

Report for Liechtenstein: Egypt's 2019 UPR Recommendations and Proposed Actions for 2025

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1. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Refrain from all forms of reprisal against human rights defenders (HRDs) and expedite the processing of cases of activists and journalists.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report emphasizes constitutional protections for freedom of expression; however, HRDs, activists, and journalists continue to face harassment, detention, and restrictive measures such as travel bans and asset freezes. Legal cases involving activists and journalists often experience prolonged processing times, which limits their ability to operate freely and effectively.

Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 1: Egypt should establish protections for HRDs, activists, and journalists, prohibiting all forms of reprisal, including travel bans and detentions. The government should also ensure that cases involving HRDs and journalists are processed swiftly and fairly, with independent judicial oversight.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- What measures has Egypt implemented to prevent reprisals against HRDs, activists, and journalists?
- How does Egypt ensure the timely and fair processing of cases involving HRDs and journalists?

2. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Immediately establish an official moratorium on executions and commute all death sentences with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report states that the death penalty is supported by the Constitution and applied with procedural safeguards. Despite international calls for a moratorium, Egypt continues to carry out executions, including in politically sensitive cases. No steps have been taken toward limiting the application of the death penalty or commuting existing sentences.

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Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 2: Egypt should establish an immediate moratorium on executions and review all current death penalty cases, commuting sentences where appropriate. This moratorium would be a preliminary step towards the eventual abolition of the death penalty.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- Has Egypt taken any steps to implement a moratorium on the death penalty?
- How does Egypt review death penalty cases to ensure compliance with fair trial standards?

3. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Make public the measures taken to implement the recommendations made by the Committee against Torture following its confidential inquiry in 2016.**Egypt's Response Since 2019:**

Egypt's National Report does not provide detailed information on the measures taken in response to the 2016 Committee against Torture recommendations. While Egypt has mentioned efforts to improve detention conditions, reports of torture and ill-treatment in detention facilities persist. Publicizing these measures would demonstrate Egypt's commitment to transparency and accountability in addressing torture concerns.

Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 3: Egypt should publicly disclose the measures it has implemented to address the recommendations from the 2016 Committee against Torture inquiry. This transparency would strengthen accountability and help build trust in Egypt's efforts to prevent torture and ill-treatment.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- What specific actions has Egypt taken to address the 2016 recommendations from the Committee against Torture?
- How does Egypt ensure transparency and accountability in its approach to preventing torture?

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4. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Join the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, as elaborated by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) Group.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt has not joined the Code of Conduct developed by the ACT Group, which encourages Security Council members to act against genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. Participating in the Code would signal Egypt's commitment to accountability on the international stage and to preventing mass atrocities.

Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 4: Egypt should consider joining the ACT Group's Code of Conduct to reinforce its commitment to preventing and responding to atrocities such as genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. This step would enhance Egypt's international standing on issues of global accountability.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- Has Egypt considered joining the ACT Group's Code of Conduct?
- How does Egypt contribute to international efforts to prevent genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes?

5. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) along with its amendments and fully implement them into national law.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt has not ratified the Rome Statute of the ICC, which would enhance its commitment to international justice and accountability. Ratifying the statute and implementing it domestically would allow Egypt to prosecute serious international crimes, such as genocide and crimes against humanity, within its jurisdiction and align its legal framework with international standards.

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Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 5: Egypt should ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC and fully implement it into national law. This commitment would reinforce Egypt's dedication to international justice and the fight against impunity for serious crimes.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- Has Egypt taken steps toward ratifying the Rome Statute of the ICC?
- How does Egypt plan to align its domestic laws with the principles of the Rome Statute?

Conclusion

Liechtenstein's 2019 recommendations urged Egypt to protect HRDs, establish a moratorium on the death penalty, ensure transparency regarding torture prevention measures, support international accountability initiatives, and ratify the Rome Statute. While Egypt's National Report highlights some actions, significant gaps remain. The proposed recommendations for 2025 focus on legal reforms, transparency, and Egypt's alignment with international justice standards.

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