



Suggested recommendations to States considered during the 30th session of the Universal Periodic Review, 7-18 May 2018

Linking the UPR and the SDG processes

States have noted the potential mutual benefits of creating stronger links between human rights mechanisms, particularly the UPR, and the SDG process, with a view to achieving both greater and more effective implementation of human rights obligations and commitments on the ground and increased accountability for delivering on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. In so doing States are acknowledging that many SDG Targets and Indicators have a strong alignment with and foundation in their pre-existing human rights obligations.

In support of this, Amnesty International has attempted below to identify relevant links between the recommendations we suggest be made to States undergoing their UPR during the 30th session in May and the Sustainable Development Goals and the related targets and indicators.

In highlighting these links we have referred to Annex IV to the *Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators*, E/CN.3/2016/2/Rev.1.

Recommendations to States coming up for review

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Recommendations to the government of Azerbaijan

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.¹

- Ensure that activists, human rights defenders and any other individuals are able to peacefully exercise these rights without the fear of retribution;
- Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience, and ensure that their convictions are quashed, their bank accounts unfrozen, and all travel and professional restrictions lifted;
- Immediately end all politically motivated prosecutions and other forms of harassment and intimidation of government critics;
- Ensure that persons detained on politically motivated charges are retried in line with international standards, or else released;
- Restore a functioning safe and enabling environment for civil society, including NGOs, human rights defenders, journalists and activists;
- Repeal the legislative changes introduced in recent years restricting the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and bring the regulations on funding and registration of NGOs in line with international standards;
- Allow international human rights monitors unimpeded access to Azerbaijan to carry out their human rights work.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.²

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;
- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

¹ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

² **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL

- Ensure that fair trial guarantees and due process rights are respected and upheld in all cases, in particular for all persons arrested and convicted on politically motivated charges, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;³
- Enforce the prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment and investigate all credible allegations promptly, effectively and impartially, in line with Goal 16.10;⁴
- Ensure that all detained individuals are provided with effective safeguards for due process, in particular access to a lawyer of their choice and to their family members;
- Review all cases in which forced confessions obtained under coercion may have been used in trials; where such confessions have contributed to conviction, those convicted should be released and given a fair trial in which such evidence is excluded in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;⁵
- End reprisals and harassment against human rights lawyers and ensure that lawyers are able to effectively represent victims of human rights violations and perform their professional functions without intimidation, harassment or undue interference, as provided by the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3.⁶
- Ensure the effective independence of the Bar Association (Collegium of Lawyers) of Azerbaijan, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.6.⁷

Recommendations to the government of Bangladesh

COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERTS

- Honour its commitment at the previous UPR to improve cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including submitting outstanding reports to the treaty bodies and approving visits requested by the Special Procedures and acting promptly on their recommendations and communications;
- In particular, to facilitate invitations to the UN Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and the independence of judges and lawyers, and the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.3 and 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁸

- Promptly and fairly conclude ongoing police investigations and criminal prosecutions into the killing of secular bloggers, LGBTI activists and others;

³ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

⁴ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁵ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

⁶ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

⁷ **Goal 16, Target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

⁸ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all and **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

- Unequivocally condemn attacks by armed groups on secular bloggers, LGBTI activists and others;
- Publicly commit to ensuring that journalists and other media workers are able to carry out peaceful journalistic activities without fear of surveillance, intimidation, harassment, arrest, prosecution or retribution;
- Ensure effective protection of the lives and personal integrity of journalists and media workers, including against attacks or threats from non-state groups;
- Immediately end the practice of bringing trumped-up criminal charges and unconditionally drop all such charges against journalists, activists and others for merely exercising their right to freedom of expression;
- Ensure that police officers are adequately trained and instructed to investigate reports of harassment, attacks and death threats against activists and ensure the protection of those under threat;
- Repeal or amend all laws that violate the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including the provisions of the Penal Code related to defamation and sedition, the Information Communication Technology (ICT) Act, and the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act, in line with international human rights law;
- Ensure that bills currently being considered for adoption into law are brought in line with international human rights law and standards, including the Digital Security Act.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.⁹

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;
- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

ABDUCTIONS, ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES AND LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

- Criminalize enforced disappearance by incorporating provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances into national law;
- Take effective measures to address past human rights violations, including abductions and enforced disappearances by security agents, with a view to establishing the truth, giving access to justice to the victims, bringing perpetrators to account in fair proceedings, and providing remedies to the victims, including compensation;

⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

- Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, signed on 6 February 2007, without any reservations, incorporate it into its domestic legislation, including the Penal Code, and implement it in policy and practice;
- In ratifying the Convention, recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of victims or other states parties under its Article 32.

CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS

- Rescind the 2015 memo restricting visits to the Chittagong Hill Tracts and contact with Indigenous Peoples;
- Urgently investigate reports of sexual and gender-based violence against Indigenous women and girls in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and strengthen the effectiveness of the justice system in addressing sexual and gender-based violence, in line with Goal 5, Target 5.2;¹⁰
- Provide immediate relief to those made homeless by the mob violence in Langadu and ensure that those responsible for the violence are brought to justice in accordance with international standards for fair trial, in line with Goal 11, Target 11.1;¹¹
- Provide all necessary resources to the Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Commission to enable it to resolve unlawful land expropriations, in line with Goal 1, Target 1.4.¹²

ROHINGYA REFUGEES

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 10 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 10.7.¹³

- Provide for or facilitate the provision of the humanitarian needs of refugees and migrants, including food, water, shelter and healthcare, as well as education for the children;
- Ratify the 1951 Refugee Convention and ensure that those claiming asylum are able to access refugee status determination procedures without discrimination;
- Ensure that any plan to repatriate Rohingya refugees to their homes in Myanmar is a voluntary, safe and sustainable process;
- Guarantee that no one will be forced back to a situation where they risk facing serious human rights violations, including systematic discrimination and segregation.

