



Republic of Nicaragua

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**Joint Submission by CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation,
NGO in General Consultative Status with ECOSOC,
Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe para la Democracia,
Asociación Centroamericana para el Desarrollo y la Democracia
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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 worldwide. Founded in 1993, CIVICUS has members in more than 180 countries around the world.
- 1.2** The Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) is a civil society platform with over 200 members and allies in Latin America and the Caribbean. REDLAD promotes democracy, human rights, sustainable development and integration in the Americas.
- 1.3** The Central American Association for Development and Democracy was established in Costa Rica in 2021 as a continuation of the Nicaraguan Federation Network for Democracy and Local Development of Nicaragua, formed in 1994 and with legal status since 2006, which was cancelled in February 2019. The Association influences the processes of democracy and local development in Central America, promoting spaces for participation and local and regional development strategies, based on the needs identified in the territories to strengthen their social, climatic and political resilience.
- 1.4** Fundación del Río is an environmental organization that works to defend natural assets and human rights, promotes democratic values and the empowerment of peasant, indigenous and Afro-descendant families, with a rights, gender and generational approach. In December 2018, his legal status was arbitrarily cancelled in Nicaragua and for this reason he continues his work from Costa Rica.
- 1.5** In this submission, the four organisations examine the Nicaraguan government's compliance with its international human rights obligations to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society. Specifically, this submission analyses Nicaragua's compliance with respect for freedoms of association, expression and peaceful assembly and unjustified restrictions on human rights defenders (HRDs) since its previous UPR review in October 2018. To this end, it assesses Nicaragua's implementation of recommendations received during the 3rd UPR cycle and provides follow-up recommendations.
- 1.6** During the 3rd UPR cycle, the Government of Nicaragua received 131 recommendations related to the space for civil society (civic space). It accepted 29 and noted 102. However, an assessment of legal sources and human rights documentation addressed in this submission demonstrates that the Government of Nicaragua has not implemented any of the recommendations related to civic space. As a result, an increasing deterioration has been observed in freedoms of association, expression and peaceful assembly, and in the situation of HRDs and journalists.

- 1.7** We are deeply concerned about the situation of the 119 people recognised as political prisoners as of 31 December 2023 who are still being held in degrading conditions and subjected to cruel treatment in various prisons across Nicaragua.¹
- 1.8** We are further alarmed by the fact that more than 150,000 people have been displaced from Nicaragua to Costa Rica since 2018 to escape repression,² and that over 3,390 organisations have had their legal status cancelled³ and 57 media outlets have been shut down⁴ in a concerted effort by the Nicaraguan government to eliminate all voices that think differently.
- 1.9** As a result of these problems, civic space in Nicaragua is rated as closed by the CIVICUS Monitor, indicating particularly severe restrictions of the fundamental rights of civil society and high levels of danger to activism.⁵
- Section 2 of this submission examines Nicaragua's implementation of UPR recommendations and compliance with international human rights standards relating to freedom of association.
 - Section 3 addresses the protection of HRDs, civil society activists and journalists.
 - Section 4 explores freedom of expression, media freedom and access to information.
 - Section 5 examines freedom of peaceful assembly.
 - Section 6 contains recommendations to address the concerns raised and to advance the implementation of the recommendations under the 3rd cycle.
 - Section 7 provides an annex on the implementation of the 3rd cycle UPR recommendations related to civic space.

2. Freedom of association

- 2.1** During Nicaragua's 3rd UPR cycle review, the government received 24 recommendations on the right to freedom of association and creating an enabling environment for civil society organisations (CSOs). Among other recommendations, the government committed to 'protect civil society organisations and individuals, including women's rights organisations'⁶ and 'respect the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association with effective guarantees and protection

¹ 'List of political prisoners Nicaragua: November-December 2023', Mechanism for the Recognition of Political Prisoners, December 2023, <https://mega.nz/file/Eh8ygljZ#NvsnXG-sSq-Xd38V9FrjiTOcz3vKsMtg8DdTysX9peo>.

² 'El número de nicaragüenses desplazados en Costa Rica se ha duplicado en menos de un año', UNHCR, 2022, <https://www.acnur.org/noticias/briefing-notes/el-numero-de-nicaraguenses-desplazados-en-costa-rica-se-ha-duplicado-en>.

