

## Repository of cases of transformational changes on the ground

This table compiles a number of examples of concrete changes carried out by States during the follow-up phase of the third cycle of the UPR in an effort to implement the recommendations received during the review. To read the full report “*The UPR: Beyond Reporting-Transformational changes on the ground*”, [click here](#).

	Region	State	Topic	Summary	Recommendations Concerned
1	Western European and Other States	Finland	Right to Education	At the behest of the Finnish Human Rights Centre and following recommendations from CSO organisations, human rights education was highlighted as a priority in Finland. In 2020, following third cycle UPR recommendations on the matter, Finland launched its National Democracy Programme 2025, with one of its key focus areas being human rights education in teacher training.	2
2	Western European and Other States	Finland	Grave human rights violations	As recommended in the third UPR cycle - after being raised by the Finnish Human Rights Centre, Amnesty International and UN Agencies - the Finnish Government has pledged to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance during the electoral term 2019-2022.	9
3	Western European and Other States	Finland	Right to Education	Since receiving recommendations to increase the resource allocation to its National Human Rights Institution, Finland increased the budget of the NHRI by over 15% between 2017 and 2020. The NHRI has stated its focus is on human rights education and promotion, the rights of persons with disabilities and older persons, and strengthening cooperation between fundamental and human rights actors.	2
			LGBTI Rights		
			Women's Rights		
			Rights of the Child		
4	Western European and Other States	Finland	Women's Rights	UN Agencies and CSOs had noted the lack of shelters available for victims of domestic violence and their children in submissions to the UPR Working Group ahead of the third cycle. After receiving recommendations to improve this, Finland increased funding for these services by 45% over the next 3 years (2017-2019).	3
			Rights of the Child		
5	Western European and Other States	Finland	LGBTI Rights	Finland announced that they will be reforming legislation on transgender people, removing the requirement for them to be forcibly sterilised in order for their change of gender to be recognised. As of February 2022, work on that legislation is ongoing, but it follows campaigning for many years by CSOs within Finland as well as recommendations by the NHRI and the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that led to many third cycle UPR recommendations.	8

6	Western European and Other States	Finland	Women's Rights	Several UN agencies have criticised Finland's shortcomings in identifying victims of human trafficking. After receiving third cycle UPR recommendations to improve this, Finland introduced several initiatives to that end. The National Police Board issued guidelines to the police on identification, protection, referral, and investigation of human trafficking. As of 2021, every police officer must also complete comprehensive training on human trafficking.	3
			Rights of the Child		
			Labour Rights		
7	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Women's Rights	In 2020, abortion was removed from the Crimes Act of 1961. This had long been called for by CSOs and international organisations, and several specific recommendations were made to that effect in the UPR's third cycle. Whereas in the past, two separate medical opinions were needed to ensure that the Crimes Act requirements were met, now women can make the decision in consultation with one medical practitioner where the gestation period is less than 20 weeks.	3
8	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Racial Discrimination	In 2020, New Zealand announced that it would be amending its hate speech laws. These changes broadened the categories of protection so they now include sex, gender (including gender identity), religious belief, disability and sexual orientation. The proposed amendments would also increase the maximum sentence from a \$7,000 fine and 3 months in prison to \$50,000 fine and 3 years in prison.	3
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		
			LGBTI Rights		
9	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Racial Discrimination	In direct response to recommendations made in the third UPR cycle, New Zealand agreed to establish a national action plan against racism. Funding for the plan was included in the 2021 budget, though the amount of funding is unclear. A new team was established at the Ministry of Justice with the sole purpose of developing the plan. Work concerning the implementation of the plan is currently still ongoing.	2
10	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In close engagement with ethnic communities of New Zealand, the Government established the Ministry for Ethnic Communities in July 2021. The Government have linked the establishment of this to UPR recommendations regarding the promotion of minorities within New Zealand. From the very outset, ethnic communities have been involved in the shape of the new ministry and its most urgent priorities.	2
11	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	Working closely with the community of people with disabilities, the Government announced the creation of the Ministry for Disabled People in 2021. The establishment of this was linked by the Government to UPR recommendations that asked for a better approach to the needs and care of people with disabilities. The Ministry will lead and coordinate	3

				disability policy and manage Disability Support Services.	
12	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In response to calls for New Zealand to address the disproportionate number of Māori people in prison (as pointed out to the UPR Working Group by multiple UN agencies), the Government announced \$13 million of funding for the design and delivery of three new specialist courts aiming to reduce the imprisonment and reoffending rates of Māori people.	2
13	Western European and Other States	New Zealand	Women's Rights	After the recommendations received in the UPR third cycle New Zealand took steps to improve the situation concerning gender-based violence. Firstly, the Government increased funding for actions to address family violence and sexual violence by more than \$200 million per year. Secondly, new legislation was introduced to improve the prosecution of GBV court cases and to make the experience less harmful and fairer for the victims.	6
14	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Women's Rights	With CSOs pointing out the pervasive problem of domestic violence in their submissions to the UPR, the UK Government released strategies on 'Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls' in both 2019 and 2021. The UK Parliament also passed the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 which (among other changes) set out a legal definition of domestic abuse and places a duty on local authorities to provide victims and their children safe accommodation.	5
			Rights of the Child		
15	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Rights of the Child	In June 2018, the UK Government ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention). This followed recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in the framework of the UPR 3 <sup>rd</sup> cycle that were, later on, translated into recommendations accepted by the State.	1
16	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Women's Rights	Following years of campaigning by CSOs who participate in the UPR process such as Amnesty International and Humanists UK, the UK received several specific recommendations to decriminalise abortion in Northern Ireland. The UK Parliament then passed the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act in 2019 which did so.	3
17	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	With CSOs and the NHRI noting in their UPR submissions that hate crime is an increasing problem in the UK, the State received several recommendations to address the problem effectively. After this, the UK Government released a communications campaign to increase public awareness of what constitutes hate crime and condemn such behaviour. In 2021, the Scottish Parliament passed the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act. The law extends protection for vulnerable groups with a new offence of "stirring up hatred" and the regulation of aggravating	7
			LGBTI Rights		
			Racial Discrimination		

