

# UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: DISSIDENTS IMPRISONED AND MIGRANTS RACIALLY TARGETED

## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL: SUBMISSION TO THE 43RD SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP, 1–12 MAY 2023

### SUMMARY

This submission was prepared for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in August–September 2022. In it, Amnesty International lays out human rights violations and concerns that it has documented in the UAE since the conclusion of its last UPR in June 2018, and evaluates the implementation of recommendations made to the UAE in the previous UPR.

With regard to the human rights situation on the ground, Amnesty International raises concern about, in particular, the ongoing imprisonment and arbitrary detention of human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience, the racist mass deportation of hundreds of African nationals in summer 2021, continuing cases of torture and ill-treatment of detainees, and the presence of a large stateless population born in the UAE who are denied the right to a nationality and are excluded from the access to state-funded education and healthcare that is provided to Emirati nationals. The submission ends with a set of recommendations to the UAE which, if implemented, would contribute to improving the human rights situation.

## FOLLOW UP TO THE PREVIOUS REVIEW

1. Many of the recommendations from the previous UPR called for the UAE to guarantee freedom of expression and to allow human rights defenders to pursue their work without fear or intimidation.<sup>1</sup> No progress has been made in these areas, as legal reforms that raised an opportunity to eliminate restrictions on freedom of expression, such as the adoption of a new criminal code in 2021, were instead used to maintain and consolidate restrictions on criticism of the country's rulers and authorities, and Emirati human rights defenders remain imprisoned.
2. The previous UPR round on the UAE did not include any recommendations explicitly mentioning the stateless population of the UAE, which is sizeable and includes many people born and raised in the country. Amnesty International hopes to see greater international awareness of and concern for this marginalized group during the current UPR, and here offers information and recommendations to that end.

## THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK

3. The UAE is not a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights or to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Its national laws do not protect the majority of civil and political rights and provide discretionary protection of economic rights only to nationals.

### Children and the right to nationality

4. The UAE is a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but has entered a reservation to Article 7 which says that every child has “the right to acquire a nationality (...) in particular where the child would otherwise be stateless”, stating that “The United Arab Emirates is of the view that the acquisition of nationality is an internal matter.”<sup>2</sup>

### Women, equality and the right to transmit nationality to children

5. The UAE is a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women but maintains reservations that the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has found “are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention”.<sup>3</sup>
6. Another reservation states that the government “does not consider itself bound” by Article 15(2) on women’s legal equality under civil law because it is “in conflict with the precepts of the Shariah.”<sup>4</sup> The September 2020 reform of the Personal Status Law applies only to non-Emirati non-Muslim women.<sup>5</sup>
7. Emirati law still discriminates against women in the transmission of Emirati nationality to their children.<sup>6</sup>

### Race and eligibility for nationality

8. The UAE’s nationality law is discriminatory based on race, providing original nationality only for Arabs and providing more favourable conditions for acquisition of nationality for Arabs than for other racial or ethnic groups.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Report: United Arab Emirates, 18 April 2018, UN Doc. A/HRC/38/14. Please see Annex 2 below for recommendations from this previous review cycle with Amnesty International’s comments on implementation.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Treaty Collection, “Convention on the Rights of the Child”, [treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=IV-11&chapter=4&clang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&clang=en) (accessed 22 August 2022).

<sup>3</sup> UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Concluding observations: United Arab Emirates, 4 July 2022, UN Doc. CEDAW/C/ARE/CO/4, para. 11.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Treaty Collection, “Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women”, [treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=en) (accessed 5 October 2022).

<sup>5</sup> UAE, القانون الاتحادي رقم (28) لسنة 2005 في شأن الأحوال الشخصية, Article 1.2 (as amended on 27 September 2020).

<sup>6</sup> UAE, مرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم 16 لسنة 2017م في شأن تعديل بعض أحكام القانون الاتحادي رقم (17) لسنة 1972م في شأن الجنسية وجوازات السفر, Article 10 bis, para. 1.

<sup>7</sup> UAE, قانون اتحادي رقم 17 لسنة 1972 في شأن الجنسية وجوازات السفر, Articles 2.1, 5, 6 (as amended on 15 November 1975), Articles 7, 8.

## Refugees

9. The UAE does not have any legal framework recognizing the rights of refugees to seek asylum, or the prohibition on forcible return (refoulement) of an individual to a country where s/he would be at risk of persecution or other serious human rights violations. The UAE is not a party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol.
10. Under the latest revisions to its domestic immigration law, issued in July 2022, there is still no legal recognition of the concepts of asylum or refugee status.<sup>8</sup> Instead, there is only a category of entry visa and residence permit for “humanitarian cases” that is governed by executive discretion, without any legal standards to which applicants and de facto refugees can appeal to uphold their rights.<sup>9</sup>

## Sexual rights

11. The UAE adopted a completely new Code on Crimes and Punishments in 2021, which replaced the entirety of the 1987 Penal Code when it went into effect on 2 January 2022.<sup>10</sup> Under Article 409, the new code reinstated the long-standing criminalization of consensual same-sex and extramarital sex between adults that had been briefly decriminalized in 2020.<sup>11</sup> The new Article 409 imposes a prison sentence of six months to three years on both parties to a sexual act in which “[a]nyone ... fornicates with a woman or commits sodomy with a man ... by consent”.<sup>12</sup> Unlike the previous law criminalizing consensual sex, the new law dictates that prosecutions for such acts can only be initiated “on the basis of a complaint by a husband or male guardian”.<sup>13</sup>
12. A number of other provisions of the new Code on Crimes and Punishments are vague and overly broad in ways that raise concerns that they may be used to prosecute consensual sexual acts between adults. Article 407, for example, authorizes a prison sentence of up to three years for anyone who “violates another’s honour, whether man or woman”.<sup>14</sup>

## Access for independent human rights observers

13. Although it extended an invitation to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education in 2018, the UAE has otherwise not accepted proposed visits by any of the UN special procedures on human rights. In particular, it has not accepted proposed visits by any special procedures mandate concerning civil and political rights since 2014, when a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers resulted in a critical report.<sup>15</sup>

## National Human Rights Institution

14. The UAE has established a National Human Rights Institution. However, information about it is conflicting and non-transparent, and over one and a half years after it was announced, it still does not appear to have a physical office and has not established a mechanism to receive complaints. In December 2020, the UAE announced that it had “approved the formation of the National Human Rights Authority”, which would “follow the Paris Principles” and act to “protect human rights”.<sup>16</sup> However, the law establishing the National Human Rights Institution was not actually issued until May 2021.<sup>17</sup> At the end of August 2022, the Institution’s website still did not offer either an online complaint mechanism, a telephone number or a physical address.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>8</sup> UAE, Cabinet Decision No. 65 of 2022 (previously cited), Articles 34-9, 46-9.  
<sup>9</sup> UAE, Cabinet Decision No. 65 of 2022 (previously cited), Articles 34-9, 46-9.

<sup>10</sup> UAE, Code of Crimes and Punishments (previously cited), Article 409, para. 1 and Article 70, para. 2.

<sup>11</sup> UAE, Code of Crimes and Punishments (previously cited), Article 409, para. 2. The Arabic wording is “بناءً على شكوى من الزوج أو الولي”.

