

Suriname

Suriname 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, Suriname 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. Suriname has accepted the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which may issue binding [judgments](#) concerning alleged abuses.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Suriname to the [Inter-American human rights system](#). For example, the Commission declared Suriname had violated multiple

rights when Edward Darmburg was tortured and extrajudicially killed by members of the Army of Suriname. See IACHR, Report No. 19/89, Case 10.117. [Edward M. Darmburg](#) (Suriname), September 27, 1989. In *Gangaram-Panday v. Suriname*, the Court found that an illegal detention by the Military Police violated Gangaram Panday's right to personal liberty. See I/A Court H.R., [Gangaram Panday v. Suriname](#). Merits, Reparations, and Costs. Judgment of January 21, 1994. Series C No. 16.

Additionally, the Commission has issued [precautionary measures](#) to protect people in urgent situations of risk in Suriname.

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

- American Convention on Human Rights
- Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights ("Protocol of San Salvador")
- 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, Suriname 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, Suriname's policies and practices are monitored by UN [treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of one treaty body.

Suriname 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 the Child (CRC)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Suriname has submitted a reservation, declaration or understanding that modifies its obligations under the following treaties: [ICCPR and CRPD](#).

Suriname has ratified the Optional Protocol to the CRC addressing the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Suriname has a duty to submit **State reports** to each UN treaty body associated with the treaties Suriname has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Suriname has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Suriname has also ratified the [Optional Protocol](#) allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR. While certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations, Suriname has not accepted any inquiry procedures.

Suriname has not extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means they must seek specific invitations from Suriname to conduct a visit within the State. For example, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples went on a mission to Suriname in March 2011 and published a [report](#) in August 2011.

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

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