COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
COMITÉ DE JUSTICE
AUSSCHUSS FÜR JUSTIZ
COMITATO PER LA GIUSTIZIA
لجنة العدالة

Sudan UPR Briefing for Lithuania

Sudan Task Force

Advocacy and engagement with States coordinated by the Committee for Justice (CFJ).

The Sudan Task Force invites Lithuania to renew and strengthen its recommendations to Sudan in light of continuing violations, with concrete protection and accountability measures for the 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Previous recommendations and implementation

Torture prevention and treaty implementation

2022 recommendation 137.8: "Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan noted this recommendation.* Sudan has not ratified OPCAT or the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Sudan Task Force documents beatings, electric shocks, painful suspension, sexual violence and deprivation of food, water and medical care in detention facilities controlled by different parties. Independent prevention, inspection and investigation remain necessary.

Women's rights and treaty implementation

2022 recommendation 137.15: "Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Sudan has not acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The accession objective remains outstanding. The Sudan Task Force documents rape and other sexual violence during raids, flight, detention and displacement. Survivors face fear of retaliation, stigma and limited access to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance.

Protection of civilians

2022 recommendation 137.127: "Ensure the protection of civilians, especially in conflict-affected areas such as Darfur and Southern Kordofan."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* The protection objective has not been achieved in practice. The Sudan Task Force documents summary executions, killings linked to ethnicity, deaths in custody and attacks on civilian facilities. Independent investigations, evidence preservation and effective remedies remain seriously deficient. The 20 March 2026 strike on El Daein

Geneva office:
7 chemin de Balexert, 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
E-Mail: oc@cfjustice.org
X: @Cfjusticeorg
Facebook: Cfjusticeorg

Teaching Hospital killed at least 64 civilians and injured approximately 113 people. Binding orders, precautions and independent investigation remain necessary.

Independent investigation of international crimes

2022 recommendation 137.137: "Initiate prompt, effective, independent and impartial investigations into allegations of crimes under international law and bring suspects to justice."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Effective accountability has not been demonstrated across the documented violations. The Sudan Task Force documents summary executions, killings linked to ethnicity, deaths in custody and attacks on civilian facilities. Independent investigations, evidence preservation and effective remedies remain seriously deficient. The Task Force has not comprehensively verified the full institutional, transitional-justice or cooperation arrangements specified in the earlier recommendation.

Protection of journalists and defenders

2022 recommendation 137.147: "Investigate the physical and digital attacks against and harassment of journalists, media workers and human rights defenders, and ensure freedom of expression."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Effective protection has not been demonstrated in the cases documented by the Sudan Task Force. Journalists, lawyers, defenders and humanitarian workers have faced arbitrary detention and disappearance in connection with their work. The full range of civic-space, participation, media or investigative measures in the earlier recommendation has not been comprehensively verified.

New recommendations from the Sudan Task Force

The Sudan Task Force proposes that Lithuania put forward the following recommendations during Sudan's 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Torture and enforced disappearance

1. Within 12 months, criminalize torture and enforced disappearance in accordance with international definitions, ensure effective investigation and prosecution, and exclude evidence obtained by torture from proceedings. A statement obtained by torture may be used only against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made.

2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture within 18 months and establish an independent national preventive mechanism with effective access to places of detention. Immediately permit independent monitoring and confidential interviews in all detention facilities under State authority.

Extrajudicial killings and civilian protection

3. Immediately issue binding written orders to all forces under State authority prohibiting extrajudicial and summary executions, intentional attacks on civilians and other unlawful use of force, and train all units deployed in conflict areas on these orders within six months.

4. Within six months, establish an independent investigation and prosecution team for unlawful deaths and attacks on hospitals, markets and displacement sites since April 2023, preserve forensic evidence, protect victims and witnesses, and publish quarterly figures on investigations and judicial referrals.

5. Within three months, adopt directives prohibiting the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects in populated areas and the military use of medical and humanitarian facilities, and establish a mechanism to monitor and investigate violations.

Sexual and gender based violence

6. Within six months, establish formal coordination between the unit combating violence against women, prosecutors and health authorities to investigate and refer conflict-related sexual violence cases, maintain a unified confidential case system, and publish annual anonymized data on investigations and judicial referrals.

7. Within six months, establish free and confidential referral services for survivors in conflict-affected States and displacement sites, providing medical care, psychosocial support and legal assistance, including accessible mobile services for children and women with disabilities, without conditioning care on filing a complaint.

Accountability and implementation

8. Cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court and United Nations and African investigation mechanisms, ratify the Rome Statute within 18 months, and submit implementing legislation to the competent legislative authority within six months of ratification.

Suggested note on timing: *Unless otherwise specified, the proposed implementation deadlines would run from the adoption of Sudan's 2027 UPR outcome. Existing legal obligations and urgent protection measures require immediate action.*

Geneva office:
7 chemin de Balexert, 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
E-Mail: oc@cfjustice.org
X: @Cfjusticeorg
Facebook: Cfjusticeorg