			Women's Rights	circumstances of the offences such as the involvement of prejudice on the basis of age, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity or intersex status.	
18	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Rights of the Child	In 2019, with CSOs and NHRIs in the UK noting that the law was not in line with international standards, the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament. This change in law means that children under the age of 12 can no longer be charged or arrested in Scotland. The UK as a whole received several recommendations to this effect in the third cycle of the UPR.	4
19	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	Rights of the Child	In 2020, the "Children (Equal Protection from Assault) Act 2019" was passed by the Scottish Parliament removing the possibility to use as a legal defence the right of parent to use corporal punishment against their children. As a consequence of this, children in Scotland will now enjoy the same protection of adults against assault.	5
20	Western European and Other States	United Kingdom	LGBTI Rights	In October 2021, the UK Government outlined proposals to introduce a new criminal offence banning so-called "conversion therapy" and to ensure that it is recognised appropriately when it is the motivation for an existing crime (such as assault). Legislation is expected to be presented in Spring 2022.	1
21	Western European and Other States	Canada	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2018, following advocacy from a wide variety of CSOs in Canada and several specific recommendations in the third cycle of the UPR, the Canadian Government acceded to the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This establishes a complaint procedure that allows individuals and groups to take complaints to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.	5
22	Western European and Other States	Canada	Women's Rights	In 2021, Canada passed certain regulations to bring the Pay Equity Act into force. Federally regulated employers are required to develop a pay equity plan for their workplaces within 3 years of the effective date of the Act. This is the first pay equity legislation to be proactive, rather than complaint-based. This followed women's rights CSOs involved in the UPR process lamenting the lack of effective pay equity legislation in Canada, which led to recommendations for Canada to address this in the third cycle of the UPR.	4
			Labour Rights		
23	Western European and Other States	Canada	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	The UPR Working Group received submissions stating that accessibility and opportunities for people with disabilities remained a concern in Canada. In 2019, Canada then passed the Accessible Canada Act. The Act requires certain employers and service providers to take proactive measures to identify and remove barriers for people with disabilities as well as creating a new complaints process.	2

24	Western European and Other States	Canada	LGBTI Rights	In 2021, Canadian legislation came into force that prohibits people attempting (or profiting from, advertising or causing another person to undergo) so-called “conversion therapy”. Violations of the legislation can lead to a sentence of up to five years’ imprisonment.	2
25	Western European and Other States	Canada	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	CSOs involved in the UPR process had noted the increasing problem of homelessness and house affordability in Canada ahead of the third UPR cycle, which translated to several recommendations on the subject. In 2019, the Canadian Parliament passed the National Housing Strategy Act, which applies a human rights-based approach to its housing policy. They estimate that the Act will assist 530,000 families with housing needs and cut chronic homelessness by 50% over the course of a decade.	4
26	Western European and Other States	France	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	Following a specific recommendation to do so in the third UPR cycle, France repealed article L5 of the Electoral Code in 2019. The article subjected the right to vote of persons under guardianship to a judge's decision. Over 300,000 people gained the right to vote as a result of the law change. The previous law had been criticised by both the NHRI and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities as a significant obstacle to the rights of people with disabilities.	1
27	Western European and Other States	France	Right to Education	In 2020, the Prime Minister of France issued a decree specifying the supporting documents required for school enrolment. Up until that time, some Roma children had been prevented from going to school due to requirements for supporting documents that were impossible to provide. Roma CSOs involved in the UPR process had noted the low rates of enrolment of Roma children.	5
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		
			Rights of the Child		
28	Western European and Other States	France	Racial Discrimination, LGBTI Rights, Minority Rights or Disability Rights	Several CSOs had pointed out in their submissions to the UPR that various minority groups were victims of increasing hate speech in France, leading to third cycle UPR recommendations on the subject. In July 2021, France introduced a law to tackle hate speech. The law, as revised, contained provisions obliging online platforms to simplify their notification process on hate speech. The law also created an independent observatory of online hate speech, which is to analyse, quantify and monitor hate content online.	5
29	Western European and Other States	France	Women’s Rights	In 2020, France introduced a new law aimed at protecting victims of domestic violence. The law allows for the access rights of a violent parent to be suspended, and allows doctors to break patient confidentiality if they believe a life is in immediate	4

