



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fifty-first session
Geneva, 19–30 January 2026

Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Lebanon*

Report of 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 periodicity of the universal periodic review and the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a summary of 52 stakeholders' submissions² for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations³ and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. Lebanon was recommended to ratify the major international instruments to which it was not yet a party to, including the ICPPED;⁴ the ICPAMW;⁵ the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol;⁶ the two Optional Protocols to the ICCPR,⁷ the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR; the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW;⁸ the Optional Protocols to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure⁹ and the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.¹⁰

3. ICAN urged the government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.¹¹

4. AI encouraged Lebanon to become a state party to ILO Convention No. 189 on Domestic Workers and the ICMW and implement their provisions in law, policy and practice.¹²

5. MWA recommended Lebanon to ratify the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention and take immediate steps to address forced labour in law and practice.¹³

6. JS24, JS18, JS20, JS15, Adyan and JS3 further recommended withdrawing reservations to the CEDAW.¹⁴

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



7. JS23 called on Lebanon to codify the principle of non-refoulement in line with article 3 UNCAT and article 7 ICCPR.¹⁵
8. JS17, AI HRW and UJLeb recommended Lebanon to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.¹⁶
9. JS1 recommended ratifying the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.¹⁷
10. JS2 urged the government to unconditionally facilitate and grant approval to all outstanding visit requests of UN special procedures, working groups, and other relevant UN experts to Lebanon.¹⁸

B. National human rights framework

11. JS15 and Alkarama recommended the government to accelerate efforts to ensure that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is fully compliant with the Paris Principles.¹⁹
12. JS12 and CLDH advised the government to equip the NHRC and the National Preventive Mechanism (CPT) with the institutional, financial, and operational resources necessary to fulfil their mandates independently.²⁰

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

13. Alkarama recommended amending domestic legislation on torture to align fully with international standards to bring a definitive end to the practice of torture.²¹
14. AI urged the government to diligently and meaningfully enforce Lebanon's Anti-Torture Law and end the practice of trying civilians in military courts.²²
15. EHRF recommended the government to adopt legislation that criminalize enforced disappearance and extraordinary rendition, in accordance with international standards, and ensure that victims have access to effective remedies and reparations.²³
16. JS12 urged enacting legislation to restrict the jurisdiction of military courts strictly to offenses committed by military personnel in the course of military duties and ensuring all cases involving civilians or non-military forces are tried before civilian courts.²⁴
17. JS24 and FR called on the government to amend the Nationality Law and ensure equal transmission of nationality by Lebanese women and.²⁵
18. JS16 recommended Lebanon to amend the Penal Code to eliminate statutes of limitations for sexual offences against children.²⁶
19. MWA recommended Lebanon to amend labour legislation to fully include domestic workers and bring all related regulations in line with the minimum standards set out in ILO Convention 189.²⁷
20. MWA recommended Lebanon to amend Law 205 on sexual harassment to ensure full protection for migrant domestic workers, and ensure domestic workers are explicitly covered under Law 293 on domestic violence and gender-based violence.²⁸
21. J11 recommended Lebanon to ensure that laws applied to the online sphere comply with the government's commitment to guaranteeing the right to freedom of expression, media freedom and access to information.²⁹
22. JSC recommended accelerating the adoption of a modern media law aligned with international standards, explicitly covering digital media and providing a legal definition for digital and independent journalists.³⁰
23. JSC urged the government to enact comprehensive legislation criminalizing hate speech following United Nations definitions, particularly Article 20 of the ICCPR.³¹

24. CLDH, JS2, JS11 and AI recommended to repeal articles criminalizing libel, slander, and defamation; and amend the Penal Code to criminalize only statements that amount to incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence.³²

25. JS21 urged Lebanon to adopt clear, rights-respecting definitions of hate speech, modelled on international standards like the Rabat Plan of Action, to distinguish protected expression from incitement to hatred, discrimination, or violence.³³

26. JS3 recommended Lebanon to enact legislation based on human rights approaches, respecting the principles of equality, non-discrimination, and inclusivity, while aligning national laws, particularly personal status laws, with the international treaties ratified by Lebanon.³⁴

27. ECLJ advised Lebanon to repeal its blasphemy law to ensure that all its citizens are free to practice their religion according to the tenets of their faith.³⁵

28. Proud recommended to adopt the draft law and officially repeal Article 534 by mid-2026, replacing it with a law that explicitly protects the rights of LGBTIQ+ individuals.³⁶

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

29. JS9 recommended the government to maintain the de facto moratorium on executions and develop a transparency policy by communicating disaggregated data, disaggregated by gender, age, nationality, and other applicable criteria.³⁷

30. JS19 advised the government to complete the transfer of prison administration from the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities to the Ministry of Justice, as stipulated in article 1 of the relevant legislation.³⁸

31. JS19 recommended reforming the prison system in line with modern correctional principles, replacing the outdated 1949 framework.³⁹

32. JS19 urged the government to reform the judiciary and accelerate trials by enforcing article 108 of the Code of Criminal Procedure to limit excessive pre-trial detention; and permanently reinstate the special court at Roumieh Prison.⁴⁰ JS19 further recommended avoiding unnecessary detention; ensure that arrest and remand are used only when legally justified.⁴¹

