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### **Compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21**

## **Qatar**

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and in other relevant official United Nations documents. It is presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. For the full text, please refer to the document referenced. The present report does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of OHCHR other than those contained in public reports and statements issued by the Office. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review, and developments during that period.

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## I. Background and framework

### A. Scope of international obligations<sup>1</sup>

#### International human rights treaties<sup>2</sup>

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Action after review</i>	<i>Not ratified/not accepted</i>
<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	ICERD (1976)		ICESCR
	CEDAW (2009)		ICCPR
	CAT (2000)		ICCPR-OP 2
	CRC (1995)		OP-CAT
	OP-CRC-AC (2002)		ICRMW
	OP-CRC-SC (2001)		CPED
	CRPD (2008)		
<i>Reservations, declarations and/or understandings</i>	CEDAW (reservations, arts. 2 (a), 9 (para. 2), 15 (paras. 1 and 4), 16 (para. 1 (a), (c) and (f)), and 29, 2009; declarations, arts. 1 and 5 (a), 2009)	CAT (withdrawal of general reservation, arts. 21 and 22; reservations, arts. 1 and 16, 2012)	
	CAT (reservations, general, arts. 21 and 22, 2000)		
	CRC (reservations, arts. 2 and 14, 2009)		
<i>Complaint procedures, inquiry and urgent action<sup>3</sup></i>	OP-CRPD (signature only, 2007)		ICERD, art. 14 OP-ICESCR
	CAT, art. 20 (2000)		ICCPR ICCPR-OP 1 OP-CEDAW CAT, arts. 21 and 22 OP-CRC-IC ICRMW OP-CRPD CPED

**Other main relevant international instruments**

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Action after review</i>	<i>Not ratified</i>
<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	Palermo Protocol <sup>4</sup>		Conventions on refugees and stateless persons <sup>7</sup>
	Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols I and II <sup>5</sup>		Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
	ILO fundamental conventions, except Nos. 87, 98 and 100 <sup>6</sup>		Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
			ILO fundamental conventions Nos. 87, 98 and 100 <sup>8</sup>
			ILO conventions Nos. 169 and 189 <sup>9</sup>
			Additional Protocol III to the 1949 Geneva Conventions <sup>10</sup>
		UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	

1. In 2012, the Committee against Torture (CAT) invited Qatar to ratify ICCPR and its Optional Protocols, ICRMW, CPED and OP-CEDAW.<sup>11</sup> In 2012, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) encouraged Qatar to ratify ICRMW.<sup>12</sup>

2. CERD recommended that Qatar ratify the amendments to article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention.<sup>13</sup>

3. While noting that Qatar had taken steps to withdraw its reservations to articles 21 and 22 of the Convention, CAT was concerned that the State had not yet accepted the Committee's competence under those articles. Qatar also sought to retain a vague and extremely broad reservation to articles 1 and 16 of the Convention insofar as they were incompatible with the precepts of Islamic law and the Islamic religion.<sup>14</sup> CAT encouraged Qatar to consider ratifying OP-CAT as soon as possible.<sup>15</sup>

4. CAT recommended that Qatar consider acceding to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>16</sup> CERD recommended that Qatar ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.<sup>17</sup>

5. CERD recommended that Qatar ratify ILO Convention No. 189 (2011) concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.<sup>18</sup>

6. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recommended that Qatar be encouraged to ratify the 1960 UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education.<sup>19</sup>

**B. Constitutional and legislative framework**

7. UNESCO noted that freedom of expression was protected under article 47 of the Constitution of Qatar; however, the Press and Publication Law of 1979 regulated all media and press issues,<sup>20</sup> and contained harsh punishments, including imprisonment.<sup>21</sup> According

to the Press and Publication Law, it was a crime to criticize the Emir of Qatar or to attribute any statement to him without the permission of his office.<sup>22</sup>

8. UNESCO also noted that defamation was considered criminal under the State's Penal Code of 2004, which imposed up to two years' imprisonment for defaming someone. Additionally, article 327 of the Penal Code raised the penalty to three years in prison for defaming a "public employee due to the job or the occupation".<sup>23</sup>

