

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

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### 1. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Amend Article 122 of the Child Law.

#### Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report mentions protections for children under the Child Law; however, Article 122 allows minors to be tried alongside adults under certain circumstances. This provision conflicts with international standards on juvenile justice, which emphasize the need for separate judicial processes for minors to ensure fair treatment and rehabilitation-focused sentencing.

#### Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

*Recommendation 1:* Egypt should amend Article 122 of the Child Law to ensure that minors are not tried alongside adults and are granted protections consistent with international juvenile justice standards. Specialized juvenile courts and rehabilitation programs should be prioritized.

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

- What specific steps has Egypt taken to amend Article 122 of the Child Law to protect minors?
- How does Egypt ensure that juvenile justice processes are distinct from adult court proceedings?

### 2. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Further continue its efforts by adopting laws addressing all forms of violence against women.

#### Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report highlights efforts within the National Strategy for Women's Empowerment 2030, but legal gaps remain in criminalizing all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and marital rape. Comprehensive legislation addressing all types of gender-based violence is essential to protect women's rights and align with international standards.

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**Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:**

*Recommendation 2:* Egypt should enact comprehensive legislation to criminalize all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, marital rape, and other gender-based offenses. The government should establish protective services and support mechanisms for survivors to ensure effective implementation of these laws.

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

- What steps has Egypt taken to adopt laws addressing all forms of violence against women?
- How does Egypt ensure the availability of protective services and support for survivors of gender-based violence?

**3. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Eliminate the death penalty from its Penal Code, commute all sentences, ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and consider a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition.**

**Egypt's Response Since 2019:**

Egypt's National Report defends the use of the death penalty, asserting constitutional safeguards. However, Egypt has one of the highest execution rates, and no steps have been taken towards a moratorium or limiting its scope. Ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and commuting current death sentences would demonstrate Egypt's commitment to international human rights standards.

**Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:**

*Recommendation 3:* Egypt should establish a moratorium on the death penalty as an initial step towards abolition, commute existing death sentences, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR. This approach would align Egypt's penal policies with international calls for the abolition of capital punishment.

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

- Has Egypt considered implementing a moratorium on the death penalty as a preliminary step towards abolition?
- What mechanisms does Egypt use to review and potentially commute existing death sentences?

**Conclusion**

Portugal's 2019 recommendations to Egypt focused on juvenile justice reforms, comprehensive protections for women against violence, and steps toward abolishing the death penalty. Egypt's National Report indicates some progress, but substantial legal reforms are needed to fully align with international human rights standards. The proposed recommendations for 2025 emphasize the importance of targeted legislative updates, protections for vulnerable groups, and a clear commitment to phasing out capital punishment.

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