



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fiftieth session
Geneva, 3–14 November 2025

Honduras

Compilation of information prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. Several Committees recommended that Honduras become a Party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,² the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,³ and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)⁴ and the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization.⁵

3. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change recommended that Honduras ratify the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement).⁶

4. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had established an office in Honduras in 2015 to monitor and report on the human rights situation in the country, provide technical assistance to the Government and advise State institutions and civil society to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights.⁷

5. In 2024, Honduras submitted its midterm report regarding the implementation of the recommendations made during the third cycle of the universal periodic review.⁸

III. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

6. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) noted that in December 2022, to address security concerns, the Government had declared a state of



emergency, which was still in force in April 2025.⁹ Two Committees recommended that Honduras ensure that any measures introduced in the context of the state of emergency were strictly necessary, proportionate, temporary and subject to judicial review.¹⁰

7. The United Nations country team stated that the Criminal Code still contains provisions that need to be harmonized with human rights standards and recommended that Honduras conduct a comprehensive review of the Criminal Code.¹¹

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

8. The United Nations country team indicated that the process of the election and appointment of the National Commissioner for Human Rights in 2021 had not been sufficiently debated in the National Congress, that there had been no participation of civil society and that the resources allocated remain insufficient. It recommended that the Organic Act on the Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights be amended to ensure that the process of electing and appointing the Commissioner meets the criteria of transparency, suitability and participation of civil society.¹²

9. The Committee against Torture noted that the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment did not have the resources to carry out its mandate and regretted that, since the declaration of the state of emergency, the prison authorities had in some instances prevented the mechanism from gaining access to prisons.¹³ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should ensure that the National Committee, as well as human rights organizations, were given access to all places of deprivation of liberty.¹⁴

10. OHCHR recommended providing the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture and the National Human Rights Commission with the resources and capacity to fully discharge their mandates.¹⁵

11. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Honduras establish a standing government structure to coordinate and engage with, and prepare reports to, international and regional human rights mechanisms and coordinate follow-up to, and the implementation of, the recommendations and decisions emanating from such mechanisms.¹⁶

IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Equality and non-discrimination

12. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights stated that the absence of a comprehensive legal framework for combating discrimination remained a cause of concern. It recommended that Honduras ensure that the legal framework to combat discrimination complied with international human rights standards.¹⁷

13. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Honduras ensure the effective application of the constitutional prohibition of sex-based discrimination and adopt legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination against women.¹⁸

14. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras effectively prevent and combat discrimination against Indigenous persons, Afro-Hondurans, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, refugees, asylum-seekers and persons in situations of human mobility through awareness campaigns and affirmative action.¹⁹

2. Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

15. The Human Rights Committee, while noting the reduction in the homicide rate, remained concerned about the fact that the rate continued to be extremely high and about the

challenging context of endemic violence, the high level of impunity and the lack of control over the use and possession of firearms.²⁰

16. During his visit to Honduras in 2023, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions was alerted to the long history of attacks on the right to life that had characterized the recent past of Honduras, including death threats and executions targeting vulnerable groups and individuals.²¹

17. The Committee against Torture remained concerned about reports of continued unnecessary or disproportionate use of force by the security and other armed forces and cases of enforced disappearance and extrajudicial executions in the context of police and military operations. It was deeply troubled by the numerous reports of acts of torture and ill-treatment.²² The Human Rights Committee continued to be concerned about the militarization of public security.²³

18. The Committee against Torture recommended that Honduras ensure that all allegations of torture, ill-treatment and excessive use of force, as well as those relating to alleged extrajudicial executions and enforced disappearance, were promptly and impartially investigated and that the alleged perpetrators were brought to justice.²⁴

19. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should expedite the process of strengthening the National Police to enable it to take over the law enforcement functions currently performed by the armed forces, and step up efforts to exercise more effective civilian control over the possession and use of firearms.²⁵ The Special Rapporteur on summary executions recommended that Honduras adopt the bill to regulate the use of force by law enforcement bodies and officers.²⁶

20. During his visit to the Bajo Aguán region, the same Special Rapporteur noted with grave concern the frequent conflicts related to access to land and natural resources.²⁷ OHCHR recommended that Honduras establish and ensure the legal and administrative conditions for the operation of the Bajo Aguán truth commission.²⁸

21. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances was concerned that the offence of enforced disappearance was defined in the Criminal Code only as a crime against humanity. That legal gap meant that enforced disappearances committed outside a systematic or generalized context were investigated under other categories of criminal offence, which could adversely affect investigations and prosecutions. It recommended that Honduras to define enforced disappearance as a separate offence in the Criminal Code.²⁹

22. The United Nations country team noted the persistence of challenges in ensuring dignified conditions of detention, including in terms of overcrowding, access to healthcare and judicial guarantees. Incidents of violence and excessive use of force continued to be reported.³⁰ The Special Rapporteur on summary executions noted that homicides, inter-gang violence and access to weapons among gang members were long-standing problems in prisons.³¹

23. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should promptly and thoroughly investigate all incidents of inter-prisoner violence, strengthen measures to combat self-governance by some prisoners, and ensure that conditions of detention were consistent with the relevant international human rights standards.³²

24. The United Nations country team reported that, in 2023, following an incident of serious violence, a state of emergency had been declared in the national prison system under which powers had been delegated to the Public Order Military Police, and that this state of emergency had been extended until December 2025.³³

25. The Committee against Torture recommended that Honduras make progress towards the transfer of responsibility for prison administration to the National Prison Institute, a civilian and independent entity.³⁴ The Human Rights Committee, OHCHR and the United Nations country team made similar recommendations.³⁵

3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

26. The Human Rights Committee regretted that no progress had been made in establishing an independent governance structure for the judiciary. It was concerned about

reports of attacks, including by organized criminal groups, on the judiciary's independence and reprisals against justice officials involved in combating corruption.³⁶

27. The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras review the constitutional and legal framework of the judiciary and adopt a law on the judicial service and the Council of the Judiciary.³⁷ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should protect members of the judiciary, prosecutors and other professionals involved in the administration of justice so that they could perform their duties safely and independently.³⁸

28. The same Committee expressed concern regarding information received that impunity remained a structural problem and access to justice continued to be a challenge, especially for certain vulnerable groups.³⁹ OHCHR noted high rates of impunity resulting from a lack of effective investigations, unjustified procedural delays, limited opportunities for victims to participate in criminal proceedings and lack of adequate protection for victims and witnesses.⁴⁰

29. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances stated that impunity for enforced disappearances was almost total, both for acts that began in the past and current cases. The failure to establish enforced disappearance as a separate offence in the Criminal Code might be a factor that fuelled impunity.⁴¹ The Special Rapporteur on summary executions noted that impunity was endemic in cases of femicide and crimes against LGBTIQ+ persons, journalists and land defenders, among others.⁴²

30. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should combat impunity and ensure that investigations into human rights violations were prompt, effective, impartial and thorough, guarantee effective access to justice, in particular the availability of legal aid, for everyone, including the most vulnerable groups, and reduce delays in the justice system by allocating more resources to it.⁴³

31. The Committee against Torture and the United Nations country team expressed concern about the lack of progress in the investigation of alleged cases of torture, ill-treatment and enforced disappearances that occurred in the 1980s and 1990s and against the backdrop of the 2009 coup d'état and the 2017 presidential elections.⁴⁴

32. The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras strengthen mechanisms for the reconstruction of historical memory, in particular by adopting and implementing the bill on victims of the national security doctrine.⁴⁵

33. The Special Rapporteur on summary executions stated that corruption in public institutions had been rampant.⁴⁶ The Committee against Torture welcomed the negotiation, in December 2022, of a memorandum of understanding between Honduras and the United Nations on the establishment of an international commission to combat corruption and impunity in Honduras.⁴⁷

34. The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras strengthen the technical capacity of the Public Prosecution Service to combat corruption, as well as guarantees for the security of officials and witnesses.⁴⁸

35. The Committee against Torture noted with concern that, under article 180 of the Code on Children and Adolescents, a child as young as 12 could be held criminally responsible for his or her acts.⁴⁹ The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to raise the age at which children could be held criminally responsible to at least 14 years of age.⁵⁰

4. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

36. The Committee against Torture was seriously concerned about the many murders and attacks, enforced disappearances, threats and other acts of intimidation to which human rights and land rights defenders, Indigenous leaders, leaders of African descent and journalists were subjected.⁵¹ Two other Committees expressed similar concerns.⁵²

37. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should urgently take effective measures to guarantee effective protection and assistance for human rights defenders, journalists, trade unionists, peasant activists, members of Indigenous communities, people of African descent and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, among others, who were subjected to acts of violence and intimidation.⁵³ The United Nations country team

recommended that Honduras design and implement a due diligence protocol for the investigation of offences committed against human rights defenders and journalists.⁵⁴

38. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression noted that those working on issues relating to land, environment, corruption, organized crime and mining conflicts were at a high risk of violence, threats and judicial harassment.⁵⁵ The Special Rapporteur on climate change recommended that Honduras take urgent steps to protect environmental rights defenders from attacks by business interests, government officials, corrupt police and gang members.⁵⁶

39. The Committee against Torture expressed concern about reports that the National System for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Social Communicators and Justice Officials was ineffective and did not have the resources it needed.⁵⁷ The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression stated that a major overhaul of the National Protection System should be undertaken, through a multi-stakeholder process.⁵⁸

40. The Human Rights Committee was concerned about the criminalization of human rights defenders, activists and journalists through the misuse of certain criminal law provisions against them.⁵⁹ OHCHR recommended that Honduras adopt effective measures to prevent the misuse of criminal law against human rights defenders and journalists.⁶⁰ The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression stated that Honduras should decriminalize libel and slander, generally referred to as “crimes against honour”, and revise the articles in the Criminal Code establishing the offence of usurpation and on the spreading of “fake news or rumours”.⁶¹

5. Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

41. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should revise the definition of trafficking in persons contained in the Criminal Code to bring it into line with international standards.⁶²

42. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to further strengthen efforts to prevent the sale of children and sexual exploitation, particularly by organized criminal groups or *maras*, paying particular attention to sectors linked to tourism.⁶³

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

43. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the high levels of unemployment and underemployment affecting disadvantaged individuals and groups. It recommended that Honduras adopt a comprehensive strategy to promote employment and ensure access to decent work, paying special attention to disadvantaged individuals and groups.⁶⁴

44. The same Committee was concerned about the large number of people working in the informal sector. It recommended that Honduras expand the coverage of labour laws, social security and labour inspection services to include workers in the informal sector.⁶⁵

45. It was concerned about precarious working conditions such as excessive working hours, low wages and limited job stability in some sectors. It recommended that Honduras ensure that all workers in the agricultural, maquiladora, domestic service and fishing sectors enjoyed the same working conditions as other workers. It and OHCHR recommended adopting a law on domestic workers.⁶⁶

46. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with concern the low workforce participation rate among women. It recommended that Honduras enhance women’s access to formal employment, extend social protection schemes to women employed in the informal economy and effectively enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.⁶⁷

7. Right to social security

47. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights remained concerned that a large part of the population was still outside the social security system and that Honduras did not yet have a universal social security system that guaranteed minimum levels of social

security for the entire population. It recommended that Honduras redouble its efforts to develop a social security system that was adequate and accessible to all.⁶⁸

8. Right to an adequate standard of living

48. OHCHR noted decreases in poverty and inequality between 2021 and 2023, according to official figures.⁶⁹ The Special Rapporteur on summary executions noted that political and security challenges, compounded by high levels of corruption, including organized crime, had had a devastating effect on the economy and that, although economic recovery had helped to reduce it, the extreme poverty rate remained high.⁷⁰

49. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras adopt a multidimensional national plan of action to eradicate poverty, prioritizing the villages with the highest poverty rates, as well as coastal areas and the Honduran Dry Corridor region.⁷¹

50. The same Committee was concerned about the high rates of food insecurity among disadvantaged groups. It recommended that Honduras adopt a legislative and institutional framework and a comprehensive strategy to guarantee the right to adequate food and to combat food insecurity and malnutrition.⁷²

51. OHCHR stated that evictions were one of the main problems suffered by campesino communities, Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans and that the application of Decree No. 93-2021, which permitted preventive and immediate evictions, had exacerbated conflict related to land and territory.⁷³ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras repeal Decree No. 93-2021 and ensure that any unavoidable evictions were carried out in accordance with due process.⁷⁴

