

# Universal Periodic Review 2023





## A dynamic Report on the work of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and Hatred

Coordination and supervision: Free Hands Association

Participating organizations sign



Free Hands Association  
July 2023

## This report expresses the opinions of the organizations and associations participating in the report

The Free Hands Association has submitted reports on the human rights situation in Morocco. Within the framework of interaction with international human rights organizations, in particular for a universal periodic review. The association followed her the preparation process of the Kingdom of Morocco for its combined periodic report from the 19th to the 21<sup>st</sup>; Who we use to show the efforts made and the measures taken by our country au during the period 2010-2019concerning the realization of the rights set out in the International Convention Forb the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination de menstruating the progress made and difficulties encountered. We, the Hands Free Association, appreciate the realization of one of the most important demands of the women's movement, and we consider that this positive step responds to the regional and national campaigns that women's associations have been carrying out for years, whether either individually or au within alliances, through open letters, memos, statements and reports aiming at compliance with the articles of agreement which Morocco ratified on December 18, 1970, with the elaboration of all the measures in conformity with the spirit and the provisions of this agreement, which is considered a step whose purpose is to promote achievement commitment in the international human rights system, This that Morocco has long expressed in several stages and included in its reports ,and his treaty's.

### General background

Considering that advocacy is an important mechanism of governance, and an effective tool to correct political struggle. And based on its jurisprudence regarding its intersections and interactions with various political and geopolitical issues - and out of respect for United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 2142 (21st Session) adopted on October 26, 1966, March 21 is declared the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, celebrated annually. Faced with the worrying situation of humanity in the 21st century, devastating financial crises (2008) are multiplying, populist and chauvinist movements are flourishing, terrorist tendencies are fueling, trade conflicts (United States/China) are multiplying, and international relations withdraw from the level of “multiple” cooperation preferring a individualistic isolation and the like. One of the negative phenomena underlying the exacerbation of international crises and conflicts. Crises threaten humanity in terms of safety and security, rather its very existence, not the least of which are: climate change and the threat of terrorism.

The arms race, unregulated migration and other general international problems that can only be solved through international cooperation and human solidarity. These structural transformations resulted in a new time of international tensions in the context of the current rapid transition from the “unipolar” system to the “multipolar on the one hand, and in the midst of the crisis of the current international system in its various aspects, the main title of which is: the possession of a small group of the rich of the resources of

the planet. The landowner controls his material and immaterial wealth, and thus controls them in making decisions for his future, through financial, production and information multinationals.

## Morocco is at the heart of global transformations


It is a chance for Morocco to have committed itself, consciously, voluntarily and with foresight, to a social project of development. With long-standing national foundations, solid human rights and democratic foundations, and overall development, structural, productive and cultural trends, Moroccan society has experienced profound and rapid positive structural transformations, including the overwhelming flow is beyond the ability of political actors to control their journey.

It 2 manifests itself in the fabric of societal relationships, through the crystallization of several problems produced by the dynamics of reform and modernization: the relationship of the city to the rural world, the relationship of women to men, the development of family relations, the relationship of the elites to the people, the relationship of power to society, society's relationship with the environment etc...

As we know, the governmental coalitions that Morocco has known are an integral part of a political process that has made the social dilemma and societal justice a very popular political dictionary. In this regard, the pace of worsening social disparities, declining purchasing power, high prices, unemployment, the repercussions of the Corona pandemic and the suffering of classes' middle and poor because of the worsening of fragility and the progression towards more poverty, all this has become a vital problem real and difficult to conceal.

## Human rights in Morocco in the light of the reports international

This report tries to shed light on a series of questions in the field of human rights and the problems raised concerning the reality of human rights in Morocco. Morocco interacts positively with international conventions. Morocco, with its strategic location as Africa's main gateway to Europe, and its proximity to Europe for many people suffering from fragility and poverty, whether inside the Morocco or sub-Saharan Africa, in addition to its possession of two seafronts: the first is at north, the Mediterranean and the second at the west on the Atlantic Ocean, and its surveillance of the Strait of Gibraltar, vital for world trade and transport, in order to reinforce its role as a security watchdog in the southern Mediterranean and North Africa, whether it be it immigration, terrorism, drugs or organized crime.



So we have to put highlight the social transformations and the extent of the interaction of the Moroccan state with the demands of human rights. This interaction in particular is a strategic choice and aims at its broad involvement in this approach to human rights.

