 2008.

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

Last updated: September 15, 2017