52. The same Committee remained concerned about reports of contamination of water resources by extractive and agricultural projects and about the limited access to safe drinking water and sanitation in rural and remote areas.⁷⁵ The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to ensure the comprehensive implementation of the National Drinking Water and Sanitation Plan 2022–2030, with a focus on rural and remote areas.⁷⁶

9. Right to health

53. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras improve the accessibility, availability and quality of health services, especially in rural and remote areas and for disadvantaged groups.⁷⁷

54. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to enhance its efforts to reduce infant and child mortality, especially in rural and economically disadvantaged communities and Indigenous communities and among persons of African descent, including by increasing vaccine coverage, addressing child malnutrition and guaranteeing access to health services.⁷⁸

55. The same Committee expressed serious concern about the high rate of early pregnancy, which remained among the highest in Latin America, and the insufficient access to sexual and reproductive health services.⁷⁹

56. The United Nations country team reported that, in 2023, the Government had lifted the ban on access to emergency contraception.⁸⁰ However, it indicated that barriers to access to sexual and reproductive health services persisted.⁸¹ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras ensure that quality sexual and reproductive health information and services, including contraceptive methods and emergency contraception, were made available through the public health system to all women and adolescents.⁸²

57. Four Committees expressed concern about the criminalization of abortion without any exceptions.⁸³ The Committee against Torture recommended that Honduras review the maintenance of the absolute prohibition of abortion established in articles 67 of the Constitution and 196 of the Criminal Code.⁸⁴ The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women reiterated its previous recommendation that Honduras

legalize abortion at least in cases of rape, incest, risk to the life of the pregnant woman and severe fetal impairment and decriminalize it in all other cases.⁸⁵

10. Right to education

58. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the poor quality of education, due to insufficient resource allocation and inadequate infrastructure and educational materials, the high proportion of out-of-school children, particularly Indigenous and Afro-Honduran children, and the high illiteracy rates.⁸⁶ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that, in addition to migration, the root causes of the high school dropout rate in Honduras were poverty, violence, child labour and poor-quality education, as well as the fact that it was impossible for some children to continue attending school after primary or secondary education, depending on the existence of schools and colleges near their homes.⁸⁷

59. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to continue to increase the national budget allocated to education, implement early warning systems to detect children and adolescents who were out of school or at risk of dropping out, and ensure that all schools had gender sensitive strategies for school retention and reintegration.⁸⁸ The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Honduras promote the enrolment, attendance and retention of girls and women in school and facilitate the reintegration of pregnant girls and women and adolescent mothers into the education system.⁸⁹ UNESCO recommended that Honduras continue efforts to ensure the right to inclusive education for all persons, notably persons with disabilities.⁹⁰

60. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about serious cases of bullying based on sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. It recommended that Honduras protect all children from bullying and violence in schools.⁹¹

11. Cultural rights

61. The same Committee recommended that Honduras take measures to enable Indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples to preserve and express their identity, culture, languages and traditions and to maintain their spiritual relationship with their customary lands.⁹²

12. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

62. The Special Rapporteur on climate change noted that climate change was having a negative impact on human rights in Honduras, including the rights to water and sanitation, food and adequate housing, and that many communities faced the combined impacts of climate change, mining, hydroelectric dams, deforestation and large-scale agro-industries.⁹³

63. The same Special Rapporteur noted that there were many laws and policies relevant to climate change, but they were not effectively implemented. He recommended that Honduras revise and update the law on climate change and the national climate change plan.⁹⁴

64. The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras strengthen its capacity to respond to climate change by increasing the allocation of material and human resources, particularly in the Dry Corridor.⁹⁵ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras take specific steps to protect coastal communities and densely populated areas from sea level rise and flooding.⁹⁶

65. The United Nations country team noted that the Business and Human Rights Round Table tasked with developing a national action plan on business and human rights had been discontinued in 2023. It recommended that Honduras resume efforts to develop the action plan with the participation of civil society organizations and the private sector.⁹⁷

66. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras establish a clear regulatory framework for companies operating within its jurisdiction to ensure that they exercised human rights due diligence and a transparent and independent monitoring mechanism for the continuous supervision of investment projects and business activities.⁹⁸ The Special Rapporteur on climate change recommended that

Honduras adopt a regulatory and institutional framework to ensure the equal and meaningful participation in decisions regarding business projects from an early stage.⁹⁹