Recommendations to the government of Burkina Faso

THE DEATH PENALTY

- Abolish the death penalty for all crimes;
- Pending the total abolition of the death penalty, commute all death sentences;
- Ratify without reservations the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

¹⁰ **Goal 5, Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

¹¹ **Goal 11, Target 11.1:** By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.

¹² **Goal 1, Target 1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

¹³ **Goal 10, Target 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

THE RIGHT TO STRIKE

- Ensure full respect of the ILO Convention 87, in line with Goal 8, Target 8.5.¹⁴

TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT

- Carry out prompt, independent, impartial and effective investigations into all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.1;¹⁵
- Establish an independent, professional, representative and well-resourced National Preventive Mechanism, in accordance with the requirements of the OPCAT, to carry out visits to places of detention and make recommendations to the government on ways to prevent and stop torture and other ill-treatment, including by improving prison conditions;¹⁶
- Train judges, lawyers and other judicial officials in human rights law, including regarding the prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment.

PRISON CONDITIONS

- Implement a comprehensive plan to end overcrowding in prisons and eradicate conditions and practices that violate the human rights of prisoners, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;¹⁷
- Ensure that all prisoners have access to adequate and appropriate food, sanitation and medical assistance;
- Ensure the separation of accused and convicted detainees and that trials are held in accordance with Article 14 of the ICCPR.

MILITIA AND SELF-DEFENCE GROUPS

- Introduce and enforce national legislation to ensure that justice and security are administered exclusively by state agents;
- Promptly, thoroughly, impartially and transparently investigate all allegations of human rights abuses by self-defence groups and bring suspected perpetrators to justice.

EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE AND IMPUNITY

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.1 and 16.3.¹⁸

- Ensure that policing of demonstrations is consistent with national law and international human rights standards, including the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;
- Bring to justice all persons suspected of responsibility for unlawful killings and beatings, including at the MACO prison, in accordance with international fair trial standards;
- Ensure the good administration of justice and accelerate all pending cases of human rights violations and abuses, including the cases of Norbert Zongo, Thomas Sankara and their companions, the cases of the 2014 popular uprising and those of the coup in 2015, in accordance with international fair trial standards.

¹⁴ **Goal 8, Target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

¹⁵ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

¹⁶ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

¹⁷ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

¹⁸ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, and **Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

MILITARY TRIBUNALS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3.¹⁹

- Ensure that military courts are subordinate to the authority of the High Council of Magistrates (*Conseil Supérieur de la Magistrature*) as other courts;
- Ensure that military courts cannot try civilians and that their jurisdiction is limited to offenses of a purely military nature committed by military personnel.

MATERNAL HEALTH AND ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION

- Ensure that medical staff, supplies and equipment necessary to maintain hygienic conditions and quality service are available, including increasing the number of trained midwives, in line with Goal 3, Target 3.8;²⁰
- Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and take all necessary measures to ensure that safe and legal abortion services are available, accessible and of good quality for all women who require them, in line with Goal 5, Target 5.6;²¹
- Amend the Criminal Code to remove the requirement for victims of rape and incest to seek judicial approval before they can access legal abortions, in line with Goal 5, Target 5.2;²²
- Ensure that all victims of rape are offered emergency contraception and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, by health professions and without charge, and informed that they can access legal abortions;²³
- Monitor health centres to ensure that informal and inappropriate fees are not levied and that effective accountability mechanisms are in place to eliminate any corrupt practices;²⁴
- Make contraceptive products available and easily accessible free of charge, which women and girls are able to use safely and discreetly.²⁵

¹⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

²⁰ **Goal 3, Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

²¹ **Goal 5, Target 5.6:** Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents.

²² **Goal 5, Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

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²⁴ **Goal 3, Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

²⁵ **Goal 5, Target 5.6:** Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents.

EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGs: The commitments listed under Goal 5 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 5.3 and Indicator 5.3.1.²⁶

- Amend the Persons and Family Code to set 18 years as the minimum age of marriage, including for traditional marriages, for both boys and girls, in line with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and other international and regional human rights instruments to which Burkina Faso is a party;
- Amend the law to provide for protection orders and other measures to protect people at risk of early and forced marriages and ensure that all victims of early and forced marriages have access to effective remedies and reparation;
- Increase the number of shelters available to people at risk of early and forced marriage, and the availability of expert staff to support young people at risk;
- Conduct a national consultation in order to identify and develop programmes to provide better psychological, legal and financial support to people at risk of early and forced marriages;
- Update the target of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Marriage 2016-2025 with more ambitious targets to substantially reduce child marriages, compatible with the government's obligations to take immediate and sustained action to eliminate child marriage and forced adult marriages and align it with the Sustainable Development Goal 5, Target 5.3;²⁷
- Undertake information and education campaigns aimed at both women and men to address the cultural and social acceptance of early and forced marriage, including by raising awareness of its harm to the victims and the cost to society.

ARMED GROUPS

- Take all lawful measures to bring an end to unlawful killings, including of civilians, by armed groups.²⁸

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGs: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.²⁹

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based

²⁶ **Goal 5, Target 5.3:** Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation and **Indicator 5.3.1:** Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18.

²⁷ **Goal 5, Target 5.3:** Eliminate all harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilations (by 2030).

²⁸ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

²⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;

- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

Recommendations to the government of Cameroon

ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPARATIONS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.3.³⁰

- Conduct prompt, impartial and independent investigations into all cases of human rights violations and crimes under international law, and bring to justice all those suspected of criminal responsibility in proceedings before civilian courts which uphold international fair trial standards and without recourse to the death penalty;
- Ensure that victims of human rights violations and their families receive reparation, including compensation, restitution, rehabilitation, and guarantees of non-repetition.

TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT, INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION AND DEATHS IN CUSTODY

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.1 and 16.10, and Indicator 16.10.1.³¹

- Immediately close down all unofficial and secret places of detention and either transfer detainees to official places of detention, charge them with a recognizable criminal offence and try them in accordance with international standards, or release them;
- Publicly order the security forces to end the practice of torture and illegal detention, including at military bases and facilities run by the secret services;
- Ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are able to inform their families about the location and status of their detention, and access medical and legal assistance at all stages of detention;
- Grant independent international monitors, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, unhindered access to all persons deprived of their liberty and allow them to carry out unannounced inspection visits to all detention facilities, and to investigate and monitor conditions;
- Improve conditions in detention facilities, including by providing all detainees with professional medical care, adequate food and water, lighting, and cooling and ventilation, in accordance with international and regional standards;
- Maintain an up-to-date central register of all persons arrested and detained, readily accessible to the relatives and lawyers of those detained, listing the personal details of the detainees, the date of arrest, the place of detention, the authority responsible for the detention, and any transfers;
- Ban the use of confessions or other evidence obtained through torture and ensure independent investigation into all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment;
- Ensure that all security forces are trained on international human rights standards on the

³⁰ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

³¹ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment;

- Ratify promptly the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10, and Indicator 16.10.1.³²

- Conduct a prompt, impartial and independent investigation into the disappearance of at least 130 people following their arrest in the villages of Magdeme and Doublé in December 2014, and provide the names and place of burial to the families of those who died in custody on the night of their arrest on 27-28 December 2014;
- Establish a system for cataloguing all cases of missing persons in Cameroon, with standardized criteria for the collection and registration of data, and make it accessible to the relatives of the disappeared;
- Ratify promptly the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of victims and inter-state complaints.

UNNECESSARY AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.1 and 16.3.³³

- Issue clear orders to the military, the gendarmes and police commanders to not use unnecessary or excessive force in the context of public gatherings, demonstrations or cordon-and-search operations;
- Take measures to ensure that security forces comply with international human rights law and standards on the use of force, including by providing appropriate training, conducting prompt and independent investigations into all allegations of unnecessary or excessive use of force, and bringing the perpetrators to justice.

RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, ASSOCIATION AND ASSEMBLY

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.³⁴

- Ensure respect for the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly for all, including journalists, human rights defenders and opposition party members, and take measures to create an enabling environment for the exercise of these rights ahead of the 2018 presidential elections;
- Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience deprived of their liberty solely for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression
- Remove all restrictions on mobile or internet services, unless provided for by law and demonstrably necessary and proportionate for a legitimate purpose, in accordance with Article 19 (3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and ensure that all such

³² **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

³³ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, and **Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

³⁴ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

limitations are imposed only by an independent and impartial body and subject to judicial review.

ANTI-TERRORISM LAW, UNFAIR TRIALS AND MILITARY COURTS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3.³⁵

- Bring the anti-terrorism law in line with international human rights standards by removing the death penalty, giving civilian courts jurisdiction to adjudicate crimes of terrorism, providing a definition of terrorism that is consistent with the guidelines issued by the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism, and ensure all individuals are brought promptly before a court and charged with a recognizable criminal offence within 48 hours;
- Ensure that all detainees are charged with a recognizable criminal offence and tried in accordance with international standards, or released;
- Ensure that detainees are brought promptly before a judge and have access to a procedure through which they may challenge the legality of their detention;
- Ensure that the criminal jurisdiction of military courts is limited to trials of members of the military for breaches of military discipline and does not extend to crimes over which civilian courts have jurisdiction, human rights violations or crimes under international law.

Recommendations to the government of Canada

UPR FOLLOW-UP

- Adopt an International Human Rights Implementation Act, in concert with provincial and territorial governments.

NORMATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- Expedite the process to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and initiate ratification processes for other human rights treaties to which Canada has not yet acceded;
- Accede to the Arms Trade Treaty, ensuring that the treaty will extend to arms transfers to the United States;
- Adopt a legislative framework for implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- Establish an Extractive Sector Ombudsperson to hold Canadian mining, oil and gas companies accountable for the negative human rights impact of their operations abroad;
- Fully implement the guidelines on supporting human rights defenders, including those at risk due to their work on issues related to land, territory or the environment;
- Adopt a policy of carrying out independent human rights impact assessments of all trade agreements;
- Support legal enforcement of economic, social and cultural rights in domestic courts.

³⁵ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Take a rights-based approach to the approval of resource development projects affecting Indigenous Peoples, including upholding treaty rights, respecting free, prior and informed consent and assessing gender impact, in line with Goal 1, Target 1.4;³⁶
- Take action to ensure substantive equality for Indigenous Peoples in the protection of the full range of international human rights, including education, adequate housing, healthcare, safe water and sanitation, and child and family services, in line with Goal 4, Target 4.1;³⁷
- Ensure Indigenous persons who are victims of mercury poisoning have access to specialized care and treatment, in line with Goal 12, Target 12.4 and Goal 3, Target 3.8;³⁸
- Develop training programs, in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, to ensure State officials and employees are knowledgeable of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and have the cultural competency necessary to engage effectively with the Indigenous individuals and communities they serve.

GENDER EQUALITY

- Implement existing recommendations to end violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit People, including increased funding for shelters and other social services, recording the Indigenous identity of victims of violent crime, and ensuring independent re-examination of unresolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit People, in line with Goal 5, Target 5.1;³⁹
- Adopt a comprehensive, measureable, well-resourced, time-bound National Action Plan to address all forms of violence against women and girls in Canada, in line with Goal 5, Target 5.2;⁴⁰
- Ensure all federal government departments have a publicly available gender-based analysis policy with resources to support implementation. Make gender-based analysis mandatory in the approval and regulatory process for large-scale resource development projects.

REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

- Suspend the Canada/US Safe Third Country Agreement;
- Enact legal reforms to ensure immigration detention is a measure of last resort, setting a maximum period of time for immigration detention and prohibiting the holding of children in immigration detention, in line with Goal 10, Target 10.7;⁴¹
- Provide essential health care to undocumented migrants present in Canada, in line with Goal 3, Target 3.8.⁴²

³⁶ **Goal 1, Target 1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

³⁷ **Goal 4, Target 4.1:** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

³⁸ **Goal 12, Target 12.4:** By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment and **Goal 3, Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

³⁹ **Goal 5, Target 5.1:** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

⁴⁰ **Goal 5, Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

⁴¹ **Goal 10, Target 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

NATIONAL AND PUBLIC SECURITY

- Reform Canadian law to provide absolute protection against *refoulement* and ensure no one is transferred to a place where they are at risk of torture or other ill-treatment, in line with Goal 10, Target 10.7;⁴³
- Amend Ministerial Directions on intelligence-sharing to conform with the absolute ban on torture and other ill-treatment, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.10;⁴⁴
- Legally enshrine regard for human rights as a foundational principle in Canada's national security framework.
- Amend Canadian law to establish 15 days as the maximum period for solitary confinement and a prohibition on holding individuals with serious mental health problems in solitary confinement.

Recommendations to the government of Colombia

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁴⁵

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Take effective measures to guarantee individual and collective protection of human rights defenders in situations of risk, ensuring their effective participation and the application of ethnic, territorial and gender-based approaches;
- Ensure that the National Protection Unit provide effective protection, including preventive and collective measures, according to differential and gender-based approaches, to guarantee the safety of human rights defenders, especially those working in rural areas;
- Ensure that judicial authorities conduct full and impartial criminal investigations and prosecutions of crimes under international law and human rights abuses against human rights defenders;
- Ensure that all government bodies work with due diligence to provide prevention, care, protection, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition for women human rights defenders;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work.

⁴² **Goal 3, Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

⁴³ **Goal 10, Target 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

⁴⁴ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁴⁵ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 5 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 5.2 and Indicators 5.2.1 and 5.2.2.⁴⁶

- Ensure that the voices of women victims of sexual violence are heard and that they can participate under equal conditions in all the implementation of the Peace Agreement, in compliance with the gender approach;
- Strengthen administrative, legislative and judicial mechanisms to ensure women's right to live free from violence and discrimination, in accordance with international human rights standards;
- Guarantee the rights to truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition for women and girl survivors of sexual violence in the context of the armed conflict, committed by legal and illegal armed actors.

RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- Prioritize mental health care for victims of the armed conflict, including effective strategies for their treatment, care and rehabilitation as part of the right to comprehensive reparation;
- Guarantee full rehabilitation and community reintegration to civilian victims of anti-personnel mines, as well as access under equal conditions to the care and comprehensive reparation established in Law 1448 of 2011 for victims of the armed conflict;
- Exhaustively investigate cases of persons with disabilities as victims of extrajudicial executions and establish criminal responsibility and reparation for their families;
- Guarantee access to inclusive education, sexual and reproductive rights and respect for the legal capacity of persons with mental disabilities, in line with Goal 4, Targets 4.5 and 4.a.⁴⁷

ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS

- Ensure that the obligations under international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law are binding on the implementation of the Peace Agreement with the FARC and its legislative and jurisprudential development, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.10;⁴⁸
- Guarantee the right of victims of the armed conflict to truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;⁴⁹
- Dismantle the paramilitary groups and investigate their links to state security forces, and bring to justice anyone found guilty of maintaining such links;
- Ensure that the victims of the armed conflict have access to justice, guarantee their right to truth and comprehensive reparation, and, in particular, ensure non-repetition of crimes such as

⁴⁶ **Goal 5, Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, **Indicator 5.2.1:** Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age, and **Indicator 5.2.2:** Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence.

⁴⁷ **Goal 4, Target 4.5:** By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations, and **Target 4.a:** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

⁴⁸ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁴⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

forced displacement and sexual violence, for Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants and peasants at risk;

- Comply with the duty to prevent forced displacement of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Colombian communities from their lands and guarantee their rights as victims of the armed conflict.

Recommendations to the government of Cuba

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁵⁰

- Ratify, without delay, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- Allow independent human rights monitors access to Cuba and grant them access without hindrance to government officials, civil society organizations, human rights defenders, independent political associations and independent trade unions.

COOPERATION WITH UN SPECIAL PROCEDURES

- Extend invitations to the UN Special Rapporteurs on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and on the situation of human rights defenders.

ACCESS TO DETENTION CENTRES

- Ensure full compliance with the Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners and allow independent human rights monitors access to prisons and detention centres.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

- Review all legal provisions, including Article 62 of the Constitution which unduly restricts the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, with the aim of bringing them into line with international law and standards;
- Undertake a review of criminal offences – such as “resistance to public officials carrying out their duties” (*resistencia*) and “public disorder” (*desórdenes públicos*) – and ensure they are not applied to unduly restrict the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;
- Amend provisions of the Penal Code, including those on “dangerousness”, that are so overly broad and vague that they allow for deprivation of liberty when no criminal offence has been committed;
- Amend laws which impose illegitimate restrictions on associations and prevent the registration of human rights organizations and independent media outlets, including associations that are critical of the government;
- Repeal criminal defamation laws, such as that on contempt (*desacato*), which risks silencing critical views and restricting public debate.

