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**Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other
elections: election of members of the Human Rights Council**

Note verbale dated 29 September 2025 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ecuador to the United Nations has the honour to inform that the Republic of Ecuador has submitted its candidature to the United Nations Human Rights Council for the term 2026–2028, within the framework of the elections to be held during the eightieth session of the General Assembly in October 2025, based on its historical position of defending and promoting human rights.

The candidature of Ecuador has been presented under the firm conviction that it can contribute to strengthening multilateralism, consolidating international dialogue and cooperation, and promoting a more just and equitable international order in which human rights occupy a central place.

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador is pleased to transmit herewith its voluntary pledges and commitments in support of its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the period 2026–2028 (see annex), and would be grateful if the present note verbale and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 114 (c).



Annex to the note verbale dated 29 September 2025 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Spanish]

Candidature of Ecuador to the Human Rights Council, 2026–2028

Voluntary pledges and commitments pursuant to General Assembly resolution [60/251](#)

1. The Republic of Ecuador has submitted its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the period 2026–2028, the elections for which will be held during the eightieth session of the General Assembly in October 2025, on the basis of its long-standing commitment to defending and protecting human rights.
2. Ecuador has submitted its candidature with the firm belief that it can contribute to the strengthening of multilateralism, the consolidation of international dialogue and cooperation, and the promotion of a more just and equitable international order with human rights at its core.
3. If elected, Ecuador reaffirms its willingness to work constructively, transparently and in solidarity with all Member States, international human rights bodies and mechanisms, civil society and other relevant actors, leaving no one behind.

I. Commitment of Ecuador and promotion of human rights

4. Ecuador places support for multilateralism at the heart of its foreign policy, with the aim of promoting cooperation and collaboration among countries in order to address global challenges and achieve common objectives, on the basis of shared principles, purposes and interests, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.
5. Ecuador is committed to upholding human rights. This long-standing position is a hallmark of the foreign policy of Ecuador, whose Constitution contains provisions for the monitoring and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
6. Ecuador will continue to defend the existence of democratic principles and values, as well as the need to take into consideration the relationship between peace and security, sustainable development and human rights, reiterating that there can be no peace without development and no development without respect for human rights.
7. In 1948, Ecuador voted for the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and has since maintained its commitment to the principles thereof. In 1994, following the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, a diplomat from Ecuador was appointed as the first United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, marking a new milestone in the institutional consolidation of the universal human rights system and a recognition of the long-standing commitment of Ecuador to the respect, promotion and protection of human rights.
8. In September 2018, Ecuador became the fifth country in the world to ratify the 18 United Nations conventions on the protection of human rights. In addition, Ecuador has acceded to and ratified the 27 legally binding international instruments that the Treaty Section of the United Nations classifies as human rights instruments.
9. Ecuador supported the establishment of the Human Rights Council in 2006 and has since contributed to its strengthening. Ecuador has held a seat on the Council for three terms (2006–2007, 2010–2013 and 2016–2018). When participating as an observer, Ecuador has acted with a strong sense of responsibility, promoting dialogue and cooperation among countries, regional groups and other relevant actors.

10. Ecuador consistently participates in all mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and engages closely and transparently in response to requests from special procedure mandate holders, whom it invited to visit the country in 2003.

11. Ecuador fulfils its commitment to the United Nations treaty bodies by preparing all its reports using its human rights information system (SIDERECHOS). In addition, it supports the implementation of the recommendations of human rights treaty body committees at the national level.

12. Whether as a member or as an observer at the Human Rights Council, Ecuador has led or contributed significantly to the development and adoption of key global and regional human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement).

13. Ecuador is now the first State to have acceded to and ratified the 27 international instruments that the United Nations classifies as human rights instruments, including the nine core international human rights conventions in the universal system and their nine additional protocols. This milestone reaffirms the position of Ecuador as a point of reference in the universality of international legal commitments and the country's political will to fully assume its international obligations in this area.

