



International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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Human Rights Committee 144th session

Summary record of the 4260th meeting*

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Thursday, 17 July 2025, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Soh

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Closure of the session

* No summary records were issued for the 4246th to 4259th meetings.

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

Closure of the session

1. **The Chair** said that, during its 144th session, the Committee had considered the reports of seven States Parties, namely Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Latvia, North Macedonia, Spain and Viet Nam, and had adopted concluding observations thereon, in which it had noted positive developments, identified areas of concern and made recommendations. It had also adopted nine lists of issues prior to reporting, concerning Argentina, Australia, the Bahamas, Denmark, Ghana, Liechtenstein, Morocco, Sweden and Switzerland, and a report on follow-up to concluding observations.

2. The Committee had considered 22 draft recommendations relating to 51 individual communications, including 1 draft recommendation that had been prepared in line with the simplified format adopted at its 140th session. It had decided to postpone the consideration of one draft recommendation. It had considered 26 cases on the merits, had declared 12 cases inadmissible and had decided to discontinue its consideration of 13 cases. Violations of the Covenant had been found in 25 of the cases that had been decided on the merits. Since the beginning of 2025, the Committee had considered a total of 117 cases.

3. The Committee's 145th session, which had been due to take place in October 2025, had been postponed on account of the financial crisis facing the United Nations and would be held from 2 to 19 March 2026. The Committee deeply regretted the postponement, which would delay its work, to the great detriment of the people of the States Parties whose reports were pending review and the victims of the individual communications that were awaiting consideration. The decision to postpone a session was unprecedented in the Committee's history and had led the Committee to call an emergency meeting with the States Parties during its 144th session. It was grateful to the 60 States Parties that had responded to its invitation at short notice and particularly to those that had committed to finding solutions that would enable it to fulfil its mandate in the face of global pushback on human rights. The Committee wished to stress that the postponement of sessions must not become a standard response to financial shortages.

4. At its 145th session, the Committee would consider reports submitted by Andorra, Canada, Chad, the Republic of Moldova and Slovakia, as well as lists of issues prior to reporting concerning Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mexico and Senegal and a list of issues concerning Rwanda. It would also consider a number of draft recommendations relating to individual communications submitted under the first Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

5. **Mr. Teraya** said that the session had been held against the backdrop of the liquidity crisis and the broader crisis of multilateralism. Despite the circumstances, the Committee remained a standing body and the wider human rights ecosystem of which it was a part would not come to a halt. The Committee would continue to bear an important moral responsibility.

6. **Ms. Donders** said that the postponement of the Committee's 145th session was truly regrettable and would have a negative impact on people around the world, especially victims of human rights violations.

7. **Mr. Quezada Cabrera** said he hoped that, despite the financial situation, there would be no further disruptions to the work of the human rights treaty bodies and the Committee would be able to hold its 145th session in March 2026 as planned.

8. **Mr. Yigezu**, noting that the postponement of the Committee's 145th session would lead to an increase in backlogs, said that he urged the States Parties to seek solutions to the crisis to ensure that the Committee could hold three full sessions in 2026.

9. **Mr. Ndiaye** said that he wished to emphasize the importance of the pre-sessional Working Group on Communications, which had continued to advance with its work in the face of significant constraints. Steps should be taken to foster greater awareness and appreciation of the Committee's work, including through the events that would be organized to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenant by the General Assembly.

10. After the customary exchange of courtesies, **the Chair** declared the 144th session of the Human Rights Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.