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شبكة المنظمات العربية غير الحكومية للتنمية

Egypt

Joint Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review

34<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group

Submitted 28 March 2019

Submission by CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, NGO in  
General Consultative Status with ECOSOC

And

Arab NGO Network for Development NGO in Roster Consultative Status with  
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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 CIVICUS is a global alliance of civil society organisations (CSOs) and activists dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society around the world. Founded in 1993, CIVICUS has members in more than 190 countries throughout the world.
- 1.2 The Arab NGO Network on Development (ANND) is a regional network that works in 12 Arab countries, with a membership of nine national networks. It works to strengthen civil society's role and enhance the values of democracy, respect for human rights and sustainable development in the region.
- 1.3 In this document, CIVICUS and ANND examine the Government of Egypt's compliance with its international human rights obligations to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society, assess Egypt's implementation of recommendations received during the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle relating to these issues and provide a number of specific, action-orientated follow-up recommendations.
- 1.4 During the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle, the Government of Egypt received 50 recommendations relating to the space for civil society - civic space. Twenty-four recommendations were accepted and 26 were noted. An evaluation of a range of legal sources and human rights documentation addressed in subsequent sections of this submission demonstrate that the Government of Egypt has not implemented any recommendations relating to civic space. Instead it has further closed the space for civil society to function freely.
- 1.5 We are deeply concerned by the ratification of Law No. 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work, which has been systemically used to target CSOs and their personnel. This law has granted powers to the state to criminalise the human rights work of civil society and detain their employees, activists, lawyers and allies for conducting legitimate human rights work.
- 1.6 We are further alarmed by the widescale restrictions on the freedom of expression through Law No. 175 of 2018, on Anti-Cyber and Information Technology Crimes. The new cybercrime law has placed onerous registration requirements on social media users with more than 5,000 followers, requiring them to pay hefty registration fees, and be subject to constant surveillance and intimidation from the state.
- 1.7 As a result of these issues, civic space in Egypt is currently classified as 'closed', the most serious category, by the CIVICUS Monitor.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> CIVICUS Monitor\_1: Egypt, <https://monitor.civicus.org/country/egypt>.

- Section 2 of this submission examines Egypt’s implementation of UPR recommendations and compliance with international human rights standards concerning the freedom of association.
- Section 3 examines Egypt’s implementation of UPR recommendations and compliance with international human rights standards related to the protection of HRDs, civil society activists and journalists.
- Section 4 examines Egypt’s implementation of UPR recommendations and compliance with international human rights standards concerning the freedom of expression, independence of the media and access to information.
- Section 5 examines Egypt’s implementation of UPR recommendations and compliance with international human rights standards related to the freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Section 6 contains recommendations to address the concerns raised and advance implementation of recommendations under the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle.
- An annex on implementation of 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle UPR recommendations related to civic space can be found in Section 7.

## 2. Freedom of association

- 2.1** During Egypt’s examination under the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle, the government received 28 number of recommendations on the freedom of association and creating an enabling environment for CSOs. The government accepted 15 and noted 13 recommendations. However, as evidenced below, the government has not implemented any of these recommendations and has instead expanding its breach of freedoms of civil society since the last review.
- 2.2** Despite the provisions of Article 75 of the 2014 Constitution and the protections of the freedom of association in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), in May 2017 Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified. The law gives associations one year from ratification to comply with its provisions, or face dissolution.<sup>2</sup> Associations are also required to register with the Administrative Entity, which has powers to notify them on the rights to function freely and legally in Egypt. This process can take up to 60 days and has extensive documentation requirements, while the agency can reject applications at its discretion.<sup>3</sup> Chapter 2, Article 4 ambiguously requires that groups do not breach “national security, public order or public morals,” a clause subject to interpretation from the state.<sup>4</sup> This clause is reiterated in Section 2 (13), where associations are barred from engaging in work that is “of political parties, vocational

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<sup>2</sup> “Law No (70) of 2017: The Law of Associations and Other Foundations Working in the Field of Civil Work” Arab Republic of Egypt\_1, 2017, <http://www.icnl.org/research/library/files/Egypt/law70english.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> “Civic Freedom Monitor: Egypt” ICNL, 2019, <http://www.icnl.org/research/monitor/egypt.html>

<sup>4</sup> Op. Cit. Arab Republic of Egypt\_2.

or labor syndicates, any work of political nature, or any work that may cause harm to the national security, law and order, public morals, or public health.”<sup>5</sup>

- 2.3** The requirements for registration for foreign entities are onerous, requiring extensive submission of documents and vetting.<sup>6</sup> Law No. 70 also places restrictions on the numbers of non-Egyptians who may participate in an association’s activities, limiting these to no more than 10 per cent of all members, and requires that the Administrative Entity be notified of the names of all foreign members and board members. It also requires, among additional, burdensome prerequisites, that associations: seek permission from the state before collaborating with international actors (Section 2(14h)); obtain written permission from a provincial minister, even after registration, to implement activities or open branches (Section 2(21)); keep records of receipts of funds subject to enquiry from the Administrative Entity and receive funds only from Egyptian bodies (Article 23); and maintain their databases with the agency regularly, subject to ad hoc investigation (Article 26).<sup>7</sup>
- 2.4** Failure to follow these extensive and unclear provisions carries serious ramifications for civil society actors including, but not limited to: dissolution of the association; barring of the receipt of financial resources; jail sentences of between one and five years; fines of between 50,000 and 1,000,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$2,855 to US\$57,111); and sentencing for individuals deemed to be in charge of the associations violating these provisions. The barriers to civil society registration are very high and often CSOs representing women’s rights, minorities and rural communities are further discriminated against by these barriers to access due to structural inequalities.
- 2.5** Egyptian civil society actors are frequently targeted by the state because of their advocacy, documentation and reporting work. Because Law No. 70 requires approval before any findings from a survey or study are published by civil society, actors face prison terms for their research.<sup>8</sup> In March 2018, Ezzat Ghoneim and Azouz Mahgoub were arrested for their work with the Egyptian Coordination for Rights and Freedoms group, known for documenting enforced disappearances and the use of the death penalty. They also used their findings to undertake advocacy with Human Rights

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> “Environment for Civil Society in Egypt: “Among Darker and More Dangerous.”” CIVICUS, 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2017/10/02/environment-civil-society-egypt-among-darker-and-more-dangerous/>

<sup>7</sup> Op. Cit. Arab Republic of Egypt\_1

<sup>8</sup> Op Cit CIVICUS Monitor\_1

Watch.<sup>9</sup> They were forcibly disappeared from 14 September 2018 and reappeared before court on 9 February 2019, which ordered their further detention for 45 days.<sup>10</sup>

**2.6** Preceding the ratification of Law No. 70, Egyptian civil society have continued to face restrictions on their freedom of association since the onset of the ‘Arab Spring’ in 2011. Case 173/2011, known as the ‘foreign funding case’ or the ‘civil society case’, has continued to target Egyptian CSOs. Thirty-seven organisations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS), the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession and the Land Center for Human Rights have had their organisational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. These organisations were first charged in 2013 with “managing unlicensed branches” of their organisations, “conducting research, political training, surveys, and workshops without licenses,” “training political parties and groups” and “illegally receiving foreign funding.”<sup>11</sup> The Egyptian offices of Freedom House, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, the International Centre for Journalists and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation were also forcibly closed under the provisions of Law No. 84/2002. This law, now replaced by the similarly draconian Law No. 70, also targeted organisations that received foreign funding with threats of arrests, asset freezes and dissolution. As detailed in (3) below, these restrictions targeted civil society activists and curtailed the work of individuals and groups through travel bans, intimidation, enforced disappearances and reprisals.