C. Promotion and protection of human rights

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

Equality and non-discrimination

33. Adyan recommended the government to initiate a legal review of personal status laws across all recognized groups to identify and address discriminatory provisions against women.⁴²

34. Maat urged Lebanon to adopt a unified personal status law that guarantees equality between all women in rights and duties, regardless of religious or sectarian affiliation.⁴³

35. SCM and Adyan urged Lebanon to develop and implement a national strategy to combat hate speech and incitement to religious violence.⁴⁴

36. JS22 recommended the government to investigate and hold accountable public officials, political actors, and media outlets who engage in hate speech, incitement, or discriminatory campaigns against refugees, in accordance with international human rights standards.⁴⁵

37. JS5 recommended to take necessary steps to ensure the safety of marginalised groups, online and offline and ensure adequate investigation into all attacks against activists, protestors, journalists, media professionals, and marginalised groups.⁴⁶

38. Proud recommended Lebanon to enact a national anti-discrimination law that explicitly includes protections based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, aligning with Lebanon's commitments under the ICCPR and ICESCR.⁴⁷

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

39. CCLS recommended Lebanon to improve detention conditions by addressing overcrowding, ensuring access to medical care, and prohibiting prolonged solitary confinement.⁴⁸

40. JS9 urged the government to combat prison overcrowding by increasing the use of sentence adjustment measures and introducing non-custodial alternative sentences in penal institutions where prison overcrowding remains chronic.⁴⁹

41. JS9 also recommended taking urgent measures to release defendants eligible for alternatives to detention.⁵⁰

42. CCLS called on the government to initiate comprehensive investigations into all cases of enforced disappearance, including the examination of mass graves and DNA testing, and provide psychological, legal, and cash assistance to families of the disappeared.⁵¹

43. CCLS urged the government to fully implement Law 105/2018 by ensuring the National Commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared is adequately resourced and empowered to carry out its mandate effectively.⁵²

44. Alkarama called on Lebanon to end the practice of arbitrary detention by ensuring strict adherence to procedural safeguards, including prompt access to legal counsel and timely presentation before a judge; and ensuring that conditions of detention comply with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.^{53,54}

45. JS12 recommended to establish a national rehabilitation system for victims of torture based on General Comments Number 3 for the Article 14 of the UNCAT.⁵⁵

46. JS23 recommended Lebanon to refrain from carrying out extraditions requested on political grounds and violating non-refoulement.⁵⁶

International humanitarian law

47. JS2 stated that, between October 2023 and November 2024 in Lebanon, airstrikes caused widespread killing and destruction, including attacks on telecommunications infrastructure.

48. HRRL noted that thousands of cases of enforced disappearances during the Lebanese civil war remained unresolved. The relatives of victims disappeared had been dying due to old age without having received any information regarding the fate of their loved ones.⁵⁷

49. NCMFD noted that the National Commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared (hereafter "the Commission") was established under Law No. 105/2018 as an independent national mechanism mandated to determine the fate of thousands of persons who went missing or were forcibly disappeared during the conflicts Lebanon has witnessed since 1975.⁵⁸

50. NCMFD urged the government to ensure full implementation of Law No. 105/2018 by providing institutional, material, and human resources, and respect the Commission's independence and guarantee continuity of its work.⁵⁹

51. HRRL called on Lebanon to create a joint Lebanese-Syrian working committee to investigate the facts relating to the Lebanese disappeared and examine the need for investigations to serve the process of truth, justice, and reparations specific to this case; exhume the mass graves in Lebanon dating from the civil war and set up psychological support processes for families.⁶⁰

52. JS13 recommended Lebanon to develop and adopt a national action plan on mass graves with a clear timeline, budget, and coordination mechanism to protect grave sites, identify remains, and fulfil families' right to know.⁶¹

53. CLDH and KRC advised the government to activate the National Commission on the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared by providing the necessary resources.⁶²

54. KRC recommended Lebanon to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit detainees and work towards their release, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.⁶³

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

55. AI recommended Lebanon to enact a law on the independence of the judiciary in line with international standards and ensure that the judiciary is respected from undue interference.⁶⁴

56. LJA further recommended the government to ensure that judicial appointments and transfers be governed by objective, merit-based criteria, free of confessional considerations, and protecting the fundamental guarantees of fair trial.⁶⁵

57. LJA stated that judges must be protected from intimidation or restrictions that would impede their rights to freedom of association and expression; and that neither the High Judicial Council nor its President, acting individually, should hold the power to dismiss any judge from the judicial cadre or to issue disciplinary warnings.⁶⁶

58. JS1 recommended Lebanon to prohibit censorship based on political or sectarian affiliation by reforming the General Security and municipal authorities' power to block or cancel artistic events without explanation.⁶⁷

59. LJA encouraged Lebanon to ensure that judicial salaries be adjusted to reflect the cost of living, and adequate resources must be secured for the Judges' Mutual Fund.⁶⁸

60. Unite for Rights encouraged Lebanon to strengthen partnerships with existing regional courts, including joint initiatives and facilitating knowledge exchange to help build a Middle East Court of Human Rights as progress toward an international judicial architecture of regional courts.⁶⁹

61. CCLS and Alkarama called on the government to conduct prompt, independent, effective, and impartial investigations into all complaints of torture and other ill-treatment.⁷⁰