³ 'Civil society organisations cancelled', Special Follow-up Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI-IACHR), 2024, <https://libertadasociacion.org/estadisticas-y-datos/>.

⁴ 'Freedom of Association, Statistics and Data', Nicaraguan Platform of NGO Networks, 2024, <https://libertadasociacion.org/estadisticas-y-datos/>.

⁵ CIVICUS Monitor: Nicaragua, 2024, <https://monitor.civicus.org/country/nicaragua>.

⁶ Recommendation 125.118.

mechanisms'.⁷ The government accepted 10 recommendations and noted 14. The government has not taken adequate measures to implement these recommendations.

- 2.2** The government of President Daniel Ortega is reluctant to acknowledge human rights violations under its mandate. On 19 November 2023, Nicaragua ceased to be a member of the Organization of American States after denouncing its Charter and submitting its formal request to withdraw.⁸
- 2.3** Article 49 of the 1987 Political Constitution of Nicaragua establishes the right to freedom of association.⁹ Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Nicaragua is a party, also guarantees this right.¹⁰ However, it is evident that the government, together with a National Assembly dominated by the governing party, the Sandinista National Liberation Front, have promoted and approved laws that have created a legal framework that is used as the main tool to restrict the work of CSOs, create a hostile environment for the exercise of freedom of association and make the defence of human rights a high-risk activity due to reprisals.
- 2.4** On 29 August 2019, Law No. 977, the Law Against Money Laundering, Financing of Terrorism and Financing of the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and its reforms were published in Gazette No. 165, supposedly following recommendations made by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).¹¹ Although the stated purpose of this law is to protect the economy and financial system from possible illicit activities such as terrorist financing and money laundering, the legislation also included obligations aimed at regulating the activities of CSOs.
- 2.5** CSOs have pointed out that Law No. 977 includes the assumptions that a non-profit organisation may cover up acts of money laundering or serve as a 'screen' to commit acts of terrorism and imposes on them the duty to verify the good reputation of their donors, document their identities and funds and keep a record of their operations in accounting books and minutes for at least a decade.¹²

⁷ Recommendation 125.151.

⁸ 'IACHR reaffirms its competence over Nicaragua and regrets its decision to denounce the OAS Charter in a context of serious human rights violations', IACHR, November 2021,

<https://www.oas.org/pt/CIDH/jsForm/?File=/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2021/312.asp>.

⁹ 'Political Constitution of Nicaragua', La Gaceta, 2022, <https://www.asamblea.gob.ni/assets/constitucion.pdf>.

¹⁰ Nicaragua ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in March 1980. In 2019, the State submitted a report on its compliance with the obligations set out in the covenant, OHCHR, 2024, [Interactive Panel on Ratification Status](#).

¹¹ 'Anti-Money Laundering Law', Nicaraguas' National Assembly, 2019, <https://www.poderjudicial.gob.ni/dgcip/pdf/Ley-977-Ley-contra-lavado-activos.pdf>.

¹² 'Nicaragua: The new repression laws', Centro Nicaragüense de Derechos Humanos et al, 2021, https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/obs_nicaragua_04.pdf.

- 2.6** Law No. 1040, the Foreign Agents Regulation Act, was passed in 2020 and gives the state absolute control over the cooperation and operation of organisations that receive funds from abroad, designates them as foreign agents and imposes registration obligations and disproportionate sanctions for non-compliance.¹³ The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has commented on several occasions that the content of this law is contrary to international human rights standards.¹⁴ In view of the implementation of this new regulation, several CSOs have stated that they will not submit to registration and regulation as they refuse to be identified as foreign agents.
- 2.7** According to records of the IACHR Special Follow-up Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI), 1,603 organisations were closed down after Law No. 1040 entered into force for failing to meet its requirements.¹⁵ In 2021, the FATF applauded Nicaragua's progress in the fight against terrorism and money laundering, but also expressed concern about the incorrect application of these standards that led to the closure of organisations.¹⁶
- 2.8** Another law is commonly known as the 'NGO Law'. On 6 April 2022, Law No. 1115, the General Law on Regulation and Control of Non-Profit Organisations, was published in Gazette No. 66. It entered into force on 6 May 2022.¹⁷ This law repeals the Law on Non-Profit Legal Entities of 1992. The new law gives the Ministry of Interior and the General Directorate of Registration and Control of Non-Profit Organisations greater powers over the review, authorisation, supervision and intervention of domestic or foreign CSOs wishing to operate in Nicaragua. This law provides for fines and interventions that can lead to suspensions or cancellations of an organisation's legal status.¹⁸
- 2.9** According to MESENI records, in 2018, the National Assembly closed 69 organisations. As of 2022, the number of organisations forced to close down by

¹³ 'Closure of Civic Space: Criminalization of the Exercise of Citizenship', Rights Collective: Nicaragua Never Again, 2023, <https://colectivodhnicaragua.org/informes/#2023>.