			Rights of the Child	danger. It also increases sentences for perpetrators and introduces the use of distancing bracelets that automatically alerts the victim if the wearer comes within a perimeter set by a judge. These legislative changes followed recommendations in the third UPR cycle, which flowed from concerns from UN agencies that gender-based violence remained high in the country.	
30	Western European and Other States	France	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2020, France introduced a form of aid for employing people with disabilities. The amount of the premium is a maximum of €4,000. This came after CSO reported during the UPR process that people with disabilities are twice as likely to be unemployed as people without disabilities, leading to recommendations in that area in the third UPR cycle.	3
31	Western European and Other States	France	LGBTI Rights	In 2022, France's Health Ministry announced that they are removing restrictions on gay blood donors, and that references to sexual orientation will be removed from blood donor forms. The previous practice was criticised by LGBTI groups as insidious and perpetuating discrimination against gay people.	1
32	Western European and Other States	Germany	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2021, after receiving a specific recommendation in the third UPR cycle, Germany ratified the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). The Convention guarantees indigenous peoples the right to preserve their cultural identity and to participate in national decision-making processes as well as their right to access land and resources. While Germany does not have an indigenous population of its own, the decision was praised by ILO as a sign of international solidarity to indigenous peoples worldwide.	1
33	Western European and Other States	Germany	Women's Rights	In 2019, the Act to Improve Information about Abortion came into force in Germany. This amended section 219a of the German Criminal Code which prohibited the advertising of abortions. The change in law came after a specific recommendation in the UPR third cycle to review the section on the basis that it restricted the prospect for women to undergo abortion procedures.	1
34	Western European and Other States	Germany	Women's Rights	In 2021, the Second Gender Equality Management Positions Act came into effect, supplementing and amending the provisions for the equal participation of women in management positions in the private sector and public service. Under the legislation, relevant companies must have at least one woman on their Management Board. This followed a large number of third cycle recommendations regarding the need for more women in leadership positions in both the public and private sphere.	8
35	Western European	Germany	Racial Discrimination	In 2021, after third cycle UPR recommendations to take further steps to curb hate speech, Germany	4

	and Other States		LGBTI Rights	passed the Act to Combat Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime. Under the legislation, social networks are now obliged to report particularly serious criminal offences (such as incitement to hatred) to the federal police.	
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		
36	Western European and Other States	Germany	LGBTI Rights	In 2020, the Conversion Treatment Protection Act was introduced in Germany. The law criminalises the implementation of conversion therapies on individuals who have not given their effective consent, as well as public advertising or offering of conversion therapies. Violations are punished with a prison sentence of up to one year or with a fine of up to 30,000 EUR. The Government affirmed that this law was approved with the goal of protecting people not only from damage to their health but also from discrimination and stigmatisation based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.	3
37	Western European and Other States	Germany	Racial Discrimination	Racial discrimination in Germany was noted as a problem by multiple UN agencies according to the OHCHR's compilation report ahead of the UPR. There were therefore a great number of recommendations to improve this situation in the third cycle of the UPR. In 2020, the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution and members of the Cabinet adopted a comprehensive catalogue of 89 measures to combat right-wing extremism and racism. These measures include prevention programmes, political education and the creation of a help hotline for victims.	13
38	Eastern European States	Poland	Women's Rights Rights of the Child	In 2020, Poland introduced legislation giving police the power to issue emergency barring orders in cases of domestic violence. The law also allows police to issue a restraining order, banning the perpetrator from approaching the home and its surroundings. These changes bring Poland's legislation more into line with the Istanbul Convention, as they were advised to do in CSO submissions to the UPR.	3
39	Eastern European States	Poland	Women's Rights	In 2019, Poland increased the criminal sanctions for rape to imprisonment from between 2 and 15 years (previously having been a 1-10 year sentence). The penalty for aggravated rape was also increased to imprisonment from 3 to 20 years, having previously been 2-12 years.	1
			Rights of the Child		

40	Eastern European States	Poland	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2019, Poland passed the Act on Providing Accessibility to People with Special Needs. The Act seeks to improve the living conditions of those at risk of marginalisation or discrimination on the ground of disability. Each unit of the central state authority must appoint an accessibility coordinator to prepare and implement an accessibility plan and monitor their activity from the perspective of improving accessibility.	2
41	Eastern European States	Slovenia	Women's Rights	In 2021, after continual advocacy by CSOs and survivors over many years and specific third cycle UPR recommendations, Slovenia amended the definition of rape in its Criminal Code to require only the absence of consent. This change brings the definition of rape into line with international standards.	4
			Rights of the Child		
42	Eastern European States	Slovenia	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2021, Slovenia introduced legal amendments so that Slovene Sign Language is now officially recognized as a language under the Constitution. The law was developed at the initiative of CSOs advocating for the promotion of the rights of people with disabilities. The issue was highlighted to the UPR Working Group by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and translated to a third cycle recommendation to amend the Constitution in such a way.	1
43	Eastern European States	Slovenia	Grave human rights violations	On 15 December 2021, Slovenia ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Slovenia has also stated that it recognizes the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention to accept and consider communications from victims of violations of the Convention by Slovenia. This followed several recommendations received during the UPR, after the issue was highlighted by multiple UN agencies in the report produced for the UPR Working Group.	6
44	Eastern European States	Slovenia	General Human Rights Issues	In 2021, the Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia was upgraded from "B" status to an "A" status accreditation according to the Paris Principles. This means that it meets the highest performance standards of an independent national institution for the protection and promotion of human rights.	2
45	Eastern European States	Slovakia	Racial Discrimination	The UPR Working Group was advised in reports from CSOs and international organisations that Slovakia should promote education on tolerance and implement initiatives aimed at combating racism, which translated into several recommendations on the matter. In 2021, the Slovakian Government adopted the policy paper "Concept for Combating Radicalisation and Extremism until 2024". The aim of this is to combat racism and xenophobia by	4
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		