67. OHCHR noted that conflicts relating to land stemmed from historical problems such as the inequitable distribution of land and resources, the insecurity of land tenure and irregularities in the authorization and concession of business projects. It recommended that Honduras adopt effective measures to reduce land-related conflicts by establishing a legal and institutional framework that provided for land titling, recognizing the right of access to land for campesino groups and other historically excluded groups.¹⁰⁰

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

68. The Special Rapporteur on the right to development noted that gender inequality persisted in various forms. While women comprised more than 51 per cent of the population in Honduras, only 27.3 per cent of seats in the National Congress were currently held by women. The proportion of women in senior and middle management positions was also less than 30 per cent.¹⁰¹ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should continue its efforts to increase the participation of women in political and public life and the public and private sectors.¹⁰²

69. The Committee against Torture was concerned about the high levels of violence against women and girls, including femicides and domestic violence, the reluctance to report that type of violence and the difficulties encountered by the authorities in investigating and prosecuting the reported cases.¹⁰³

70. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with concern the reduction in the new Criminal Code of the minimum sentence for the crime of femicide, that the new Criminal Code no longer specifically criminalized marital rape, and the lack of adequate assistance and remedies for women seeking to escape violent relationships.¹⁰⁴

71. The same Committee recommended that Honduras amend the Criminal Code to increase the sentences for femicide to make them commensurate with the gravity of the crime and to specifically criminalize marital rape, and expand the network of specialized shelters for women and girl victims of gender-based violence.¹⁰⁵ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should adopt a comprehensive law on gender-based violence and specialized protocols for the investigation of violence against women, including femicide.¹⁰⁶

2. Children

72. The Special Rapporteur on summary executions was particularly concerned about the lack of effective solutions to combat the root causes of violence against children, which included poverty and recruitment by gangs.¹⁰⁷

73. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to establish programmes to assist children to leave *maras* and be reintegrated into society,¹⁰⁸ and to amend its legislation to explicitly prohibit and criminalize all forms of recruitment and use of children under the age of 18 years by non-State armed groups.¹⁰⁹

74. The same Committee was deeply concerned about the continuing prevalence of child marriage and early de facto unions, particularly in rural areas, among Indigenous communities, communities of African descent and persons living in poverty. It recommended that Honduras strengthen measures to enforce respect for the minimum age of marriage, which was set at 18 years, prevent child marriage and early de facto union by effectively addressing their root causes and raise public awareness of their harmful effects.¹¹⁰

75. The same Committee remained concerned about reports of significant numbers of children, including some below the age of 15 years, engaged in child labour in agricultural and domestic work.¹¹¹ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras step up efforts to combat the worst forms of child labour in the agricultural, mining, fishing and domestic service sectors by enforcing labour laws,

strengthening labour inspections, imposing appropriate penalties and providing remedies for victims.¹¹²

76. UNHCR recommended that Honduras develop procedures and tools and provide adequate guidance to government officials on determining the best interests of internally displaced, refugee and asylum-seeking children.¹¹³

3. Persons with disabilities

77. The United Nations country team noted that a bill on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities had been submitted to the National Congress but had not yet been adopted.¹¹⁴ It recommended that Honduras continue its efforts to formulate a legislative framework and implement public policies to guarantee the exercise of the rights of persons with disabilities.¹¹⁵

78. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Honduras to set up a comprehensive strategy for the inclusion of children with disabilities and to harmonize national legislation, policies and regulations with the human rights model of disability.¹¹⁶

4. Indigenous Peoples and minorities

79. The Special Rapporteur on the right to development noted that Indigenous Peoples experienced disproportionately high levels of poverty in Honduras and had limited access to basic services such as education, healthcare, housing, water and electricity and employment opportunities.¹¹⁷

80. The Special Rapporteur on summary executions noted a lack of effective and timely investigation of the serious violations committed against members of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities. He recommended that Honduras protect the right to life of persons belonging those groups and ensure that a differentiated approach was applied in the investigation of all potentially unlawful deaths, threats and attempts on their lives, taking the context of historical discrimination into account.¹¹⁸

81. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the complex and slow process of registering and demarcating the lands of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples and about cases of eviction, dispossession and displacement of those peoples due to land disputes and the impact of extractive projects carried out on their customary territories without consultation or free, prior and informed consent.¹¹⁹