⁵⁰ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.⁵¹

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;
- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND SHORT-TERM DETENTION

- Cease all forms of harassment and intimidation, including the practice of short and recurrent arbitrary detentions, against human rights defenders and political activists.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

- Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience who have been imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association or peaceful assembly.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3.⁵²

- Adopt all necessary measures, including specific legislation, to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary;
- Ensure that those deprived of their liberty or facing a possible criminal charge have the right to the assistance of a lawyer of their choice to protect their rights and help in their defence;
- Ensure that lawyers are able to perform their professional functions without intimidation, hindrance, harassment or undue interference and that they are not threatened with prosecution or administrative, economic or other sanctions for any action taken in accordance with their professional duties, in accordance with the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.

WORKERS' RIGHTS

- End discriminatory dismissal of public sector workers as a way to silence criticism of the government, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;⁵³

⁵¹ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁵² **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

⁵³ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

- Prohibit discrimination based on political or other opinion in hiring, promotion and termination of employees in the public and private sector;
- Allow in practice the legal registration of independent trade unions and ensure that all workers can join a trade union of their choosing, in line with Goal 8, Target 8.5.⁵⁴;
- Establish a genuinely independent, impartial, transparent and effective appeal mechanism by which public sector employees can challenge dismissal from their jobs and access legal representation and assistance to ensure their right to an effective remedy, in line with Goal 8, Target 8.5.⁵⁵

RIGHT TO EDUCATION

- End unlawful censorship on the internet and other limitations on the right to access to information, conducted either through blocking and filtering technologies, or through arbitrary restrictions on access to the internet, so as not to undermine the right to education, in line with Goal 4, Target 4.1, and Goal 16 Target 16.10.⁵⁶

THE DEATH PENALTY

- Abolish the death penalty for all crimes.

Recommendations to the government of Germany

NATIONAL PREVENTIVE MECHANISM

- Ensure that the National Preventive Mechanism is adequately staffed and resourced to carry out its functions effectively and in line with the obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- Ensure that the appointment procedure for members of the National Preventive Mechanism is restructured to be compatible with the SPT guidelines on National Preventive Mechanisms, including in relation to transparency and inclusion of civil society.

RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES

- Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

PROTECTION OF ASYLUM-SEEKERS AND REFUGEES

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 10 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 10.7.⁵⁷

- Refrain from using the concept of “safe” countries of origin and grant fair asylum procedures to all categories of asylum-seekers;
- Repeal Article 104 paragraph 13 of the Residence Act and grant the right to family reunification to individuals with subsidiary protection;

⁵⁴ **Goal 8, Target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

⁵⁵ **Goal 8, Target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

⁵⁶ **Goal 4, Target 4.1:** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes, and **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁵⁷ **Goal 10, Target 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

- Ensure that benefits for asylum-seekers secure a dignified minimum existence in accordance with the Federal Constitutional Court's ruling in 2012;
- Ensure that the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees is adequately resourced, and increase the quality of asylum procedures by ensuring that decisions on applications are taken by interviewers, that interviewers and interpreters are sufficiently trained, and that the specific needs of vulnerable groups of asylum-seekers are addressed throughout the asylum process;
- Refrain from forcibly returning individuals to Afghanistan in the current security situation in that country.

RIGHT TO PRIVACY

- Revise the Act on Restrictions on the Secrecy of Mail, Post and Telecommunications and the Act on the Federal Intelligence Service in line with human rights standards, including amending provisions which are overly broad and vague, such as Sect. 6 (1) of the Act on the Federal Intelligence Agency, and ensuring that all provisions are sufficiently clear and precise to be "foreseeable";
- Ensure that all surveillance measures are proportionate and necessary to achieve a legitimate aim and based on law, and refrain from indiscriminate surveillance;
- Repeal the reintroduction of indiscriminate data retention;
- Provide a legal basis for extra-territorially conducted surveillance measures of foreign-to-foreign communications in compliance with human rights standards;
- Improve the effectiveness of the oversight regime for German intelligence agencies.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

- Carry out an independent investigation into institutional racism within all law enforcement agencies and relevant ministries taking into account the findings of the parliamentary inquiry committees on the National Socialist Underground (NSU), in line with Goal 10, Target 10.3;⁵⁸
- Review the federal system used by the police to register hate crimes, make the guidelines available to the public, and ensure that the victim's perception of any alleged discriminatory motive is duly taken into account in the investigation, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.b;⁵⁹
- Instruct federal state police, in consultation with federal authorities, to undertake a thorough risk assessment to identify asylum shelters at particular risk of violent attacks, and set out appropriate police protection measures;
- Amend laws governing police at the state and federal levels to make the criteria for the police to carry out identity checks more stringent and explicitly prohibit racial profiling;
- Ensure all police officers receive in-service training on the role of police in combating and protecting against racism and discrimination.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

- Ensure prompt, impartial, independent and effective investigations, including by establishing – at both the federal and state levels – independent police complaint mechanisms to hear allegations of torture and other ill-treatment and excessive use of force by the police, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.3;⁶⁰

⁵⁸ **Goal 10, Target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

⁵⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.b:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

⁶⁰ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

- Introduce an obligation for all federal and state police officers, including riot police, to wear individual identification badges.

NATIONAL SECURITY LAWS

- Repeal the overly broad concept of “Gefährder” (“potential attacker”) and in the meantime make sure the concept is interpreted consistently in all federal states and applied in a way that upholds human rights;
- Repeal the provisions allowing for preventive detention pending deportation on the grounds of being a “potential attacker”;
- Repeal the provisions on preventive detention for countering “potential danger” without formal charges in the Federal State of Bavaria’s Law regulating police activities;
- Introduce restrictions on access to immigrants’ electronic devices, such as a reasonable suspicion that false identity or nationality information has been given, and allow access only to relevant data categories;
- Introduce mandatory evaluation of counter-terror and surveillance provisions which substantially interfere with human rights with a view to avoiding disproportionate impact.