			Right to Education	strengthening human rights education and eliminating negative stereotypes of minorities in Slovakia. The project sets out the 41 concrete tasks it will undertake to this end.	
46	Eastern European States	Slovakia	Women's Rights	In 2021, Slovakia adopted legislation to assist victims of domestic violence. The legislation established facilities that provide specialised professional assistance to victims. These facilities proactively contact victims of domestic violence to offer legal, social and psychological assistance. Victims can also now obtain compensation from the state once criminal proceedings have begun, ensuring that victims can manage during the period after the crime.	2
			Rights of the Child		
47	Eastern European States	Slovakia	Fighting Torture and CID Treatments	Several treaty bodies as well as the Council of Europe and Slovakia's NHRI were stated to have urged Slovakia to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture, and this was reflected in a large number of third cycle recommendations. Slovakia has taken steps toward this, such as the introduction of legislation designating the Public Defender of Rights as the national preventive mechanism which is required by the Convention.	7
48	Eastern European States	Ukraine	Women's Rights	After advocacy from CSOs and international organisations regarding the lack of provision for domestic violence in the Criminal Code of Ukraine, Ukraine received several third cycle UPR recommendations to criminalise the practice. After this, legislation came into force in 2019 which introduced specific criminal liability for domestic violence for the first time. This was preceded by legislation in 2018 which defined domestic violence as including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence and provided for the establishment of shelters, social programmes and emergency orders as well as restraining orders to protect victims from perpetrators.	3
			Rights of the Child		
49	Eastern European States	Ukraine	Rights of the Child	In submissions to the UPR, CSOs and treaty bodies noted that Ukrainian legislation does not contain a clear definition of child pornography. A specific 3 <sup>rd</sup> cycle recommendation to amend this problem was then given and accepted by Ukraine. To remedy the situation, the Ukrainian Government adopted legislation defining child pornography.	1
50	Eastern European States	Ukraine	Grave human rights violations	Ukraine introduced legislation in 2018 which added a section on enforced disappearance to the criminal code. The article sets out which actions are classed as enforced disappearance and establishes the Commission on Persons Missing in Special Circumstances and the Unified Register of Persons Missing in Special Circumstances. This followed calls from CSOs and Treaty Bodies highlighted in UPR Working Group reports, and several third cycle recommendations which followed from them.	2

51	Eastern European States	Ukraine	Women's Rights	The Criminal Code of Ukraine was amended in 2020 to change the definition of rape. Under the new law, rape is defined by lack of consent rather than use of physical strength or threat. Ukraine's rape laws are therefore in line with international standards, as recommended by treaty bodies and several States in the third cycle of the UPR.	3
			Rights of the Child		
52	Eastern European States	Serbia	Corruption	After problems were highlighted in the UPR process by the Council of Europe and a third cycle recommendation was given in this area, Serbia introduced the Law on Prevention of Corruption in 2020. The law seeks to expand the competence of the Anti-Corruption Agency, and to enable its efficient and independent work by providing it with sufficient budgetary resources.	1
53	Eastern European States	Serbia	Rights of the Child	CSOs, treaty bodies and the UN Country Team in Serbia noted concern that corporal punishment remained lawful in the home, alternative care and non-educational day care settings. Serbia therefore received several recommendations to fix this problem in their laws. In 2021, a draft law was announced which would include a prohibition on physical punishment of children under the age of 18. The law is expected to be presented to Parliament for adoption in 2022.	5
54	Asian Pacific States	Sri Lanka	Grave human rights violations	CSO coalitions and treaty bodies in the UPR process were critical of Sri Lanka for taking so long to introduce reparation systems for victims of the civil war. In 2018, after receiving recommendations within the context of the UPR to do so, Sri Lanka passed legislation to create the Office for Reparations, which came into operation in October 2018. The finalised policy and guidelines for reparations were then published in 2021.	3
55	Asian Pacific States	Sri Lanka	Grave human rights violations	Despite ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in 2016, Sri Lanka was criticised in the UPR process by treaty bodies and CSOs for not implementing provisions into their domestic law. In 2018, Sri Lanka passed the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance Act. This established the crime of enforced disappearance as a specific crime in Sri Lankan legislation, in line with international standards and as per several third cycle UPR recommendations.	3
56	Asian Pacific States	Sri Lanka	Rights of the Child	Concerns expressed by the UN Human Rights Committee, UN Country Team and CSOs were raised with the UPR Working Group about provisions of Sri Lankan law allowing child marriage. In 2021, the Cabinet of Sri Lanka decided that the minimum age of marriage will be 18 for everyone in Sri Lanka and that the bride must consent to the marriage in order for it to be valid. The bill to make these changes is expected to be presented to Parliament at a time within the first quarter of 2022.	2

57	Asian Pacific States	Bahrain	Rights of the Child	In 2021, Bahrain passed legislation to increase the age of criminal responsibility to 15. The law also provides for the establishment of three new bodies to protect children who commit offences under Bahraini law. This legislation followed a UPR recommendation borne out of concerns that the UN Country Team had about continuing violations of children's rights, including the detaining of children for criminal behaviour.	1
58	Asian Pacific States	Bahrain	Women's Rights	Treaty Bodies and CSOs had flagged to the UPR working group that women were being disproportionately affected by discrimination relating to work and that there was an absence of legislation prohibiting sexual harassment. In 2018, Bahrain passed legislation prohibiting discrimination between workers on the grounds of gender, origin, language, religion or creed. The law also criminalises sexual harassment at work with punishments for both the employee perpetrating harassment and the employer. Both of these elements were highlighted by recommendations made in the third cycle of the UPR.	2
			Labour Rights		
59	Asian Pacific States	Malaysia	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	As a country made up of many faiths and ethnic minorities, CSOs have been calling for more frequent dialogues and improved cooperation between representatives of different faiths in Malaysia. This led to several third cycle recommendations to improve the situation. In 2020, the Government of Malaysia created the Inter-Religious Harmony Committee (HARMONI) which aims to strengthen relations among leaders and followers of various religions and foster respect and cooperation. The Ministry of National Unity also established a National Unity Advisory Council in June 2020, to advise the Government on matters of national unity and reconciliation.	3
60	Asian Pacific States	Malaysia	Rights of the Child	Several UN organisations and CSO coalitions have been calling for an end to child marriage in Malaysia for many years. There was therefore a large number of recommendations made to that effect in the third UPR cycle. In 2020, the Government of Malaysia launched a 5-year National Strategy Plan to end child marriage. The Strategy Plan was to involve 61 agencies, including governmental, non-governmental and international agencies and is reported to still be ongoing.	10
61	Asian Pacific States	Malaysia	Death Penalty	CSOs have noted that Malaysia retains the mandatory death penalty for 12 offences, and have advocated for the mandatory death penalty to be eliminated on the way to full abolition. In 2019, the then Minister of Law appointed a special committee to review alternative sentences to the mandatory death penalty. A bill amending laws on the death penalty is expected to be presented to Parliament by the third quarter of 2022.	3