**2.7** The World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) reported that in June and July 2015 an Investigating Judge ordered that the Cairo Institute of Human Rights Studies and the Hisham Mubarak Law Center be subjected to review by a technical committee to ascertain their compliance with Law No. 84/2002. The review included requests for proof of registration, founding documents (e.g. contracts and statutes), financial records from the previous four years, and proof that they were not engaging in civil society work.<sup>12</sup> On 13 and 14 March 2016, staff members of CIHRS, the Andalus Institute for Tolerance and Anti-Violence Studies, United Group and Nazra for Feminist Studies were summoned to appear before a judge in relation to Case

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<sup>9</sup> “UN Experts Alarmed over Systemic Targeting of Civil Society”. CIVICUS\_2, 2018, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2018/11/06/un-experts-alarmed-over-systematic-targeting-civil-society/>

<sup>10</sup> “Missing Lawyer Ezzat Ghoneim Appears in Court, Ordered to be Detained for 45 Days” Mada Masr\_1, Egypt, 2019, <https://marsad-egypt.info/en/2019/02/13/missing-lawyer-ezzat-ghoneim-appears-court-ordered-detained-45-days/>

<sup>11</sup> “Egypt: Ongoing judicial harassment and restrictions to freedom of association faced by at least 37 Egyptian human rights defenders and organisations.” OMCT, 2016, <http://www.omct.org/human-rights-defenders/urgent-interventions/egypt/2016/08/d23917/>

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

173/2011 without proper process for summons being followed.<sup>13</sup> The committee also attempted to review ANHRI, and CRE was requested to appear before the judge in December 2016.

**2.8** On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shut down the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. Upon arrival at work, staff found that the police had sealed all entrances and their doorman had been taken in for questioning. The organisation was accused of being in violation of its original stated area of focus. They were clearly targeted for their work documenting cases of police violations.<sup>14</sup>

**2.9** In November 2018, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi ordered a review of Law No 70, stating that he wanted the law governing the work of civil society to be 'balanced.'<sup>15</sup> However, these statements come at a time when President El-Sisi is seeking an extension of his term through constitutional amendments that could see him in power until 2034.<sup>16</sup> The constitutional change in presidential term limits will only be passed through a national referendum, with activists fearing that further restrictions and violence will ensue against civil society. There is also an active state-led campaign to control the international perception of Egypt's human rights record. In November 2018, the state created the High Permanent Commission for Human Rights to "respond to claims" made against Egypt's human rights record and formulate a "unified Egyptian vision" to be stated in regional and international forums.<sup>17</sup> The new body, however, does not include any human rights activists and is made up of "representatives of the foreign ministry, military, intelligence agencies and the interior ministry, which oversees a police force accused of torture and forced disappearances."<sup>18</sup> This is in line with Egypt's bid to host the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in April 2019, amidst concerns that Egyptian civil society will face further reprisals for their attendance.

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<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> "Egyptian authorities forcibly shut down NGO supporting victims of torture and violence." CIVICUS Monitor\_3, 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2017/02/09/egyptian-authorities-forcibly-shut-down-ngo-providing-support-victims-torture-and-violence/>

<sup>15</sup> "Egypt's Sisi orders review of law curbing NGOs" Reuters, Yousef Saba, 2018, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-rights/egypts-sisi-orders-review-of-law-curbing-ngos-idUSKCN1NB2M0>

<sup>16</sup> "Egypt MPs propose constitutional amendment that may extend Sisi's rule to 2034". MEE and Agencies, Middle East Eye, 2019, <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-mps-propose-constitutional-amendment-may-extend-sisis-rule-2034>.

<sup>17</sup> "Egypt: New human rights body to combat criticism against state." Al Jazeera, 2018, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/11/egypt-human-rights-body-combat-criticism-state-181126081225548.html>.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

**2.10** On 20 December 2018, the South Cairo Court acquitted 43 defendants in Case 173, after more than seven years of intimidation and restrictions. These acquittals only addressed one component of the broader restrictions on the freedom of association: the acquittal, while welcome, only applied to foreign organisations and staff charged with receiving foreign funding, but restrictions on local CSOs under Law No. 70 continue.<sup>19</sup> Further, the acquittal comes with the risk of less international attention being paid towards local CSOs that are still facing restrictions under this law. These Egyptian CSOs continue to face reviews, asset freezes, travel bans and prosecution for their activism.

### **3. Harassment, intimidation and attacks against human rights defenders, civil society activists and journalists**

**3.1** Under Egypt's previous UPR examination, the government received 15 of recommendations on the protection of HRDs, journalists and civil society representatives. The government accepted six and noted nine. However, as examined in this section, the government has failed to operationalise these recommendations effectively.

**3.2** Despite constitutional protections on the freedoms of assembly (article 75), expression (article 65) and the human rights' protection mandate of the police (article 206), Human Rights Defenders including women (W/HRDs), activists, artists, political opposition actors and journalists are frequently targeted by the government. The crackdown on W/HRDs has been specifically enabled by the Anti-Terrorism Law No. 33 of 2015, which defines terrorism in broad terms.<sup>20</sup> This definition covers a broad spectrum of activities that can ambiguously be interpreted to restrict human rights activism. The law also grants powers to the state to call states of emergency, establish emergency or special courts to try activists, and prosecute them without following due legal processes to free and fair trials.

