

UN Commission on Human Rights, the UN General Assembly, the Security Council, the OAS or the OSCE) addressing the human rights situation of the country at issue, and the government's willingness to cooperate with international or regional human rights mechanisms, such as UN Special Rapporteurs, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Committees on political and civil rights, and on economic, social and cultural rights (please refer to this manual's sections on international and regional human rights mechanisms).

7. Implications for Canadian foreign policy interests

Officers should highlight the implications of the country's human rights and democratic development situation on stability in the region, and on Canadian foreign policy interests, including specific bilateral activities, such as development assistance.

B. STATE OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

The second part of the report is divided into three sub-sections: 1) **Civil and political rights**; 2) **Economic, social and cultural rights**; and 3) **Equality and discrimination**. Canada considers that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) represents the obligations of all States under customary international law. In 1993, the 171 governments gathered at the World Conference on Human Rights reaffirmed the principles of the UDHR and declared that "...it is the duty of all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms". In cases where a State is party to specific human rights treaties such as UN conventions which target particular human rights abuses (slavery, torture, discrimination against women), the protection of vulnerable groups (children, refugees, migrants, workers's), or are party to regional organizations (OSCE, OAU), its obligations may be more elaborate. Officers should provide one paragraph on each item.

1. Civil and political rights

The three criteria to be used in examining the situation of civil and political rights in a given country are a) **the physical integrity and security of the person**, b) **the rule of law and due process**, and c) **political and democratic rights and freedoms**. Officers should highlight direct or indirect impediments to the enjoyment of civil and political rights in the country under study. Officers should endeavour to limit their reporting on each item to one paragraph, although specific and quantitative information, where available, is welcome.

a. Physical integrity and security of the person (UDHR Art. 3, 4, 5, 9, 13 and 15)

- **Extrajudicial executions:** Killings in which there is a likelihood of political motivation instigated by the government or by opposition groups, deaths in official custody resulting from unnatural causes or suspicious circumstances, and deliberate