62. AI called on the government to ensure a transparent and independent domestic investigation into the Beirut port explosion, including by addressing any political and legal barriers that obstruct the investigation.⁷¹

63. HRRL urged Lebanon to establish independent and transparent judicial investigations into the past political assassinations, that will ensure the truth, establish responsibilities and consequently deliver justice to the victims, their families and the Lebanese people.⁷²

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

64. CPJ stated that Lebanon failed to uphold its obligations under the ICCPR and UDHR, with deteriorating press freedoms marked by impunity for journalist killings, as well as harassment, arbitrary detention, and persecution of journalists.⁷³

65. UJLeb recommended to formally recognize and implement protection protocols for journalists, aligned with international standards such as those developed by UNESCO and the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.⁷⁴

66. CPJ urged the government to take measures to end all forms of violence against journalists, including killing, torture, and other ill-treatment;⁷⁵ and take measures to end state and non-state actors' intimidation and threats to journalists.⁷⁶

67. JSC recommended establishing an independent national mechanism to protect journalists from assaults and threats, investigate violations, and hold perpetrators accountable.⁷⁷

68. JS11 called on Lebanon to ensure that laws applied to the online sphere comply with the government's commitment to guaranteeing the right to freedom of expression, media freedom and access to information.⁷⁸

69. Similarly, UJLeb recommended establishing a national independent investigative body to document and pursue accountability for attacks against media personnel.⁷⁹

70. JS2 and JS11 urged the government to ensure that any media regulation is in full compliance with international freedom of expression standards.⁸⁰

71. HuMENA stated that, in Lebanon, military and security forces viewed protests as threats to national security; and that protesters, including minors, were summoned or prosecuted in military courts.⁸¹

72. HuMENA recommended the government to transfer all speech-related and protest cases to ordinary civilian courts, ensuring full due process.⁸²

73. ECLJ urged Lebanon to take steps to ensure that Christians can freely practice their faith without fear of being harassed and threatened by their family and community members.⁸³

74. ADF urged the government to ensure the protection of all religious cultural heritage sites.⁸⁴

Right to marriage and family life

75. ADF recommended Lebanon to reform family laws to ensure equal legal protection for interfaith marriages, including via an appropriate civil process, and that the property, inheritance, and other rights of all persons are respected.⁸⁵

Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

76. MWA recommended Lebanon to investigate, prosecute, and prevent all forms of trafficking of migrant domestic workers, including through abusive practices such as passport confiscation, wage theft, and the misuse of absconding charges.⁸⁶

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

77. JS8 recommended the government to revise the Lebanese Labor Law to eliminate the requirement for prior Ministry of Labor approval to form trade unions and remove nationality-based restrictions to allow foreign residents to form or join unions, ensuring legal recognition of the migrant domestic workers' union.⁸⁷

78. JS8 further recommended amending the 1959 Public Sector Staff Regulation to explicitly recognize public employees' rights to form unions and participate in collective action without fear of dismissal.⁸⁸

Right to social security

79. JS4 urged the government to address poverty and transition from short-term poverty-targeting schemes to a sustainable, rights-based universal social protection system that addresses the structural causes of inequality.⁸⁹

80. HRW urged Lebanon to implement commitments made towards establishing a universal social security system in the National Social Protection Strategy into law, increase investments in social security through progressive domestic revenue generation, and promptly establish a mechanism to address complaints related to social security.⁹⁰

81. JS6 observed that austerity measures still reflected minimum core contents of social and economic rights, especially for vulnerable and marginalized populations.⁹¹

82. JS6 called on Lebanon to respect its obligation to provide minimum standards of economic and social rights to its population and ensure that policies of austerity are limited to what is necessary for the public good.⁹²

83. JS7 urged the government to reform its social protection programs to respond to people's basic needs and ensure inclusive coverage for unemployed persons and non-citizens, including refugees, migrants, and stateless individuals.⁹³

Right to an adequate standard of living

84. JS4 noted that, since the previous UPR cycle, the Lebanese Lira lost over 90% of its value while inflation peaked at 171% in 2022 and remained high through 2024, causing a severe deterioration of living conditions for most of the population.⁹⁴

85. JS4 stated that access to affordable and adequate housing remained scarce and that the housing crisis had deepened over the last years, fuelled by decades of market speculation operating in a complete absence of fair housing policies.⁹⁵

86. JS4 recommended Lebanon to commit to the recognition of the right to adequate standard of living and the economic and social rights for all, without any discrimination.⁹⁶

87. HRW called on the government to explicitly recognize the right to electricity and take urgent steps to ensure that all residents have a continuous, affordable, and clean supply of electricity.⁹⁷

Right to health

88. JS4 stated that healthcare infrastructure including medical vehicles had been attacked on at least 137, further stretching an already weakened healthcare system and in direct violation of international humanitarian law.