**3.3** Similarly, Egypt's Penal Code (Law No. 58 of 1937) regulates the conduct of HRDs, journalists, LGBTQI activists, artists and others, subjecting them to harsh sentences, including the death penalty for acts that are deemed to threaten the country's independence (as per article 77).<sup>21</sup> The article goes further to criminalise actors who engage with foreign bodies to prejudice Egypt's political, economic, or diplomatic

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<sup>19</sup> "Egypt: NGO 'foreign funding' case acquittals must lead to end of crackdown on human rights community." Amnesty International, 2018, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/12/egypt-ngo-foreign-funding-case-acquittals-must-lead-to-end-of-crackdown-on-human-rights-community/>

<sup>20</sup> "Anti-Terrorism Law No. 33 of 2015." Arab Republic of Egypt\_3, 2015, [https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/images/EgyptSource/Egypt\\_Anti-Terror\\_Law\\_Translation.pdf](https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/images/EgyptSource/Egypt_Anti-Terror_Law_Translation.pdf) pp3

<sup>21</sup> "Law No. 58 01 of the year 1937 Promulgating the Penal Code." Arab Republic of Egypt\_4, 1937, [https://sherloc.unodc.org/res/cld/document/criminal\\_code\\_of\\_egypt\\_english\\_html/Egypt\\_Criminal\\_Code\\_English.pdf](https://sherloc.unodc.org/res/cld/document/criminal_code_of_egypt_english_html/Egypt_Criminal_Code_English.pdf) pp23

situation.<sup>22</sup> Similarly, individuals can face imprisonment (ranging from six months to five years) for ambiguous charges such as “deliberately disclose(ing) false or tendentious news, information or rumours on the country’s internal situation.”<sup>23</sup>

- 3.4** On 28 September 2018, UN Special Rapporteurs Michel Forst (on the situation of human rights defenders) and David Kaye (on protection and promotion of the right to freedom of opinion and expression) raised concern on the arrest of five HRDs, Amal Fathy, Shadi al-Ghazaly Harb, Mohamed Ibrahim Radwan (also known as Mohamed Oxygen), Wael Abbas, and Haytham Mohamadein. In November 2018, they had each been detained for the previous six months.<sup>24</sup> In May 2018, Amal Fathy was arrested alongside her husband, Mohamed Lotfy, head of the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms, and their three-year-old son. On 29 September 2018, Amal Fathy was sentenced to two years in prison, fined US\$570 and imposed a bail of US\$1,100 to suspend her sentence. Her charges included “publication of false news undermining national security” for a Facebook post in May 2018 that criticised the government’s failure to protect WHRDs.<sup>25</sup> Despite a criminal court ordering her conditional release, Fathy was released in December 2018 but sentenced three days later to two years in prison.
- 3.5** On 15 May 2018, the activist Shady Al-Ghazaly Harb was brought before the Supreme Court State Security Prosecution. He has been detained under Case 621/2018, along with many other lawyers, activists and writers, facing charges of insulting the president and spreading false news for tweets he wrote on current affairs.<sup>26</sup> Similar charges on spreading false news were targeted at blogger Mohamed Oxygen and member of the April 6 Youth Movement Sherif al-Rouby, who were also accused of joining an illegal organisation.<sup>27</sup> Shady Abu Zeid, a comedian and satirical TV correspondent, was arrested at his house in May 2018. Shady is still detained under case 621/2018. In 2016, Shady broadcasted a video where he distributed condoms to the police force as balloons, a move that was considered inappropriate and offensive by the police.
- 3.6** These are part of a long list of detained W/HRDs, including those aforementioned, but not limited to: Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud ‘Shawkan’ Abu

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid. pp23

<sup>23</sup> Ibid. pp28

<sup>24</sup> Op. Cit. CIVICUS Monitor\_2

<sup>25</sup> “Court orders conditional release of activist Amal Fathy, rejects appeal by satirist Shady Abu Zeid.” Mada Masr\_1, 2018, <https://madasr.com/en/2018/12/19/news/u/court-orders-conditional-release-of-activist-amal-fathy-rejects-appeal-by-satirist-shady-abu-zeid/>

<sup>26</sup> “Activist Shady al-Ghazaly Harb brought before Supreme State Security Prosecution.” Mada Masr\_2, 2018, <https://madasr.com/en/2018/05/15/news/u/activist-shady-al-ghazaly-harb-brought-before-supreme-state-security-prosecution/>

<sup>27</sup> “Update” Mada Masr Facebook Page, 2018, <https://www.facebook.com/mada.masr.english/posts/497543920746470>

Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed 'Oxygen' Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan.<sup>28</sup> These W/HRDs have been directly targeted for their civil society work, legal representation of detained W/HRDs, tweets or blog posts and journalism in a context of high levels of state surveillance.

**3.7** W/HRDs have also faced travel bans and reprisals for attending international meetings or highlighting the human rights violations they face. In January 2019, Lawyer Tarek Mahmoud filed a complaint against Mohamed Zaree of the Egyptian office of CIHRS, Gamal Eid of ANHRI, Mohamed Lotfy of the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms and Gasser Abdel Razeq of EIPR after they met with French President Emmanuel Macron during his visits to Egypt. The complaint included "threatening national security" and spreading false news.<sup>29</sup> Zaree also faced a travel ban in May 2016 as part of Case 173, where he was among the co-accused of receiving foreign funding and operating an illegal organisation. Activist and chair of the Egyptian Association for Community Participation Enhancement, Magdy Abdel Hamid Belal, also received a travel ban when attempting to travel to a conference in Jordan.<sup>30</sup> Azza Soliman, lawyer and co-founder of Center for Egyptian Women's Legal Assistance (CEWLA) has been under travel ban and asset freeze since 2016, as has Mozn Hassan, head of Nazra for Feminist Studies. Both WHRDs were accused of receiving foreign funding to harm the national interest, among other charges. Azza was accused of spreading false information about rates of rape and harassment in Egypt, while Mozn was accused of encouraging "irresponsible liberation."

**3.8** Delays in sentencing are also common for Egyptian W/HRDs, with the state often postponing sentencing indefinitely, in violation of the right to timely sentencing or release as per article 9 of the ICCPR. The journalist and director of Mada Foundation for Media Development, Hisham Gaafar, has been held in pre-trial detention since 2015. He was detained for belonging to a banned group and receiving funds from foreign agencies for the purposes of harming national security.<sup>31</sup> Since his unlawful arrest, which occurred without a warrant, he has been held in solitary confinement and his health has severely deteriorated.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> "European Parliament adopts resolution condemning human rights violations in Egypt." Sharif Abdel Kouddous, Mada Masr, 2018, <https://madasmasr.com/en/2018/12/13/news/u/european-parliament-adopts-resolution-condemning-human-rights-violations-in-egypt/>

<sup>29</sup> "Lawyer files complaint against heads of Egyptian rights groups after they meet Macron." Mada Masr\_4, 2019, <https://madasmasr.com/en/2019/01/30/news/u/lawyer-files-complaint-against-heads-of-egyptian-rights-groups-after-they-meet-macron/>

<sup>30</sup> "Civicus monitor speaks to Egyptian activist banned from traveling." CIVICUS Monitor\_3, 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2017/11/07/civicus-monitor-speaks-egyptian-activist-banned-travel/>