<sup>12</sup> UAE, Code of Crimes and Punishments (previously cited), Article 407, para. 1 and Article 70, para. 2.

<sup>13</sup> UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, View Country visits of the Human Rights Council since 1998, [spinternet.ohchr.org/ViewCountryVisits.aspx?visitType=all&Lang=en](https://spinternet.ohchr.org/ViewCountryVisits.aspx?visitType=all&Lang=en) (accessed 24 August 2022); UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Report: *Mission to the United Arab Emirates*, 5 May 2015, UN Doc. A/HRC/29/26/Add.2.

<sup>14</sup> Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Washington, DC, “Human Rights”, [uae-embassy.org/discover-uae/society/human-rights](https://uae-embassy.org/discover-uae/society/human-rights) (accessed on 25 August 2022).

<sup>15</sup> UAE, Code of Crimes and Punishments (previously cited), Article 409, para. 2.

<sup>16</sup> National Human Rights Institution, UAE, “قريباً”, under “تواصل معنا” link, [nhriuae.com/ar/coming-soon](https://nhriuae.com/ar/coming-soon) (accessed on 29 August 2022); National Human Rights Institution, UAE, “Coming Soon,” under “Contact Us” link, [nhriuae.com/en/coming-soon](https://nhriuae.com/en/coming-soon) (accessed 29 August 2022).

## THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION ON THE GROUND

### Continuing imprisonment of human rights defenders

15. The UAE continues to hold Emirati human rights defenders Mohamed al-Mansoori, Mohamed al-Roken and Ahmed Mansoor in prison. Authorities arrested Mohamed al-Mansoori and Mohamed al-Roken in July 2012 and prosecuted them in a mass trial of 94 defendants (the “UAE-94” case).<sup>19</sup> Ahmed Mansoor was arrested in March 2017, prosecuted and sentenced to 10 years in prison for exercising his right to freedom of expression by criticizing the UAE’s human rights record on social media.<sup>20</sup> Mohamed al-Mansoori and Mohamed al-Roken were both prominent lawyers who represented victims of human rights abuses before they were imprisoned.<sup>21</sup> They were both also both former heads of the Jurists Association.<sup>22</sup> Like all other non-governmental organizations in the UAE, the Jurists Association and its leadership were established with the government’s approval.<sup>23</sup>
16. Mohamed al-Roken completed his 10-year prison sentence on 17 July 2022.<sup>24</sup> However, the UAE did not release him on that date, and instead continued to hold him in al-Razeen prison where he had served his sentence.<sup>25</sup> The UAE justifies holding prisoners past the end of their sentences under a provision of its 2014 counterterrorism law stating that a person “adopting extremist or terrorist thought” can be held in detention for “counselling”.<sup>26</sup> The law gives the prisoner no right to be present or to have legal representation in these extension-of-detention proceedings, and no right to appeal their continued detention, making such prisoners victims of arbitrary detention.<sup>27</sup>

### Continuing imprisonment of prisoners of conscience

17. The Emirati government continues to hold at least 26 prisoners of conscience in prison. Twenty-four are prisoners from the UAE-94 mass trial of 2012-2013.<sup>28</sup> In addition, the government has detained and imprisoned academic Nasser bin Ghaith since August 2015 and human rights defender Ahmed Mansoor since March 2017.<sup>29</sup> All 26 individuals are imprisoned solely because of their exercise of their rights to freedom of expression or association. Eleven of these prisoners of conscience, all victims of the UAE-94 mass trial, are being arbitrarily detained past the end of their sentences under the counterterrorism “counselling” law.<sup>30</sup>

### Racist mass deportation of Africans

18. From the night of 24/25 June 2021 until autumn 2021, the UAE held hundreds of Black Africans unlawfully detained in a racist mass arrest without trial and in inhuman conditions.<sup>31</sup> The arrests were carried out in raids on apartment buildings housing migrant workers. Dozens of buses for transport and a task force of plain-clothes and regular police and security officers were mobilized for this operation.

<sup>19</sup> Amnesty International, “There Is No Freedom Here”: Silencing Dissent in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) (MDE 25/018/2014), 18 November 2014, pp. 44–46.

<sup>20</sup> Amnesty International, “Ahmed Mansoor sentenced to 10 years imprisonment” (MDE 25/8510/2018), 4 June 2018, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/8510/2018/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/8510/2018/en/)

<sup>21</sup> Amnesty International, “There Is No Freedom Here” (previously cited), p. 47; Amnesty International, “UAE: Human rights lawyers among 13 detained as crackdown intensifies”, 18 July 2012, [amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2012/07/uae-human-rights-lawyers-among-13-detained-crackdown-intensifies/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2012/07/uae-human-rights-lawyers-among-13-detained-crackdown-intensifies/)

<sup>22</sup> Emirates News Agency (WAM), “جمعية الحقوقيين لرئيس الدولة”, 6 September 2000, [wam.ae/ar/details/1395231251163](https://www.wam.ae/ar/details/1395231251163); WAM, “وزير العمل يتلقى وفدا من جمعية الحقوقيين”, 16 September 2005, [wam.ae/ar/details/1395234310902](https://www.wam.ae/ar/details/1395234310902)

<sup>23</sup> UAE, “قانون اتحادي رقم (6) لسنة 1974 في شأن الجمعيات ذات النفع العام”, Article 5. This is the law that was in effect when the government authorized establishment of the Jurists Association in 1980. The equivalent provision in the current law is: UAE, “قانون اتحادي رقم (2) لسنة 2008 في شأن الجمعيات والمؤسسات الأهلية ذات النفع العام”, Article 6 (as amended on 27 September 2020).

<sup>24</sup> Federal Supreme Court – State Security Chamber, UAE, judgment of 2 July 2013 on case no. 17/2013, on file with Amnesty International, pp. 240–241.

<sup>25</sup> Interview by phone with Emirati activist in exile, 19 July 2022.

<sup>26</sup> UAE, “قانون اتحادي رقم (7) لسنة 2014 في شأن مكافحة الجرائم الإرهابية”, Article 40.

<sup>27</sup> Amnesty International, “UAE: Dissidents arbitrarily detained beyond their sentence must be immediately released”, 30 May 2022, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/05/uae-dissidents-arbitrarily-detained-beyond-their-sentence-must-be-immediately-released/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/05/uae-dissidents-arbitrarily-detained-beyond-their-sentence-must-be-immediately-released/)

<sup>28</sup> Amnesty International, “There Is No Freedom Here” (previously cited).

<sup>29</sup> Amnesty International, “UAE: Prominent academic jailed for 10 years over tweets in outrageous blow to freedom of expression”, 29 March 2017, [amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2017/03/uae-prominent-academic-jailed-for-10-years-over-tweets-in-outrageous-blow-to-freedom-of-expression/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2017/03/uae-prominent-academic-jailed-for-10-years-over-tweets-in-outrageous-blow-to-freedom-of-expression/); Amnesty International, “UAE: Activist Ahmed Mansoor sentenced to 10 years in prison for social media posts”, 31 May 2018, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/uae-activist-ahmed-mansoor-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-social-media-posts/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/uae-activist-ahmed-mansoor-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-social-media-posts/)

<sup>30</sup> Amnesty International, “UAE: Dissidents arbitrarily detained beyond their sentence must be immediately released” (previously cited).