9. UNESCO added that blasphemy was criminalized under the Penal Code, which prescribed up to seven years in prison for "insulting the Supreme Being in letter and spirit, in writing, drawing, gesturing or in any other way". The law also criminalized "offending, misinterpreting, or violating the Holy Koran" and banned "cursing any of the divine religions".<sup>24</sup>

10. UNESCO observed that a freedom of information law did not currently exist in Qatar.<sup>25</sup>

11. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants warned that the 2004 Labour Law, while providing some important rights and safeguards for workers, did not provide for a minimum wage, banned migrants from forming organizations and from collective bargaining and excluded domestic workers.<sup>26</sup>

12. CERD understood that domestic work was regulated under bilateral agreements with sending countries, and was concerned that such bilateral agreements might lead to discrimination prohibited under the Convention, including in the area of the right to equal pay for equal work.<sup>27</sup>

13. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants expressed satisfaction with work on a draft law on domestic workers, and urged that it be finalized and adopted in order to better safeguard the rights of domestic workers, whose abuse was rarely visible.<sup>28</sup>

## C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

### Status of national human rights institutions<sup>29</sup>

<i>National human rights institution</i>	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Status during present cycle</i> <sup>30</sup>
National Human Rights Committee	A (2009)	A (2010)

14. CAT welcomed the amendment to the Act establishing the National Human Rights Committee (Act No. 38 of 2002), by Decree-Law No. 17 of 2010.<sup>31</sup> CERD and CRC noted with satisfaction the establishment of the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and expressed appreciation for its work.<sup>32</sup> CERD strongly urged Qatar to consider the recommendations of NHRC.<sup>33</sup>

15. CAT further encouraged Qatar to consider reducing the number of governmental officials who were members of NHRC and limiting their roles, in particular in undertaking detention monitoring and adopting recommendations, with a view to strengthening the full independence of NHRC in line with the Paris Principles.<sup>34</sup>

16. While noting the role of NHRC in monitoring detention facilities and raising cases of human rights violations with the authorities, CAT expressed concern about reports that NHRC visits were infrequent and sometimes refused and that NHRC lacked medical expertise and interpreters for the visits.<sup>35</sup> CAT recommended that Qatar ensure that NHRC was able to impartially monitor and investigate torture and ill-treatment.<sup>36</sup>

17. CERD welcomed the establishment of the Qatari Foundation to Combat Human Trafficking, the Qatari Foundation for the Protection of Women and Children, the Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue and the Doha Centre for Media Freedom.<sup>37</sup>

## II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

### A. Cooperation with treaty bodies<sup>38</sup>

#### 1. Reporting status

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Concluding observations included in previous review</i>	<i>Latest report submitted since previous review</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	March 2002	2011	March 2012	Seventeenth to twentieth reports due in 2015
CEDAW	–	2011	–	Initial report pending consideration (February 2014)
CAT	July 2006	2011	November 2012	Third report due in 2016
CRC	October 2009 (CRC)/October 2007 (OP-CRC-AC)/June 2006 (OP-CRC-SC)	–	–	Third and fourth reports overdue since May 2013
CRPD	–	2012	–	Initial report pending consideration

#### 2. Responses to specific follow-up requests by treaty bodies

##### Concluding observations

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Due in</i>	<i>Subject matter</i>	<i>Submitted in</i>
CERD	March 2013	Information on the Domestic Workers' Bill; legal framework protecting refugees and asylum seekers; and protection of the right to property of migrant workers <sup>39</sup>	–
CAT	November 2014	Ensuring or strengthening legal safeguards for persons detained; conducting prompt, impartial and effective investigations; prosecuting suspects and sanctioning perpetrators of torture or ill-treatment; and violence against women <sup>40</sup>	–

##### Views

<i>Treaty body</i>	<i>Number of views</i>	<i>Status</i>
–	–	–

18. While acknowledging the various steps taken by Qatar to reform some of its legislation, CAT noted with concern that many of the recommendations adopted by the Committee following the consideration of the State's initial report had not yet been implemented.<sup>41</sup>

## B. Cooperation with special procedures<sup>42</sup>

	<i>Status during previous cycle</i>	<i>Current status</i>
<i>Standing invitation</i>	No	Yes
<i>Visits undertaken</i>	Trafficking (2006)	Migrants (November 2013)
<i>Visits agreed to in principle</i>	–	Independence of judges and lawyers (January 2014)
<i>Visits requested</i>	–	–
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	In the period under review, four communications were sent. The Government replied to all of those communications.	