<sup>31</sup> "Alone in a Cell: Release Hisham Gaafar." Amnesty International, 2015, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/take-action/alone-in-a-cell-release-hisham-gaafar-now/>

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

**3.9** LGBTQI activists are also frequently targeted in Egypt. Following the waving of the rainbow flag at a Mashrou Leila concert in September 2017, 11 people were rounded up by authorities for ‘debauchery’ and ‘inciting debauchery’, despite the purely symbolic nature of their acts.<sup>33</sup> Ahmed Alaa, who raised the flag at the concert, was arrested in November 2017 on charges of belonging to an illegal organisation. He was only released in March 2018, despite a January 2018 court order for his release.<sup>34</sup> Similar charges were laid against Sarah Hegazy, who was also detained for three months following the concert. Since President El-Sisi has come to power, several hundred people have been detained on allegations of same-sex conduct, and many have been subject to medically unfounded practices of anal examinations to determine if they have engaged in homosexuality.<sup>35</sup> Malak El Kashef, a trans woman and activist, was arrested at her parents’ house in March 2019 and is still in custody. She was subjected to forced anal examination and sexual harassment in detention.

#### **4. Freedom of expression, independence of the media and access to information**

**4.1** Under the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle, the government received 21 of recommendations relating to the freedom of expression and access to information. For example, the government pledged to “(a)mend the Penal Code to implement the guarantees of freedom of thought, of the press and of publication enshrined in the 2014 Constitution.” Of the recommendations received, 11 were accepted and 10 were noted. However, as discussed below, the government has not implemented any of the recommendations.

**4.2** Article 65 of the Constitution of 2014 guarantees the right to the freedom of expression, specifically stating that “(a)ll individuals have the right to express their opinion through speech, writing, imagery, or any other means of expression and publication.” However, in policy and practice, the freedom of expression is heavily regulated and infringed upon by the state.

**4.3** In August 2018, a new cybercrime law was ratified, Law No. 175 of 2018, on Anti-Cyber and Information Technology Crimes. Law No. 175 legislates restrictions over and above the aforementioned Penal Code and Anti-Terrorism Laws. The new cybercrime law criminalises the publication of personal photos of individuals without their consent and allows the state to block websites that it deems pose threats to national security or the economy. Administrators and visitors to these sites may face

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<sup>33</sup> Op. Cit. CIVICUS Monitor\_2

<sup>34</sup> “More Arrests in Egypt’s LGBT Crackdown, but No International Outcry.” Neela Ghoshal, Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/01/22/more-arrests-egypts-lgbt-crackdown-no-international-outcry>

<sup>35</sup> “Egypt: Stop Anti-LGBT Crackdown, Intimidation.” Human Rights Watch, 2017 <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/30/egypt-stop-anti-lgbt-crackdown-intimidation>

finer and jail times.<sup>36</sup> Those found guilty of publishing photos of others without their consent can be jailed for a minimum of six months or handed fines of between 50,000 and 100,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$2,800 to US\$5,600). Editors, developers, social media officers and hosts of websites could also face a minimum of two years in jail and fines ranging from 20,000 to 200,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$1,116 to US\$11,200).<sup>37</sup>

- 4.4** Similarly, Law No. 180 of 2018 on media website licensing provides further restrictions on the freedom of expression via online platforms. The law grants powers to the Supreme Council for Media Regulation to give grant licences and legalise media platforms, including newspapers, channels and websites.<sup>38</sup> However, the fees for recognition are high, ranging from 400,000 to 6 million Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$22,846 to US\$342,700). The law also requires private press organizations or websites of political parties to deposit 1 Million Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$57,116) in insurance in an Egyptian bank account. The law also applies to social media accounts and blog accounts with more than 5,000 followers, ultimately subjecting individual activists, authors and others to stringent requirements not easily fulfilled.
- 4.5** ANHRI, which documents human rights violations, reported that following the ratification of Law No. 180, it would stop operating one of its websites and it would not apply for a licence as the fees were too high and it had no guarantees that it would be successful as it was a frequent target of state restrictions.<sup>39</sup> Similarly, the independent website Katib said it would not apply for a licence as it was already banned by Egyptian authorities.<sup>40</sup>
- 4.6** Ahead of the elections, on 1 March 2018, President El-Sisi warned that any political reporting that was deemed defamatory of the military and the police would be considered treason.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> "Egypt: "Cybercrime" law another massive blow for freedom of expression." ANND and CIVICUS, 2018, <https://www.civicus.org/index.php/media-resources/news/3449-egypt-cyber-crime-law-another-massive-blow-for-freedom-of-expression>

<sup>37</sup> "How you will be affected by the new cybercrime law: A guide" Hassan al-Azhari, Mada Masr, 2018, <https://madasr.com/en/2018/08/21/feature/politics/how-you-will-be-affected-by-the-new-cybercrime-law-a-guide/>

<sup>38</sup> "Learn about the procedures for obtaining newspaper licenses from Al-Alaia Media." Mohamed El Sayed, The Seventh Day, 2018, <https://www.youm7.com/story/2018/10/23/%D8%AA%D8%B9%D8%B1%D9%81-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%A5%D8%AC%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D8%B5%D9%88%D9%84-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AE%D9%8A%D8%B5-%D8%A5%D8%B5%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D8%AD%D9%81-%D9%85%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89/4000851>

<sup>39</sup> Op. Cit. CIVICUS Monitor\_2

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> "Increased restrictions as Egyptians go to the polls: A growing gulf between rhetoric and reality." CIVICUS Monitor\_4, 2018, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2018/03/27/increased-restrictions-egyptians-go-polls-growing-gulf-between-rhetoric-and-reality/>

- 4.7** Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa were arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news.<sup>42</sup>
- 4.8** On 14 October 2018, he authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy, and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, owner of the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses.<sup>43</sup>
- 4.9** Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic, was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained.
- 4.10** Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan, a renowned photojournalist, was detained after capturing images of anti-government protests in 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending five years in prison. It is reported that he must appear at a police station every day at sunset for five years and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years.<sup>44</sup>
- 4.11** By November 2018, reports indicated that authorities had already shut down over 500 websites that year alone.<sup>45</sup> This continues a trend of restrictions in the freedom of expression seen in previous years. By May 2017, the authorities had banned over 21 websites that were critical of the government, including Al Jazeera, Mada Masr, Masr Al Arabia, Arabic 21, Huffington Post Arabic and Al Sharq, among others.<sup>46</sup> In 2016, the authorities shut down Facebook’s Free Basics programme that allowed free internet services because the company refused to grant the state permission to spy on users.<sup>47</sup> In October 2015, voice over internet protocol services which allowed for users to call over mobile connections were banned, and Al-Araby al-Jadeed and The New Arab websites were banned in December 2015.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> Op. Cit. CIVICUS Monitor\_2

<sup>44</sup> “Egyptian photojournalist Shawkan finally free after over 5 years in jail”, Committee to Protect Journalists, 2019, <https://cpj.org/2019/03/egyptian-photojournalist-shawkan-finally-free-afte.php>

<sup>45</sup> Op. Cit. CIVICUS Monitor\_2

<sup>46</sup> “Civil society under greater threat as draconian law comes into force.” CIVICUS Monitor\_5, 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2017/06/05/civil-society-under-threat-new-law-comes-into-force-egypt/>

<sup>47</sup> “Egypt reportedly banned Facebook's Free Basics program because it couldn't spy on users.” Ashley Carman, The Verge, 2016, <https://www.theverge.com/2016/4/1/11347274/facebook-free-basics-egypt-government-surveillance-demand>

<sup>48</sup> “Egypt: Country Profile.” *In Freedom on the Net*. Freedom House, 2016, <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/2016/egypt>.