<sup>31</sup> All paragraphs in this section are based on Amnesty International, “UAE: Ensure the right to remedy to hundreds of African workers following racially motivated detentions and deportations”, 26 October 2021, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/10/uae-ensure-the-right-to-remedy-to-hundreds-of-african-workers-following-racially-motivated-detentions-and-deportations/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/10/uae-ensure-the-right-to-remedy-to-hundreds-of-african-workers-following-racially-motivated-detentions-and-deportations/); Amnesty International, “UAE: Mass Arbitrary Detention and Deportation of Africans”, 26 October 2021, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/4896/2021/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/4896/2021/en/)

19. The largest raids happened late at night in the heart of Abu Dhabi city. The police went through the buildings floor by floor breaking in doors. If the apartment had Asian migrant workers in it, they would leave. If the apartment had Africans in it, they would arrest them. The police did not present warrants and gave no explanation of the arrests to the victims. The detainees were taken, barefoot and in their nightwear, out of their homes, loaded onto the waiting buses, and transported to al-Wathba prison, where they were strip-searched and then put in holding areas where more than a hundred people were held together at a time.
20. The UAE kept the detainees in inhuman and degrading conditions (see next section) for an average of one to two months before summarily deporting them, with no contestable legal procedures taken against them at any stage. Most detainees were held completely incommunicado throughout their detention. None of the detainees ever saw a court or a lawyer, or even had a phone call with a lawyer.
21. After news of the mass deportation was reported, the UAE issued a statement claiming the deportees belonged to “organizations that are prostitution networks” and were treated “according to legal procedures” based on “decisive, documented evidence”.<sup>32</sup> But as just described, the detainees were given no legal due process. All detainees whose immigration status Amnesty International was able to confirm with documents were legally present in the country.
22. All detainees interviewed said they were returned to their home countries with nothing but their phones, passports and some second-hand clothes. Interviewees described losing clothing, cash, bank savings, TVs, stereos, tablets, phones, laptops, driver’s licenses, birth certificates, marriage certificates, school diplomas, university degrees, professional licenses, national ID cards and medical records.
23. On prima facie evidence, many of these deportations were cases of refoulement. Eleven out of 18 of deportees interviewed by Amnesty International were from the Anglophone region of Cameroon, where there has been armed conflict between the government and separatist groups since 2017. Multiple detainees stated to authorities their fear of return but were ignored.

## Torture and other ill-treatment

24. In early 2018, Emirati authorities arrested Lebanese national Abdel Rahman Chouman.<sup>33</sup> He was tried on charges of planning a terrorist attack on behalf of the Lebanese political party and armed group Hezbollah. He testified to the court that he did not know where he had been detained for interrogation because he was kept blindfolded throughout the three months of interrogation; that interrogators had beaten him for up to six hours at a time, slamming his head against a wall until the dental veneers on his teeth were shattered; and that they had then forced him to sign a “confession” that he was not allowed to read.<sup>34</sup> The trial court nevertheless explicitly relied on this “confession” as part of the evidence supporting conviction in its judgment sentencing Chouman to life in prison.<sup>35</sup>
25. Emirati authorities mistreated African detainees during the mass detention described in the previous section. During the seizure of the deportees from their homes, the Emirati police and security forces broke into apartments without presenting a warrant and pointed guns at the residents. When some individuals resisted arrest by refusing to let themselves be handcuffed, security officers clubbed them in the head or hit them with electroshock equipment. Police officers also sexually assaulted several of the women as they arrested them.
26. In the women’s holding area at al-Wathba prison, over 140 people had to share four toilets, sometimes three. In one men’s holding cell, detainees were crowded in at about 1.64 m<sup>2</sup> per person, less than half the 3.4 m<sup>2</sup> recommended as a minimum by the International Committee of the Red Cross. When a group of women argued with the guards about their treatment, they were shackled by the hands and legs 24 hours a day for a week,

<sup>32</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, UAE, “وزارة الداخلية تدعو وسائل الإعلام إلى تحري الدقة واستقاء المعلومات من مصادرها”, 3 September 2021, [mofaic.gov.ae/ar-ae/mediahub/news/2021/9/3/03-09-2021-uae-accuracy](http://mofaic.gov.ae/ar-ae/mediahub/news/2021/9/3/03-09-2021-uae-accuracy)

<sup>33</sup> The exact date of detention is unclear because the court judgment against Chouman is inconsistent, initially reporting the date as 15 February 2018, but later stating that it was on 11 January 2018. Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal – State Security Chamber, judgment of 15 May 2019 on national security case no. 32/2019, on file with Amnesty International, pp. 3, 12.

<sup>34</sup> Amnesty International, “Verdict issued against Lebanese men” (Index: MDE 25/0430/2019), 27 May 2019, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/0430/2019/en/](http://amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/0430/2019/en/)

<sup>35</sup> Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal, judgment of 15 May 2019 (previously cited), p. 9.

leaving abrasions on their wrists and ankles. The prison gave sick detainees no medical treatment; they were not allowed to receive prescribed medications that had been in their apartments when they were arrested. A pregnant woman from Cameroon who was suffering from anaemia in the prison described to Amnesty International how she was denied her medication and lost about seven kilograms of weight while in detention.

27. The UAE has held human rights defender Ahmed Mansoor in inhuman conditions since the time of his arrest in March 2017.<sup>36</sup> From March 2017 until November 2019, the al-Sadr prison administration did not permit him to leave the walls of his cellblock to see sunlight and breathe fresh air. From March 2017 until the present, the UAE has held him in solitary confinement without access to books, television or radio since he was sent to al-Sadr prison over four years ago. Since December 2017 he has not had a bed, mattress or pillow in his cell and has been deprived of access to most cleaning and personal hygiene items. In combination these measures amount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, and likely rise to the level torture.