## C. Cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

19. Qatar has made annual financial contributions to OHCHR since 2002.<sup>43</sup>

# III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

## A. Equality and non-discrimination

20. CERD recommended that Qatar incorporate into national law a definition of racial discrimination that was in line with article 1 of the Convention.<sup>44</sup>

21. CERD was concerned that the current provisions addressing racial and religious discord in Qatari society were not in line with article 4 of the Convention.<sup>45</sup>

22. CERD noted with concern the discriminatory provision of the Law on Nationality which prevented Qatari women who were married to non-citizens from transmitting Qatari nationality to their children, which had the potential to lead to the children being stateless. It recommended that Qatar revise the law to allow Qatari women to transmit their citizenship to their children without discrimination.<sup>46</sup> The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) raised similar concerns and made similar recommendations.<sup>47</sup>

23. CERD noted with concern the restrictions imposed on migrant workers and foreign residents in buying and owning property.<sup>48</sup>

24. CERD expressed concern at the persistence of racist stereotypes and recommended that Qatar step up efforts to provide human rights training and to raise awareness of the need for tolerance, interracial or inter-ethnic understanding and intercultural relations among law enforcement officials and teachers.<sup>49</sup>

## B. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

25. CAT noted with concern that, according to the information provided by Qatar, the State had not recorded any complaint concerning torture or ill-treatment, which contradicted a number of reports of ill-treatment of detainees submitted by several sources, including NHRC. The Committee urged Qatar to ensure that information about the possibility of and procedure for filing a complaint against the police was made available and widely publicized, including by being prominently displayed in all detention facilities.<sup>50</sup>

26. While noting that the new act regulating penitentiaries and correctional institutions (Act No. 3 of 2009) made no provision for the use of flogging as a disciplinary sanction, unlike the previous law (Act No. 3 of 1995), CAT remained concerned that flogging and stoning continued to be punishments under article 1 of the Criminal Code. The Committee referred to allegations that at least 45 people had been given flogging sentences between 2009 and 2011. CAT recommended that Qatar end its imposition of corporal punishment and ensure that criminal sanctions were in full conformity with the Convention.<sup>51</sup>

27. CAT recommended that Qatar implement the amended definition of torture under articles 159 and 159 bis of the Criminal Code and ensure that the crime of torture and ill-treatment was punishable by appropriate penalties.<sup>52</sup>

28. CAT urged Qatar to ensure that full independent monitoring of all places used for deprivation of liberty, including the Deportation Detention Centre, psychiatric facilities and the State security prison, took place on a regular basis, including through unannounced visits, and to follow up effectively on the outcome of such systematic monitoring in order to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.<sup>53</sup>

29. CAT expressed concern over the persistence of violence against women, including domestic violence and sexual violence against domestic workers. It recommended that Qatar strengthen its efforts to prevent violence against women by, inter alia, establishing effective measures to guarantee the right of victims to complain; ensuring the accountability of all perpetrators by undertaking effective investigations into complaints, prosecuting perpetrators and punishing them with appropriate penalties; and ensuring that all victims were provided with adequate redress and reparation, including compensation and the means for as full rehabilitation as possible.<sup>54</sup>

30. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants drew special attention to the long-term administrative detention, in some cases as much as one year, that could be applied to migrants awaiting deportation under the 2009 sponsorship law. He urged the authorities to rely systematically on non-custodial measures rather than detention.<sup>55</sup> The Special Rapporteur also observed that the deportation centre was overcrowded and unsanitary.<sup>56</sup>