82. The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras move forward in the reform of its regulatory and institutional framework to ensure recognition of the ancestral lands and territories of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples.¹²⁰ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should expedite measures geared towards the adoption of the bill on free, prior and informed consultation.¹²¹ The Special Rapporteur on climate change recommended that Honduras implement the United Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.¹²²

5. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

83. The Human Rights Committee was concerned about the high levels of violence, including violent killings, committed against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and about reports that that type of violence received little attention.¹²³

84. The Committee against Torture recommended that Honduras ensure that all acts of violence motivated by the real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity of the victims were investigated and that all investigations were informed by a gender perspective and an intersectional approach.¹²⁴

85. The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should adopt the legislative and other measures required to guarantee that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons were not discriminated against on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity.¹²⁵

86. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with concern that Decree No. 3-2021, which amended article 112 of the Constitution, prohibited

same-sex marriage and the recognition of same-sex marriage and registered unions entered into under private international law. It recommended that Honduras amend the decree to legalize same sex marriages and recognize such unions.¹²⁶

87. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras adopt a procedure for the recognition of gender identity that allowed individuals to amend their identity data on their identity documents and in the public records.¹²⁷

6. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

88. While recognizing the humanitarian challenges that migratory flows transiting from or through its territory presented for Honduras, the Committee against Torture was troubled by the numerous deaths and disappearances of immigrants in the country and the failure to conduct prompt and effective investigations into them. It recommended that Honduras investigate possible abuses and other human rights violations, including cases of death and disappearance, that migrants in its territory might be subjected to.¹²⁸

89. The Committee on Enforced Disappearances recommended that Honduras, in cooperation with other transit or destination countries, design and implement a public policy that addressed the structural causes of mass migration, such as poverty, inequalities and violence.¹²⁹ The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances recommended that Honduras ensure coordination between the Honduran authorities and the authorities of other countries, so that progress continued to be made in searching for and identifying victims of disappearances abroad.¹³⁰

90. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Honduras take measures to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers enjoyed treatment that was no less favourable than that of national workers in terms of access to employment, remuneration and working conditions.¹³¹

91. UNHCR recommended that Honduras accelerate efforts to adopt and implement reforms to the Migration and Aliens Act, which would strengthen the refugee protection framework.¹³² The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras speed up the refugee status determination process and facilitate the local integration of asylum-seekers and refugees in the country.¹³³

92. UNHCR noted that the serious protection challenges faced by the Honduran population were starkly reflected in the increase in Hondurans seeking asylum in a third country. Despite the life-threatening situations that forced Hondurans to flee, there were continued deportations of Hondurans, and it was anticipated that in 2025 more Hondurans would be deported to the country, and that some of them could face threats to their physical safety and security upon arrival.¹³⁴

7. Internally displaced persons

93. UNHCR indicated that Honduras had made significant progress with the adoption and implementation of the Act for the Prevention of Internal Displacement and the Protection and Care of Internally Displaced Persons.¹³⁵ The United Nations country team recommended that Honduras adopt the Act's implementing regulations and implement the Act.¹³⁶ The Human Rights Committee stated that Honduras should develop a public policy for the prevention of forced displacement, as mandated by the Act for the Prevention of Internal Displacement and the Protection and Care of Internally Displaced Persons.¹³⁷

94. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained deeply concerned about the prevalence of forced recruitment and gender-based violence perpetrated by *maras* and local gangs, which were the primary drivers of internal displacement.¹³⁸ The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Honduras provide internally displaced women and girls who were victims of gender-based violence with free and immediate access to medical services, legal assistance and a safe environment.¹³⁹

