

Recommendations on Racial Justice¹

Universal Periodic Review of the United States of America, May 2015

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a peer review mechanism through which the United Nations Human Rights Council scrutinizes the fulfillment of human rights obligations and commitments in each of the 193 UN Member states, relying in part on materials provided by domestic stakeholders such as civil society organizations.

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In addition, the ACLU's report and briefing materials to the Human Rights Council Working Group on the UPR are available [here](#).

Accountability for police brutality and excessive use of force

176.139. Strengthen the existing mechanisms to prevent the excessive use of force and discriminatory practices in police work (Peru);

176.140. Take necessary measures to ensure that its commitment to eliminating racial discrimination is fully respected, particularly by law and order forces, as well as by the criminal justice system (Algeria);

176.141. Take necessary measures to fight against discriminatory practices of the police based on ethnic origin (France);

176.143. Prohibit that federal authorities undertake racial profiles, and investigate the disproportionate use of lethal force against coloured people by state and local police (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

176.144. Double its efforts in combating violence and the excessive use of force by law enforcement officers based on racial profiling through training, sensitization and community outreach, as well as ensuring proper investigation and prosecution when cases occur (Malaysia);

176.145. That the process of roundtable discussions among law enforcement, elected officials and community members, aimed to stem profiling and excessive use of force by the police should be stepped up to cover as many cities as possible (Nigeria);

176.154. Adopt measures at the federal level to prevent and punish excessive use of force by law enforcement officials against members of ethnic and racial minorities, including unarmed persons, which disproportionately affect Afro American and undocumented migrants (Mexico);

¹ This document is a compilation based on the full [U.N. Universal Periodic Review Recommendations to the U.S.](#), which should be used as the authoritative document for citation purposes.

- 176.155.** End police brutality against African Americans and rectify the judicial as well as socio-economic systems that systematically discriminate against them (Pakistan);
- 176.156.** Correctly address the root causes of racial discrimination and eliminate the frequently occurred excessive use of force by law enforcement against African-Americans and other ethnic minorities (China);
- 176.157.** Continue implementing - at all levels - its policies and programs aimed to eliminate discrimination on any ground, as well as the use of excessive or unreasonable force in policing (Croatia);
- 176.158.** Take measures to put an end to police abuses, including the merciless killing of coloured people, and all racial discrimination (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.159.** Uphold its obligations to end all forms of racial discrimination in the country and protect the rights of African Americans against police brutality (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 176.214.** Prevent the continued police brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials, as well as analyse and eliminate its concrete reasons (Azerbaijan);
- 176.215.** Take comprehensive measures to address the use of excessive force by the police and ensure the investigation and the prosecution of all such acts (Bulgaria);
- 176.216.** Take further steps to end the use of excessive force in policing in all jurisdictions (Canada);
- 176.219.** Strengthen its measures to address police brutality in accordance with existing international standards governing the use of force (Thailand);
- 176.220.** Take concrete measures to eliminate racial criteria in the approach of the law enforcement officials, and combat the excessive use of force by the same officers (Angola);
- 176.221.** Adopt legal and administrative measures necessary to make effective the investigation and sanction of cases of discriminatory police practices and the use of excessive force by security forces, along with the carrying-out of awareness-raising campaigns (Argentina);
- 176.222.** Continue consultations, investigations and reform programmes underway to eliminate racial discrimination and excessive use of force in policing (Australia);
- 176.223.** Implement necessary measures to put an end to the disproportionate use of force against individuals and respect the right of peaceful protest (Turkey);
- 176.224.** Ensure a sustained human rights training for law enforcement officers in order to curb killings, brutality and the excessive use of force targeting racial and ethnic minorities, particularly African-Americans (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 176.225.** Continue to vigorously investigate recent cases of alleged police-led human rights abuses against African-Americans and seek to build improved relations and trust between US law enforcement and all communities around the US (Ireland);

176.226. Punish perpetrators of abuse and police brutality, which are increasingly alarming and constitute irrefutable acts of increasing racism and racial discrimination, particularly against African-Americans, Latinos and women (Cuba);

176.227. Take appropriate measures to eliminate the excessive use of force by the law enforcement officers. We refer to the case of killing the Kazakh national. Kirill Denyakin, by a US police officer in 2011 in Virginia (Kazakhstan);

176.287. Investigate the excessive use of force by the police and prosecute the responsible, with a view to putting an end to such practices (Egypt);

Racial Profiling

176.142. Address discrimination, racial profiling by the authorities, Islamophobia and religious intolerance by reviewing all laws and practices that violate the rights of minority groups, with a view to amend them (Malaysia);

176.146. Stop the practice of racial profiling in the judicial and law enforcement systems (Russian Federation);

176.147. Eliminate the practice of racial profiling and surveillance by law enforcement officials (Azerbaijan);

176.148. Effectively combat racial profiling and the use of excessive force by the police against coloured persons (Togo);