89. JS4 noted that in November 2024, at least 15 hospitals (amounting to about 10% of all hospitals in the country) were out of service or were only partially functioning, making it difficult or impossible to meet the healthcare needs of the population, including the needs of the over 17,000 people who were injured during the war.⁹⁸

90. JS7 stated that Lebanon's austerity-driven cuts on public health expenditure, along with its excessive reliance on privatization and its failure to reconstruct essential health infrastructure following successive crises, violated its minimum core obligations under Article 12 of the ICESCR.⁹⁹

91. AI recommended Lebanon to ensure medication is available and affordable as required by international law and standards, including by increasing budget allocations for primary health care centres.¹⁰⁰

92. JS3 urged the government to develop a comprehensive and inclusive national strategy on sexual and reproductive health and rights that ensures availability, accessibility, and quality of services, with particular attention to rural areas.¹⁰¹

93. JS4 urged the government to prioritize its work toward achieving universal health coverage while ensuring that this coverage extends to all residents of Lebanon, including migrants and refugees;¹⁰² and scale up mental health services.¹⁰³

94. JS14 recommended the government to conduct a review of the legislative frameworks on drug-related matters to align it with international human rights standards, to ensure a human rights-based approach to drug use and to decriminalize drug use and possession for personal consumption.¹⁰⁴

Right to education

95. Broken Chalk observed that Lebanon's education system consisted of elementary, secondary, and higher education; and that education in Lebanon was mandatory from age 3 to 14, with a special focus on languages such as Arabic, English, and French.¹⁰⁵

96. Broken Chalk positively noted that, despite challenges in the education system, Lebanon made significant progress in education, particularly in science and mathematics, where the country was ranked 5th globally in a 2013 World Economic Forum.¹⁰⁶

97. Broken Chalk stated that, nonetheless, the Lebanese curriculum was outdated since it had not been changed in a long time, especially in subjects like history, and the curriculum frequently did not cover essential topics in history.¹⁰⁷

98. Broken Chalk recommended to oblige private schools to reserve at least 15% of the available spots for low-income students by using a voucher system or scholarships. This should be funded by 2% levy on private school tuition fees.¹⁰⁸

99. Adyan recommended the government to run pilot programs that integrate inter-religious education and religious pluralism into official national school curricula in both public and private education.¹⁰⁹

100. RRL recommended Lebanon to reallocate and strategically invest resources to strengthen the public education system, focusing on bridging the enrolment gap and ensuring inclusive and quality education for all children, including refugees.¹¹⁰

101. RRL further recommended establishing a national mechanism for the regular collection and analysis of education data disaggregated by gender, age, disability, nationality, and socio-economic status across both public and private schools.¹¹¹

Development, the environment, and business and human rights

102. ANND recommended the government to consolidate climate policies into a unified legal and regulatory framework covering sectors such as energy, waste, water, agriculture, land reform, public finance, investment, and procurement.¹¹²

103. ANND urged Lebanon to expedite the establishment of the Energy Regulatory Authority (ERA) to drive renewable energy development and attract investment; institutionalize national disaster preparedness, response, and recovery plans; and enhance the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit's mandate and authority.¹¹³

104. ANND further urged ensuring public access to climate and environmental data, enhance early warning systems, and disseminate information on natural hazards and expanding public participation in climate policy development beyond awareness efforts.¹¹⁴

105. JS15 recommended the government to allocate dedicated national and donor funding by early 2026 to restore and maintain non-operational sewage treatment plants and ensure continuous energy supply to critical water and sanitation facilities in high-density urban areas by end of 2025.¹¹⁵

2. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women

106. JS20 advised the government to extend paid maternity leave to at least 14 weeks in line with ILO standards; prohibit dismissal or detriment during/after leave.¹¹⁶

107. JS15 recommended the government to extend maternity leave to 14 weeks and introduce a paternity leave of at least 10 days in the labour code, and introduce shared parental leave with coverage for informal workers.¹¹⁷

108. JS20 further advised enhancing monitoring and accountability mechanisms to track violations against girls and ensure redress.¹¹⁸

109. Maat and JS15 recommended the government to consider accelerating the issuance of the draft women's quota law to increase women's representation on municipal councils.¹¹⁹

110. JS15 urged the government to expand rehabilitation, legal aid, and healthcare services for women prisoners, and ensure the separation of detainees based on status and strengthen the role of trained female prison staff.¹²⁰

111. JS16 recommended Lebanon to ensure protection from sexual exploitation; expand psycho-social rehabilitation for child survivors of abuse and sexual violence; and intensify investigation and penalties against perpetrators.¹²¹

Children

112. JS16 noted that children in Lebanon were increasingly exposed to multiple forms of violence amid the absence of an effective, comprehensive protection system and legal/structural gaps that hinder adequate response.¹²²

113. JS16 stated that sexual violence was among the gravest violations affecting children and has intensified due to poverty, family breakdown and online exposure.¹²³

114. JS16 recommended raising the age of criminal responsibility from 7 to at least 13 years.¹²⁴

115. JS16 urged the government to criminalize early marriage conducted outside competent religious or civil courts; impose deterrent penalties on facilitators; and adopt protection measures for girls, including refugees, at risk of child marriage.¹²⁵

116. JS20 and JS16 further recommended adopting a unified civil law setting the minimum age of marriage at 18 and criminalizing child marriage nationwide.¹²⁶

117. JS10 recommended the government to enforce the child labour laws to ensure that children focus on education rather than premature employment; and to improve educational system, as well as the ease of access to it, regardless of children's personal or family circumstances.¹²⁷

118. JS10 urged Lebanon to provide identification documents to all children, to allow them to full access to education and essential services.¹²⁸

Persons with disabilities

119. LUPD stated that only 14 percent of the total number of people with disabilities held a disability ID card. LUPD noted that the government, which was supposed to conduct a survey of people with disabilities in Lebanon with the Central Administration of Statistics back in 2015-2016, never revived the project until present.¹²⁹