¹⁴ 'The IACHR and its Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression Express concern about new legal threats to freedom of expression and indirect measures against the media and journalists in Nicaragua', 2020, <https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/expression/showarticle.asp?artID=1187&IID=1>.

¹⁵ 'Closing of the civic space in Nicaragua', Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 2023, https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/informes/pdfs/2023/Cierre_espacio_civico_Nicaragua_SPA.pdf.

¹⁶ 'Mapping the risk of terrorist financing in non-profit organisations among Latin American financial action task force member countries: a regional report on the non-profit sector'. The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, 2021, <https://www.icnl.org/wp-content/uploads/Regional-Report-for-Final-09.24.2021.pdf>

¹⁷ 'Law 1115, General Law on the Regulation and Control of Non-profit organisations, Nicaragua's National Assembly', 2022, https://www.ey.com/es_cr/tax/tax-alerts/nicaragua-ley-n-1115-ley-general-de-regulacion-y-control-de-regulacion

¹⁸ 'Nicaragua's National Assembly', 2022, op. Cit.

decision of the Assembly increased to 1,478. After the entry into force of Law No. 1115 and with the new powers handed over to the Ministry of Interior, formerly known as the Ministry of Government, between September 2022 and August 2023, 1,844 organisations were closed down by this institution alone,¹⁹ without any respect for the legal process.²⁰

2.10 In its clauses on ‘voluntary dissolution’, the law also establishes that, while an organisation’s board of directors may request its closure and dispose of its assets in accordance with the provisions of the organisation's articles of association and bylaws, when closure is due to alleged non-compliance with the law, the Attorney General's Office will transfer assets to the state.²¹ This was institutionalised in March 2023, with the cancellations published in Gazette No. 48.

2.11 According to information published by the collectives Fundación del Río and Popol Na in 2022, at least 115 organisations had had their assets and bank accounts confiscated, in situations where due process was violated.²² As of December 2023, the number of confiscations had risen to 193.²³ To avoid this outcome, between the end of 2022 and end of 2023, 113 organisations opted to dissolve voluntarily.²⁴ While the Ministry of Interior has argued that voluntary dissolutions are happening when organisations are inactive or have been closed due to lack of projects, some organisations have argued that the reality is that increasing obstacles are being put in place by the state authorities, making approval from the Ministry increasingly difficult and heightening the risk that they will be declared in breach of their obligations and their forced dissolution will be requested.²⁵

2.12 The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has expressed its concern and warned of the instrumentalisation of the legal framework with the aim of repressing organisations that have reported and denounced human rights violations during Ortega’s rule.²⁶

2.13 According to the IACHR registry, which is based on data provided by Nicaraguan civil society, from 18 April 2018 to 31 August 2023, 3,390 organisations had their

¹⁹ ‘Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Cancelled’, Special Follow-up Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI-IACHR), 2024, https://www.oas.org/es/CIDH/jsForm?File=/es/cidh/meseni/osc_canceladas.asp.

²⁰ ‘Closing Civic Space in Nicaragua’, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 2023.

²¹ Ibid.

²² ‘The Brutal Demolition of Freedom of Association in Nicaragua’, Fundación del Río & Popol Na, 2022. <https://popolna.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Final-2.pdf>.

²³ Nicaraguan Platform of NGO Networks, 2024, op. cit.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ ‘NGOs opt for "voluntary dissolutions" in the face of the regime's manhunt’, Redacción Confidencial, 2023, <https://confidencial.digital/nacion/oeneges-optan-por-disoluciones-voluntarias-ante-caceria-del-regimen/>.

