

# **Report for Croatia: Egypt's 2019 UPR Recommendations and Proposed Actions for 2025**

**Geneva office:**

7 chemin de Balaxert, Châtelaine  
1219 Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 940 35 38

**Paris office:**

60, rue François 1er  
75008 Paris, France  
Tel: +33 6 85 03 50 85

**Gambia office:**

in front of the Independence Stadium  
Gate, Bakau Newtown, Gambia.  
Tel: +220 238 4045

Website: [www.cfjustice.org](http://www.cfjustice.org)E-Mail: [oc@cfjustice.org](mailto:oc@cfjustice.org)

X: @Cfjusticeorg

Facebook: Cfjusticeorg

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### **1. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Introduce legal provisions to combat rape, including marital rape, and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, in line with international law and standards.**

#### **Egypt's Response Since 2019:**

Egypt's National Report mentions general efforts to protect women's rights, including campaigns against gender-based violence. However, Egypt has not yet introduced specific legal provisions that address marital rape or align fully with international standards on sexual and gender-based violence. Existing laws on sexual violence do not explicitly cover marital rape, and the limited scope of current legislation restricts comprehensive protection for victims of gender-based violence.

#### **Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:**

*Recommendation 1:* Egypt should amend its Penal Code to explicitly criminalize marital rape and strengthen legal provisions against all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, ensuring full alignment with international standards. The government should also implement specialized training for law enforcement and judiciary officials on handling cases of gender-based violence.

#### **Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:**

- Has Egypt taken steps to amend its laws to criminalize marital rape and align its legal provisions on sexual violence with international standards?
- What measures are in place to ensure law enforcement and judiciary officials handle cases of gender-based violence effectively and sensitively?

### **2. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.**

#### **Egypt's Response Since 2019:**

Egypt's National Report defends the death penalty as constitutionally grounded and applied with procedural safeguards. Despite international calls for a moratorium, Egypt remains among the countries with the highest execution rates, often sentencing individuals in politically charged cases. No

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steps have been taken toward limiting the death penalty or establishing a moratorium, indicating resistance to this recommendation.

### **Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:**

*Recommendation 2:* Egypt should establish an immediate moratorium on executions as a preliminary step towards the eventual abolition of the death penalty. The government should also initiate a review of existing death penalty cases to ensure compliance with fair trial standards and consider alternative sentencing.

### **Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:**

- Has Egypt considered establishing a moratorium on the death penalty as a step towards its eventual abolition?
- What mechanisms are in place to review death penalty cases for compliance with fair trial standards?

## **Conclusion**

Croatia's 2019 recommendations to Egypt focused on aligning its legislation on gender-based violence with international standards and moving towards the abolition of the death penalty. While Egypt's National Report highlights general efforts in these areas, substantial gaps remain. The proposed recommendations for 2025 encourage Egypt to take concrete legal steps to protect against gender-based violence and establish a pathway toward ending capital punishment.

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