120. LUPD noted that the cash allowance program for persons with disabilities covered only 18,962 who have obtained a disability ID card, out of a total of 130,000 persons.¹³⁰

121. LUPD urged the government to provide unemployment allowance for persons with disabilities, which cover their needs.¹³¹

122. LUPD urged the government to incorporate inclusion and diversity standards into the structures and frameworks of ministries, including equipment and adaptation, training, commitment to employment rates for persons with disabilities, and inclusive projects.¹³²

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

123. Proud recommended to criminalize all forms of hate speech and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity by passing relevant amendments to the Penal Code; and develop and implement a protection plan in coordination with civil society that ensures the safety of human rights defenders and LGBTIQ+ activists by 2026.¹³³

124. Proud urged Lebanon to prohibit the use of official institutions to promote hate speech against LGBTIQ+ individuals; and recommended the government to ensure academic, legal, and cultural institutions uphold non-discrimination and human rights standards for all.¹³⁴

125. JS13 and AI called on the government to repeal or reform all laws, including Article 534 of the Penal Code, that discriminate on the grounds of sex, gender identity or sexual orientation.¹³⁵

126. JS1 recommended the government to ensure legal and institutional protections for LGBTQ+ artists and artistic expression by rescinding directives issued by the Ministry of Interior that restrict or limit the LGBTQ+ community's participation in cultural life.¹³⁶

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

127. SCM cited reports indicating that, as of January 2024, 1.5 million Syrian refugees lived in Lebanon, 90% of them living below the poverty line.¹³⁷ SCM noted that the Lebanese authority's strict residency requirements and a 2015 freeze on the UNHCR's ability to register new refugees had left more than a million Syrians without legal residency status and no process for obtaining it.¹³⁸

128. SCM stated that Syrian refugees in Lebanon faced escalating restrictions and discriminatory treatment. Policies and rhetoric had increasingly undermined their rights, safety, and dignity. Between 2021 and 2025, Syrian refugees in Lebanon were subjected to

growing discriminatory practices, including curfews and mobility restrictions imposed by several municipalities.¹³⁹

129. JS22 advised the government to ensure that revisions of policies and regulations in relation to residency permits for Syrian refugees are transparent and inclusive.¹⁴⁰

130. JS18 recommended the government to recognize the legal status of Palestinian Refugee from Syria in Lebanon as Refugees due to the armed conflict in Syria.¹⁴¹ JS18 further recommended to register and issue identification documents for newborn Palestinian Refugee from Syria, in accordance with the International Conventions Lebanon has ratified.¹⁴²

131. MWA recommended the government to abolish the kafala (sponsorship) system and the criminalisation of “absconding”; guarantee domestic workers the right to terminate contracts and change employers without prior approval or lengthy legal procedures; and to guarantee all workers, including domestic workers, the right to a non-discriminatory, adequate minimum living wage.¹⁴³

132. CLDH also recommended the government to abolish the kafala system and adopt a unified labor law that guarantees equal protections and rights for all workers, including domestic and migrant workers.¹⁴⁴

133. EHRF called on Lebanon to guarantee the right to seek asylum and access to international protection, in line with the principle of non-refoulement and international human rights law, including through the development and adoption of a national asylum law and procedures for individual risk assessments.¹⁴⁵

134. CCLS advised the government to cease all practices of refoulement, provide accessible legal aid and support services for migrants, including psychological and medical assistance¹⁴⁶; enhance search and rescue operations in the Mediterranean and establish safe and legal pathways for migration to prevent loss of life at sea.¹⁴⁷

135. EHRF urged Lebanon to immediately cease all deportations, removals, or informal transfers of individuals to countries where they face a substantial risk of torture, enforced disappearance, or other serious human rights violations.¹⁴⁸

136. ADF recommended Lebanon to ensure all Christian and other refugees belonging to religious minorities can access humanitarian aid and assistance without discrimination or stigma.¹⁴⁹

Stateless persons

137. FR noted that Lebanon had not taken any meaningful steps to reform its legal framework or adopt procedures to identify and protect stateless persons. Statelessness in Lebanon was perpetuated across generations and remained closely linked to gaps in the legal framework and its implementation, compounded by poverty and gender-based discrimination.¹⁵⁰

138. FR stated that stateless individuals continued to be excluded from access to rights, services, and legal identity and that this continued to remain politically marginalized and legally invisible.¹⁵¹

139. JS24 recommended Lebanon to uphold the human rights of all persons regardless of nationality including access to education and healthcare.¹⁵²

140. FR urged the government to ensure access to legal remedies, including State-funded legal aid, for stateless persons seeking recognition or documentation through judicial channels.¹⁵³

Notes

¹ A/HRC/47/5 and A/HRC/47/5/Add.1, and A/HRC/47/2.

² The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org (one asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with A status).