²⁶ ‘Nicaragua: money laundering law further restricts the functioning of civil society’, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2022, <https://news.un.org/es/story/2022/05/1508322>.

legal status cancelled.²⁷ Among these organisations are women’s associations, faith-based organisations, most of which are Catholic, and educational institutions, among other domestic and international CSOs. The systematic closure of these organisations has had serious consequences because the humanitarian and advocacy work carried out by these associations has been put on hold, leaving those they work with helpless. The Center for Nicaraguans of Human Rights (CENIDH), Popol Na Foundation, Fundación del Río and the Institute of Leadership of the Segovia (ILLS) have submitted several petitions to the IACHR after exhaust national legal remedies against arbitrary cancellation of their legal status.²⁸ This entails a setback not only in civic space but also for women’s and girls’ rights, freedom of belief and the right to health, among other issues.

2.14 As an example of this, gender violence is a major problem. According to monitoring carried by Catholics for the Right to Decide, from 2018 to 2023, 397 feminicides were registered and there are still no known state policies that seek to counteract this situation.²⁹ Instead, the work of preventing feminicides and gender-based violence has been hindered by the closure of around 175 organisations dedicated to working on these issues to which the repressive legal framework has been applied.³⁰

2.15 Nicaraguan civil society in exile has also warned of the emergence of a repressive trend of threats against organisations that continue to denounce human rights from outside the country, such as the Center for Inter-American Legal Assistance for Human Rights and the Human Rights Collective Nicaragua Nunca Más, which have reported this pattern to the IACHR.³¹

2.16 The Nicaraguan government noted 3rd UPR cycle recommendations on cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms.³² During its statement in 2023 it expressed the view that the OHCHR acts with ‘political bias and lack of objectivity’. Despite the request of the Council,³³ the Government has refused to collaborate with the Office and with the UN human rights system in general, as evidenced by the withdrawal of the Nicaraguan Ambassador to the UN during the

²⁷ MESENI-IACHR, 2024, op cit.

²⁸ ‘Monitoring Bulletin: the closure of civil organizations in Nicaragua’, Fundación del Río, 2022, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1emnA1w8w8RNp1hSgFCFukiigCl3oWrg3/view?usp=drive_link.

²⁹ ‘Gender violence in Nicaragua: a scourge that claims dozens of lives every year’, Houston Castillo Vado, 2023, <https://www.vozdeamerica.com/a/violencia-de-genero-en-nicaragua-/7364815.html>.

³⁰ Nicaraguan Platform of NGO Networks, 2024, op. cit.

³¹ ‘New pattern of repression by Ortega denounced: threats to human rights organisation in exile’, República 2018, 2024, <https://republica18.com/ahora/36904-amenazas-organizaciones-derechos-humanos/>

³² Recommendation 125.27.

³³ A/HRC/RES/52/2, para. 20.

session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2023.³⁴

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

- 3.1** In the 3rd UPR cycle, the government received 92 recommendations on the protection of HRDs, activists and journalists. The government accepted recommendations that included to ‘Protect human rights defenders, journalists and media workers, and fully guarantee the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, complying with its commitments under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights’³⁵ and ‘Release, immediately and within the established deadlines, all prisoners on the lists provided by the Government and the Civic Alliance’.³⁶ The government accepted 16 and noted 76 recommendations. However, the government has not implemented any of these recommendations.
- 3.2** Article 12 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders mandates states to take the necessary measures to ensure the protection of HRDs.³⁷ The ICCPR further guarantees freedoms of association, expression and peaceful assembly. However, despite these protections HRDs continue to be persecuted, with 121 people recognised as political prisoners as of January 2024, according to the Mechanism for the Recognition of Political Prisoners in Nicaragua. There are hundreds of complaints of harassment against HRDs and journalists.³⁸
- 3.3** Harassment and intimidation continue to be systematic and the Ortega government has put in place new mechanisms to further restrict the freedom of HRDs, activists and journalists. No independent and neutral body has been able to verify the state of health and conditions of those deprived of their liberty for political reasons. Relatives have denounced the concerning prison conditions in which detainees are being held and the violation of due process to which they have been subjected.³⁹ In return relatives have been harassed and intimidated by the National Police, with the aim of pressuring them to stop providing evidence to human rights organisations or

³⁴ ‘Quarterly analysis of the state of freedom of expression in Central America and the Caribbean’, Article 19, 2023, <https://articulo19.org/analisis-trimestral-sobre-el-estado-de-la-libertad-de-expresion-en-centroamerica-y-el-caribe-1/>.