By adhering to and ratifying many international conventions, such as the fight against torture and the opening of investigations in this field, as well as by preparing public policies that have resulted in of numerous measures, including the abolition of the trial of civilians before military courts, which have consecrated these agreements which oblige the Kingdom of Morocco to activate these purely legal requirements on the ground, as three periodic reviews have shown.

Political, economic and cultural rights are the essence of these obligations, followed by environmental rights, In order to strengthen the openness of the Kingdom of Morocco and to ensure it; the contribution of civil society to human rights issues was involved. Given that the Moroccan approach aims to involve everyone in this process, since Morocco is among the first countries to participate in the global session of the year 2000 and the second session of 2011, and at another level it there is integration and interaction of all actors in the field of human rights and this is part of Morocco's compliance with its international obligations.

Among the new policies adopted by Morocco, at the royal initiative, are immigration, immigrant affairs and the importance of regulating the status of foreigners residing illegally in Morocco. This is one of the most important gains made by Morocco in this area thanks to the promulgation of a set of laws in this framework.

This document can be seen as a review of the most important achievements obtained through Morocco's involvement in human rights mechanisms in light of its ratification of the charters and the realization the recommendations by which democratic construction and the rule of law were adopted and that the Morocco continues in his journey through important corrections, and activations for the principles of constitutionalism as one of the fundamental steps to consolidate these gains, which resulted in the separation of powers concerning the struceation of human rights in 2018

And also to strengthen its legal arsenal in the field of protection children and domestic workers, non-employment of minors, protection of disabled persons and the 'requirement of 'joint bodies on September 21, 2017as well as reform of the requirements of 3 justice, in particular the manifestations of the Superior Council of the Judiciary, the effectiveness of the good administration of justice and the law on the organization of the judiciary.

## Review of human rights in Morocco

The Kingdom of Morocco has adopted a special action plan to implement the recommendations issued by various human rights mechanisms. As a result, many of the recommendations have been implemented, while another part is part of the evaluation process. Morocco is diverse, and it has a population of "black" brown skin in significant proportions, and they are present throughout Morocco.

The Moroccan state and society must recognize the diversity of the Moroccan population and teach it in the schools. More space must be given to black Moroccans in the media, the arts and in positions of responsibility in government and business despite the formal equality of all Moroccan citizens before the law, positive action by the government is still necessary to reduce structural and institutional racism and shed the legacy of slavery.

Morocco's return to the African Union will undoubtedly open wide investment opportunities on the continent, especially since many Moroccan companies and banks have investments in a number of African countries, and they are expanding them more and more, and our occupying brothers at south of desert they have found an opportunity to crawl to Morocco in large numbers Is it in our country People with black or dull skin still face certain social difficulties and are subject to inferiority, despite the legal and economic development that our country is experiencing.

All regions of Morocco are teeming with hundreds of black people from different social groups. Some practices may be affected by racism. Especially immigrants from Africa sub-Saharan, which make it imperative to follow a policy and strategy against all forms of discrimination, racism and hatred.

## Suggestions and Recommendations

Enjoying our association and tall that Morocco has done in in terms of struggle against all forms of discrimination while stipulating this principle In the Constitution of the Kingdom 2011 and also, the relevance ratified international conventions, through the frogation a set of laws such as the law on violence against women and also rejecting any discrimination and in promoting in public debate some related controversial issues with the family code, criminal law and criminal procedure, despite the realization of several achievements, many challenges arise in Morocco, such as justice racial, rejection of extremism, hatred, a you racism, environmental protection, economic, social and cultural equality for all members of society.

And as we are still witnessing some instances of discrimination and racism rife here and there, which requires the development of legal, institutional and regulatory measures and procedures, through:


- Reform all discriminatory laws, put in place relevant mechanisms and fulfill its obligations related to the promotion of human rights;
- Callis the government to lift the rest of the interpretative statements that are still placed on some of the requirements of CEDAW for example, and to advance women's human rights and make equality a right and a practice for women and men without the slightest reservation;
- Strengthen democratic construction and the rule of law, and fight against all forms of discrimination against racism and hatred;
- Demanding the enactment of a law criminalizing racism and hatred in Morocco;
- Use of the “pedagogical approach” in education, radio, films and other means; “In order to spread the culture of citizenship and respect for people who are different in sex, color, religion or disability; Education in the values of tolerance, coexistence, diversity and solidarity is an absolute priority from primary school;
- Continue to engage and cooperate with the international human rights system, through legislation and upholding international standards;
- Improve the institutional framework for the protection of human rights so as to empower Morocco to protect political, social, economic and civil human rights and to protect and advance collective rights;
- Considers the Optional Protocol as a necessary tool to activate and implement the Convention, to combat individual and collective violations of women's rights and to combat gender-based violence by receiving women's complaints, investigating violations and activating all mechanisms and measures to reduce discrimination;
- Put social networks and influential actors at the service of mobilization and education against all forms of racism and xenophobia and fight for the adoption of a law to combat racism and xenophobia;
- Demanding the organization of new settlement campaigns in order to end the suffering of immigrants Permanent fixation of the immigration debate in the political debate Demanding the respect and implementation of all agreements signed by the countries of Morocco against all forms of discrimination and racism;
- Respect and implement the agreements signed by our countries as well as respect all the articles mentioned in the 2011 Constitution;
- Lutter to open borders between north and south and between Maghreb countries;
- Protect the right to life and education, to health and to have a roof;
- Respect the application of the Constitution regarding the rights of immigrants and continue to follow a local approach and work in the community;
- Think of a monitoring network to monitor various cases related to human rights violations;

- Sensitize and raise awareness through the means of communication and social communication to reject all forms of discrimination, racism and hatred Bring down stereotypes about race in Morocco;
- Shedding light on the impact of racism through education, and through book publishing the school curriculum should include history lessons on slavery and racism to raise awareness about stopping these verbal abuses;
- designate a national day to celebrate the condemnation of all forms of racial discrimination across Morocco; open discussion on manifestations and means of combating racism;
- Follow the evolution of legislation to fight against racism and discrimination in all its forms;
- Effective implementation of mechanisms and measures to renounce and end all forms of racism, hatred and terrorism;
- Encourage and motivate human rights organizations to help raise awareness and awareness of the dangers of racism and hatred;
- Introduce meaningful amendments to criminal law and criminal procedure to eliminate all forms of discrimination, inequality, racism and hatred, and increase penalties for anything that violates human dignity;
- The need to bring immigration law into line with the relevant international agreement, to adopt a comprehensive policy in the field of immigration and to take measures to respect the right of asylum. And the inappropriate or unnecessary use of force by law enforcement officials against migrants, asylum seekers and refugees;
- Pursue efforts to promote and protect the rights of immigrants and develop an immigration law and an asylum law that respects the respect of the relevant international conventions and covenants.

The two bills on asylum, the residence of foreigners and immigration have still not been ratified 7 years after their drafting.

- Non-regularization of the status of refugees and asylum seekers recognized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
- The difficulty of renewing residence permits for many refugees and immigrants whose status has been regularized;
- The fragility of the achievements from which immigrants and refugees benefited in terms of education, employment and health, for lack of a law stipulating it.
- Accelerate the ratification of asylum and immigration laws;
- the incompatibility of national legislation with the 1951 Refugee Convention;
- Stop bringing irregular migrants to the border on a massive scale, as provided for in the International Convention for the Protection of Migrant Workers and their Families, ratified by the State;
- Respecting the Kingdom's commitments not to expel and take asylum seekers and refugees to the borders, in accordance with article 33 of the 1951 Refugee Convention and article 26 of law 03/02, which





confirms the exclusion of these groups, as well as minor children and pregnant women, from being taken to the border;

- Work to enable people recognized as refugees on the basis of the 1957 decree to obtain a residence permit in accordance with article 17 of law 02/03;
- Recognition as refugees to persons under the jurisdiction of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees whose applications comply with Article 1 of the 1951 Convention on Refugees as provided for in Chapter II of the 1957 Decree;
- The compatibility of national legislation with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; improving access to health services;
- Their enjoyment of social and humanitarian assistance;
- A number of refugee men and women, immigrant men and women, have benefited from the National Service for the Promotion of Employment and Skills
- A number of refugees, men and women, have benefited from vocational training and health coverage;
- Accelerate the promulgation of a law allowing foreigners to participate in local elections, as stipulated in Article 30 of the Constitution;
- Work on the regional and local implementation of the national strategy in the field of migration and asylum.



*Mains Libres*

أيادي حرة