*Civil society**Individual submissions:*

ADF International	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
Adyan	Adyan Foundation, Beirut (Lebanon);
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
Alkarama	Alkarama Foundation, Geneva (Switzerland);
ANND	Arab NGO Network for Development, Beirut (Lebanon);
Broken Chalk	The Stichting Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
CCLS	Cedar Centre for Legal Studies, Tripoli (Lebanon);
CLDH	Centre Libanais des droits humains (CLDH), Daoura (Lebanon);
CPI	Committee to Protect Journalists, New York (United States of America);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, The, Strasbourg (France);
EHRF	Egyptian Human Rights Forum المنبر المصري لحقوق الإنسان, Paris (France);
FR	Frontiers Ruwad Association, Beirut (Lebanon);
HRRL	Human Rights Research League, 0565 Oslo (Norway);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
HuMENA	HuMENA for Human Rights and Civic Engagement, Brussels (Belgium);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
JSC	Journalist Support Committee, Beirut (Lebanon);
KRC	Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of torture, Beirut (Lebanon);
LJA	نادي قضاة لبنان, Forn Al Chobak (Lebanon);
LUPD	Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities, Beirut (Lebanon);
MAAT	Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Cairo (Egypt);
MWA	Migrant Workers' Action, Dallas, TX (United States of America);
NCMFD	National Commission for Missing & Forcibly Disappeared - Lebanon, Beirut (Lebanon);
Proud	Proud Lebanon, Beirut (Lebanon);
RRL	Refugee Rights Lab, Padova (Italy);
SCM	Syrian center for media and freedom of expression, Paris (France);
UJLeb	اتحاد الصحفيين والصحافيات في لبنان (تجمع نقابة الصحافة البديلة سابقا), Beirut (Lebanon);
Unite for Rights	Unite for Rights, San Francisco (United States of America).

Joint submissions:

JS1	Joint submission 1 submitted by: Artistic Freedom Initiative, Brooklyn, New York (United States of America); Regional Advocacy for Women's Sustainable Advancement (RAWSA);
JS2	Joint submission 2 submitted by: Access Now, New York (United States of America); SMEX;
JS3	Joint submission 3 submitted by: Arab Institute for Human Rights Lebanon Branch, Beirut (Lebanon); The Arab Institute for Human Rights – Lebanon ABAAD – Resource Center for Gender EqualityMouvement Social The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering;
JS4	Joint submission 4 submitted by: Arab NGO Network for Development, Beirut (Lebanon); The Centre for Social Sciences Research and Action (CESSRA), Skoun, Lebanese Observatory for Workers and Employers Rights;
JS5	Joint submission 5 submitted by: Association for Progressive Communications, Johannesburg (South Africa); SMEX;
JS6	Joint submission 6 submitted by: Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil, Paris Cedex (France); Good Shepherd Sisters (GSS), Tahaddi, Apprentis d'Auteuil and Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil International (FAAI);

- JS7 **Joint submission 7 submitted by:** Arab Reform Initiative, Paris (France); 1- Badil - The Alternative Policy Institute 2- The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy;
- JS8 **Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Lebanese Center for Human Rights, Sora (Lebanon); Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) Act for Human Rights (ALEF) Proud Lebanon The Samir Kassir Eyes (SKeyes) Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections (LADE) Transparency International (TI) Union of Journalists in Lebanon;
- JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Paris (France); Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Lebanese Association for Civil Rights, Association justice et miséricorde, Coalition mondiale contre la peine de mort;
- JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** Marist International Solidarity Foundation, Rome (Italy); - Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale - FMSI- Fratelli Association- Solidaridad, Educación y Desarrollo - SED- La Salle Foundation;
- JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** Gulf Centre for Human Rights, Dublin (Ireland); Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR), Maharat Foundation, IFEX and OMCT;
- JS12 **Joint submission 12 submitted by:** International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, Copenhagen N (Denmark); Association for Justice and Mercy - AJEM ALEF Proud Lebanon Lebanese Center for Human Rights - CLDH Restart Center CARITAS International Rehabilitation Council for Torture victims;
- JS13 **Joint submission 13 submitted by:** Coalition of Lebanese NGOs for Civil Rights, Hazmieh (Lebanon); ALEF - act for human rights Anti-Racism Movement (ARM) Cedar Centre for Legal Studies (CCLS) Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) Committee of the Families of the Missing Proud Lebanon Ruwad Houkuk FR World Organization Against Torture (OMCT);
- JS14 **Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Lebanese Coalition for the Reform of Drug Policies, Chiyah (Lebanon); -Skoun, Lebanese Addictions Center -Association Justice et Misericorde (AJEM) - Society for Inclusion and Development (SIDC) -The Legal Agenda - Middle East and North African Harm Reduction Association (MENA HRA)-Middle East and North African Network of People Who Use Drugs (MENANPUD);
- JS15 **Joint submission 15 submitted by:** Lebanese Organization United for Defending Equity and Rights, Beirut (Lebanon); 1. LOUDER: Founded in 2015, LOUDER promotes human rights education, conducts research, builds capacity, and advocates for a just society where everyone can defend their rights. 2. Rafto Foundation for Human Rights: A non-profit that promotes global human rights through the Rafto Prize, supports defenders, challenges authorities, and provides democracy education. 3. Geneva Institute for Human Rights (GIHR): Since 2004, GIHR supports human rights capacity building in governments and civil society through training and advisory services within Geneva's multilateral framework. 4. HuMENA for Human Rights and Civic Engagement: Based in Brussels and Beirut, HuMENA protects civic space in MENA by supporting activists, women, and media through advocacy, research, and capacity building. 5. Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB): Founded in 2006, LLWB is a non-political network that empowers professional women in Lebanon by fostering skills, networks, and access to funding and mentorship. 6. Dar Al Amal (DAA): Lebanon's first NGO tackling prostitution and gender-based violence since 1970, DAA empowers women and supports vulnerable children through protection centers. 7. Innovation for Change (I4C): A global, community-led network defending civic space and freedoms, I4C supports advocacy, training, and tech development via seven regional hubs and a central support team. 8. FEMALE: Founded in 2013,