³⁵ Recommendation 125.164.

³⁶ Recommendation 125.75.

³⁷ ‘UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, Art. 12’, United Nations, 1998, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-human-rights-defenders/declaration-human-rights-defenders>.

³⁸ ‘List of political prisoners Nicaragua January 2024’, Mechanism for the Recognition of Political Prisoners, 2024, https://mega.nz/file/Yg0FyRIB#7rskWqSR3BfQILen4swew8b_bNf2gTqbGj8MgiO9zMs.

³⁹ Idem

sharing information on social networks. As evidenced by a 2023 study, arbitrary detentions for political reasons have had an impact on the family and social fabric of Nicaraguans, as well as having socio-economic effects on the mental and physical health of people involved, and impacts on gender issues due to an overload of care and support work.⁴⁰

3.4 The authorities announced the release of over 200 political prisoners on 9 February 2023⁴¹ and on 15 January 2024, released and expelled from the country a bishop and 17 members of the clergy who were in prison.⁴² Civil society is concerned that these people have been exiled to the USA and the Vatican, and that the Ortega government has arbitrarily stripped them of their nationality, in violation of the constitution, international treaties signed by Nicaragua and international law.⁴³

3.5 The Nicaraguan authorities have argued that the deprivation of nationality, applied at the time of writing to over 316 people,⁴⁴ is due to the implementation of Law No. 1145 of 2023⁴⁵ which regulates the loss of Nicaraguan nationality for people who are, according to the law: 'Nicaraguans who lead or finance a coup d'état, who alter the constitutional order, who promote or encourage terrorist acts, who carry out acts that undermine independence, sovereignty and self-determination, incite foreign interference in internal affairs, call for military intervention, organise themselves with financing from foreign powers to carry out acts of terrorism and destabilisation, propose and manage economic, commercial and financial blockades against the country and its institutions'.⁴⁶ These motives are made explicit in Law No. 1055 of 2020,⁴⁷ the Law for the Defence of the People's Rights to Independence, Sovereignty and Self-Determination for Peace, known as the 'Sovereignty Law',

⁴⁰ 'Estudio sobre el impacto socioeconómico y psicosocial de la prisión política en Nicaragua' Legal Defence Unit, 2023, <https://nicaragualucha.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Impacto-socioeconomico-y-psicosocial-de-la-prision-politica-en-Nicaragua-Nov-2023-1.pdf>.

⁴¹ 'Nicaragua frees 222 opposition prisoners, deports them to the US and strips them of their nationality', BBC News World, 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-64587463>.

⁴² 'Nicaragua expels Bishop Rolando Álvarez and 15 priests from the country, who are going to the Vatican', BBC News World, 2024, <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/articles/cw4kzxp4pwo>.

⁴³ 'Statement by Jan-Micheal Simon, Chair of the GHREN at the 54th session of the Human Rights Council Group of Experts on Human Rights on Nicaragua' GHREN, 2023, https://www.uexternado.edu.co/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/OA-GHREN-54HRC-12SEP23_Spanish-1.pdf.

⁴⁴ GHREN, 2023, op. cit.

⁴⁵ 'Special Law regulating the loss of Nicaraguan nationality, Law N° 1145' Nicaragua's National Assembly, 2023, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetan.nsf/5ee6480fc3d3d90062576e300504635/5b64d73abfc8d4e06258952005496da/\\$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0.%201145%20Ley%20Especial%20que%20Regula%20la%20P%C3%A9rdida%20de%20la%20Nacionalidad%20Nicarag%C3%BCense%2010-02-2023%20GDO%2025.pdf](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetan.nsf/5ee6480fc3d3d90062576e300504635/5b64d73abfc8d4e06258952005496da/$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0.%201145%20Ley%20Especial%20que%20Regula%20la%20P%C3%A9rdida%20de%20la%20Nacionalidad%20Nicarag%C3%BCense%2010-02-2023%20GDO%2025.pdf).

⁴⁶ 'Law No. 1055, Law for the Defence of the People's Rights to Independence, Sovereignty and Self-Determination for Peace', Nicaragua's General Assembly, 2020, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Iniciativas.nsf/C4084E2665A5610F06258642007E9C3F/\\$File/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201055,%20Ley%20Defensa%20de%20los%20Derechos%20del%20Pueblo.pdf?Open](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Iniciativas.nsf/C4084E2665A5610F06258642007E9C3F/$File/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201055,%20Ley%20Defensa%20de%20los%20Derechos%20del%20Pueblo.pdf?Open).