## 5. Freedom of peaceful assembly

- 5.1** During Egypt's examination under the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle, the government received 19 recommendations on the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly. Of the recommendations received, Egypt accepted seven and noted 12. However, as evidenced below, the government has not implemented any of these recommendations.
- 5.2** Article 73 of the 2014 Constitution guarantees the right to the freedom of assembly for citizens. However, in practice and policy, the freedom of peaceful assembly has seen a rapid decline since the mass protests of 2013 that ushered in the new authoritarian regime. Protesters frequently face barriers to permission, including refusal of their permits, vague terminology on the provisions that often result in their arrests, and the misuse of laws other than those that govern public assembly.
- 5.3** The freedom of peaceful assembly is governed by Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law 'For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests' in Egypt. Following the protests of the 'Arab Spring' and the mass gatherings in Tahrir Square in 2013, Interim President Adly Mansour ratified Law No. 107 of 2013, which has remained in place since, despite the new government. The restrictive law grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings on the grounds of "serious information or evidence that there will be a threat to peace and security," a vague and ambiguous clause that has been used to stifle the freedom of peaceful assembly.<sup>49</sup> The imposition of the ban does not require that evidence or information be shared with organisers.<sup>50</sup>
- 5.4** Article 19 of Law No. 107 goes on to list the conditions under which protesters could be subject to penalties, including ambiguous terminology: "impeding the interests of citizens," "influencing the course of justice" and "blocking traffic," among others, carry prison sentences of two to five years and fines of between 50,000 and 100,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$2,885 and US\$5,710). Protesters are also banned from wearing masks, protesting adjacent to, proceeding from or ending at places or worship, and protesting for "political reasons."<sup>51</sup>
- 5.5** Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement the authority to use teargas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters. Despite these already restrictive provisions, authorities often charge protestors for an array of charges unrelated to Law No. 107, including "belonging to a

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<sup>49</sup> "Law No. 107 of 2013 For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests." Arab Republic of Egypt\_5, 2013, <https://www.refworld.org/docid/551a5f2a4.html>

<sup>50</sup> "Egypt: Deeply Restrictive New Assembly Law." Human Rights Watch, 2013, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/11/26/egypt-deeply-restrictive-new-assembly-law>

<sup>51</sup> Op. Cit. Arab Republic of Egypt\_5

banned organisation.”<sup>52</sup> As will be demonstrated below, these provisions have often been misapplied and used to target, detain and limit the rights of protesters in Egypt.

- 5.6** In February 2017, 13 protesters were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. When attempting to submit notice of the protest, the police station refused the application of organisers Democratic Current, who were forced to submit a week later.<sup>53</sup> Of those arrested, several were released only after paying fines. Security forces also made use of force to disperse crowds. In June 2017, roughly 60 protesters were further detained, alongside lawyer Abdel Aziz Youssef, who faced charges of incitement against authorities, possession of inflammatory anti-regime publications and the use of social media to overthrow the regime.<sup>54</sup> Mahmoud Najib and Isra Fahid were charged with disrupting public transport. Bail was granted at 10,000 Egyptian Pounds (approx. US\$571).<sup>55</sup> Seven lawyers in Alexandria were also detained during this protest.<sup>56</sup>
- 5.7** On 7 March 2017, thousands of protesters took to the streets of Egypt following the state’s decision to reduce bread subsidies, negatively affecting millions of Egyptians living in poverty.<sup>57</sup> During these protests there were no widescale levels of violence, but police fired shots in the air to disperse protesters.<sup>58</sup>
- 5.8** In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’, which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group and promoting its ideas, spreading false news, possessing pamphlets and yellow vests to call for protests against the government similar to the ‘Yellow Vest’ protests in France, and using social media to promote a terrorist group.”<sup>59</sup> His activism has made him the

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<sup>52</sup> “TIMEP Brief: Protest and Freedom of Assembly in Egypt.” Timep, 2017, <https://timep.org/reports-briefings/protest-and-freedom-of-assembly-in-egypt/>

<sup>53</sup> “Scheduled protests against Red Sea islands deal postponed to Saturday.” Sarah El-Sheikh, Daily News Egypt, 2017, <https://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2017/01/10/scheduled-protests-red-sea-islands-deal-postponed-saturday/>

<sup>54</sup> “The number of detainees in the security campaign against the opponents of the agreement «Teran and Sanafir» to 60 people.” Mada Masr\_5, 2017, <https://www.facebook.com/mada.masr/photos/a.564476860276121/1608771932513270/?type=3&theater>

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> “7 Alexandria lawyers on trial over Tiran and Sanafir protests.” Al-Masry Al-Youm, Egypt Independent, 2017, <https://www.egyptindependent.com/7-alexandria-lawyers-on-trial-over-tiran-and-sanafir-protests/>

<sup>57</sup> “Widespread protests erupt in Egypt over bread subsidies.” CIVICUS Monitor\_6, 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/newsfeed/2017/03/10/widespread-protests-over-bread-prices/>

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

<sup>59</sup> “Lawyer detained on array of charges, including inciting protests in relation to ‘possession of yellow vests.’” Mada Masr, 2018, <https://madasr.com/en/2018/12/11/news/u/rights-lawyer-mohamed-ramadan-detained-on-charges-including-possession-of-yellow-vests/>

frequent target of state intimidation, including on charges of insulting the president through his use of social media.<sup>60</sup>

- 5.9** Following the train crash in Cairo’s Ramses Station on 27 February 2019, in which 22 people died, calls for protests faced detention and arrests. Thirty-five people were arrested during the first week of March 2019 and ordered to be detained for 15 days, pending investigations into their involvement in calls to protest against the government.<sup>61</sup>

## **6. Recommendations to the Government of Egypt**

CIVICUS and ANND call on the Government of Egypt to create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society, in accordance with the rights enshrined in the ICCPR, the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and Human Rights Council resolutions 22/6, 27/5 and 27/31.