## The Right to a Nationality

28. The United Arab Emirates has a sizeable native-born stateless population. As a result of a deal with the Comoros in 2008–2009, tens of thousands of stateless Emiratis came to hold Comoran passports, without actually obtaining a nationality in either the Comoros or the UAE.<sup>37</sup>
29. The presence of stateless persons in the country is recognized by Emirati law, which includes a provision dictating that for purposes of criminal law, “whoever has no nationality shall be considered as equivalent to a citizen if his regular residence is in the state”.<sup>38</sup> The UAE’s official news agency has also recognized that there are stateless people on its territory “who do not have identity documents and whose presence in the state prior to the announcement of the Union [on 2 December 1971] has been proven”.<sup>39</sup>
30. There are varying estimates of the size of the stateless population in the UAE. At the lower end, in October 2006 the Emirati Ministry of Interior stated that “there are around 10,000 stateless people in the UAE”, describing them as “mainly of Iranian or Asian origin, or from Zanzibar”.<sup>40</sup> At the upper end, Noora Lori, the author of the most comprehensive study of the Emirati stateless, presents a final estimate of “approximately” 80,000–120,000 people in this group, basing herself on the estimates of the number of Comoran passports issued.<sup>41</sup>
31. People who are stateless in the UAE do not have access to healthcare and education on equal terms, free from discrimination, with Emirati nationals. While Emirati nationals can access free healthcare and education from the state, people who are stateless must pay for the healthcare or education they receive.<sup>42</sup> Enforcement of the restriction of access to these state services is put into effect through the biometric national identity card system. Only those with the national identity card can receive state-subsidized services, and only those with a “family book”, the key nationality document denied to stateless Emiratis, can obtain a national identity card.<sup>43</sup> In addition, those with the special Comoran passports must now find an Emirati national who will serve as a “sponsor” in order to apply for renewable residency permits, without which they are considered “illegal residents”.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>36</sup> This paragraph is based on: Amnesty International, “Prisoner of conscience in critical condition” (Index: MDE 25/1782/2020), 12 February 2020, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/1782/2020/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/1782/2020/en/); Amnesty International, “UAE: Ahmed Mansoor, unlawfully detained in solitary confinement for three years, must be released”, 20 March 2020, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/uae-ahmed-mansoor-unlawfully-detained-in-solitary-confinement-for-three-years-must-be-released/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/uae-ahmed-mansoor-unlawfully-detained-in-solitary-confinement-for-three-years-must-be-released/); Human Rights Watch and Gulf Centre for Human Rights, *The Persecution of Ahmed Mansoor: How the United Arab Emirates Silenced its Most Famous Human Rights Activist*, 27 January 2021, [hrw.org/report/2021/01/27/persecution-ahmed-mansoor/how-united-arab-emirates-silenced-its-most-famous-human](https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/01/27/persecution-ahmed-mansoor/how-united-arab-emirates-silenced-its-most-famous-human); and arabi21.com, “حصري لـ”عربي 21“:”, 16 July 2021, [bit.ly/3CWak6f](https://bit.ly/3CWak6f)

<sup>37</sup> Noora Lori, *Offshore Citizens: Permanent Temporary Status in the Gulf*, 2019; Atossa Araxia Abrahamian, *The Cosmopolites: The Coming of the Global Citizen*, 2015, Chapters 1–3.

<sup>38</sup> UAE, Code of Crimes and Punishments (previously cited), Article 23, para. 2; UAE, previous Penal Code (previously cited), Article 22, para. 2.

<sup>39</sup> WAM, “سيف بن زايد: ساترون نحو حل نهائي لمسألة عديمي الجنسية”, 25 October 2006, [wam.ae/ar/details/1395234612381](https://www.wam.ae/ar/details/1395234612381)

<sup>40</sup> AFP, “UAE to naturalize 10,000 stateless people”, 25 October 2006, Nexis Uni database.

<sup>41</sup> Lori, *Offshore Citizens* (previously cited), p. 204.

<sup>42</sup> Interview by voice call with “MM”, Emirati stateless man accepted as a refugee in a European Union country, 3 May 2020; interview by voice call with Noora Lori, author of most detailed study on the Emirati stateless population, 14 May 2020; interview by voice call with Yoana Kuzmova, US attorney who has done field interviews with and given legal aid to Emirati stateless individuals seeking asylum abroad, 13 May 2020.

<sup>43</sup> Lori, *Offshore Citizens* (previously cited), p. 204. The Arabic term for the family book is *الكتاب العائلي*.

<sup>44</sup> Interview by voice call with “MM”, Emirati stateless man accepted as a refugee in a European Union country, 3 May 2020; Lori, *Offshore Citizens*, p. 204; Abrahamian, *The Cosmopolites*, p. 67. The Arabic term for the legal sponsor for residency is *كفيل*.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE STATE UNDER REVIEW

### Amnesty International calls on the government of the UAE to:

#### Human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience

32. Immediately and unconditionally release from prison all human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience, including Ahmed Mansoor, Mohamed al-Roken and Mohamed al-Mansoori.

#### Racist mass deportation of Africans

33. Restore to the deportees all property taken from them, compensate them for their pain and suffering and arrange an independent investigation to identify and bring to justice the officials who ordered and organized this discriminatory operation.

#### Torture and other ill-treatment

34. Guarantee all detainees access to in-person and private visitation by lawyers, family and (if foreign nationals) consular officials within the first 24 hours of detention as a protection measure against torture and other ill-treatment.

#### Right to a nationality

35. Report publicly and annually on the number and socio-economic well-being of stateless persons in the UAE, including statistics on their average mortality, income, level of education and employment, and prevalence of chronic diseases.
36. Establish a fair and transparent process, based on objectively verifiable criteria, for stateless persons in the UAE to apply for Emirati nationality.
37. Ensure that stateless people can access education and healthcare on equal terms with Emirati nationals, free from discrimination.

## ANNEX 1

### KEY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

*UAE: Activist Ahmed Mansoor sentence to 10 years in prison for social media posts*, 31 May 2018, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/uae-activist-ahmed-mansoor-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-social-media-posts/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/uae-activist-ahmed-mansoor-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-social-media-posts/)

*UAE: Three Lebanese men receive heavy sentences, including life, despite grave fair trial concerns*, 15 May 2019, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/05/uae-three-lebanese-men-receive-heavy-sentences-including-life-despite-grave-fair-trial-concerns-2/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/05/uae-three-lebanese-men-receive-heavy-sentences-including-life-despite-grave-fair-trial-concerns-2/)

*UAE: Ahmed Mansoor, unlawfully detained in solitary confinement for three years, must be released*, 20 March 2020, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/uae-ahmed-mansoor-unlawfully-detained-in-solitary-confinement-for-three-years-must-be-released/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/uae-ahmed-mansoor-unlawfully-detained-in-solitary-confinement-for-three-years-must-be-released/)

*UAE: Supreme Court Confirms Verdict in an Unfair Trial*, 31 March 2020, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/2000/2020/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/2000/2020/en/)

*UAE: Nearly a decade of unjust imprisonment for 'UAE-94' dissidents*, 2 July 2021, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/07/uae-nearly-a-decade-of-unjust-imprisonment-for-uae-94-dissidents-2/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/07/uae-nearly-a-decade-of-unjust-imprisonment-for-uae-94-dissidents-2/)

*UAE: Ensure the right to remedy to hundreds of African workers following racially motivated detentions and deportations*, 26 October 2021, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/10/uae-ensure-the-right-to-remedy-to-hundreds-of-african-workers-following-racially-motivated-detentions-and-deportations/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/10/uae-ensure-the-right-to-remedy-to-hundreds-of-african-workers-following-racially-motivated-detentions-and-deportations/)

*UAE: Mass Arbitrary Detention and Deportation of Africans*, 26 October 2021, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/4896/2021/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde25/4896/2021/en/)

*UAE: Dissidents arbitrarily detained beyond their sentence must be immediately released*, 30 May 2022, [amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/05/uae-dissidents-arbitrarily-detained-beyond-their-sentence-must-be-immediately-released/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/05/uae-dissidents-arbitrarily-detained-beyond-their-sentence-must-be-immediately-released/)