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN WITH VARIATIONS OF SEX CHARACTERISTICS

- Ensure that all medical professionals implement the July 2016 guidelines on the treatment of individuals with variations of sex characteristics, and develop and implement a rights-based healthcare protocol;
- Ensure that no child is subjected to non-emergency, invasive and irreversible surgery or treatment with harmful effects;
- Postpone non-emergency, invasive and irreversible genital surgery or hormone treatment on infants and children with variations in sex characteristics until they are able to meaningfully participate in decision-making and give their informed consent.

REGULATION OF THE USE AND TRANSFER OF ARMED DRONES

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.4⁶¹

- In advance of the production, acquisition and deployment of armed drones, develop and disclose legal standards and policies that ensure: full transparency, accountability and oversight of their deployment; the implementation of robust export controls; and strict compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law and related standards;
- Ensure that any assistance provided for another state’s lethal drone operation complies with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the right to life, including by establishing robust binding standards to govern the provision of all forms of assistance for lethal drone operations;
- Ensure prompt, thorough, independent and impartial investigations into all cases where there are reasonable grounds to believe that Germany has provided assistance to a drone strike that has resulted in unlawful killings or any civilian casualties.

⁶¹ **Goal 16, Target 16.4:** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

Recommendations to the government of the Russian Federation

FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3, Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁶²

- Immediately and unconditionally release those detained or imprisoned simply for exercising their right to peaceful assembly, including during the anti-corruption rallies on 26 March and 12 June 2017, and who were not involved in any violence;
- Fully and effectively protect and promote the rights of journalists and media workers covering public assemblies and ensure their safety and enable them to carry out their work without any interference;
- End persecution of anyone for exercising their right to peaceful assembly, including through informal “warnings”, expulsion from schools or universities, and threats to challenge the custodial rights of parents of under-aged protesters;
- Bring legislation governing public assemblies and its enforcement into conformity with international human rights standards;
- End the practice of banning public assemblies or impermissibly imposing conditions regarding the place, time and manner of their conduct;
- End the criminalization of peaceful protesters and their right to freedom of assembly;
- Ensure that public assemblies are policed in accordance with international human rights obligations and commitments;
- Ensure that members of law enforcement agencies tasked with policing public assemblies do not use excessive force, and that all law enforcement officers are individually identifiable;
- Ensure that law enforcement officials provide adequate protection to public assembly participants from threats or violence by counter-demonstrators to guarantee everyone’s rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;
- Investigate all allegations of human rights violations by the law enforcement officials during public assemblies, bring all those suspected to be responsible to justice, and ensure the right of victims to an effective remedy and reparation;
- Respect, protect and promote fair trial guarantees in court proceedings including those relating to alleged violations of public assembly rules.

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3, Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁶³

- Immediately repeal the laws under which NGOs can be declared “foreign agent” and “undesirable” organizations and stop enforcing such laws, consistent with Russia’s obligations to guarantee the right to freedom of association;

⁶² **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

⁶³ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

- Stop harassment, intimidation, smearing of and reprisals against independent civil society organizations, and in particular human rights NGOs, and allow them to carry out their work without interference;
- Thoroughly and impartially investigate all incidents of attacks, intimidation and harassment of civil society activists, in particular human rights defenders, and bring to justice those suspected to be responsible, in line with fair trial standards.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3, Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁶⁴

- Immediately and unconditionally release all individuals detained solely for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression;
- Publicly condemn all threats and attacks against media workers and unlawful interference with their work, thoroughly and impartially investigate all allegations, and bring to justice anyone suspected to be responsible in proceedings complying with fair trial standards;
- Protect and promote the rights to freedom of expression and to privacy online, and in particular repeal the ban on anonymizers and virtual private networks, and end the practice of blocking of online resources without judicial review;
- Repeal the discriminatory homophobic law⁶⁵ prohibiting “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors”;
- Amend anti-extremism legislation and ensure that any such legislation is not used to target the exercise of the right to freedom of expression;
- Guarantee the safety and security of journalists and media workers and ensure that they are able to carry out their work without threats.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND LAWYERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁶⁶

- Publicly acknowledge and recognize the importance and value of the important work carried out by human rights defenders and lawyers and ensure they are able to perform their professional duties without intimidation, harassment or undue interference, and without fear of reprisals;
- Publicly condemn all threats and attacks against human rights defenders and lawyers and any unlawful interference with their work, investigate all allegations promptly and effectively, and bring to justice anyone suspected to be responsible in proceedings complying with fair trial standards;
- Offer genuine protection to human rights defenders and lawyers who have received threats in connection with their professional activities, including threats by local public officials;

⁶⁴ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

⁶⁵ Federal Law No. 135-FZ, dated 29 June 2013, “On Amending Article 5 of the Federal Law ‘On Protection of Children from Information Harmful to their Health and Development’ and Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation with a View to Protecting Children from Information, Advocating the Denial of Traditional Family Values”.

⁶⁶ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;
- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with defenders without hindrance.

FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION

- Decriminalise “offending believers’ feelings” and drop any charges or quash convictions of all individuals prosecuted under the respective law;
- Refrain from outlawing religious groups as “extremist” solely for the peaceful practice of their religious beliefs, and from bringing administrative and criminal charges against their members for continuing to practice their religious beliefs;
- Stop blocking access to websites of religious groups peacefully practicing their religious beliefs and posting their publications on the Federal List of Extremist Materials;
- End impermissible restrictions on missionary activities.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.1, Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁶⁷

- Take effective steps to stop the practices of enforced disappearance, unlawful detention, torture and other ill-treatment of detainees, and extrajudicial executions in North Caucasus, and ensure that all members of law enforcement agencies suspected to be involved are brought to justice in fair trials;
- Publicly condemn, and take effective steps to address and eradicate, the practice of so-called “honour killings” and collective punishment of the families of suspected members of armed groups in the North Caucasus.