- FEMALE is a grassroots feminist nonprofit promoting young voices and intersectional feminism while challenging harmful media stereotypes in Lebanon and the SWANA region;
- JS16 **Joint submission 16 submitted by:** Developmental Action without Borders, Sidon (Lebanon); This report was prepared in collaboration and coordination with a coalition of civil society organizations working in the field of child rights in Lebanon. Contributing organizations include Himaya, ALEF, KAFA (Enough Violence and Exploitation), Al Mar'a Al Khayriya, Naba'a – Developmental Action Without Borders, Al-Jalil Social Charity, the Arab Network for Child Rights – Manara, and the Palestinian Human Rights Organization. Additionally, several international organizations expressed their interest in co-signing the report as a demonstration of their support for its content and recommendations. These include Adyan Foundation, I'mPossible, the Community Forum for Empowerment and Development, and the Aseel Center for Early Intervention. The report was also jointly signed by Save the Children International and the World Organization Against Torture;
- JS17 **Joint submission 17 submitted by:** Parliamentarians for Global Action, New York (United States of America); Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) and Justice Without Frontiers (JWF);
- JS18 **Joint submission 18 submitted by:** Palestinian Human Rights Organization, Beirut (Lebanon); PHRO المنظمة الفلسطينية لحقوق الإنسان ، الشبكة الأوروبية – المتوسطية لحقوق الإنسان ، FIDH الفدرالية الدولية لحقوق الإنسان ، EuroMed Rights ، المركز اللبناني لحقوق الإنسان ، CLDH تحرك من أجل حقوق ، شبكة المنظمات العربية ، CIHRS مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان ، ALF الإنسان ، ANND مركز تطوير ، CCLS مركز سيدر للدراسات القانونية ، TATWIR لدراسات الإستراتيجية وتنمية الموارد البشرية ، Witness المؤسسة الفلسطينية لحقوق الإنسان ، NABAA ، JCC مجمع الكنائس للخدمة الإجتماعية ، KRC مركز الخيام لتأهيل ضحايا التعذيب ، PWHO جمعية المرأة الخيرية
- JS19 **Joint submission 19 submitted by:** Proud Lebanon, Beirut (Lebanon); Mouvement Social, Dar al Amal, Nusroto Association, Cedar Center for Legal Studies, Proud Lebanon, Middle East Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRRA), Migration Services and Development (MSD), SIDC Lebanon, Un Ponte Per, Nidal For Humanity Association, Father Afif Osseiran Foundation (FAOF);
- JS20 **Joint submission 20 submitted by:** Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering, Beirut (Lebanon); The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering - RDFLDar AL AMAL - DAAأبعاد - ABAAD كفى - KAFA (Enough violence and exploitation)The Collective for Research and Training on Development-Action-CRTD.AThe Lebanese Council To Resist Violence Against Woman- LECORVAWFiftyfifty- 50 النجدة - NAJDEH - نباء - NABA'A;
- JS21 **Joint submission 21 submitted by:** Small Media, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Small Media FoundationSEEDS University of Birmingham;
- JS22 **Joint submission 22 submitted by:** Working Group for People Affected by the Syrian Crisis, Hazmieh (Lebanon); NGOs members of the WG PASC (Working Group for the Persons Affected by the Syrian Crisis)ALEF – act for Human RightsAbaad ACHRANDBasmeh w ZaitounehCaritasCLDHcreadeIDPNAHelemHimayaHimaya daem AattaaHouse of PeaceIssam Fares InstituteLecorvawLUPDMosaicMSDNabaaNajdehPHRORuwwad TanmiyaRDFLSawaShiftTabithaTWIURDAUTOPIAWoman AliveWomen Now;
- JS23 **Joint submission 23 submitted by:** MENA Rights Group, Chatelaine (Switzerland); MENA Rights Group and Cedar Center for Legal Studies;

JS24 **Joint submission 24 submitted by:** Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, New York (United States of America); The Collective for Research and Training on Development-Action , the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights (GCENR) , Equality Now , and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) make this joint submission to the Universal Periodic Review.

³ The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

⁴ Maat, p.6.; JS13, p.2; JS15, p.4; CCLS, para 4; Alkarama, para 1.1; NCMFD, p.5.

⁵ JS15, p.4; Maat, p.6.

⁶ CCLS, para 26.

⁷ Alkarama, para 1.1.

⁸ JS2, para 7.

⁹ JS3, para 2.4; JS16, para 2.1.

¹⁰ FR, para 35.

¹¹ ICAN p.1.

¹² AI, para 47.

¹³ MWA, para 6.

¹⁴ JS24, para 26; JS18, para 2.12; JS20, PARA 12.5; JS15, p.3; Adyan, para K; JS3, para 2.4.

¹⁵ JS23, p.12.

¹⁶ JS17, para 10. AI, para 52. HRW, para 7.; and UJLeb, p.8.

¹⁷ JS1, p.11.

¹⁸ JS2, para 7.

