Argentina is a Member State of the Organization of American States (OAS) and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at both the regional and universal levels.

### Regional: Inter-American System

As a Member of the OAS, Argentina is held to the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and its human rights policies and practices are monitored by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The Commission may decide complaints against the State and may also hold hearings or issue reports on the human rights situation there. Argentina has accepted the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which may issue judgments concerning alleged abuses.

Individuals and groups have submitted a variety of complaints against Argentina to the Inter-American human rights system, including with regard to human rights violations that occurred during the rule of military juntas from 1976 to 1983, which resulted in thousands of deaths, disappearances, prolonged and arbitrary arrests, unfair trials, pervasive torture, and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment. For example, the Commission determined that presidential pardons and laws protecting those suspected of these abuses violated the American Convention on Human Rights. See IACHR, Report No. 28/92, Case 10.147, Alicia Consuelo Herrera et al. (Argentina), October 2, 1992. Other measures taken to address these violations have included a report Nunca Más (“Never Again”) by the National Commission on Disappeared Persons (CONADEP), domestic prosecutions, and reparations to victims in accordance with guidelines approved by the IACHR.

Additionally, the Commission and Court have issued precautionary measures and provisional measures to protect people in urgent situations of risk in Argentina.

Argentina has ratified the following regional human rights treaties:

- American Convention on Human Rights
- Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities
- Inter-American Convention on the Forced Disappearance of Persons
- Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (“Convention of Belem do Pará”)
- Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture
- Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Rights of Older Persons
United Nations System

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

Argentina 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)

Argentina has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: ICCPR, CMW, CEDAW, and CRC.

Argentina has also ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aimed at abolishing the death penalty, and optional protocols to the CRC addressing children in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Argentina has a duty to submit State reports to each UN treaty body associated with the treaties Argentina has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Argentina has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

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

On December 3, 2002, Argentina extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups are welcome to conduct visits in Argentina. For example, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples went on a mission in 2011 and published a report in July 2012.

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

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