62	Asian Pacific States	Malaysia	Women's Rights	CSOs, treaty bodies and the Malaysia UN Country Team have pushed for Malaysia to improve its identification of human trafficking victims, which translated to several third cycle recommendations on the matter. In 2021, the National Guidelines on Human Trafficking Indicators were launched to provide a standard guideline for victim identification and for use as reference for protection services, CSOs and the public.	4
			Labour Rights		
			Rights of the Child		
63	Eastern European States	Albania	Women's Rights	CSOs and international organisations had noted the prominent problem of domestic violence in Albanian society, and flagged them to the UPR working group. After the third cycle recommendations, Albanian laws on domestic violence were amended in March 2020 to cover a wider range of victims (including former partners) and a wider range of actions (including psychological violence). The law now also provides for harsher sentences for many perpetrators.	4
			Rights of the Child		
64	Eastern European States	Albania	LGBTI Rights	CSO coalitions for minority groups pointed out problems with structural and multiple discrimination faced by various groups, which led to third cycle UPR recommendations to improve their situation. Following these recommendations, Albania introduced new elements to the anti-discrimination legislation in 2020. For example, the law now includes provision on multiple discrimination, structural discrimination and hate speech. It also introduced new grounds on which discrimination is prohibited, including living with HIV/AIDS, citizenship and sex characteristics.	4
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		
			Women's Rights		
65	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Statelessness people	On 17 July 2019, the General Law for the Recognition and Protection of Stateless Persons No. 27,512 was published. This law aims to safeguard human rights and create protection mechanisms for stateless persons. Allegedly, the recommendations received by Argentina during the third cycle of the UPR, were the last push to achieve its approval.	2
66	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Women's Rights	In December 2020, Law No. 27610 "Access to the Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy" was approved granting right to have an abortion up to 14 weeks of pregnancy. In May 2021, the Ministry of Health approved Resolution 1535/2021 on the update of the "Protocol for the Integral Care of People with the Right to the Voluntary and Legal Interruption of Pregnancy". It contains guidelines for the application of voluntary and legal interruption of pregnancy in different contexts in health institutions throughout Argentina.	3
			Right to health		

67	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Follow up strategies	Since December 2018, Argentina is in the process of implementing the System for Monitoring International Human Rights Recommendations (SIMORE). In July 2019, the States of Paraguay and Argentina implemented the technical cooperation programme for the implementation of a system for the Follow-up of International Human Rights Recommendations (SIMORE Paraguay Program).	3
68	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	LGBTI Rights	On 8 July 2021, after years of advocacy by many CSOs that fight for LGBTI rights such as Convocatoria Federal Trans and Travesti Argentina, Law No. 27,636 (Law for promoting access to formal employment for Transvestite, Transsexual And Transgender People "Diana Sacayan - Lohana Berkins") was published. Convocatoria Federal Trans and Travesti Argentina (organisations that constantly participate in the UPR) participated in the creation of the bill. This law establishes that the national public sector must reserve at least 1% of its employment positions and vacancies for transvestites, transsexuals and transgender people.	2
69	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Women's Rights	On 10 January 2019, the Micaela Law (Law 27,499) was enacted. It establishes mandatory training in gender and gender violence for all persons working in public service, in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.	6
70	Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Fighting Torture and CID Treatments	In January 2018, in response to years of advocacy and claims expressed in CSOs submissions to the UPR Working Group, the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture was established, and its members were assigned.	6
71	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	Racial Discrimination	In March 2019, the National Plan on Racial Equality and African Descent was created. This Plan aims to advance the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, programs and affirmative actions with an ethnic-racial equity perspective. The National Plan was elaborated following a participatory process that engaged CSO, governmental bodies and afro-descendant groups.	6
72	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	Environmental Rights	On 9 July 2020, the Ministry of the Environment (MA) was created by Law No. 19,889, as a State Secretariat with exclusive competence in environmental matters. Environmental competencies which were previously assigned to the Ministry of Housing, Land Management and Environment (MOVTMA), were transferred to the Ministry of the Environment.	1
73	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	Women's Rights	On 31 May 2021, the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries, through resolution No. 534/021, approved the National Plan for Gender in Agricultural Policies (PNG Agro). The mentioned Plan seeks to reduce the gender inequalities that exist in the country and specifically in the Uruguayan rural sector.	4
			Economic, social and cultural rights		