In light of this, the following specific recommendations are made:

### **6.1 Regarding the freedom of association**

- Take measures to foster an enabling environment for civil society, including by removing legal and policy measures, that unwarrantedly limit the right to association. Specifically, amend Law No 70 of 2017 to guarantee that undue restrictions on the freedom of association are removed, in compliance with articles 21 and 22 of ICCPR.
- Remove all legal and structural barriers on the work of CSOs, re-register those that have been de-registered and unfreeze their bank accounts and those of their employees. This includes the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, the Arab Network for Human Rights Information, the Hisham Mubarak Law Center and Nazra for Feminist Studies, among others.
- Allow the Egyptian offices of international CSOs to function without any undue restrictions, including the offices of Freedom House, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, the International Centre for Journalists and Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

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<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>61</sup> “35 ordered detained in post-Ramses arrest campaign” Mada Masr, 2019, <https://madamasr.com/en/2019/03/07/feature/politics/35-ordered-detained-in-post-ramses-arrest-campaign/>

- Refrain from acts leading to the closure of CSOs or the suspension of their peaceful activities, and instead promote meaningful political dialogue that allows and embraces diverging views, including those of CSOs, HRDs, journalists, political activists and others.

## **6.2 Regarding the protection of human rights defenders**

- Immediately lift all travel bans against HRDs and allow them to do their work. Specifically, Azza Soliman, lawyer and co-founder of Center for Egyptian women's legal assistance and Mozn Hassan, head of Nazra for Feminist Studies, should have their travel bans lifted and assets unfrozen with immediate effect.
- Unconditionally and immediately release all W/HRDs, drop all charges against them dropped and implement protection mechanisms to ensure that once released they do not face continued attacks. They include, but are not limited to, Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud 'Shawkan' Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed 'Oxygen' Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan.
- Amend the Anti-Terrorism Law No. 33 of 2015 and the Penal Code (Law No. 58 of 1937) in line with the ICCPR and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

## **6.3 Regarding the freedom of expression, independence of the media and access to information**

- Review Law No. 175 of 2018, on anti-cyber and information technology crimes and Law No. 180 of 2018 on media website licensing and monitoring in order to ensure that Egypt's legislation is in line with international standards and best practice in the freedom of expression.
- Reform defamation legislation in the Penal Code of 1937 in conformity with article 19 of the (CCP).
- Ensure that journalists and writers may work freely and without fear of retribution for expressing critical opinions, and unconditionally release detained researchers, such as Abdel Khaleq Farouk and Ibrahim al-Khateeb.
- Refrain from censoring social and conventional media and ensure that the freedom of expression is safeguarded in all forms, including the arts. Ensure that no media outlets are banned, including but not limited to Al Jazeera, Mada Masr, Masr Al Arabia,

Arabic 21, Huffington Post Arabic and Al Sharq. Allow free access to Facebook’s Free Basics programme in line with the right to the freedoms of expression and information.

#### 6.4 Regarding the freedom of peaceful assembly

- Amend Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’, in order to guarantee fully the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Unconditionally and immediately release all protesters, journalists and HRDs detained for exercising their right to the freedom of peaceful assembly. This includes human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan, who was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests.’
- Review and update existing human rights training for police and security forces, with the assistance of independent CSOs, to foster the more consistent application of international human rights standards, including the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms.

#### 6.5 Regarding access to UN Special Procedures mandate holders

- The Government should extend a standing invitation to all UN Special Procedure mandate holders and prioritise official visits by the: 1) Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; 2) Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; 3) Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; and; 4) Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

### Annex: Assessment of implementation of civic space recommendations under the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<i>Theme: H1 Human rights defenders</i>			

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A – 166.76:</b> In compliance with international human rights law, amend, adopt and effectively implement legislation to eliminate all forms of discrimination and criminalize all forms of violence against women and girls; ensure that all cases of sexual violence and harassment faced by women protesters and human rights defenders must be promptly investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice (Finland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The government has failed to protect women, particularly women human rights defenders who have experienced continuous harassment when engaging in public protests or human rights activism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amal Fathy was detained in May 2018 and handed a sentence 3 days after her release for a video criticizing the government’s failure to protect WHRDs. (See paragraph 3.4)</li> <li>- Azza Soliman, lawyer and co-founder of Center for Egyptian women’s legal assistance (CEWLA) has been under travel ban and asset freeze since 2016; similarly, Mozn Hassan head of Nazra for feminist studies. Both WHRDs were accused of receiving foreign fund to harm the national interest among other charges. Azza was accused of spreading false information about rates of rape and harassment in Egypt, while Mozn was accused of encouraging “irresponsible liberation.” (See paragraph 3.6).</li> <li>- Sarah Hegazy, was detained for three months following a concert for ‘inciting debauchery’ in March 2018. (See paragraph 3.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.139:</b> In accordance with article 54 of its Constitution, stop using the preventive detention orders by prosecutors as a measure to punish or to prolong the incarceration of activists and protestors (Netherlands)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The government continues to subject human rights defenders to prolonged incarceration without issuing charges or sentencing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amal Fathy was detained only received her sentence in December 2018 (two days after her release), after having been detained in September 2018. (See paragraph 3.4)</li> <li>- The journalist and director of Mada Foundation for Media Development, Hisham Gaafar, has been held in pre-trial detention since 2015. He was detained for belonging to a banned group and receiving funds from foreign agencies for the purposes of harming national security (See paragraph 3.7)</li> <li>- Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.212:</b> Guarantee an environment conducive to the work of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Tunisia)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The Egyptian government continues to detain journalists and human rights defenders for their human rights work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</li> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> </ul>
<p><b>N - 166.217:</b> Immediately release all imprisoned journalists, prisoners of conscience and human rights defenders (Norway)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</p>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.218:</b> Take all the necessary measures to protect journalists and human rights defenders from threats and attacks, and ensure that the perpetrators of such violence are brought to justice (Luxembourg)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The Egyptian government continues to detain journalists and human rights defenders for their human rights work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</li> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.245:</b> Fully implement its international obligations to ensure the protection of human rights defenders and other civil society actors while exercising their human rights, including the freedoms of expression, association and assembly (Finland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The Egyptian government continues to detain journalists and human rights defenders for their human rights work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</li> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.249:</b> Refrain from stigmatizing and criminalizing the work of NGOs, human rights defenders and journalists (Norway)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The Egyptian government continues to detain journalists and human rights defenders for their human rights work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countless HRDs have been detained since 2013 as part of Case 173, which has had their assets frozen and subjected them to extensive legal processes. They include (but are not limited to): Ahmed Amasha, Hanan Badr Eddin, Amal Fathy, Ezzat Ghoneim, Hoda Abdel Moneim, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy, Azzouz Mahgoub, Mahmoud “Shawkan” Abu Zeid, Hesham Gaafar, Mohamed “Oxygen” Ibrahim, Ismail Alexandrani, Adel Sabry, Ahmed Tarek Ibrahim Ziada, Alaa Abd El Fattah, Shady Abu Zeid, Mostafa al-Asar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan. (See paragraph 3.5)</li> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</b></p>			