⁴⁷ Law No. 1055, Ibid.

which establishes who will be considered a ‘Traitor to the Homeland’. Likewise, in January 2024, the Assembly ratified the reform of article 21 of the constitution, which allows the authorities to deprive those sentenced under Law No. 1055 to be of their nationality.⁴⁸

- 3.6** Exiled dissidents have reported that Nicaraguan migration authorities have refused them permission to enter the country,⁴⁹ their birth certificates have been arbitrarily removed from the civil registry and their data deleted from the Nicaraguan Social Security Institute, their property has been confiscated and their professional licences have been permanently disqualified by the Supreme Court, along with pressure by the National Police on family members in Nicaragua.⁵⁰
- 3.7** The persecution of journalists is another of the problems that demonstrate the strength of the repressive apparatus developed by the Ortega government to stifle those who defend human rights. Practising journalism has been categorised as a high-risk activity in Nicaragua.⁵¹ According to the latest report from the Foundation for Freedom of Expression and Democracy and Voces del Sur, 97.7 per cent of attacks on press freedom in 2023 were directly against journalists, and the main perpetrators were state security agents and the judiciary, which opened legal proceedings against journalists that were far removed from due process.⁵² According to the trade union organisation Periodistas y Comunicadores Independientes de Nicaragua, the most recurrent types of aggressions are: abuse of the use of force by the state, the siege and surveillance of journalists’ homes, threats and intimidation against exiled journalists and their families, arbitrary detentions and abuse of power by the courts.⁵³
- 3.8** Law No. 1042, the Special Law on Cybercrime, also known as the Gag Law, was passed in October 2020 and came into force in December 2020.⁵⁴ The authorities have used it to persecute and silence opposition voices. This law seeks to combat

⁴⁸ ‘Nicaragua: Parliament legalises withdrawal of nationality from those it considers “traitors to the homeland”, Gabriela Selser, 2024, The San Diego Union Tribune. <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/en-espanol/noticias/story/2024-01-19/nicaragua-parlamento-legaliza-retirada-de-nacionalidad-a-quienes-considera-traidores-a-la-patria>.

⁴⁹ ‘Annual Report: Chapter IV.B Nicaragua’, IACHR, 2023, https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/MESENI/pdf/Cap_4B_NI_ES.pdf.

⁵⁰ ‘World Report: Nicaragua’, Human Rights Watch, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/es/world-report/2024/country-chapters/nicaragua>.

⁵¹ ‘2022 “grey” for Nicaraguan journalism: more than 700 attacks and almost a hundred journalists exiled’, Geovanny Shiffman, 2023, Divergentes, <https://www.divergentes.com/2022-gris-para-el-periodismo-nica-mas-de-700-ataques-y-casi-cien-periodistas-exiliados/>.

⁵² ‘Annual Report Nicaragua 2023’, Voces del Sur and FLED, 2024, <https://vocesdelsurunidas.org/nicaragua-finalizo-el-2023-con-nuevas-formas-de-represiones-en-contra-la-prensa-independiente/>.

⁵³ ‘Informe de Ataques a la Libertad de Prensa y Expresión 2023’, Journalists and Independent Communicators of Nicaragua (PCIN), 2024, <https://pcinnicaragua.org/2024/01/09/informe-libertad-expresion-2023/>.

⁵⁴ ‘Special Law on Cybercrimes, Law No. 1042’, La Gaceta, October 2020, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/normaweb.nsf/\(\\$All\)/803E7C7FBCF44D7706258611007C6D87](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/normaweb.nsf/($All)/803E7C7FBCF44D7706258611007C6D87).

crimes such as hacking, identity theft and computer espionage, but its ambiguity allows for the criminal prosecution of those who question Ortega's government or criticise any of its decisions through social networks, with journalists being one of its main targets.⁵⁵

3.9 The OHCHR documented an increase in arbitrary detentions of HRDs and perceived opponents of the government during August and November 2022 in connection with increased persecution of the Catholic Church and during municipal elections. Also, since 2019, there was a marked increase in the number of arbitrary arrests around the anniversary date of the April 2018 protests. Between April and May 2023 alone, the OHCHR received reports of the detention of 63 people accused of spreading false news and attacking national integrity and sovereignty. Most of those detained were released shortly afterwards on the condition that they would submit to report to their local police station on a daily basis. In all documented cases, the authorities did not inform the detainees at the time of arrest of the reasons for their arrest, nor did they promptly inform them of the charges against them. In addition, psychological and physical abuses of detainees were reported, as well as temporary disappearances, which also involved situations of incommunicado detention, without access to lawyers, family or medical care. The rights of detainees are thus not guaranteed.

