



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL ELECTIONS

2021 CANDIDATE

UKRAINE

Status - Seeking Re-Election

Previous Terms - 2006-08; 2009-11; 2018-20

Key measures Ukraine should commit to implement as a Human Rights Council member

The following measures were developed jointly with several civil society organisations: ADC Memorial; Human Rights House Foundation; International Service for Human Rights.

Human rights defenders and civic space:

Human rights defenders and journalists in Ukraine face threats of violence and intimidation. Ukraine must address the pattern of impunity for these attacks and ensure proper investigation and accountability. Ukraine must also take steps to ensure an enabling environment for human rights defenders and journalists, including recognizing their vital work and publicly condemning those who intimidate and attack them.

Cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms

We urge Ukraine to take a leadership role on country-specific issues at the Human Rights Council.

Civil society engagement / participation

Ukraine does not systematically engage with civil society in Ukraine on mutual priorities at the Human Rights Council. We urge Ukraine to engage and facilitate dialogue with civil society before each session of the Council.

Crimea

Human rights defenders, journalists and international observers face undue bureaucratic obstacles to entering Crimea from the Ukrainian side. We urge Ukraine to remove bureaucratic obstacles for human rights defenders, journalists and international observers to enter Crimea as requested by the UN Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, in order to effectively document and report on the human rights situation there.

Crimean IDPs and residents of Crimea face numerous and significant challenges in accessing pensions and social benefits, including a lengthy verification process and providing declarations of the absence of Russian citizenship. We urge Ukraine to guarantee equal rights to social benefits and pensions to all Crimean IDPs and residents of Crimea.

Crimean IDPs and residents of Crimea face significant difficulties obtaining civil registration documents via a cumbersome and expensive judicial process. We urge Ukraine to take all possible measures to facilitate the birth registration of children born in Crimea.

Anti-discrimination

We welcome Ukraine's attempts to introduce a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislative framework. We urge Ukraine to adopt the new proposed Labor Code that ensures gender equality and to adopt the recently proposed amendments to the Anti-Discrimination Law (draft law 0931 from 29.08.2019).

Migrants

In Ukraine migrant children are being kept in detention centers controlled by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. We urge the government to close detention centres for migrant children and instead to transfer them to the social centres under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Social Policy. We also recommend that Ukraine cease immigration detention of children. We urge Ukraine to elaborate international agreements on the safe return of children with the main source countries, in line with the standards of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Joint General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW).

Hate speech

In 2019, the incidence of hate crimes and hate speech against minorities, such as LGBTI people, feminists, Roma and other ethnic minorities significantly increased. We urge the government to effectively investigate all hate crimes and incidents of hate speech and take concrete steps to prevent such incidents.