¹⁹ JS15, p.4; Alkarama, para 1.2.

²⁰ JS12, p.6; CLDH, p.9.

²¹ Alkarama, para 3.1.2.

²² AI, para 54.

²³ EHRF, p.5.

²⁴ JS12, p.12.

²⁵ JS24, para 26; FR, para 30.

²⁶ JS16, para 4.1.3.

²⁷ MWA, para 6.

²⁸ MWA, para 6.

²⁹ JS11, para 6.

³⁰ JSC, para 7.1.

- 31 JSC, para 7.1.
32 CLDH, p.2; JS11, para 6; JS2, para 21; AI, para 37.
33 JS21, p.19.
34 JS3, para 2.4.
35 ECLJ, para 22.
36 Proud, p.4.
37 JS9, p.2.
38 JS19, para 3.3.
39 JS19, para 3.3.
40 JS19, para 3.3.
41 JS19, para 3.3.
42 Adyan, para K.
43 Maat, p.7.
44 SCM, para 43.; Adyan, para K.
45 JS22, p.9.
46 JS5, para 63.
47 Proud, p.3.
48 CCLS, para 18.
49 JS9, p.4.
50 JS9, p.4.
51 CCLS; paras 43 and 44.
52 CCLS; para 43.
53 Alkarama, para 3.1.1.
54 Alkarama, para 3.1.1.
55 JS12, para 3.
56 JS23, p.11.
57 HRRL, para 1.
58 NCMFD, p.2.
59 NCMFD, p.5.
60 HRRL, para 1.
61 JS13, p.27.
62 CLDH, p.7; KRC, p.3.
63 KRC, p.3.
64 AI, para 53.
65 LJA, p.6.
66 LJA, p.6.
67 JS1, p.12.
68 LJA, p.6.
69 Unite for Rights, p.3.
70 CCLS, para 16; Alkarama, para 3.1.2.
71 AI, para 55.
72 HRRL, para 2.
73 CPJ, para 3.
74 UJLeb, p.8.
75 CPJ, para 36.
76 CPJ, para 38.
77 JSC, p.7.
78 JS11, para 6.
79 UJLeb, p.8.
80 JS2, para 21; JS11 para 6.
81 HuMENA, p.2.
82 HuMENA, p.4.
83 ECLJ, para 22.
84 ADF, para 52.
85 ADF, para 52.
86 MWA, para 6.
87 JS8, para 10.8.
88 JS8, para 10.9.
89 JS4, para 10.
90 HRW, para 14.
91 JS6, p.15.
92 JS6, p.15.

- ⁹³ JS7, p. 16.
⁹⁴ JS4, para 2.
⁹⁵ JS4, para 4.
⁹⁶ JS4, para 7.
⁹⁷ HRW, para 14.
⁹⁸ JS4, para 35.
⁹⁹ JS7, para 32.
¹⁰⁰ AI, para 40.
¹⁰¹ JS3, para 4.6.
¹⁰² JS4, para 39.
¹⁰³ JS4, para 42.
¹⁰⁴ JS14, p.13.
¹⁰⁵ Broken Chalk, paras 2 and 3.
¹⁰⁶ Broken Chalk, para 3.
¹⁰⁷ Broken Chalk, para 13.
¹⁰⁸ Broken Chalk, para 37.
¹⁰⁹ Adyan, para K.
¹¹⁰ RRL, para 26.
¹¹¹ RRL, para 28.
¹¹² ANND, p.6.
¹¹³ ANND, p.6.
¹¹⁴ ANND, p.6.
¹¹⁵ JS15, para 5.7.
¹¹⁶ JS20, para 12.5.
¹¹⁷ JS15, para 5.3.7.
¹¹⁸ JS20, para 12.5.
¹¹⁹ Maat, p.7.; JS15, para 5.3.4.
¹²⁰ JS15, para 5.3.5.
¹²¹ JS16, para 4.1.2.
¹²² JS16, para 4.1.
¹²³ JS16, para 4.1.
¹²⁴ JS16, para 4.1.5.
¹²⁵ JS16, para 4.2.2.
¹²⁶ JS20, para 12.5; JS16, para 4.2.1.
¹²⁷ JS10, para 37.
¹²⁸ JS10, para 43.
¹²⁹ LUPD, para 1.2.
¹³⁰ LUPD, para 6.2.
¹³¹ LUPD, para 6.2.
¹³² LUPD, para 8.
¹³³ Proud, p.4.
¹³⁴ Proud, p.7.
¹³⁵ JS13, p.24; AI, para 44.
¹³⁶ JS1, p.12.
¹³⁷ SCM, para 3.
¹³⁸ SCM, para 4.
¹³⁹ SCM, para 14.
¹⁴⁰ JS22, p.9.
¹⁴¹ JS18, para 2.10.
¹⁴² JS18, para 2.11.
¹⁴³ MWA, para 6.
¹⁴⁴ CLDH, p.4.
¹⁴⁵ EHRF, p.5.
¹⁴⁶ CCLS, para 28.
¹⁴⁷ CCLS, para 27.
¹⁴⁸ EHRF, p.5.
¹⁴⁹ ADF, para 52.
¹⁵⁰ FR, para 2.
¹⁵¹ FR, para 2.
¹⁵² JS24, para 26.
¹⁵³ FR, para 36.
-