31. The same Special Rapporteur noted that the majority of the women in the deportation centre in Qatar, particularly the domestic workers, had “run away” from abusive employers and wanted to return to their countries of origin. He added that children should never find themselves in detention and that migrant women with children should always be hosted in shelters.<sup>57</sup>

32. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants warned that several women had been sentenced to prison for “adultery” for having a baby while being unmarried. Such women served their sentences in prison with their babies in conditions that were in clear violation of the principle of the best interest of the child.<sup>58</sup>

33. UNHCR noted that the Government had not reported any clear efforts to investigate, prosecute or punish trafficking offences made during the reporting period, leading to gaps in fully addressing human trafficking.<sup>59</sup>

34. UNHCR stressed the need for mechanisms to identify victims of trafficking, in order to ensure that individuals who had been trafficked and who feared being subjected to persecution upon return to their country of origin or feared being trafficked again were recognized as refugees (in accordance with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol), and afforded international protection.<sup>60</sup>

35. CAT was concerned that Qatar continued to be a destination country for men and women subjected to forced labour and forced prostitution. The Committee was also concerned that article 5 of Law No. 15 of 2011 on trafficking allowed for the return of victims to their countries without ensuring an assessment of risk upon return. It recommended that Qatar: effectively implement the current laws combating trafficking; ensure systematic procedures to identify victims of trafficking among vulnerable groups and provide protection for victims and access for them to medical, social rehabilitative and legal services; and create adequate conditions for victims to exercise their right to make complaints, and conduct effective investigations into all allegations of trafficking.<sup>61</sup>

### **C. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law**

36. The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers noted that the constitutional provisions relating to the separation of powers did not seem to be fully implemented. She also noted that the Prosecutor General had the rank of Minister, which might create confusion regarding his independence from the executive.<sup>62</sup>

37. The same Special Rapporteur observed that the judicial system continued to face challenges, especially in relation to the independence of judges, prosecutors and lawyers, which affected the delivery of justice and the enforcement of human rights. Those challenges should be addressed in order to bring the administration of justice in Qatar into line with international human rights standards.<sup>63</sup>

38. The Special Rapporteur noted with concern that women were still faced with institutionalized gender discrimination within the administration of justice, as there were only two women among the 198 judges. She also noted that there were major obstacles to women's access to justice. She encouraged the Government to take measures to facilitate women's appointment as judges and to mainstream a gender-based approach in the justice system, as that would empower women to gain access to justice and claim their rights.<sup>64</sup>

39. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants warned that it was difficult for migrants to gain access to complaint mechanisms, owing partly to a lack of information and partly to a fear of losing their jobs and being subsequently detained and deported. He stated that more efforts were needed to provide effective access to justice.<sup>65</sup> The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers raised similar concerns.<sup>66</sup>

40. CAT recommended that Qatar strengthen its efforts to provide legal protection to migrant workers and guarantee access to justice; adopt labour legislation covering domestic work and providing legal protection to migrant domestic workers against exploitation, ill-treatment and abuse; and consider abolishing the sponsorship system for all migrant workers, as recommended by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children.<sup>67</sup> CERD made similar recommendations.<sup>68</sup>

41. CAT regretted the lack of information provided by Qatar on complaints of violence made by migrant domestic workers.<sup>69</sup> CERD urged Qatar to put in place effective measures to address multiple discrimination against female domestic workers, including in their places of work.<sup>70</sup>

42. While noting that article 39 of the Constitution and articles 40, 112 and 113 of the Criminal Procedure Code provided some legal safeguards to detainees, CAT was concerned

that those provisions were not always respected in practice, in particular for non-citizens. CAT remained concerned that the Attorney General might extend detention without charges for 16 days. Of further concern were reports of persons detained without charge or trial, including a case undertaken by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.<sup>71</sup>

43. CAT recommended that Qatar ensure that all detainees, including non-citizens, were afforded all fundamental legal safeguards from the very outset of detention.<sup>72</sup>