74	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In 2019, the Inclusion Articulators in the Territory Project was created. The project is run by a team composed of professionals trained in the field of Inclusive Education. The aim of the whole initiative is to contribute and build the most appropriate tools to achieve and improve the accessibility of educational centres.	2
			Right to Education		
75	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	LGBTI Rights	In December 2020, the Presidency of the Republic amended the Decree No. 81/999 of March 23, 1999 "Regulation of Transfusion Medicine", which, through its Article B.1.2.7.3, provided for the permanent disqualification of homosexual donors by stating that "men who have had sexual relations with another man" were prohibited to donate blood.	2
			Right to health		
76	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay	Fighting Torture and CID Treatments	In 2019, the National Council to Prevent and Combat Trafficking and Exploitation of Persons (CNTE) was established. Its mandate is to act as a guiding and coordinating body for policies on trafficking in persons and to create the Public Policy and the National Plan. This Council is composed of members from state institutions and civil organisations such as ONG El paso, ONG Casa Abierta and Red Uruguaya contra la Violencia Doméstica y Sexual.	7
			Labour rights		
77	Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay and Bolivia	Follow up strategies	CSO from Uruguay and Bolivia have been working together in developing a regional monitoring tool to follow the progress made by States of the region in relation to the recommendations of the UPR. This tool aims at providing relevant information to researchers and CSO when conducting advocacy work.	N/A
78	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ecuador	Women's Rights	On 14 May 2018, the regulations for the functioning of the Inter-institutional Coordination Committee for the Prevention of Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants and Protection of its Victims were issued. This was done by means of inter-institutional agreement No. 0010.	7
			Rights of the child		
			Minority Rights or disability rights		
79	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ecuador	Rights of the Child	On 19 September 2018, Ecuador acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child by a communications procedure, which entered into force on December 19 of that year. This allows human rights violations against children to be addressed at the international level.	3

80	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ecuador	Women's Rights	On 5 February 2018, the Comprehensive Organic Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women -LOIPEVM- was issued by resolution No. 2018-0395. The purpose of this law is to eradicate gender violence in the country and change the socio-cultural patterns and stereotypes that allow its prevalence.	4
81	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ecuador	LGBTI Rights	On 28 June 2021, the Secretary for Human Rights created a Sub Secretary Office for Diversity. The Sub Secretary, headed by Felipe Ochoa, aims for the eradication of all types of violence and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people. It will be in charge of creating a comprehensive public policy to prevent all forms of violence against LGBTI people and combat conversion therapies.	8
82	Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 4 September 2018, Legislative Decree No. 1384 was published, which recognises the legal capacity of persons with disabilities (PWD) under equal conditions. Allegedly, the recommendations received by the Peruvian State during the third cycle of the UPR, were an important step to achieve its approval.	3
83	Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru	Women's Rights	In 2019, the Ministry of Health approved the Directive for the Use of Kit for the Care of Sexual Violence Cases through Ministerial Resolution No. 227-2019/MINSA, which ensures the availability and access to products necessary for the care of women who have experienced violence or sexual violence.	4
84	Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru	Women's Rights	In July 2020, after the Ombudsman's Office and various state and civil society institutions encouraged its approval, Law No. 31030 was passed. This established the application of parity and gender alternation in the presidential, Congress and the Andean Parliament lists for the 2021 electoral process.	1
85	Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru	Human Rights Defenders	In April 2019, Ministerial Resolution No. 059-2019-JUS on the "Protocol to guarantee the protection of human rights defenders" was approved. This provides for the creation of the first official Register of complaints and incidents of aggressions against defenders or specific risk situations. It is also the result of a broad process of transparent dialogue among the actors involved, including the government, civil society organisations and business associations.	4
86	Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru	Women's Rights	On 30 March 2021, by means of Law No. 31146, the Parliament amended the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and Law No. 28950, Law against Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants. This new law systematised the articles related to the crimes of human trafficking and exploitation, and ensured the procedural representation of minors and the reparation of victims of human trafficking and exploitation.	2
			Rights of the Child		
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		

87	Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico	Grave human rights violations	In October 2020, the Mexican Government recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED), through a letter signed by the President and sent to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. This allowed enforced disappearances to be denounced at the international level.	3
88	Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico	Racial Discrimination	On 9 August 2019, a decree was published which added Section C to Article 2 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States. This recognises Afro-Mexican people as part of the pluricultural composition of the nation.	5
89	Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico	Rights of the Child	On 4 June 2019, a draft decree came into effect, reforming, adding and repealing various provisions of the Federal Civil Code, with the aim to eradicate child marriage. Since that day, 31 local Civil Codes absolutely prohibit marriage before the age of 18, and only the state of Baja California still retains in its state laws exceptions and dispensations. This action was welcomed by many UN agencies and organisations.	1
90	Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico	Rights of the Child	On 11 December 2020, the Chamber of Deputies approved the amendments to articles 47, section VIII and 105, section IV of the General Law on the Rights of Children and Adolescents, as well as articles 323 Bis, 323 Ter and 423 of the Federal Civil Code, which explicitly prohibit corporal and humiliating punishment in Mexico. The decree was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation (DOF) on 11 January 2021.	2
			Fighting against torture and CID treatments		
91	Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico	Women's Rights	On 8 March 2021, the Government in collaboration with INMUJERES and ECLAC launched training courses for women who want to learn about e-commerce, with the aim to provide tools for their empowerment in the workplace.	2
92	Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile	Women's Rights	On 3 May 2019, through Law No. 21153, the State criminalised street sexual harassment, which includes verbal aggression, touching, harassment and indecent acts. This law was promoted by the Observatory Against Harassment Chile (OCAC), an CSO that constantly participates in the UPR, and has worked since its inception in 2013 to ensure that sexual street harassment is understood as a type of gender-based violence.	7
93	Latin America	Chile	Women's Rights	On 2 March 2020, amendments to the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and law 18.216 on Femicide were published through Law 21.212	9