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

- Ensure, including through the necessary legislative changes, that Russia’s international human rights obligations are fully reflected and incorporated in national legislation, and prevail over all obligations and provisions contained in bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements and national legislation;
- Fully implement all judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

⁶⁷ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

RIGHTS OF REFUGEES, MIGRANTS AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 10 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 10.7 and Indicator 10.7.2.⁶⁸

- End the practice of requiring proof of registration at the place of residence as a precondition for refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants to access healthcare, education and other essential services;
- Comply with Russia's obligations under international human rights law not to deport, extradite or otherwise forcibly return any person to a country where they would be at real risk of serious human rights violations, including torture or other ill-treatment, and refrain from the use of and reliance on diplomatic assurances to circumvent this obligation;
- Ensure prompt, effective and independent investigations into all reported cases of secret renditions and other unlawful forcible returns of individuals to countries where they are at risk of serious human rights violations, including torture and other ill-treatment or unfair trial, in violation of the principle of *non-refoulement*;
- Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 5 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 5.2 and Indicators 5.2.1 and 5.2.2.⁶⁹

- Repeal the law decriminalizing some forms of domestic violence committed by "close relatives";⁷⁰
- Develop a comprehensive set of measures to address domestic violence in Russia, including through adopting legislation to fully criminalise domestic violence, increasing the number and accessibility of shelters for those who has suffered domestic violence, and providing training for law enforcement officials dealing with cases of domestic violence;
- Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

⁶⁸ **Goal 10, Target 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies, and **Indicator 10.7.2:** Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies.

⁶⁹ **Goal 5, Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, **Indicator 5.2.1:** Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age, and **Indicator 5.2.2:** Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence.

⁷⁰ Federal Law No. 8-FZ, dated 07 February 2017, "On Amending Article 116 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation".

RIGHTS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX (LGBTI) PEOPLE

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goals 5, 10 and 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 5.1, 10.3, 16.b and Indicators 10.3.1 and 16.b.1.⁷¹

- Condemn any discriminatory or derogatory comments about LGBTI people made by public officials and ensure any use of such language by public officials is addressed through disciplinary, administrative or other sanctions as appropriate;
- Repeal the discriminatory and homophobic law which prohibits “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors”⁷² and immediately end any ongoing administrative proceedings, and repeal any penalties previously imposed against anyone under this law;
- Amend Article 5.62 of the Code of Administrative Offenses and Article 3 of the Labour Code to explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as prohibited grounds for discrimination;
- Amend Article 282 of the Criminal Code to include as hate crimes those based on the actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim;
- Investigate effectively all allegations of hate crimes committed on the basis of the actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim and bring those responsible to justice in fair trial proceedings;
- Ensure that LGBTI people and HRDs advocating for LGBTI rights are able to exercise their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression without discrimination or fear of reprisals;
- Investigate promptly, effectively and impartially all allegations of abductions, secret imprisonment, torture and other ill-treatment, and killings of gay men in Chechnya reported by *Novaya Gazeta* in April 2017, and hold to account those responsible, including those who commissioned relevant actions, in line with fair trial standards.

TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁷³

- Take effective steps to address torture of persons in official custody, including, as the first and urgent measure, promptly, effectively and impartially investigate all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment and bring to justice anyone suspected to be responsible, in line with international fair trial standards;
- Ensure that torture and other ill-treatment are never used as means of extracting “confessions” or information, that statements obtained through torture and other ill-treatment are not admitted in judicial or other proceedings, and that all safeguards against the use of torture in national and international human rights law are fully observed;

⁷¹ **Goal 5, Target 5.1:** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere, **Goal 10, Target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard, **Indicator 10.3.1:** Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed within the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law, **Goal 16, Target 16.b:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development, and **Indicator 16.b.1:** Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law.

⁷² Federal Law No. 135-FZ, dated 29 June 2013, “On Amending Article 5 of the Federal Law ‘On Protection of Children from Information Harmful to their Health and Development’ and Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation with a View to Protecting Children from Information, Advocating the Denial of Traditional Family Values”

⁷³ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

- Ensure that the duration of prisoner transportation does not exceed seven days and that conditions during such transfer, including occupancy and sanitary conditions, do not amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;
- Ensure the Public Oversight Commissions are provided unfettered access to all places of detention;
- Ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁷⁴

- Promptly, effectively and impartially investigate all alleged cases of abductions and enforced disappearances, establish the fate and whereabouts of the disappeared persons and ensure their safety and well-being, and bring to justice anyone suspected to be responsible in line with international fair trial standards;
- Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

UNFAIR TRIALS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.3.⁷⁵

- Ensure that all international fair trial guarantees are respected in administrative and criminal proceedings within Russia's jurisdiction, including in the cases brought against peaceful protesters.

VIOLATIONS IN CRIMEA OCCUPIED AND ILLEGALLY ANNEXED BY RUSSIA IN 2014

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.3, 16.6, 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1.⁷⁶

- Promptly, effectively and impartially investigate all alleged cases of abductions and enforced disappearances in Crimea since March 2014, establish the fate and whereabouts of the disappeared persons and ensure their safety and well-being, and hold to account all those responsible in line with fair trial standards;
- Remove restrictions on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, including the unduly restrictive regulations introduced under Russian law affecting the exercise of this right by any person in Crimea, and in particular by members of the Crimean Tatar community;
- End reprisals against, and lift arbitrary restrictions obstructing the work of, independent media outlets and journalists;
- Quash the conviction on trumped-up charges against Nikolai Semena, and end the harassment and arbitrary and politically-motivated prosecution of independent journalists and bloggers in

⁷⁴ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

⁷⁵ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

⁷⁶ **Goal 16, Target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; **Target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels; **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.