3.10 In 2022, the Alternative Report to the Committee against Torture highlighted its concern that arbitrary detentions have been systematically practised in Nicaragua since April 2018. Systematic arbitrary detention is being used as a strategy to silence the voices of HRDs, journalists and the opposition in general. This practice entails a series of other human rights violations such as precarious conditions of detention, particularly for women, involving sexual torture, isolation and separation from children. The report reports an established pattern of arbitrary arrests and arbitrary releases by the state. Because of Law No. 996, the Amnesty Law,⁵⁶ passed in 2019, no police officer has been convicted in relation to arbitrary detentions and degrading treatment in detention centres.⁵⁷ It is a state mechanism

⁵⁵ 'Cybercrime law: an axe against freedom of expression', Divergentes, 2022, <https://www.divergentes.com/ley-de-ciberdelitos-un-hacha-contra-la-libertad-de-expresion/>.

⁵⁶ 'Amnesty Law No. 996', Nicaragua's National Assembly, 2019, <http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/normaweb.nsf/3133c0d121ea3897062568a1005e0f89/e077ec7257ded9b406258415007b6225>.

⁵⁷ 'Nicaragua events of 2023', Human Rights Watch, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/es/world-report/2024/country-chapters/nicaragua>.

to generate impunity in breach of the obligation to investigate, prosecute and punish human rights violations and respect for the right to truth.⁵⁸

3.11 In 2023, the government approved Law No. 1158,⁵⁹ which amends Law No. 872 on the Organisation, Functions, Career and Special Social Security Regime of the National Police. This reform criminalises offences and establishes judicial processes for members of the police. It created the criminal offence of breach of duty for police personnel who, without just cause, disobey orders from their superiors to the detriment of public safety. It also criminalises desertion with imprisonment. This law contradicts the apolitical and non-partisan character and adherence to the constitution that the police were supposed to have, entrenching the figure of the president as the supreme leader.⁶⁰ This law violates the protection of human rights as the police are obliged to follow government orders on fear of imprisonment.

4. Freedom of expression, freedom of the media and access to information

4.1 In the 3rd UPR cycle, Nicaragua received 38 recommendations concerning freedom of expression, media freedom and access to information. It accepted 12, including to 'Ensure the protection of human rights defenders and journalists and take appropriate measures to guarantee their physical and psychological safety, as well as the full exercise of the rights to freedom of information, expression and association'⁶¹ and 'Implement effective policies to better promote and protect access to information, including through collaboration with other States'.⁶² The government noted 26 recommendations, including to 'Guarantee freedom of expression and refrain from using administrative and judicial means to unduly restrict the exercise of this right'.⁶³ The government did not take any steps to implement any of the recommendations.

4.2 ICCPR article 19 guarantees the rights to freedom of expression and opinion. Articles 30, 66 and 68 of the constitution also guarantee freedom of expression and press freedom, as well as access to information and the media.⁶⁴ The right to the

⁵⁸ 'Report for the Second Review of Nicaragua's Obligations under the Convention against Torture', Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) et al, 2022, https://www.omct.org/site-resources/legacy/Nicaragua_informe-al-CAT_junio-2022.pdf.

⁵⁹ 'Law on Amendments and Additions to Law No. 872. Law on the Organisation, Functions, Career and Special Social Security Regime of the National Police, Law Nr. 1158', Nicaragua's National Assembly, 2023, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetas.nsf/15a7e7ceb5efa9c6062576eb0060b321/a7e409f54eed6608062589e4005141e7/\\$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201158,%20Ley%20de%20Reformas%20y%20Adiciones%20a%20la%20Ley%20N%C2%B0.%20872.%20Organizacion%20y%20Funciones%20Polic%C3%ADa.pdf](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetas.nsf/15a7e7ceb5efa9c6062576eb0060b321/a7e409f54eed6608062589e4005141e7/$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201158,%20Ley%20de%20Reformas%20y%20Adiciones%20a%20la%20Ley%20N%C2%B0.%20872.%20Organizacion%20y%20Funciones%20Polic%C3%ADa.pdf).

