

# St. Vincent and the Grenadines

St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) 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, SVG 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. SVG 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 SVG to the [Inter-American human rights system](#). The Commission has not yet published any decisions regarding complaints against SVG.

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

SVG 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)

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

SVG has ratified the [optional protocol](#) and made the declaration 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. SVG has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT and CRPD.

SVG has not extended a [standing invitation](#) to UN special procedures, which means they must seek specific invitations from SVG to conduct a visit within the state. For example, the Special Rapporteur on cultural rights went on a mission to SVG in November 2012 and published a [report](#) in April 2013.

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

*Last updated: February 15, 2018*