## ANNEX 2

### MATRIX OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CYCLE, WITH COMMENTS ON PROGRESS

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<b>Theme: A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</b>			
141.50 Continue to strengthen the State's cooperation with treaty bodies, including the submission of periodic reports in the framework of international human rights treaties (Saudi Arabia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> The UAE submitted its first report to the UN Committee against Torture five years later. Its report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was submitted on time.
141.48 Further strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Pakistan); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies A24 Cooperation with special procedures A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> Although it extended an invitation to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on Education in 2018, the UAE has stonewalled all UN special procedures on human rights with responsibility for civil-political rights, and those with mandates relevant to migrant labour, since 2014, when a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers resulted in a critical report.
141.51 Submit its report to the Committee against Torture and engage in a dialogue with it (Switzerland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> The report was submitted, but five years late.
<b>Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures</b>			
141.58 Cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms, including by responding positively to visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Germany); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A24 Cooperation with special procedures <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> No affirmative requests from special procedures mandate holders to visit the country have been granted by the UAE since its last UPR cycle.
<b>Theme: A43 Human rights policies</b>			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.61 Continue to work on building national capacity in the field of human rights, in accordance with international standards (Oman); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A43 Human rights policies <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> The UAE has passed a law for the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). However, over a year and a half after its announcement, the NHRI still does not offer a complaints mechanism or have an address.
<b>Theme: A44 Structure of the national human rights machinery</b>			
141.64 Promote the role of national human rights mechanisms and institutions in the protection of human rights (Bahrain); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A44 Structure of the national human rights machinery S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> A law for a National Human Rights Institution has been passed, but the Institution still is not open to the public.
<b>Theme: A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</b>			
141.74 Take the necessary measures for the establishment of a national human rights institution, including considering cooperation with countries in the region that have already established a national human rights institution (Indonesia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) A3 Inter-State cooperation & development assistance S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> A law for a National Human Rights Institution has been passed, but the Institution still is not open to the public.
141.80 Work towards strengthening and developing the specialized national mechanisms in the field of human rights, especially the completion of the legal procedures related to the establishment of the independent national human rights commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Tunisia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> A law for a National Human Rights Institution has been passed, but the Institution still is not open to the public and the Paris Principles are not referenced in the law.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.65 Accelerate the process of setting up a national human rights institution, in the light of the Paris Principles (Mozambique); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law establishing a National Human Rights Institution was not passed until May 2021, three years after the last UPR, the Institution is still not open to the public over a year and a half after its establishment, and the law does not make reference to the Paris Principles.
141.66 Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ghana) (Greece) (Nepal) (Republic of Korea) (Timor-Leste); Establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The law establishing the National Human Rights Institution makes no reference to the Paris Principles.
141.68 Establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, and ensure its effective functioning (Republic of Moldova); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law for a National Human Rights Institution has been passed, but the Institution still is not open to the public and the Paris Principles are not referenced in the law.
141.71 Create a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, and establish an Ombudsman's Office (France); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law for a National Human Rights Institution has been passed, but the Paris Principles are not referenced in the law and there is still no institution serving an effective ombudsman function.
141.72 Accelerate efforts to establish a national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law establishing a National Human Rights Institution was not passed until May 2021, three years after the last UPR, the Institution is still not open to the public over a year and a half after its establishment, and the law does not make reference to the Paris Principles.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.73 Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, to monitor and examine allegations of human rights violations (Kenya); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law establishing a National Human Rights Institution was not passed until May 2021, three years after the last UPR, the Institution is still not open to the public over a year and a half after its establishment, and the law does not make reference to the Paris Principles.
141.75 Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mongolia); Establish an independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Uruguay); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law establishing a National Human Rights Institution was not passed until May 2021, but it does not make reference to the Paris Principles.
141.76 Ensure the swift establishment of an independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Germany); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> A law establishing a National Human Rights Institution was not passed until May 2021, three years after the last UPR, the Institution is still not open to the public over a year and a half after its establishment, and the law does not make reference to the Paris Principles.
141.77 Finalize the draft act on the establishment of the independent national human rights commission and make it functional (Senegal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Partially implemented</b> The law establishing a National Human Rights Institution has been, but the Institution is still not open to the public.
<b>Theme: A61 Cooperation with civil society</b>			
141.88 Support civil society organizations and institutions to enable them to play their full role in the promotion and protection of human rights (Chad); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	A61 Cooperation with civil society D45 Freedom of association S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> There are no independent civil society organizations operating legally inside the UAE, and under Article 5 of the Law on Public Benefit Associations, no nongovernmental organization can be established without the government's permission.
<b>Theme: B31 Equality &amp; non-discrimination</b>			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.90 Adopt a comprehensive political and legislative framework for the prevention of, and the fight against, discrimination in all its forms (Honduras); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A42 Institutions & policies - General A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - vulnerable persons/groups	<b>Not implemented</b> There is no comprehensive legislative framework against discrimination in place, and the UAE maintains reservations against core provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
141.89 Strengthen state programmes aimed at promoting tolerance of and respect for cultural diversity, and at combating discrimination, hatred and extremism (Belarus); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	B31 Equality & non-discrimination G1 Members of minorities S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE is using "counselling" for those "adopting extremist thought" to arbitrarily detain prisoners, including dissidents and human rights lawyer Mohamed al-Roken, past the end of prison sentences.
<b>Theme: B8 Human rights &amp; counter-terrorism</b>			
141.124 Guarantee that the application of the anti-terrorism law and the cybercrime law is not an obstacle to the legitimate activities of citizens, human rights defenders and the media (Switzerland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism H1 Human rights defenders S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - media - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> The counterterrorism law (No. 7 of 2014) specifically is being used to keep human rights defender Mohamed al-Roken and other prisoners of conscience behind bars even after their court-ordered prison sentences have ended.
<b>Theme: D29 Domestic violence</b>			
141.177 Work on the adoption of the law on combating domestic violence (Tunisia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	D29 Domestic violence F12 Discrimination against women A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment <b>Affected persons:</b> - women	<b>Implemented</b> The UAE passed Decree of Federal Act No. 10 of 2019 on Protection from Family Violence in August 2019; it went into effect later, in March 2020. Amnesty International does not have information on how effective the law and its implementation have been in combating domestic violence.
