

# Dominica

Dominica 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, Dominica 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. Dominica has not accepted the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

Individuals and groups may submit complaints of human rights violations committed by Dominica to the [Inter-American human rights system](#).

Dominica has ratified the following **regional human rights treaties**:

- American Convention on Human Rights
- Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (“Convention of Belem do Pará”)

## United Nations System

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

Dominica 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 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)

Dominica has not submitted any reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the UN human rights treaties.

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

Dominica has also ratified the [Optional Protocol](#) allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the CRPD. Additionally, certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Dominica has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CRPD.

On December 9, 2009, Dominica extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups are welcome to conduct visits in Dominica.

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

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