44. CAT was deeply concerned that persons detained under the provisions of the Protection of Society Law (Law No. 17 of 2002), the Law on Combating Terrorism (Law No. 3 of 2004) and the Law on the State Security Agency (Law No. 5 of 2003) might be held for a lengthy period of time without charge, without access to a lawyer or an independent doctor and without the right to notify a family member. CAT was concerned about reports that persons detained under those laws were often subject to incommunicado detention or solitary confinement, as seen in several cases.<sup>73</sup> CAT urged Qatar to ensure that all fundamental safeguards were provided for all persons deprived of their liberty.<sup>74</sup>

45. CAT noted with concern the extremely low number of cases of compensation and rehabilitation for victims. It recommended that Qatar strengthen its efforts to provide victims of torture and other ill-treatment with adequate reparation and compensation, include migrant workers and persons subjected to trafficking in redress programmes and ensure that they had access to effective remedies for torture and ill-treatment.<sup>75</sup>

46. CAT reiterated its serious concern that the minimum age of criminal responsibility was 7 years. It recommended that Qatar accelerate the processing of legislative measures, including the draft law on children's rights, to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally acceptable level; and ensure the full implementation of juvenile justice standards.<sup>76</sup> CRC raised similar concerns and made similar recommendations.<sup>77</sup>

#### **D. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life**

47. CAT regretted the lack of information on the case of a human rights activist and founder of a human rights organization who was arrested in March 2011 and detained for a month without charge. Furthermore, it noted with concern allegations of the recent arrests and detention of other human rights defenders.<sup>78</sup> The Committee recommended that Qatar ensure the protection of human rights defenders from intimidation or violence as a result of their activities.<sup>79</sup>

48. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed concern about the case of a well-known poet who had been sentenced to 15 years in prison for allegedly encouraging the overthrowing of the ruling system in Qatar and insulting the "nation's symbols". The High Commissioner also expressed concern about the harsh, disproportionate sentence, the fairness of the trial procedures, and the time the person had spent in solitary confinement. The High Commissioner called for respect of his right to freedom of expression and demanded his immediate release.<sup>80</sup>

49. CERD was concerned that certain political rights were not fully enjoyed by naturalized citizens on an equal basis with citizens born in Qatar. It noted that, although such legal restrictions were not practised in reality, the mere existence of such restrictions posed a threat to the full enjoyment of political rights by all citizens. The Committee recommended that Qatar revise its laws regarding political rights, to guarantee that such rights were fully enjoyed and exercised by all citizens without any discrimination.<sup>81</sup>

## **E. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work**

50. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants urged the Government of Qatar to review the sponsorship (*kafala*) system, which was used to regulate the relationship between employers and migrant workers with a work permit linked to a single employer, which, in the view of the Special Rapporteur, was problematic and a source of abuse against migrants.<sup>82</sup>

51. CAT was deeply concerned about reports of widespread torture or ill-treatment and abuse of migrant workers, in particular under the sponsorship system, and about constraints faced by such workers on lodging complaints against their employers. The Committee noted the concerns raised by CERD that, despite the legal provisions prohibiting conduct such as the withholding of passports and wages by sponsors, the fundamental nature of the sponsorship system increased the dependency of migrant workers on sponsors, rendering them vulnerable to various forms of exploitation and abuses. In addition, CAT regretted the absence of labour legislation that would protect domestic work.<sup>83</sup> CERD raised similar concerns.<sup>84</sup>

52. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants welcomed the positive legislative developments in Qatar that had made it illegal for sponsors to confiscate passports. However, he noted the need for effective enforcement of that law. He added that abolishing the sponsorship system and replacing it by a regulated open labour market would solve issues that had arisen under the system and ensure the mobility of labour.<sup>85</sup>

53. The same Special Rapporteur warned that many migrants faced human rights violations in the workplace; some were not paid their wages or were paid less than agreed. He also expressed concern about the number of accidents on construction sites and about hazardous working conditions that resulted in injury or death. He urged the authorities to allow the creation of health and safety committees on which workers would be represented, and recommended establishing a minimum wage for all workers, including domestic workers.<sup>86</sup>

54. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants welcomed the ban on Qatari agencies charging recruitment fees, but was concerned that migrant workers were forced to pay fees in their home countries in order to travel to Qatar. Upon arrival in Qatar, migrant workers were faced with different contracts with lower salaries, and different job descriptions. He noted the need to formalize the recruitment process and to monitor private recruitment agencies.<sup>87</sup>

55. CERD was concerned that the majority of workers who were foreigners might have difficulty understanding contracts and other documents, which effectively prevented them from giving informed consent regarding their employment.<sup>88</sup> It recommended that Qatar revise the relevant provision of the Labour Code to ensure that contracts and other documents concerning the employment of the migrant workers were provided in their languages.<sup>89</sup>

## **F. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers**

56. UNHCR recommended that Qatar accede to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, adopt national asylum legislation and ensure full respect of the principle of non-refoulement.<sup>90</sup>

57. CAT was concerned about the absence of national legislation and procedures explicitly regulating expulsion, refoulement and extradition. It regretted the lack of information on the case of the forced return to her country of origin of a woman who had

been allegedly raped by soldiers there, even though she had been recognized as a refugee by UNHCR.<sup>91</sup>

58. CAT recommended that Qatar adopt national asylum legislation and procedures providing effective protection to asylum seekers and refugees from refoulement to a State where there were substantial grounds for believing that he or she would be in danger of being subjected to torture or ill-treatment.<sup>92</sup>

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratification of instruments listed in the table may be found on the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://treaties.un.org/>. Please also refer to the United Nations compilation on Qatar from the previous cycle (A/HRC/WG.6/7/QAT/2).

<sup>2</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for the present document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

<sup>3</sup> Individual complaints: ICCPR-OP 1, art. 1; OP-CEDAW, art. 1; OP-CRPD, art. 1; OP-ICESCR, art. 1; OP-CRC-IC, art. 5; ICERD, art. 14; CAT, art. 22; ICRMW, art. 77; and CPED, art. 31. Inquiry procedure: OP-CEDAW, art. 8; CAT, art. 20; CPED, art. 33; OP-CRPD, art. 6; OP-ICESCR, art. 11; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 13. Inter-State complaints: ICCPR, art. 41; ICRMW, art. 76; CPED, art. 32; CAT, art. 21; OP-ICESCR, art. 10; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 12. Urgent action: CPED, art. 30.

<sup>4</sup> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

<sup>5</sup> Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); and Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts

- (Protocol II). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at [www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html).
- <sup>6</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- <sup>7</sup> 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- <sup>8</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; and Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value.
- <sup>9</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and Convention No. 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.
- <sup>10</sup> Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at [www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html).
- <sup>11</sup> Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture (CAT/C/QAT/CO/2), para. 26.
- <sup>12</sup> Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16), para. 22.
- <sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 25.
- <sup>14</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 9.
- <sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 15.
- <sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 21 (c).
- <sup>17</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 17.
- <sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 13.
- <sup>19</sup> UNESCO submission to UPR on Qatar, para. 34.
- <sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 26-27.
- <sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 42.
- <sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 27.
- <sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 28.
- <sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 29.
- <sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 30.
- <sup>26</sup> OHCHR, “Qatar World Cup, crucial opportunity to improve the migrants’ situation in the country – UN rights expert”, press release dated 13 November 2013. Available from [www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13980&LangID=E](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13980&LangID=E).
- <sup>27</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 13.
- <sup>28</sup> OHCHR, “UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants concludes country visit to Qatar”, press release dated 10 November 2013. Available from [www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13974&LangID=E](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13974&LangID=E).
- <sup>29</sup> According to article 5 of the rules of procedure of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC) Sub-Committee on Accreditation, the different classifications for accreditation used by the Sub-Committee are: A: Voting Member (fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles), B: Non-Voting Member (not fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles or insufficient information provided to make a determination), C: No Status (not in compliance with the Paris Principles).
- <sup>30</sup> For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the ICC, see A/HRC/23/28, annex.
- <sup>31</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 5 (e).
- <sup>32</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 8; concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/QAT/CO/2), para. 15.
- <sup>33</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 8.
- <sup>34</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 16.
- <sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*