176.149. Combat racial profiling and Islamophobia on a non-discriminatory basis applicable to all religious groups (Pakistan);

176.150. Combat racial profiling, as urged by the HR Committee and CERD (Bangladesh);

176.151. Implement measures to assist states and local governments in combating excessive use of force by the police and eliminating racial profiling (Brazil);

176.152. Prohibit federal law enforcement authorities from engaging in racial profiling (Egypt);

176.153. Continue efforts on the federal and state levels aimed at overcoming racial discrimination, especially through the implementation of the Priority Enforcement Program to guard against racial profiling of immigrants and other forms of racial discrimination (Holy See);

176.276. Conduct in-depth examinations into how race-related issues are affecting law enforcement and the administration of justice (Ghana);

176.277. Conduct in-depth examinations into how race-related issues were affecting law enforcement and the administration of justice, both at the federal and state levels (Poland);

Adoption of Plan of Action to End Racial Discrimination

176.90. Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and adopt a national action plan to address structural racial discrimination (Chile);

176.91. Adopt an action plan consistent with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in an effort to eradicate racial discrimination effectively (Namibia);

176.92. Adopt and implement a national plan in accordance with the Durban Declaration and Program of Action (Cuba);

176.93. Take all legal measures to adopt and implement a national racial justice plan consistent with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

176.94. Undertake measures to combat racial discrimination, including adoption of a National Action Plan to Combat Racial Discrimination as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (South Africa);

176.95. Adopt and implement a national plan inspired by the Durban Declaration and Program of Action, for the benefit especially of disadvantaged minorities, which are Afro-Americans and indigenous peoples (Cabo Verde);

Other racial discrimination issues

176.118. Put forward continued efforts in raising awareness and working towards addressing issues related to the racial discrimination (Republic of Korea);

176.119. Take administrative and legal measures against perpetrators of racially motivated acts (Bangladesh);

176.120. Strengthen the existing laws and legislation in order to combat different forms of discrimination, racism and hatred (Lebanon);

176.121. Take further measures to eliminate racial discrimination in all of its forms and manifestations, in particular, by prohibiting the practice of race profiling in law enforcement, as recommended by the UN Treaty Bodies (Kazakhstan);

176.122. Bring in line the definition of racial discrimination in federal and state legislation with the provisions of ICERD (Ghana);

176.123. Combat better against racial discrimination (Senegal);

176.124. Invest further efforts in addressing the root causes of recent racial incidents and expand its capacity in reducing poverty in neighbourhoods experiencing sub/par public services, including access to adequate housing and public safety (Serbia);

176.125. End discrimination in law and practice against all minorities and migrants, particularly against women and children from poor families and take effective steps to prevent and combat violence against them (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

- 176.126.** Abolish any discriminatory measures that target Muslims and Arabs at airports (Egypt);
- 176.127.** Continue to strengthen police-community relations with a view to reduce tension in the community (Montenegro);
- 176.128.** Continue efforts in strengthening police-community relations (Rwanda);
- 176.129.** Continue the efforts to examine how to strengthen public trust and foster strong relationships between local law enforcement and communities they serve (Albania);
- 176.130.** Collaborate closely with marginalized communities to fix the problems in the justice system that continues to discriminate against them despite recent waves of protest over racial profiling and police killings of unarmed black men (Namibia);
- 176.131.** Continue to take strong actions, including appropriate judicial measures, to counter all forms of discrimination and hate crimes, in particular those based on religion and ethnicity (Singapore);
- 176.132.** Toughen its efforts to prevent religion and hate crimes as it is evident that the crimes are on the increase (Nigeria);
- 176.133.** Continue its efforts in preventing and prosecuting hate crimes (Israel);
- 176.134.** Continue to engage with the affected communities to provide protection to those most vulnerable to hate crimes and discrimination, and to better understand their circumstances (Singapore);
- 176.135.** Strengthen the laws and mechanisms at the federal and state level to further combat racial discrimination in all its forms as well as against hate speech and hate crimes, to ensure that people are protected therefrom; (Niger);
- 176.136.** Prohibit racial discrimination and racist hate speech, as well as broaden the protection afforded by law (Azerbaijan);
- 176.137.** Take concrete measures to combat racial discrimination in law enforcement, and in the administration of justice (Maldives);
- 176.160.** Take steps to eradicate discrimination and intolerance against any ethnic, racial or religious group and ensure equal opportunity for their economic, social and security rights (Turkey);
- 176.161.** Take measures and comprehensive programs aimed at developing sensitivities among cultures, creating the climate of mutual respect and expanding protection against all forms of discrimination, including profiling on the basis of race, religions or national origin (Indonesia);
- 176.162.** Heighten efforts to promote non-discrimination of any kind, including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (South Africa);
- 176.278.** Establishing an independent commission chaired by a special Prosecutor to help identify and incarcerate the crimes perpetrated by individuals or groups based on racism (Libya);