Saint Lucia

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

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Saint Lucia to the Inter-American human rights system, but the Commission has not yet issued decisions regarding these complaints.

Saint Lucia has ratified the following regional human rights treaties:

- 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, Saint Lucia 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, Saint Lucia’s policies and practices are monitored by UN treaty bodies. It has not accepted the complaints procedure of any treaty bodies.

Saint Lucia has ratified the following UN human rights treaties:

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

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

Saint Lucia has not ratified any optional protocols or made any declarations allowing individuals to submit complaints against the State alleging violations of UN human rights treaties. While certain UN treaties include inquiry procedures, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations, Saint Lucia has not accepted any inquiry procedures.

Saint Lucia has not extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means they must seek specific invitations from Saint Lucia to conduct a visit within the State. No special procedure mandate holders have carried out a formal visit to Saint Lucia yet.

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

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