Notes

- 1 [A/HRC/46/12](#), [A/HRC/46/12/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/46/2](#).
- 2 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 50, and [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 68. See also United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Honduras, para. 65.
- 3 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 68, and [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 51.
- 4 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 37 (f), and [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 31 (d). See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (x).
- 5 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 31 (d), and [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 37 (f).
- 6 [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 62 (m). See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (y).
- 7 See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/honduras/our-presence>.
- 8 See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-implementation>.
- 9 UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Honduras, p. 2. See also [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 14, [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 54, [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 9, United Nations country team submission, para. 92, and [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 8.
- 10 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 5, and [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 10 (a). See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (g), and [A/HRC/52/24](#), para. 95 (c).
- 11 United Nations country team submission, paras. 31 and 32.
- 12 United Nations country team submission, paras. 2–4. See also [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 19.
- 13 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 20.
- 14 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 24 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 24.
- 15 [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 79 (d). See also [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (h), [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 5 and 6, United Nations country team submission, para. 24, [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 12, and [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 62 (s).
- 16 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 54.
- 17 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 22 and 23 (a).
- 18 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 13 (a) and (b).
- 19 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 23 (c). See also [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 15 (b).
- 20 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 19. See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 8, [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 13, and [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 5.
- 21 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 30.
- 22 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 14.
- 23 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 19. See also [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 11, and [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 54.
- 24 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 15 (d).
- 25 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 20 (c) and (d). See also [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 11, [A/HRC/54/22/Add.2](#), para. 76 (f), and [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 15 (d).
- 26 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 79 (b).
- 27 *Ibid.*, para. 49.
- 28 [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (m). See also [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 83 (a)–(c), and [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (l).
- 29 [A/HRC/54/22/Add.2](#), paras. 18 and 76 (a). See also [A/HRC/54/22/Add.4](#) (Spanish only) and [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 15 (a) and (b).
- 30 United Nations country team submission, para. 21. See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 26, [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 10, and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/04/honduras-militarisation-prisons-and-detention-conditions-raise-concerns-un>.
- 31 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 59.
- 32 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 26 and 28 (b) and (c). See also [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 19 (a)–(c) and (e).
- 33 United Nations country team submission, para. 19.
- 34 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 17 (b). See also [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 31 (a).
- 35 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 30 (a), [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (f), [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 79 (a), [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (t), and United Nations country team submission, para. 22.
- 36 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 35.
- 37 United Nations country team submission, para. 26. See also [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 13, and [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (b).
- 38 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 36 (a).
- 39 *Ibid.*, para. 37.
- 40 [A/HRC/57/75](#), para. 14, and [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 14. See also United Nations country team submission, para. 27. See also [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 65.
- 41 [A/HRC/54/22/Add.2](#) paras. 45 and 75. See also [A/HRC/54/22/Add.4](#).
- 42 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 17.
- 43 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 38 (a), (b) and (d).

- 44 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 26, and United Nations country team submission, para. 28.
- 45 United Nations country team submission, para. 30. See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (r), [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 7 and 8, and [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 77 (a).
- 46 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 18.
- 47 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 6 (c).
- 48 United Nations country team submission, para. 91. See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 19 (a).
- 49 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 24.
- 50 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 49 (a).
- 51 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 30.
- 52 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 8, and [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 41. See also [A/HRC/56/53/Add.1](#), p. 1.
- 53 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 42 (a). See also [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 31.
- 54 United Nations country team submission, para. 107. See also [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (q).
- 55 [A/HRC/56/53/Add.1](#), para. 27.
- 56 [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 62 (j).
- 57 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 30. See also [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 41, and [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 25 (b).
- 58 [A/HRC/56/53/Add.1](#), para. 97. See also [A/HRC/58/23](#), para. 75 (o), and [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (b).
- 59 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 43.
- 60 [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (q). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 106.
- 61 [A/HRC/56/53/Add.1](#), paras. 113–115. See also United Nations country team submission, para. 37, and UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Honduras, para. 25.
- 62 [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 32 (a).
- 63 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 26 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 42.
- 64 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 26 and 27 (a).
- 65 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 28 and 29 (a).
- 66 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 30, 31 (a) and (d), and [A/HRC/52/24](#), para. 95 (v).
- 67 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), paras. 36 (a) and 37 (a) and (c).
- 68 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 38 and 39 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 50.
- 69 [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 5.
- 70 [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 16. See also [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 39.
- 71 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 43.
- 72 *Ibid.*, paras. 44 and 45 (a).
- 73 [A/HRC/52/24](#), para. 21. See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 52.
- 74 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 53.
- 75 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 46. See also [A/HRC/60/25/Add.1](#), paras. 41 and 45.
- 76 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 37 (b).
- 77 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 59.
- 78 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 17 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 55.
- 79 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 35 (a) and (b).
- 80 United Nations country team submission, para. 57. See also [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 80.
- 81 United Nations country team submission, para. 58.
- 82 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 61 (b). See also [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 36 (a) and (c), [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 18 (d), and United Nations country team submission, para. 59.
- 83 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 60, [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 17, [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 38 (a), and [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 34. See also [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 36 (b).
- 84 [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 35 (a). See also [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 18 (a) and (b), and [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 36 (b).
- 85 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 39 (a). See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 61 (a).
- 86 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 64 (a)–(c). See also [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 39 (a)–(c), and [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 34 (a)–(d). See also United Nations country team submission, paras. 60 and 61.
- 87 UNESCO submission, para. 10.
- 88 [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 40 (a) and (c).
- 89 [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 35 (c).
- 90 UNESCO submission, para. 24 (iv).
- 91 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 64 (d) and 65 (e).
- 92 *Ibid.*, para. 55 (c).
- 93 [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 55.
- 94 *Ibid.*, paras. 49 and 62 (a).
- 95 United Nations country team submission, para. 17.
- 96 [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 49 (d).
- 97 United Nations country team submission, paras. 13 and 14.

