

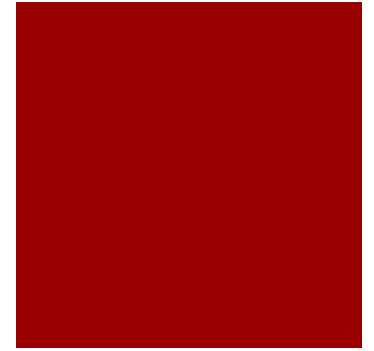
THE
CARTER CENTER



Universal Periodic Review

Introduction to the Human Rights Council

Human Rights Council



- It was established in 2006 by the General Assembly
- The Human Rights Council reports directly to the General Assembly
- The Human Rights Council meets in Geneva, Switzerland

Mandate



- The Council is responsible for
 - “Promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner.”
 - “Addressing situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations, and mak[ing] recommendations thereon”
 - Promoting, coordinating and mainstreaming human rights in the UN
 - Serving as a forum for dialogue on thematic human rights issues
 - Recommending opportunities for the development of international human rights law to the UN General assembly
 - Promoting the full implementation of human rights obligations by member states
 - Follow up on human rights commitments

Who is on the Human Rights Council?



- The Human Rights Council is composed of 47 members
- These members are elected by the General Assembly for a period of 3 years
- The elected members are selected from different regions:
 - 13 seats – Africa and Asia
 - 6 seats – Eastern Europe
 - 8 seats – Latin America and the Caribbean
 - 7 seats – western Europe and other countries

Activities of the Human Rights Council



- Universal Periodic Review – to be discussed in detail later
- Complaints procedure
- Special Procedures
- Advisory Committee
- OHCHR