14. Ecuador has also initiated or supported various resolutions, working groups and other initiatives that are now part of the consolidated agenda of the Human Rights Council, including: (a) its efforts to promote the rights of people on the move as a priority on the global agenda; (b) respecting, protecting and guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples and migrants; (c) the nexus between anti-corruption efforts and human rights; (d) the relationship between human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (e) the relationship between arms and human rights, particularly with regard to international arms transfers and the use of firearms by civilians; (f) the inclusion of the rights of older persons in international debates; (g) the elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights; (h) gender equality; and (i) the recognition and full exercise of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

II. Voluntary pledges and commitments of Ecuador for its term

15. Ecuador recognizes the important role of the Human Rights Council as an autonomous intergovernmental body and underscores the Council's work in activities relating to human rights situations worldwide. Its pledges and commitments are therefore as follows:

- To strengthen the Human Rights Council as the central body of the universal human rights system, prioritizing dialogue, consensus, cooperation and prevention, and acting objectively, impartially and without politicization.
- To participate actively in all regular and special meetings of the Council, with a view to contributing constructively through results-oriented initiatives that strengthen its mandate.
- To continue to acknowledge the universal periodic review as a mechanism for compliance and for the assessment of the status of human rights in all countries.

- To promote debates and discussions on human rights, seven decades since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with a special focus on raising awareness of the need to respect and protect human beings on an equal basis.
- To continue to foster active engagement with the main topics of interest on the agenda of the Human Rights Council and with the relevant international instruments, in order to keep pace with global demands, ensure the fulfilment of human rights, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and address the challenges that may arise, with a commitment to leaving no one behind.
- To promote the human rights of all persons in vulnerable situations, persons with disabilities, Indigenous People and people of African descendant, children, adolescents and persons on the move, with a view to eliminating discrimination of any kind.
- To promote compliance with international instruments on gender equality aimed at ensuring real equality and a life free from violence through the adoption of measures to prevent, eradicate, prosecute and punish domestic and gender-based violence by taking an institutional and cross-cutting approach to plans and programmes for the elimination of violence against women and girls.
- To support the work of the United Nations human rights mechanisms and special procedures.
- To promote multilateral and bilateral international cooperation as an effective tool and strategy to increase the willingness of States to make progress towards the full enjoyment and protection of human rights.
- To reaffirm the engagement of Ecuador with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the regional offices in the investigation, dissemination, exchange of best practices and response to complaints submitted to the relevant mechanisms and special procedures concerning possible human rights violations.
- To contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is aimed at eradicating poverty in all its forms, combating inequality, preserving the planet, promoting sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion.
- To continue to promote the universalization of international human rights treaties by encouraging States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying those treaties as soon as possible and by supporting technical cooperation initiatives that facilitate the effective implementation of the treaties.
- To support the development of new international instruments in order to bridge protection gaps, particularly in relation to the rights of older persons, business and human rights, transnational organized crime, artificial intelligence and other areas, and to participate constructively in intergovernmental processes to that end.
- To promote the complementarity of the universal human rights system and the inter-American human rights system, including through institutional support for the independence of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- To reaffirm the importance of redoubling efforts to combat corruption and crime as an essential condition for ensuring the full enjoyment of the human rights of all persons.

- To support initiatives aimed at eliminating all forms of discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, and promoting substantive gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all spheres.
- To promote the full integration of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment into the Council's agenda, contribute to its universal recognition and support concrete measures to address climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
- To foster discussions on the challenges posed by emerging digital technologies, in particular artificial intelligence, noting that they must be developed in an appropriate manner and following a human rights-based approach.
- To engage constructively in the ongoing intergovernmental processes of the Human Rights Council, including those related to the relationship between business and human rights, ensuring that those processes are inclusive, transparent and based on dialogue with all relevant stakeholders.
- To continue to contribute to discussions on the relationship between arms and human rights, particularly with regard to international arms transfers and the use of firearms by civilians, with an emphasis on their impact on personal safety and the full enjoyment of human rights.

16. Ecuador is proud to present its candidature to the Human Rights Council and reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights at the global and national levels. Ecuador has a long-standing tradition of defending human dignity and social justice and has worked tirelessly to uphold the fundamental rights of all its citizens.

17. The candidature of Ecuador is based on the belief that human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent, and that they must be protected in order to achieve peace, security and sustainable development.

18. Through its active participation in international forums and its cooperation with multilateral organizations, Ecuador seeks to strengthen the United Nations human rights system and contribute to the building of a more just and equitable world for all.

19. Through this candidature, Ecuador reaffirms its commitment to working with the international community to address current challenges and to promote a culture of respect for human rights.