Crimea, and ensure that media workers can carry out their professional work unobstructed, including those from mainland Ukraine;

- Ensure that the right to freedom of association can be exercised by everyone in Crimea, without discrimination on the grounds of political or religious views, ethnicity, or any other grounds;
- Remove the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People from the list of “extremist organisations” and lift all associated restrictions imposed on its activities;
- End arbitrary house searches, summons for questioning and other forms of harassment by members of the police and the security services, of those peacefully opposed to Crimea’s occupation and illegal annexation;
- Ensure that all lawyers in Crimea are able to perform their professional duties without intimidation, harassment or undue interference, in accordance with the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers;
- Quash the convictions and drop criminal charges on trumped-up charges of any individual in Crimea, and fully respect the right to a fair trial of all in Crimea, including alleged members of Hizb ut-Tahrir and others arbitrarily prosecuted in Crimea, including those prosecuted in connection with their political, religious or other dissenting views;
- Immediately end the practice of putting residents of Crimea on trial in military courts in Russia;
- Cooperate fully with all international and regional monitoring mechanisms, including the UN, OSCE, the Council of Europe, and independent human rights monitors, and ensure their immediate, full and unrestricted access to Crimea.

Recommendations to the government of Turkmenistan

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

- Respect the right to freedom of expression and ensure that journalists are able to exercise their profession without fear of prosecution or intimidation, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.10;⁷⁷
- Immediately released Saparmamed Nepeskuliev imprisoned merely for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.⁷⁸

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based

⁷⁷ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁷⁸ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;

- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT AND DEATHS IN CUSTODY

- Allow the ICRC full access to places of detention in accordance with ICRC principles, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.1.⁷⁹

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

- Ensure that prompt, thorough, independent and impartial criminal investigations are conducted into alleged disappearances and that the victims of enforced disappearance, including their families, are provided with full and effective reparation, including restitution, compensation, and rehabilitation, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.10.⁸⁰

RIGHTS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX PEOPLE

- Decriminalize consensual same sex relations between men, in line with Goal 10, Target 10.3.⁸¹

RIGHT TO HOUSING AND FORCED EVICTIONS

- Ensure that residents are consulted in a timely and transparent manner ahead of any proposed house demolitions, and that they are offered relocations to housing of similar size and quality or fair compensation, in line with Goal 11, Target 11.1.⁸²

RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES

- Become party to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, and opt-in to the inquiry and inter-state mechanisms;
- Accede promptly to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, making the declarations set out in Articles 31 and 32 (recognition of the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearance to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of victims and from other states parties), and to implement the Convention into national law;
- Accede to the 1968 Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity, without making any reservation or declaration amounting to a reservation and to implement it into national law.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

- To promptly accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and implement it into national law;
- To accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and to implement it in national law.

⁷⁹ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

⁸⁰ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁸¹ **Goal 10, Target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

⁸² **Goal 11, Target 11.1:** By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.

Recommendations to the government of Uzbekistan

RATIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS AND COOPERATION WITH THE UN

- Ratify all outstanding human rights treaties, in particular the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol;
- Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and enact implementing legislation;
- Issue a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND ASSEMBLY

- Investigate all reports of assaults on and harassment of human rights defenders, independent journalists and civil society activists and bring those responsible to justice in fair trial proceedings, in line with Goal 16, Target 16.10;⁸³
- Release all prisoners of conscience immediately and unconditionally.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Target 16.10.⁸⁴

- Publicly recognize human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders and human rights defenders who face particular risks and threat, and ensure support for them to carry out their human rights work;
- Ensure thorough, prompt and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice those suspected of criminal responsibility for such crimes;
- Recognise the important work of women human rights defenders and LGBTI defenders, and ensure their effective protection against gender-specific threats and violence they face because of their work or their real or perceived gender identity;
- Ensure young human rights defenders and youth-led organisations engaged in the defence and promotion of human rights are recognized and protected, including by removing age-based discriminatory practices which restrict participation of young people in public decision-making, as well as by providing resources for their work;
- Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, to enable them to conduct visits without restriction on duration and scope, and ensure they are allowed to meet with HRDs without hindrance.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

- Immediately lift all arbitrary travel restrictions, including those imposed on human rights defenders, independent journalists and former prisoners sentenced on politically-motivated charges.

RIGHTS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX PEOPLE

- Enact legislation to abolish Article 120 of the Criminal Code, in line with Goal 10, Target 10.3.⁸⁵

⁸³ **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁸⁴ **Goal 16, Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

⁸⁵ **Goal 10, Target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT

CREATING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UPR AND THE SDGS: The commitments listed under Goal 16 are relevant to the recommendations listed below, in particular Targets 16.1 and 16.10, and Indicator 16.10.1.⁸⁶

- Urge the President and other highly placed government officials, including the Prosecutor General, the Ministers of Internal Affairs and Justice, and the Chairman of the National Security Service, to publicly condemn the use of torture and other ill-treatment in all its forms;
- Promulgate a set of rules to ensure that all judges are appropriately trained on procedures to determine whether confessions or other evidence submitted in court proceedings have been extracted through torture;
- Set a timeframe for the facilitation of the visit requested by the Special Rapporteur on torture;
- Establish an effective system of independent, unannounced inspection and supervision of all places of detention by competent, independent and impartial bodies with a view to preventing torture or other ill-treatment.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

- Ensure that all detainees and prisoners, including those that have been extradited or otherwise returned from other countries, are able to exercise their rights to contact their family or another third party, and to consult in private and in confidence with a lawyer of their choice and with an independent medical practitioner.

ARBITRARY EXTENSION OF LENGTH OF IMPRISONMENT

- Take meaningful steps to end the practice of closed trials, including inside prisons or prison camps, of convicted prisoners charged with allegedly breaking prison rules and conduct an independent review of all sentences of those convicted and sentenced to additional years in prison under Article 221 of the Criminal Code.

⁸⁶ **Goal 16, Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, **Target 16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and **Indicator 16.10.1:** Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.