



Committee On Enforced
Disappearances
- CED -
23rd session
(12 -23 September 2022)

Information Note for victims, CSOs and NHRIs

Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED)

CED is the body of independent experts in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Convention for the Protection of all Persons against Enforced Disappearance by the States parties. It consists of 10 members, nominated by States parties and serving in their personal capacity. For details about the current membership of the Committee, please see:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ced/membership>

23rd session (12-23 September 2022)

The session will take place in person at Palais Wilson, Geneva, first floor conference Room (information subject to change depending on prevailing sanitary conditions).

All public meetings of the Committee will be webcast at the following link:
<https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

The provisional agenda of the session (CED/C/23/1) can be consulted at the following link:

https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CED%2fC%2f23%2f1&Lang=en

States parties under review

1. First reports (art. 29(1) of the Convention)

The Committee will examine the first reports of the following States parties:

**Czech Republic and
Mali**

The examination of State parties' first reports takes place through an interactive dialogue with representatives of the national authorities, and exchanges with national human rights institutions, and civil society actors, including NGOs and victims.

Following its interactive dialogues with each of the examined States parties, the Committee will adopt concluding observations on the occasion of a closed meeting. In this official document, the Committee will outline the positive aspects, its principal subjects of concern and its recommendations to the State party regarding the measures it should take to respect the Convention.

2. Reports on additional information (art. 29(4) of the Convention)

The Committee will examine the reports on additional information of the following State party:

Uruguay

Contrary to other Treaty Bodies, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances does not have a system of periodic reports. However, it can request States parties to provide additional information on the implementation of its recommendations and of the Convention (article 29-4 of the Convention).

With the aim to ensure a thorough monitoring of the implementation of the Committee's recommendations and of the Convention by all States parties and to establish the best possible cooperation to eradicate and prevent enforced disappearances, the Committee is implementing new modalities for this procedure. Thus, after conducting a detailed analysis of the State party report and related information as provided by victims, CSOs, NHRIs and other sources, the Committee will hold a briefing or space of exchanges with the delegation of the State concern. In that space of exchanges, the Committee will raise its concerns and request the State party to clarify any issues related to priority themes determined by the Plenary. Written and oral contributions from victims, CSOs and NHRIs on these issues are welcome. The issues selected by the Plenary will be disseminated as soon as possible on the session's website and through the Committee's newsletter (if you are not yet subscribed to the Committee's newsletter and wish to receive it, please send an email to ohchr-ced@un.org).

Following the consideration of available information, the Committee will adopt, in a closed meeting, Concluding Observations on Additional Information. These concluding observations aim at providing guidance to the State party concerned to implement the Convention and will clarify the next steps of the interaction of the Committee with the State party concerned.

3. Lists of issues

The Committee will adopt lists of issues for:

**Morocco
and Ukraine**

Lists of issues are adopted by the Committee for States that have submitted their first report to the Committee. They convey to the State the Committee's questions about the report and a deadline to reply to these questions.

At this phase of adoption of the list of issues, all inputs must be provided in writing.

[Where to access the relevant documentation and documents adopted by the Committee?](#)

The reports of States parties concerned and other public documents pertaining to the session can be consulted at the following link:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2022/23rd-session-committee-enforced-disappearances>

Upon their adoption during the session, the lists of Issues and Concluding Observations will be shared with the States concerned and will then be posted on the Committee's webpage under the relevant country and session.

[Participation of victims, Civil Society Organizations and National Human Rights Institutions](#)

The Committee on Enforced Disappearances highly encourages and welcomes the participation of victims, civil society organizations, and National Human Rights Institutions in its work.

You can participate through the submission of written information prior to the session (see deadlines below), and oral briefings to the Committee.

1. Written contributions

a) Content of written contributions:

- All contributions must specify the name of the submitting organization, institution or person. **Anonymous submissions are not accepted.**

- The information provided must be relevant to the Committee's mandate and the examination of the State party's report.

- Provided information must relate to the situation of enforced disappearances in the State under review, as well as on all issues related to the eradication and prevention of enforced disappearances (regarding, for example, the search for disappeared persons, the investigation of disappearances, the registration of persons deprived of their liberty, access to relevant information, non-refoulement to countries where persons are at risk of enforced disappearance, disappearances in the context of migration or trafficking in persons, the principles of cooperation between States parties, etc).