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.206:</b> Strengthen the freedom of expression and the media so that all journalists can carry out their activities freely and without intimidation and those imprisoned in connection with their work can be released without delay (Czech Republic)</p>	Noted	Freedom of Expression	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.207:</b> Stop limits on Constitutional rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression and release all those imprisoned for exercising their constitutional rights, including media representatives (Estonia)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of expression  Freedom of assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u>            Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.208:</b> Amend the Penal Code to implement the guarantees of freedom of thought, of the press and of publication enshrined in the 2014 Constitution (Australia)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.209:</b> Take necessary measures to enhance the enjoyment of the freedom of expression (Brazil)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.210:</b> Effectively guarantee the exercise of freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and, in this context, ensure that the law regulating demonstrations in Egypt complies with its commitments under the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Luxembourg)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression  Freedom of Assembly  Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.212:</b> Guarantee an environment conducive to the work of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Tunisia)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.215</b> Release those detained solely for exercising rights to freedom of expression or for membership in a political group, and ensure remaining detainees full fair trial guarantees on an individual level (United States of America)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression  Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.216:</b> Release and drop charges against all journalists and media workers arrested in the context of performing their duties (Austria)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.219:</b> Ensure that freedom of expression is safeguarded in all its forms, including artistic expressions (Norway)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.221:</b> Ensure that the legislative framework guarantees the full enjoyment of freedom of expression and association (Mexico)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of expression and association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Authorities continue to target journalists by interfering with their work, confiscating their devices and materials, or subjecting them to detainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renowned photojournalist, Mahmoud Abou Zeid (also known as Shawkan) was detained after capturing images of the anti-government protests of 2013. In March 2018, an Egyptian prosecutor sought the death sentence against him for his work. In March 2019, Shawkan was released after spending 5 years in prison. As reported, he needs to appear at a police station every day at sunset (for five years) and is prohibited from managing his financial assets and properties during these five years. (See paragraph 4.8)</li> <li>- Raseef22 reporters Mai el-Sabagh and Ahmad Mustafa, were also arrested on 28 February 2018 in Alexandria on charges related to threatening national security and being in possession of “photographic tools” that would spread false news. (See paragraph 4.6)</li> <li>- Moataz Wadnan, a reporter for Huffington Post Arabic was detained on 16 February 2018 after interviewing Hisham Geneina, a member of the opposition who was also detained. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> <li>- On 14 October 2018 authorities arrested Abdel Khaleq Farouk, a researcher who had recently published a book that was critical of Egypt’s economic policy and Ibrahim al-Khateeb, who owned the publishing house that released the book. Both were released on 29 October 2018 on condition that they provided their residential addresses. (See paragraph 4.7)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Theme: A42 Institutions &amp; policies -General</b></p>			

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.211:</b> Review penal code restricting freedom of opinion, enact legislation and recognize independent unions as well as remove restrictions to peaceful demonstrations (Lithuania)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.221:</b> Ensure that the legislative framework guarantees the full enjoyment of freedom of expression and association (Mexico)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association  Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.220:</b> Respect the freedom of association and assembly of its citizens (Romania)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association  Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.225:</b> Review the Law on Associations and the Protest law, in order to comply with the Constitution, as well as international law, and immediately release persons detained or imprisoned for exercising their freedom of expression through participating in peaceful protests (Sweden)</p>	Noted	<p>Freedom of Association</p> <p>Freedom of Expression</p> <p>Freedom of Assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.231:</b> Protect freedom of assembly and association by revising the Protest Law, eliminating all interference with the registration and work of NGOs and guaranteeing their right to seek and receive funding, and halting the ultimatum for unregistered NGOs (Norway)</p>	Noted	<p>Freedom of Association</p> <p>Freedom of Assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.232:</b> Prepare and adopt the law affirming the right to establish nongovernmental organizations merely upon notification (Slovakia)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.233:</b> Reorient the new NGO law to allow the full exercise of the right to freedom of association for both domestic and international organizations, with autonomy and without risk for their continuity (Spain)</p>	Noted	Freedom of Association	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.234:</b> Adopt the new law on NGOs to fully guarantee to the civil society a set of rights in conformity with international standards (Italy)</p>	Accepted	Freedom of Association	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.235:</b> Facilitate the work of civil society actors by removing excessive requirements for their registration, operation and funding and aligning the Law on Associations with the Constitution (Czech Republic)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.236:</b> Ensure full implementation of the Constitution’s provisions for the free operation of civil society, including through a revised NGO law that conforms to international standards and protects freedom of expression (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)</p>	Accepted	Freedom of Association	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.237:</b> Enact an NGO law that allows international and national human rights NGOs to operate without interference in line with international standards (Austria)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.238:</b> Lift the restrictions hindering the work of civil society organizations, in particular the reception of funding to effectively carry out their work in defence of human rights (Chile)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.239:</b> Implement actions to facilitate the work of civil society, including through legislative measures (Costa Rica)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.240:</b> Adopt the legislation facilitating the work of NGOs in a way that will promote human rights and benefit the overall political process in Egypt (Croatia)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.241:</b> Bring the draft bill on NGOs into line with international norms and the Egyptian Constitution (Iceland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.242:</b> Retract the draft legislation on civil society organizations, which threatens their independence by enabling the Government to dissolve them without a court order or refuse to license new organizations on grounds, including “national unity” (Ireland)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.243:</b> Amend the law of association in compliance with international standards, including allowing NGOs to function without impediments such as prior authorization, funding control and administrative dissolution (Denmark)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.244:</b> Expediently enact a new NGO law in line with the new Constitution which will grant legal personality to NGOs upon notification (Republic of Korea)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership's bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.245:</b> Fully implement its international obligations to ensure the protection of human rights defenders and other civil society actors while exercising their human rights, including the freedoms of expression, association and assembly (Finland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association Freedom of Assembly Freedom of Expression Human Rights Defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.246:</b> Respect the free exercise of the associations defending human rights, ensure that the Egyptian legislation complies with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and guarantee the right to freedom of association (France)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.247:</b> Protect the freedom of association, in accordance with the Egyptian Constitution, by adopting a new NGO law fully in line with international standards and best practices, including on foreign funding (Germany)</p>	Noted	Freedom of Association	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.248:</b> Ensure amendments to the Law 84 of 2002 are consistent with Egypt’s Constitution and Egypt’s international obligations (Canada)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.249:</b> Refrain from stigmatizing and criminalizing the work of NGOs, human rights defenders and journalists (Norway)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association  Human Rights Defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.250:</b> Give due consideration to ensuring a safe and enabling environment for civil society (Japan)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of Association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>The state has continued to place undue restrictions on civil society, by upholding and implementing policy frameworks that curtail the freedom of association of organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No 70 of 2017 on Associations and other Foundations working in the Field of Civil Work was ratified in May 2017, and entails severe registration and operation hurdles for civil society actors. (See paragraph 2.2).</li> <li>- Thirty-seven organizations, including the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Arab Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI), the Hisham Mubarak Law Center (HMLC), Nazra for Feminist Studies, the Egyptian Centre for the Right to Education (CRE), as well as the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Land Center for Human Rights (LCHR) have had their organizational and leadership’s bank accounts frozen and operations shut down by the state. (See paragraph 2.6)</li> <li>- On 9 February 2017, authorities forcibly shutdown the Al-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence, a local organisation that treats victims of torture and trauma. (See paragraph 2.8)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly</b></p>			