- ⁹⁸ [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 11 (a) and (f). See also [A/HRC/44/43/Add.2](#), para. 109 (a), and [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (o).
- ⁹⁹ [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 62 (g).
- ¹⁰⁰ [A/HRC/55/22](#), paras. 46 and 95 (k).
- ¹⁰¹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/development/sr/20241121-eom-honduras-sr-rtd-en.pdf>, p. 5.
- ¹⁰² [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 14 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 67.
- ¹⁰³ [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 32.
- ¹⁰⁴ [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 24 (a), (b) and (d). See also [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 33.
- ¹⁰⁵ [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 25 (a), (b) and (d).
- ¹⁰⁶ [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 16 (a). See also [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 80 (a) and (b), and United Nations country team submission, para. 73.
- ¹⁰⁷ [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 46.
- ¹⁰⁸ [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 24 (c). See also [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), para. 82 (c), and [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 22 (a).
- ¹⁰⁹ [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 50 (a).
- ¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 25. See also [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), paras. 48 (c) and 49 (c).
- ¹¹¹ [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 47.
- ¹¹² [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 41 (b).
- ¹¹³ UNHCR submission, p. 4.
- ¹¹⁴ United Nations country team submission, para. 78.
- ¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, para. 80.
- ¹¹⁶ [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 31 (b) and (c).
- ¹¹⁷ [A/HRC/60/25/Add.1](#), paras. 24, 42 and 97 (e), (h) and (i).
- ¹¹⁸ [A/HRC/56/56/Add.1](#), paras. 39, 40 and 85 (a).
- ¹¹⁹ [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 54.
- ¹²⁰ United Nations country team submission, para. 98. See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 55 (a).
- ¹²¹ [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 48. See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 15 (a) and (b), and [A/HRC/55/22](#), para. 95 (u).
- ¹²² [A/HRC/56/46/Add.1](#), para. 62 (r).
- ¹²³ [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 11. See also [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 24 (f).
- ¹²⁴ [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 37. See also [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 23 (d).
- ¹²⁵ [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 12 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, para. 9.
- ¹²⁶ [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), paras. 48 (a) and 49 (a).
- ¹²⁷ [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 23 (e).
- ¹²⁸ [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), paras. 38 and 39.
- ¹²⁹ [CED/C/HND/OAI/1](#), para. 43.
- ¹³⁰ [A/HRC/54/22/Add.2](#), para. 76 (jj). See also [A/HRC/54/22/Add.4](#).
- ¹³¹ [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 31 (b).
- ¹³² UNHCR submission, p. 6.
- ¹³³ United Nations country team submission, para. 102.
- ¹³⁴ UNHCR submission, p. 2.
- ¹³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 3. See also [CAT/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 5 (e), [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 3, and United Nations country team submission, paras. 81 and 101.
- ¹³⁶ United Nations country team submission, para. 104. See also UNHCR submission, p. 5, and [E/C.12/HND/CO/3](#), para. 57 (a).
- ¹³⁷ [CCPR/C/HND/CO/3](#), para. 34 (a).
- ¹³⁸ [CRC/C/HND/CO/6-7](#), para. 45. See also United Nations country team submission, para. 68.
- ¹³⁹ [CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9](#), para. 47 (b).