- All contributions must be specific, reliable and objective. They must be drafted in a non-abusive language.

- The Committee particularly welcomes contributions that follow the same structure as the reports submitted by States parties.

- Written submissions should be **as concise and precise as possible. They must limit to a maximum of 10,700 words**, plus annexes.

- When related to a State with regard to which the Committee will adopt a list of issues, all contributions must be submitted in writing and must:

(i) Provide all comments considered of relevance as to the report of the State party (please consult corresponding reports on the session webpage);

(ii) Address all other issues related to the Committee's mandate (even if not referred to in the State party report).

- **The information should not contain names of victims**, except if related to cases of large public knowledge, or if the organization submitting the report counts with the consent of the victims (the persons who were disappeared and then located, or the family, relatives, or representatives of a disappeared person). The organizations that submit a report with names must be able to demonstrate such consent.

- Please note that **the UN Secretariat does not translate documents submitted by national human rights institutions and civil society representatives.**

- All contributions must be submitted in English, French or Spanish. As most members of the Committee use English as their working language, it is highly recommended to translate to English all documents submitted in French and Spanish. An unofficial translation is sufficient. In such case, please provide all available language versions of the document.

- All documents must be submitted electronically (in Word or PDF) to the Secretariat of the Committee at the following email address:

ohchr-ced@un.org

- **The subject matter of your email must specify the country to which the submission refers to, and the corresponding session number (23rd session).**

- If you still need to submit printed documents, you should send them to the following address, taking into account the deadlines for the submission of contributions:

Committee on Enforced Disappearances
Secretariat
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
CH 1211 Geneva 10 - Switzerland

- In principle, all contributions will be posted on the Committee's webpage. **If you do not want that your contribution is made public, please specify it clearly in your message of submission.** In such case, the contribution will be shared with Committee members but will be kept confidential.

b) Deadlines for written contributions:

The deadlines for written contributions vary depending on the phase of the procedure corresponding to each State concerned.

Morocco and Ukraine:

30 June 2022

Czech Republic, Mali and Uruguay:

12 August 2022

2. Oral briefings during the session

Victims, civil society organizations, and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI) are also highly encouraged to contribute to the Committee's work through oral briefings.

Such briefings are organized during the session in relation to States with which an interactive dialogue on an initial report or a briefing on a report on additional information is going to be held. They take place during **private meetings** that are scheduled just before the exchange with the State concerned. They can be provided **in person, or online.**

If you wish to provide an oral briefing to the Committee, **please inform the Secretariat** through email **at least one month before the beginning of the session.**

Deadline to request oral briefing:

12 August 2022

When requesting to take part to an oral briefing, please specify:

- Country concerned
- Issues you wish to raise
- Format of participation (in person or online)

Victims, civil society organizations, and NHRIs are also welcome **to attend public meetings of the Committee as observers.** This means that during such meetings, you will not have the possibility to address the Committee or the State party.

3. Accreditation

Victims, civil society organizations and NHRIs wishing to attend the session, be it in person or online, must register at the following link (INDICO): <https://indico.un.org/event/36577/>

Kindly ensure that you register well in advance following the instructions provided.

For the 23rd session, registrations will open on 15 August 2022.

In case you wish to participate in person to the session, your registration must be approved.

Once your registration is approved, you must get your badge going in person to the **United Nations Pass and Identifications Unit** located at the **Palais des Nations, Pregny Gate**, (8-14 Avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva, Monday to Friday, 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.).

To get your badge you will have to present a valid national passport or ID document bearing a photograph. Please note that you will have to bring your passport or ID document every time you wish to enter UN premises, even when you have your badge.

Please note that the United Nations does not send letters of invitation and does not assist with visa requests, travel or accommodation related to the participation of victims, civil society organizations or NHRIs in the sessions of Treaty Bodies.

Further information

On the participation of **civil society actors** in the reporting process, please consult:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ced/guidelines-civil-society-and-national-human-rights-institutions>

You can also contact:

- CED Secretariat at ohchr-ced@un.org & albane.prophette@un.org
- the Civil Society Team of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Divisions (CTMD): britta.nicolmann@un.org

On the participation of NHRIs in the reporting process, please contact

- The National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section, OHCHR: liza.sekaggya@un.org
- The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions: k.rose@ganhri.org