	and the Caribbean		LGBTI Rights	(Gabriela's Law). These were introduced in order to expand the concept of femicide and incorporate within its hypotheses those that occur in the framework of non-marital or cohabiting relationships and against women from the LGBTI community.	
94	Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile	Racial Discrimination	On 8 April 2019, Law No. 21151 was enacted in favour of Chilean Afro-descendant tribal people. This law grants legal recognition to the Chilean Afro-descendant tribal people and all manifestations of their culture. Even though this draft law had been on the legislative agenda since 2016, the recommendations received by the Chilean State during the third cycle of the UPR, were the last push to achieve its approval.	1
			Minority Rights or Disability Rights		
95	Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile	LGBTI Rights	On 17 May 2019, the Attorney General's Office launched the Observatory of Violence against LGBTI+ Persons, which seeks to strengthen investigative tools and policies in the commission of crimes motivated by discrimination. Some CSOs that constantly participate in the UPR such as MOVILH and OTD Chile welcomed the launch of the Observatory.	2
96	African States	Kenya	Rights of the Child	On 13 October 2021, the Children's Bill (2021) was presented before the National Assembly for first reading. The draft law seeks to develop a framework to solve problems which surfaced after the passage of the Children Act (2001), and to promote the rights of the children.	7
97	African States	Kenya	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 17 November 2021, Refugee Act 2021 was approved and signed by the President. It addressed the issues related to human mobility and provides a framework for the protracted refugee situation. Allegedly, the recommendations received by the Kenya State during the third cycle of the UPR, were an important step in its adoption.	1
98	African States	Kenya	Women's Rights	In March 2021, the Ministry of Public Service and Gender with the collaboration of the UN Women Kenya initiated the Women Economic Empowerment Strategy 2020-2025. This strategy aims to develop measures to promote women's empowerment and gender equality, as the Sustainable Development Goal 5 states.	3
99	African States	Botswana	Right to Health	In June 2019, the President with the collaboration of the UNAIDS initiated the Third National Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS (2019-2023). It extended the scope of protection to other vulnerable groups that were not included in the previous strategic framework, such as the LGBTI community.	3
			LGBTI Rights		
			Minority Rights and Disability Rights		

100	African States	Botswana	Women's Rights	On 10 December 2020, the Government launched 25 Gender Based Violence Specialised Courts to protect women, children and other vulnerable groups. These were announced by Practice Directive No. 9 of 9 November 2020.	3
			Rights of the Child		
101	African States	Botswana	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 11 August 2021, Botswana acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Then, on 12 August 2021, the United Nations office issued a notification communicating Botswana's accession to the Convention. To domesticate the Convention, Parliament has passed the Revised Disability Policy in parallel. The Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) applauds the Government of Botswana for ratifying the Convention.	5
102	African States	Botswana	Rights of the Child	In 2018, the Parliament enacted the Penal Code Amendment Bill, which changed some provisions in order to increase to 18 years the minimum age of consent, and criminalised sexual acts below that age, with the objective to promote children's rights and combat all forms of violence against them.	1
103	African States	Morocco	Women's Rights	On 22 February 2018, Law No. 103.13 on addressing violence against women was adopted. It introduces new definitions and sanctions to enhance the protection of women and children. However, many CSOs and feminist activists have stated that changes to the bill that they demanded were not listened to and so they are unsatisfied with the new law.	9
			Rights of the Child		
104	African States	Morocco	Fighting Torture and CID Treatments	In February 2018, the Moroccan Parliament adopted law No. 76-15, to establish the National Preventive Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture and merge it with the Human Rights Council. Although the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT) welcomed the establishment, it emphasised that the NPM needs to comply with the Paris Principles.	4
105	African States	Morocco	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 19 April 2019, after many local CSOs described their concern about the situation of migrant workers in their submissions to the UPR Working Group, Decree No. 1356-19 of 19 April 2019 by the Minister of Labour and Professional Integration was passed. This established a model employment contract reserved for foreigners. Because of this, foreign employees are offered the same rights and benefits as local employees, in particular, regarding severance pay in case of dismissal.	2
106	African States	Morocco	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 3 June 2019, after various CSOs suggested the state take action in favour of the rights of the Amazigh population, draft law No. 26.16 was adopted. This sets out the process of adopting Berber	4

			Right to Education	(Amazigh language), as an official language and its integration into the education system and into Moroccan public life.	
107	African States	Morocco	Rights of the Child	In December 2019, the Government in collaboration with the National Observatory of the Child (ONDE) launched the second stage of the “Wladna” program. It aims to reduce the rate of child exploitation in all regions of the country.	2
108	African States	Guinea	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In April 2021, Guinean deputies approved law No. 2021-0016 to protect and promote the rights of persons with albinism. Even though this draft law had been on the legislative agenda since 2018, allegedly, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were important for its approval.	1
109	African States	Guinea	Rights of the Child	In December 2020, following the concerns expressed by some CSOs in relation to the percentage of early and/or forced marriage and girls being used to perform domestic tasks, the National Strategic Plan for the promotion of the abandonment of child marriage in Guinea 2021-2025 was presented to the Prime Minister. This document was prepared by the Ministry of Social Action and Vulnerable Persons through the National Children's Office with the support of UNICEF.	4
			Women's Rights		
110	African States	Guinea	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	From March 17 to 18, 2021, a workshop was carried out to develop an action plan for the inclusion of people with disabilities. The workshop was organised by the Ministry of Social Action, Promotion of Women and Children of the Republic of Guinea with the assistance of the General Secretariat of l'Organisation de la Coopération Islamique.	2
111	African States	DRC	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 7 April 2021, the bill on the protection of Pygmy indigenous peoples (IPs) was adopted by the DRC's National Assembly. The bill grants several benefits to indigenous pygmies, including education and land rights. Allegedly, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were important for its approval.	3
			Economic, social and cultural rights		
112	African States	DRC	Rights of the Child	In September 2019, the implementation of the free primary education policy started across the country. Allegedly, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were important for its approval.	4
			Right to Education		