<b>Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</b>			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.121 Establish in national legislation the right to freedom of expression and to information, and mechanisms to guarantee its full respect and protection (Mexico); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A42 Institutions & policies - General S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE retains many laws punishing freedom of expression, and criminalization of expression critical of the country's rulers was retained in the new Code of Crimes and Punishments adopted in 2021.
141.119 Continue to work to amend the Publications and Publishing Act, thus contributing to enhancing freedom of expression, in conformity with the relevant international human rights standards (Lebanon); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - media	<b>Not implemented</b> The law on publications and other laws continue to criminalize legitimate forms of free expression, such as criticizing the rulers of the country.
141.112 Protect freedom of expression and freedom of association (France); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D45 Freedom of association S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> Freedom of expression remains subject to criminal sanctions under many laws, and dissidents such as human rights defender Ahmed Mansoor are imprisoned solely because of their exercise of the right to freedom of expression.
<b>Theme: D51 Administration of justice &amp; fair trial</b>			
141.134 Strengthen the independence of the judiciary. Ensure the right to a fair trial for all without discrimination: in particular, reject evidence obtained by torture, and ensure that all arrests are subject to judicial oversight without exception (Czechia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	D51 Administration of justice & fair trial D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment B31 Equality & non-discrimination S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - judges, lawyers and prosecutors	<b>Not implemented</b> The "confession" of Lebanese national Abdel Rahman Chouman, which he told the court was extracted under torture, was explicitly relied on by the court convicting him as evidence. In 2021 hundreds of African nationals targeted in racist mass arrests were denied all judicial process in relation to their detention and deportation.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.141 Take steps to ensure that all detainees have access to a fair and transparent trial (Australia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>D51 Administration of justice &amp; fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE arbitrarily detained and deported hundreds of racially targeted African nationals in summer 2021. None of those detained and deported was given a fair trial. In Amnesty International's interviews with over a dozen of the victims, not one had even seen a courtroom or been able to call an attorney.</p>
<b>Theme: E51 Right to education - General</b>			
<p>141.159 Put in place access and non-discrimination measures, enabling all boys and girls residing in its country to fully enjoy their right to education (Paraguay);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>E51 Right to education - General B31 Equality &amp; non-discrimination S04 SDG 4 - education S10 SDG 10 - inequality</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - children - girls</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>Children born into the stateless population in the UAE do not have access to the free public school system.</p>
<b>Theme: F11 Advancement of women</b>			
<p>141.186 Work towards enhancing gender equality in society, including by removing impediments to women's free movement and to their free choice of profession and employment (Estonia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>F11 Advancement of women F12 Discrimination against women F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection D41 Freedom of movement E31 Right to work E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S08 SDG 8 - economic growth, employment, decent work</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - women</p>	<p><b>Partially implemented</b></p> <p>A 2020 amendment (Decree of Federal Act No. 5 of 2020) improved Article 72 of the Personal Status Law by removing explicit restrictions on a married woman's right to work. However, under the new version of Article 72, a judge may still restrict a spouse's right to leave the house or work based on factors including "canon law or custom" and "the interests of the family." A large-scale reform of the Personal Status Law in 2020 (Decree of Federal Act No. 29 of 2020) explicitly does not apply to Muslim Emirati nationals.</p>
<b>Theme: F12 Discrimination against women</b>			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.173 Review regulations regarding women in the Penal Code and in the Personal Status Law (Republic of Korea);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>F12 Discrimination against women A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - women</p>	<p><b>Partially implemented</b></p> <p>In 2016 (by Decree of Federal Act No. 7 of 2016), the UAE removed Article 53.1 of its Penal Code which stated that a husband has the right to "discipline" his wife. In 2019 (by Decree of Federal Act No. 8 of 2019) the UAE removed Article 56.1 of the Personal Status Law which had stated that a husband has the right to "courteous obedience" from his wife. However, the major 2020 reforms of the Personal Status Law (passed in Decree of Federal Act No. 29 of 2020) explicitly do not apply to Muslim Emirati nationals.</p>
<b>Theme: F13 Violence against women</b>			
<p>141.179 Enact comprehensive legislation to address violence against women, including the recognition of domestic violence as an offence (Belgium);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>F13 Violence against women D29 Domestic violence F12 Discrimination against women A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - women</p>	<p><b>Partially implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has passed legislation outlawing domestic violence, through Decree of Federal Act No. 10 of 2019. The definition of "family violence" under Article 3 of that act remains a concern, as it refers to family violence vaguely as conduct that "transgresses the sovereignty, guardianship, sustenance, breadwinning role, authority, or responsibility of" the perpetrator.</p>
<b>Theme: G4 Migrants</b>			
<p>141.209 Further facilitate consular protection for migrant workers, including by informing the foreign consulate without delay in case of arrest or detention of nationals (Viet Nam);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>G4 Migrants D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions S10 SDG 10 - inequality</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - migrants</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In the summer 2021 mass deportation of African nationals, the victims were not afforded access to consular support.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.216 Establish measures to facilitate access to justice, interpretation services and quality legal aid for migrant workers, stateless persons and domestic workers (Sierra Leone);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>G4 Migrants D51 Administration of justice &amp; fair trial B51 Right to an effective remedy S08 SDG 8 - economic growth, employment, decent work S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - migrants - non-citizens - stateless persons</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In the summer 2021 mass deportation of African nationals, the majority of victims did not have an opportunity to contact any party outside the prison at all, let alone to receive legal aid.</p>
<p>141.210 Continue to cooperate with the countries of origin of migrant workers, in order to better protect their rights (Mauritania);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>G4 Migrants E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work S08 SDG 8 - economic growth, employment, decent work S10 SDG 10 - inequality</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - migrants</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In the summer 2021 mass deportation of African nationals, the victims did not receive consular support and deportations were carried out in a way disrespectful of the interests of sending countries as the Emirati authorities falsified negative Covid-19 test results for the deportees, who in fact had not been either protected from or tested for infection prior to deportation.</p>
<p>141.228 Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular pregnant migrants (Viet Nam);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>G4 Migrants F12 Discrimination against women F13 Violence against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S08 SDG 8 - economic growth, employment, decent work S10 SDG 10 - inequality</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - women - migrants - vulnerable persons/groups</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In documenting the summer 2021 mass deportation of African nationals, Amnesty International took testimony from a pregnant Cameroonian woman who was maltreated by denial of access to medical care while in detention and suffered drastic weight loss despite being several months into her pregnancy.</p>
<b>Theme: H1 Human rights defenders</b>			
<p>141.127 Ensure the protection of human rights defenders (France);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5</p>	Supported	<p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>Human rights work is not permitted within the UAE and the most prominent nationals engaged in defence of human rights over the past decade, Mohamed al-Mansoori, Mohamed al-Roken and Ahmed Mansoor, are in prison because of their human rights work.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.128 Take steps to protect human rights defenders (Norway); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders <b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE's national human rights defenders are in prison and independent international human rights groups, including UN special procedures covering civil and political rights, are not permitted to investigate human rights violations in the country.
141.129 Take measures to prevent acts of harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders and journalists (Latvia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 5	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders D43 Freedom of opinion and expression S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - media - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> Human rights defenders Mohamed al-Mansoori, Ahmed Mansoor and Mohamed al-Roken are in prison because of their human rights work, with al-Roken even being arbitrarily detained past the end of his court-ordered prison sentence on the pretext of "counselling" for "adopting extremist thought."

*Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms*

141.28 Ratify those international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, in particular, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and consider withdrawing its reservations to articles 2 (f), 9, 15 (2), 16 and 29 (1) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Honduras); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A13 Reservations D32 Enforced disappearances F12 Discrimination against women G4 Migrants S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - migrants - disappeared persons	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not taken any of these steps with respect to international human rights law.
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Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.17 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and enhance cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Austria);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies D1 Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment E1 Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not taken these steps with respect to international human rights law and has not acceded to the two principal international human rights Covenants.</p>
<p>141.18 Become a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Allow, without delay, visits of the representatives of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and issue a standing invitation to the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Czechia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms A24 Cooperation with special procedures D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D32 Enforced disappearances S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - disappeared persons</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not acceded to any of these international human rights instruments and continues to deny access to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights.</p>
<p>141.35 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and fully align its legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice &amp; fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not ratified the Rome Statute.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.32 Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and incorporate that offence into its national legislation (Argentina); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D32 Enforced disappearances S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - disappeared persons	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and in the summer 2021 mass detention and deportation of African nationals held hundreds of individuals entirely incommunicado in conditions amounting to enforced disappearance.
141.33 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the Rome Statute.
141.34 Ratify the Rome Statute, including the provisions on the crime of aggression (Liechtenstein); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the Rome Statute.
141.8 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Armenia) (Benin) (France) (Portugal); Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
141.11 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE is still not a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, nor to its Protocols.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.13 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile) (Iceland) (Liechtenstein); Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not ratified either the core Covenant or its Protocols, and its courts continue to apply the death penalty.</p>
<p>141.15 Establish an official moratorium on executions, and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovakia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not ratified either the core Covenant or its Protocols, and its courts continue to apply the death penalty.</p>
<p>141.16 Ratify and accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation D32 Enforced disappearances E1 Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation G4 Migrants S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general - migrants - disappeared persons</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not ratified any of these international human rights instruments.</p>
<p>141.1 Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other core international human rights conventions (Italy);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil &amp; political rights - general measures of implementation E1 Economic, social &amp; cultural rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE has not ratified the two core international human rights Covenants.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.2 Accelerate steps to ratify core international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Republic of Korea); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the two core international human rights Covenants.
141.5 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in order to strengthen protection of the human rights of foreigners residing in the United Arab Emirates (Japan); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - non-citizens	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the two core international human rights Covenants.
141.23 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark) (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the Convention against Torture and its Protocol.
141.24 Ensure the impartial investigation of all allegations of torture, and move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Finland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> In the case of Lebanese national Abdel Rahman Chouman, there was no impartial investigation of the defendant's allegations of torture, and in fact the court explicitly relied on the "confession" the defendant said was extracted under torture as evidence. No impartial investigation has been made into the conditions of detention of human rights defender Ahmed Mansoor, which likely amount to mental torture.
141.30 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France) (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D32 Enforced disappearances S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - disappeared persons	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the Convention against enforced disappearance.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.39 Accede to and implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Kenya); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality G7 Stateless persons S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - stateless persons	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not acceded to the core international instruments recognizing the legal concept and rights of the refugee.
141.40 Accede to and fully implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Slovakia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality G7 Stateless persons S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - stateless persons	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not acceded to the core international instruments recognizing the legal concept and rights of the refugee.
141.6 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Armenia) (Benin) (France); Accede to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Australia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
141.36 Ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Paraguay); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work G8 Non-citizens S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - migrants	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified this Convention.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.22 Take further steps, and provide the necessary resources, to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the ratification of the two remaining Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovakia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection <b>Affected persons:</b> - children - persons affected by armed conflict	<b>Not implemented</b> Since its last UPR cycle, the UAE has not acceded to either of the remaining two Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child – neither the Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, of concern because of Emirati involvement in the war in Yemen, nor the Protocol on a Communications Procedure, which might lead to better enforcement of the rights in the Convention. The UAE does not permit stateless children born in the country to access the free system of public schools, contrary to Art. 28.1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that “primary education” shall be “compulsory and available for all” children, without restriction by nationality.
141.20 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (France) (Liechtenstein) (Paraguay); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F35 Children in armed conflict S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - children - persons affected by armed conflict	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified this Protocol.
141.21 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Liechtenstein) (Paraguay); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - children	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified this protocol.
141.25 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Ghana); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms G4 Migrants S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - migrants	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not ratified this treaty.

*Theme: A13 Reservations*

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.45 Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and introduce amendments to its national family law to ensure the equal status and rights of women in all matters (Canada); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A13 Reservations A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B31 Equality & non-discrimination D8 Rights related to marriage & family F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not withdrawn its reservations to this Convention, including reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, and the large-scale reforms in 2020 of its Personal Status Law do not apply to Muslim Emirati women.
141.46 Withdraw the reservations to article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and introduce legislative reforms that provide equal rights to women in the fields of marriage, divorce, property relations, custody of children and inheritance (Uruguay); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A13 Reservations A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D26 Conditions of detention F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - children	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not withdrawn this reservation, and its 2020 reform of its Personal Status Law did not include Emirati Muslim women within its scope.
141.47 Adopt and implement equal nationality rights to guarantee, in particular, women's rights and gender equality, including by lifting reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Kenya); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A13 Reservations D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not withdrawn its reservations to the Convention and its law continues to discriminate against women with respect to the transmission of nationality to children.
141.42 Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Latvia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A13 Reservations F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not withdrawn its reservations.
141.43 Withdraw its reservations to articles 2, 15 and 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Finland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A13 Reservations F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has not withdrawn its reservations.

*Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures*

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.52 Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to deny access and disregard requests to visit the country by special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights.
141.53 Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Kenya); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to deny access and disregard requests to visit the country by special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights.
141.56 Respond positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedure mandate holders, and consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Latvia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to deny access and disregard requests to visit the country by special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights.
141.54 Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and accept a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Sweden); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures H1 Human rights defenders <b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to deny access and disregard requests to visit the country by special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights and has not accepted a visit by the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders specifically.
141.57 Fully cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and accept the pending requests to carry out country visits, including from the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Netherlands); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures H1 Human rights defenders <b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to deny access and disregard requests to visit the country by special procedures of the Human Rights Council with mandates covering civil and political rights, and has not accepted a visit by the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders specifically.

*Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework*

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.10 Strengthen the constitutional right to freedom of expression by becoming a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Germany); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation <b>Affected persons:</b> - general	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE has still not ratified the Covenant, and the right to freedom of expression is not adequately protected in its national laws.
<b>Theme: B31 Equality &amp; non-discrimination</b>			
141.92 Take policy measures to promote tolerance and non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation (Iceland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to criminalize "sodomy" between consenting adult men and in June 2022 its Media Regulatory Office banned the showing of an international film in the country on the grounds that it depicted a same-sex kiss.
<b>Theme: D23 Death penalty</b>			
141.97 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes, and commute all existing death sentences (Austria); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE retains the death penalty, and its courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.99 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as a first step towards its full abolition (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.100 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as the first step towards its abolition (Slovenia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.101 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards the complete abolition of this practice (Australia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.102 Reinstatement a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to abolishing the practice (Belgium); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.103 Ensure a moratorium on executions, and consider the complete abolition of the death penalty (France); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.104 Give effect to a moratorium on executions, with the aim of abolishing the death penalty (Ireland); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
141.105 Consider the adoption of a de jure moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> UAE courts continue to hand down new death sentences, which continue to be implemented.
<b>Theme: D26 Conditions of detention</b>			
141.110 Prohibit the practice of secret detention, and institute safeguards against torture and other ill-treatment (Italy); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D26 Conditions of detention D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - general - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> In the summer 2021, mass detention of African nationals, the victims were held in secret and Emirati authorities subjected them to ill-treatment.
<b>Theme: D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention</b>			
141.143 Implement existing laws to inform detainees promptly of the charges against them, and permit access to legal counsel for all those accused of crimes, while affording fair and transparent proceedings by an independent and impartial tribunal with all the fair trial guarantees necessary for an accused's defence (United States of America); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention D26 Conditions of detention D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions <b>Affected persons:</b> - persons deprived of their liberty	<b>Not implemented</b> In the summer 2021, mass detention of African nationals, Emirati authorities did not respect any of the forms and guarantees of due process cited in this recommendation.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.142 Inform without delay all persons deprived of their liberty of all the charges brought against them, and establish a central register of all detainees, in order to guarantee that their families can immediately locate their whereabouts (Chile);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention D51 Administration of justice &amp; fair trial D26 Conditions of detention S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>There is no publicly accessible registry of detainees, and there continue to be cases of arbitrary detention in which those detained are not timely informed of what charges they may face, as illustrated on both counts in the case of the summer 2021 mass detention of African nationals.</p>
<b>Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</b>			
<p>141.123 Amend the cybercrime law, the anti-terrorism law and provisions of the Penal Code restricting freedom of expression, in order to bring them into conformity with international standards (Sweden);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B8 Human rights &amp; counter-terrorism S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In 2021, the UAE passed a new Code on Crimes and Punishments superseding the old Penal Code and a new, additional law on cybercrimes, both of which contain provisions suppressing and criminalizing freedom of expression. The counterterrorism laws continue to retain provision incompatible with the right to freedom of expression.</p>
<p>141.115 Review the legal framework and amendments preventing freedom of expression (Norway);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In 2021, the UAE passed a new Code on Crimes and Punishments superseding the old Penal Code and a new, additional law on cybercrimes, both of which contain provisions suppressing and criminalizing freedom of expression. The counterterrorism laws continue to retain provision incompatible with the right to freedom of expression.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.116 Take concrete measures to ensure the right to freedom of expression, and review legislation preventing the exercise of the right to freedom of expression (Slovenia);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In 2021 the UAE passed a new Code on Crimes and Punishments superseding the old Penal Code and a new, additional law on cybercrimes, both of which contain provisions suppressing and criminalizing freedom of expression. The counterterrorism laws continue to retain provisions incompatible with the right to freedom of expression. Authorities continue to issue warnings and summons against individuals exercising their right to freedom of expression.</p>
<p>141.117 Continue to take steps to uphold freedom of expression by reviewing restrictive articles within its domestic legal framework, ensuring that legislation is fully aligned with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Netherlands);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In 2021, the UAE passed a new Code on Crimes and Punishments superseding the old Penal Code and a new, additional law on cybercrimes, both of which contain provisions suppressing and criminalizing freedom of expression. The counterterrorism laws continue to retain provision incompatible with the right to freedom of expression.</p>
<p>141.120 Uphold freedom of expression in traditional and online media by removing from relevant laws the restrictions on expressions critical of State officials and institutions and the related administrative and judicial penalties (Canada);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - media</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The new Code on Crimes and Punishments adopted in 2021 retains and reproduces the criminalization of expressions critical of state officials that were found in the old Penal Code.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.125 Demonstrate greater respect for freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly, including by allowing individuals to criticize the Government and hold peaceful demonstrations, and revising the cybercrime law to be consistent with principles of free expression (United States of America);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - general</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>In 2021, the UAE passed a new Code on Crimes and Punishments superseding the old Penal Code and a new, additional law on cybercrimes, both of which contain provisions suppressing and criminalizing freedom of expression. Various provisions of law continue to overbroadly restrict the right to peaceful assembly.</p>
<p>141.132 Align its legislation with international human rights obligations on freedom of expression, and take concrete measures to protect human rights defenders, including from reprisals for cooperating with the United Nations (Austria);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression H1 Human rights defenders A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE continues to retain many laws criminalizing the exercise of freedom of expression, and to imprison Emirati human rights defenders Mohamed al-Roken, Mohamed al-Mansoori and Ahmed Mansoor. The charges on which Ahmed Mansoor is imprisoned include "damaging the reputation and prestige of the state before international bodies and organizations."</p>
<b>Theme: E51 Right to education - General</b>			
<p>141.158 Guarantee mandatory and free primary education for all children living in its territory (Peru);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>E51 Right to education - General E52 primary education S04 SDG 4 - education</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - children</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE does not permit stateless children born in the country to access the free system of public schools, contrary to Art. 28.1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that "primary education" shall be "compulsory and available for all" children, without restriction by nationality.</p>
<b>Theme: F12 Discrimination against women</b>			
<p>141.172 Enact legislative reforms to ensure non-discrimination against women, including in relation to marriage, divorce and inheritance (Sweden);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>F12 Discrimination against women A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - women</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>The UAE's 2020 reform of its Personal Status Law did not include Emirati Muslim women within its scope.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
141.170 Modify the laws to enable Emirati women to pass their nationality on to their children (Sierra Leone); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	F12 Discrimination against women D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - children	<b>Not implemented</b> Emirati law continues to discriminate against women with respect to the transmission of nationality to children.
141.171 Take legislative measures to enable Emirati women to transfer nationality to their children without restrictions (Slovakia); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	F12 Discrimination against women D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - children	<b>Not implemented</b> The basic rule of Emirati nationality law continues to be that Emirati women having children with non-Emirati men shall not transmit their nationality to their children. Only special discretionary action taken subsequently by the executive branch, and subject to restrictive conditions, will allow such children to obtain the Emirati nationality of their mothers.
141.192 Continue efforts to tackle gender discrimination and inequality for all women and children, independently of their status and nationality (Portugal); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	F12 Discrimination against women F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection B31 Equality & non-discrimination S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - women - children - migrants - non-citizens	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE's 2020 reform of its Personal Status Law did not include Emirati Muslim women within its scope.
<b>Theme: G4 Migrants</b>			
141.205 Adopt the necessary legal framework to ensure that migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees, including children, fully enjoy their rights, according to international standards (Brazil); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	G4 Migrants G5 Refugees & asylum seekers F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S10 SDG 10 - inequality <b>Affected persons:</b> - children - migrants - refugees & asylum seekers	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE is not a party to the international conventions guaranteeing migrant and refugee rights, and its domestic legislative framework provides no recognition of the legal concept of a refugee.
<b>Theme: H1 Human rights defenders</b>			
141.130 Take the necessary measures to ensure that human rights defenders can carry out their work in a safe environment, free from harassment and intimidation (Belgium); <b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6	Noted	H1 Human rights defenders <b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders	<b>Not implemented</b> The UAE continues to imprison Emirati human rights defenders Mohamed al-Roken, Mohamed al-Mansoori and Ahmed Mansoor for their human rights work.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>141.131 Enhance efforts to guarantee the full exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and association, and ensure a safe environment conducive to the work of human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Italy);</p> <p><b>Source of position:</b> A/HRC/38/14/Add.1 - Para. 6</p>	Noted	<p>H1 Human rights defenders D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D45 Freedom of association S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> - human rights defenders</p>	<p><b>Not implemented</b></p> <p>Recent legal reforms, such as the passage of the new Code of Crimes and Punishments and a new, additional cybercrimes law in 2021, maintain and consolidate restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression and association. The legal framework remains incompatible with the establishment of civil society organizations independent of the government, in human rights or other fields.</p>