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.76:</b> In compliance with international human rights law, amend, adopt and effectively implement legislation to eliminate all forms of discrimination and criminalize all forms of violence against women and girls; ensure that all cases of sexual violence and harassment faced by women protesters and human rights defenders must be promptly investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice (Finland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly  Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.121:</b> Carry out investigations, in accordance with international norms, regarding the perpetrators, police or military, of the violence which resulted in serious injuries or deaths during demonstrations and as appropriate bring those responsible to justice (Belgium)</p>	Accepted	Freedom of peaceful assembly	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.139:</b> In accordance with article 54 of its Constitution, stop using the preventive detention orders by prosecutors as a measure to punish or to prolong the incarceration of activists and protestors (Netherlands)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of assembly  Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.187:</b> Investigate all cases of the use of excessive force against protestors by the security forces and hold accountable those responsible for the incidents, stop the practice of military trials of civilians (Lithuania)</p>	Noted	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protestors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protestors when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protestors.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.192:</b> Ensure thorough, independent and impartial investigations into the mass killings in Raba'a Square in 2013 and make the perpetrators accountable (Iceland)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law 'For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests' grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protesters were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of 'yellow vests' which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of "joining a terrorist group." (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.207:</b> Stop limits on Constitutional rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression and release all those imprisoned for exercising their constitutional rights, including media representatives (Estonia)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Freedom of expression</p> <p>Human rights defenders</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.210:</b> Effectively guarantee the exercise of freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and, in this context, ensure that the law regulating demonstrations in Egypt complies with its commitments under the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Luxembourg)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Freedom of association</p> <p>Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.211</b> Review penal code restricting freedom of opinion, enact legislation and recognize independent unions as well as remove restrictions to peaceful demonstrations (Lithuania)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly  Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.213</b> Respect freedom of opinion and expression, in particular for journalists, and freedom of peaceful demonstration, without recourse to the excessive use of force (France)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly  Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u> Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protesters were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.222:</b> Amend the Act No. 107/2013 on the Right to Public Meetings and Peaceful Assemblies (Slovakia); Review all laws on public assemblies including the Law No. 10 of 1914 on gatherings and the Law No. 107 of 2013 on public meetings to align them with Egypt’s international human rights obligations (Canada)</p>	Noted	Freedom of peaceful assembly	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.223:</b>  Repeal or amend the Demonstration law (Law 107 of 2013), and the civil society law (Law 84 of 2002), which restrict freedom of assembly, association and expression, to be consistent with Egypt’s international obligations (United States of America)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly   Freedom of expression   Freedom of association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u>  Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.224:</b> Protect freedom of assembly by immediately repealing the Protest law, or amending it so that it is in accordance with article 73 of the 2014 Constitution and with ICCPR (Australia)</p>	Noted	Freedom of peaceful assembly	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.225:</b> Review the Law on Associations and the Protest law, in order to comply with the Constitution, as well as international law, and immediately release persons detained or imprisoned for exercising their freedom of expression through participating in peaceful protests (Sweden)</p>	Noted	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Freedom of expression</p> <p>Freedom of associations</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.226:</b> Repeal or amend without delay the Assembly Law of November 2013, with a view to guarantee the right to free assembly and freedom of expression (Turkey)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly  Freedom of expression</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.227:</b> Modify Law 107 on the Rights to Public Meetings, bring it in line with international standards (Austria)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protesters were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.228:</b> Revise the law regulating the right of public assembly by, inter alia, specifying the prohibited conduct and repealing excessive sanctions to ensure better compliance with international standards (Italy)</p>	Noted	Freedom of peaceful assembly	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.229:</b> Protect the freedom of assembly, enshrined in the Constitution, by modifying the protest law to allow public assemblies through a simple notification process (Germany)</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.230:</b> Amend the protest law on the Right to Public Meeting, Processions and Peaceful Demonstrations in accordance with article 73 of the Constitution guaranteeing freedom of assembly (Netherlands)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protesters were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>N - 166.231</b> Protect freedom of assembly and association by revising the Protest Law, eliminating all interference with the registration and work of NGOs and guaranteeing their right to seek and receive funding, and halting the ultimatum for unregistered NGOs (Norway)</p>	Noted	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Freedom of association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>

Recommendation	Position	Complete list of themes	Evaluation /comments on the level of implementation
<p><b>A - 166.245:</b> Fully implement its international obligations to ensure the protection of human rights defenders and other civil society actors while exercising their human rights, including the freedoms of expression, association and assembly (Finland)</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Freedom of peaceful assembly</p> <p>Freedom of expression</p> <p>Freedom of association</p>	<p><u>Not Implemented</u></p> <p>Despite Article 73 of the Constitution of 2014 guaranteeing freedom of assembly, the state has consistently used force and detention to target protesters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law No. 107 of 2013, or the law ‘For organizing the right to peaceful public meetings, processions and protests’ grants the Interior Minister powers to ban protests and public meetings and includes fined of up to 10 000EGP.</li> <li>- Article 13 of Law No. 107 of 2013 further makes provisions for the use of lethal force against protesters when facing life-threatening circumstances, and grants law enforcement to use tear gas and rubber bullets in proportion to threats from protesters.</li> <li>- In February 2017, 13 protestors were sentenced to two years in prison for a protest organised in 2016 against the Saudi-Egypt agreement to redraw maritime borders. (See paragraph 5.6)</li> <li>- In September 2018, human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was detained for possession of ‘yellow vests’ which have characterised protests in France that began in 2018. He was arrested for 15 days on charges of “joining a terrorist group.” (See paragraph 5.8)</li> </ul>