113	African States	DRC	Grave human rights violations	In March 2021, after some CSOs and institutions reported their concerns about the large number of extrajudicial killings, the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office (Joint Office) supported the Government on the creation of a working group on transitional justice within the framework of Congolese civil society.	4
114	African States	DRC	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 29 November 2021, Senators adopted an organic law for the protection and promotion of the rights of people with disabilities in the DRC. The approval of this law has been awaited since 2013. Allegedly, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were crucial for its approval.	3
115	African States	DRC	Fighting torture and CID treatments	On 7 November 2019, the ministerial decree No. 002/CAB/MIN/DH/2019 launched the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture of the Minister of Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of Congo.	8
116	African States	Côte d'Ivoire	Statelessness	In September 2020, after the UNHCR and CSOs highlighted the difficulties of not having a mechanism to regulate the status of stateless people in their submissions to the UPR Working Group, two decrees were approved to establish procedures to regularise the status of these people.	1
117	African States	Côte d'Ivoire	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	In September 2021, the Council of Ministers announced in a press release the signing of two decrees for the creation of two technical commissions for the orientation and professional reclassification of persons with disabilities in public and private sectors.	3
			Labour Rights		
118	African States	Côte d'Ivoire	Women's Rights	In October 2019, after the Comité de Suivi EPU suggested the Government to establish a quota to improve the representation of women in decision-making bodies, law No. 2019-870 was adopted, which established a minimum quota of 30% of women candidacies in parliamentary elections.	5
119	Asian Pacific States	India	Business and Human Rights	In February 2019, a draft National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights was presented by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. It aims to incorporate the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).	1
			Labour Rights		

120	Asian Pacific States	India	Women's Rights	On 22 August 2017, the Supreme Court declared the practice of "instant triple talaq" to be unconstitutional, because it violates women's rights. Consequently, on 31 July 2019, the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act was enacted. It forbids the divorced by triple talaq in any form and punishes it.	3
121	Asian Pacific States	India	Women's Rights	On 20 September 2018, the Ministry of Home Affairs implemented the National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO). This database supports investigation of sexual offenders and is used as a tool to combat violence against women. Allegedly, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were important for its approval.	2
122	Asian Pacific States	India	Rights of the Child	On 20 September 2018, the Ministry of Home Affairs announced the launch of the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. It facilitates online reports of crimes against children and women.	3
			Women's Rights		
123	Asian Pacific States	Cambodia	General Human Rights Issues	On 31 May 2021, after some CSOs and UN agencies recommended the establishment of a national human rights institute following the Paris Principles, the first draft of a law to set up the National Human Rights Institution was finalised by the Cambodian Human Rights Committee (CHRC). According to the Committee, the recommendations received during the third cycle of the UPR were crucial for the establishment of the institution.	8
124	Asian Pacific States	Cambodia	Labour Rights	On 3 January 2020, ten amendments to the Law on Trade Unions were enacted. While a majority of the provisions are still not harmonised with international standards, there were positive changes in articles 28 and 29. The working group in charge of amendments to the law held a final meeting with CSOs on 6 July 2020 and is in the process of reviewing the legality of the proposed amendments.	1
125	Asian Pacific States	Cambodia	Women's Rights	On 24 October 2019, after some CSOs expressed their concern about the child victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, the National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT) implemented its National Plan of Action 2019-2023 which aims to combat all forms of human trafficking.	4
			Rights of the Child		
			Labour Rights		

126	Asian Pacific States	Cambodia	General Human Rights Issues	In September 2021, the Ministry of Information announced the finalisation of its draft law on access to information as a way to guarantee people's right to freedom of expression, information, and association. Although it is a good step, some CSOs are worried about some articles that aren't in line with international standards.	1
127	Asian Pacific States	Jordan	Labour Rights	In May 2019, Law No. (14) of 2019 amended the Jordanian Labour Law No. (8) of 1996, with the aim to promote women's empowerment and increase the rate of women's participation in the labour force.	3
			Women's Rights		
128	Asian Pacific States	Jordan	Minority Rights or Disability Rights	On 15 January 2020, after CSOs such as Human Rights Watch suggested that the State adopt more measures to guarantee the rights of people with disabilities, the Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Higher Council for the Rights of People with Disabilities put in place a Ten-Year Strategy for Inclusive Education (2020-2030). This strategy has been developed following the provisions contained in the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.	3
			Right to Education		
129	Asian Pacific States	Jordan	Labour Rights	In May 2021, the Agricultural Workers Regulation came into force strengthening the protection granted to employees of this economic sector. Among the benefits introduced by the law is the obligation to provide a formal contract, ensure work safety equipment, and grant compensation for workplace injuries. Allegedly, the recommendations received by Jordan during the third cycle of the UPR made this approval possible.	1
130	Asian Pacific States	Jordan	Women's Rights	After receiving numerous third cycle recommendations on the subject of human trafficking, the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking approved the National Strategy to combat human trafficking (2019-2022) in 2019. This aims at strengthening the capacity of law enforcement, providing assistance to victims at all stages, ensuring their physical and psychological recovery, and ensuring their voluntary and safe return. Parliament also approved the Anti-Human Trafficking Law No. 10 in 2021, which increases the penalties applicable to the perpetrators of human trafficking, and expands the scope of criminalization by adding new acts to the said list of conduct that constitutes human trafficking such as the exploitation of beggars.	15
			Labour Rights		
			Rights of the Child		

131	Asian Pacific States	Pakistan	LGBTI Rights	<p>In 2018, the Pakistan Parliament adopted the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, prohibiting harassment against the transgender population. The law accords the right of transgender people to be recognized as per their self-perceived gender identity, outlining their right to have such an identity being registered by the civil status and identification authorities. the law also guarantees transgender people rights such as the right to education, employment and healthcare free of any type of discrimination, as well as the right to inherit, to vote and to hold public office.</p>	7
-----	----------------------	----------	--------------	--	---