

Universal Periodic Review Stakeholder Submission for The
Federated States of Micronesia



51st Session of UPR Working Group 4th Cycle

Please contact unu.rce1@gmail.com for any followup information.

UNU RCE Hawai'i Moananuiākea:

UNU-RCE Hawai‘i Moananuiākea is a Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development formally acknowledged by the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS). As part of the global UNU RCE Network, Hawai‘i Moananuiākea serves as a collaborative platform bringing together universities, schools, Indigenous communities, civil society organisations, local governments, and other partners across the Hawaiian Islands and the broader Moananuiākea region — the vast Pacific Ocean area that sustains Pacific Island peoples and cultures. The RCE focuses on weaving Indigenous knowledge systems with contemporary sustainability education to address critical challenges such as climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, cultural revitalisation, and youth empowerment.

Through locally rooted and globally connected initiatives, UNU-RCE Hawai‘i Moananuiākea works to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by supporting transformative learning, community-led research, and partnerships that uplift Pacific Island priorities and place-based solutions. By facilitating knowledge sharing within the Pacific and across the global RCE network, the RCE helps strengthen local capacity to adapt to environmental change, protect cultural heritage, and inspire future generations to be stewards of their land and ocean. The RCE’s work embodies the vision of Moananuiākea as a living oceanic homeland that connects people, cultures, and sustainability efforts throughout the Pacific.

Oceania HR:

Oceania HR is a regional civil society organisation dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights across the diverse island nations and communities of Oceania. We work to advance social justice, equality, and sustainable development by supporting grassroots movements, amplifying the voices of marginalised groups, and strengthening civil society capacity. Our network brings together community leaders, indigenous advocates, youth organisations, and policy experts to address pressing issues such as climate change, environmental justice, gender equality, indigenous rights, and democratic participation.

Through research, advocacy, and partnerships with local, regional, and international stakeholders, Oceania HR aims to ensure that the unique human rights challenges of the Pacific are visible and prioritised in global forums. By facilitating dialogue, providing capacity-building, and engaging directly with UN mechanisms like the Universal Periodic Review, we seek to hold states accountable to their human rights commitments while empowering communities to claim their rights and shape a more just and resilient future for the region.

Key Recommendations and Questions for The Federated States of Micronesia

1. Supporting Regional Human Rights Mechanisms (i.e. Courts and Commissions)

Questions:

1. What steps will The Federated States of Micronesia take to support the establishment of a Pacific regional human rights court or commission?
2. Will The Federated States of Micronesia initiate or support regional dialogue on creating a Pacific human rights mechanism, modeled after the Inter-American or African systems?
3. How do The Federated States of Micronesia engage with neighboring regional bodies, such as the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, and what role does it see for itself in strengthening regional accountability?

Recommendations:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia should fund and coordinate a regional scoping study, led by Pacific stakeholders, to assess the feasibility, structure, and support for a Pacific human rights court or commission.
2. The Federated States of Micronesia should convene a Pacific regional forum bringing together governments, civil society, and legal experts to explore international regional court models and identify a Pacific-appropriate path forward, combining with pre-existing ASEAN regional treaty mechanisms.
3. The Federated States of Micronesia should strengthen partnerships with ASEAN's human rights bodies (such as the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)) by supporting joint initiatives and facilitating knowledge exchange to help build regional capacity and momentum in the Pacific.

2. Commemorating the UDHR

2028 will mark the 80th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Questions:

1. What plans does the Government of The Federated States of Micronesia have to commemorate the UDHR's 80th anniversary in 2028?
2. How will The Federated States of Micronesia use this milestone to renew and publicly reaffirm its commitment to the principles of the UDHR and their implementation domestically and globally?

Recommendations:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia should develop a national program to commemorate the UDHR's 80th anniversary, including public education campaigns, community events, and collaboration with schools, museums, and civil society to raise awareness of human rights and the legacy of the UDHR.
 2. The Federated States of Micronesia should use the 80th anniversary to issue a public recommitment to the UDHR's translation into international law, backed by concrete actions, such as updating its National Human Rights Framework and pledging new international support for human rights initiatives abroad.
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3. Upholding the UN Charter

Questions:

1. How does the Government of The Federated States of Micronesia actively promote and implement the principles of human rights, dignity, and justice contained in the UN Charter?
2. How does The Federated States of Micronesia ensure its foreign policy, development assistance, and international partnerships are aligned with its Charter-based human rights commitments?

Recommendations:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia should strengthen implementation of UN Charter principles domestically by integrating human rights education into national curricula, supporting independent oversight bodies, and ensuring domestic laws align and directly cite international human rights standards.

2. The Federated States of Micronesia should conduct regular human rights impact assessments of its foreign aid and international partnerships, and embed human rights benchmarks into bilateral and multilateral agreements.
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4. Advancing Human Rights Education

Human rights education is key to building accountability, inclusion, and democratic participation.

Questions:

1. How is human rights education integrated into The Federated States of Micronesia's national school curriculum?
2. What efforts has The Federated States of Micronesia made to promote public awareness of human rights, particularly among youth, Indigenous peoples, and marginalized communities?
3. What partnerships do The Federated States of Micronesia have with civil society to promote human rights training and education?

Recommendations:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia should ensure the legacy and potential future of human rights is systematically embedded in national education standards, including national curriculum, particularly in civics, history, and social studies, and updated to reflect contemporary issues within The Federated States of Micronesia.
2. The Federated States of Micronesia should expand targeted outreach programs and culturally relevant materials to raise human rights awareness among Indigenous peoples, youth, and marginalized groups, in partnership with local leaders and communities to discuss human rights abuses and fights in which the UDHR would prove a helpful legislative tool.
3. The Federated States of Micronesia should increase funding and long-term support for civil society organizations specifically dedicated to delivering human rights education and training in the public sector, especially those working with vulnerable populations and in remote areas.

5. Ratifying and Implementing the ICCPR and Core Human Rights Treaties

Questions:

1. Will The Federated States of Micronesia ratify the First Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, enabling individuals to bring complaints before the Human Rights Committee?
2. What steps are The Federated States of Micronesia taking to fully implement the recommendations of UN treaty bodies and special procedures?
3. Will The Federated States of Micronesia commit to ratifying all remaining core international human rights treaties and optional protocols, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) in practice?

Recommendations:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia should ratify the First Optional Protocol to the ICCPR to strengthen individual access to justice and demonstrate its commitment to international human rights accountability.
2. The Federated States of Micronesia should establish a national implementation and monitoring mechanism to coordinate follow-up on UN treaty body and special procedure recommendations across federal and state levels, with input from civil society.
3. The Federated States of Micronesia should reaffirm its commitment to ratifying and fully implementing all core international human rights treaties, including operationalizing OPCAT through properly resourced and independent National Preventive Mechanisms.