- <sup>36</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 7.
- <sup>38</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for the present document:
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| CERD  | Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination        |
| CEDAW | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women |
| CAT   | Committee against Torture                                    |
| CRC   | Committee on the Rights of the Child                         |
| CRPD  | Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities         |
- <sup>39</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 28.
- <sup>40</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 28.
- <sup>41</sup> Ibid., para. 6.
- <sup>42</sup> For the titles of special procedures, see [www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Themes.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Themes.aspx) and [www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Countries.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Countries.aspx).
- <sup>43</sup> See, for example, OHCHR, *Annual Report 2012*, pp. 117 and 168.
- <sup>44</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 10.
- <sup>45</sup> Ibid., para. 11.
- <sup>46</sup> Ibid., para. 16.
- <sup>47</sup> UNHCR submission to UPR on Qatar, p. 6.
- <sup>48</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 18.
- <sup>49</sup> Ibid., para. 21.
- <sup>50</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 14.
- <sup>51</sup> Ibid., para. 12.
- <sup>52</sup> Ibid., para. 8.
- <sup>53</sup> Ibid., para. 15.
- <sup>54</sup> Ibid., para. 19.
- <sup>55</sup> OHCHR, “Qatar World Cup, crucial opportunity to improve the migrants’ situation in the country – UN rights expert”.
- <sup>56</sup> OHCHR, “UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants concludes country visit to Qatar”.
- <sup>57</sup> OHCHR, “Qatar World Cup, crucial opportunity to improve the migrants’ situation in the country – UN rights expert”.
- <sup>58</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>59</sup> UNHCR submission to UPR on Qatar, p. 5.
- <sup>60</sup> Ibid., p. 4.
- <sup>61</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 20.
- <sup>62</sup> OHCHR, “Preliminary observations on the official visit to the State of Qatar by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (19–26 January 2014)”, press release dated 26 January 2014. Available from [www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14202&LangID=E](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14202&LangID=E).
- <sup>63</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>64</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>65</sup> OHCHR, “UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants concludes country visit to Qatar”.
- <sup>66</sup> OHCHR, “Preliminary observations on the official visit to the State of Qatar by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (19–26 January 2014)”.
- <sup>67</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 18.
- <sup>68</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 15.
- <sup>69</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 18.
- <sup>70</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 14.
- <sup>71</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 10. See also A/HRC/WGAD/2010/25.
- <sup>72</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 10.
- <sup>73</sup> Ibid., para. 11. See also A/HRC/WGAD/2010/25 and A/HRC/WGAD/2011/68.
- <sup>74</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 11 (a).
- <sup>75</sup> Ibid., para. 24.
- <sup>76</sup> Ibid., para. 22.
- <sup>77</sup> CRC/C/QAT/CO/2, paras. 70 and 71.
- <sup>78</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 17. See also A/HRC/18/51, p. 66.
- <sup>79</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 17.

- <sup>80</sup> OHCHR, briefing notes on Qatar, 22 October 2013. Available from [www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13881&LangID=E](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13881&LangID=E).
- <sup>81</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 20.
- <sup>82</sup> OHCHR, “Qatar World Cup, crucial opportunity to improve the migrants’ situation in the country – UN rights expert”.
- <sup>83</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 18.
- <sup>84</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 15.
- <sup>85</sup> OHCHR, “Qatar World Cup, crucial opportunity to improve the migrants’ situation in the country – UN rights expert”.
- <sup>86</sup> OHCHR, “UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants concludes country visit to Qatar”.
- <sup>87</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>88</sup> CERD/C/QAT/CO/13-16, para. 12.
- <sup>89</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>90</sup> UNHCR submission to UPR on Qatar, p. 4.
- <sup>91</sup> CAT/C/QAT/CO/2, para. 21.
- <sup>92</sup> Ibid., para. 21 (a).
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