⁶⁰ Rights Collective: Nicaragua Never Again, 2023, op cit.

⁶¹ Recommendation 125.166.

⁶² Recommendation 125.54.

⁶³ Recommendation 125.158.

⁶⁴ 'Political Constitution of Nicaragua', 2022, op. cit.

protection of personal data and the remedies of habeas data are also constitutionally recognised in articles 26, 45 and 190. However, these rights are restricted through a series of restrictive legal regulations.

- 4.3** In 2020, the government passed the Cybercrime Law, which is a direct threat to freedom of expression, the media and the use of social media. Article 30 of the law establishes penalties of two to eight years for committing crimes such as spreading false news.⁶⁵ In 2021, police raided the offices of the Confidential newspaper, confiscated its equipment and detained a journalist for several hours without producing an arrest and search warrant. La Prensa, one of Nicaragua's oldest and most recognised newspapers, moved all its operations out of the country in 2022 due to government criminalisation and harassment. Police had raided its office in Managua, seized its printing equipment and arrested its editor in 2021, who was criminalised in 2022 with a money laundering conviction.⁶⁶
- 4.4** Law No. 1057, passed in 2021, reformed article 37 of the constitution, imposing life imprisonment for 'hate crimes'.⁶⁷ Ortega named opponents of his government as perpetrators of hate crimes during a speech.⁶⁸
- 4.5** Based on laws including the Cybercrime Law, between 2018 and 2022, the government shut down at least 57 media outlets.⁶⁹ There are now almost no independent media outlets in Nicaragua due to the Ortega regime's crackdown. A few online media remain that continue to report on government abuses, mostly from exile. Several stations have been forced to change their name or programming format. The Ortega government uses its spokespersons to attack and slander independent communicators, which has led to an increase in self-censorship during 2023 for fear of reprisals. In the Autonomous Region of the South Caribbean Coast (RACCS), the Autonomous Region of the North Caribbean Coast (RACCN), Carazo, Chontales and Jinotega regions there is no independent journalistic practice, which is a direct consequence of the repression of freedom of expression.⁷⁰

⁶⁵ 'Special Law on Cybercrimes, Law No. 1042', October 2020, op. cit.

⁶⁶ 'The worst year for independent media in Nicaragua', VOA, 2022, <https://www.voanews.com/a/the-worst-year-for-independent-media-in-nicaragua/6873829.html>.

⁶⁷ 'Law No. 1057, Law to amend Article 37 of the Political Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua', La Gaceta, January 2021, <http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetitas.nsf/5eeea6480fc3d3d90062576e300504635/bc311a85eb6a0fbb06258662005148ab>.

⁶⁸ 'Nicaraguan National Assembly approves constitutional reform imposing life imprisonment for hate crimes', Mario Medrano, November 2020, <https://cnnespanol.cnn.com/2020/11/10/asamblea-nacional-de-nicaragua-aprueba-reforma-constitucional-que-impone-cadena-perpetua-por-delitos-de-odio/>.

⁶⁹ Nicaraguan Platform of NGO Networks, 2024, op. cit.

⁷⁰ Voces del Sur and FLED, 2024, op. cit.

- 4.6** Other actions aimed at limiting dissenting voices in Nicaragua include the restriction of academic freedom. In 2023, the government revoked the legal status of the Universidad Centroamericana and subsequently confiscated its facilities, and forcibly evicted six Jesuit members. This followed the closure of 19 other private universities.⁷¹ The IACHR, together with the Special Rapporteurship for Freedom of Expression and the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights, criticised the Nicaraguan government for arbitrary actions that threaten academic freedom and civic space.⁷²
- 4.7** Citizens' access to information is limited. In 2021, Meta removed more than 1,000 Facebook and Instagram accounts. The social media company said these were part of a 'troll farm', a coordinated effort to modify public discourse by amplifying pro-government and anti-opposition content using fake accounts. These accounts had been active on its platforms since 2018 and were mainly operated by staff from TELCOR, Nicaragua's main telecommunications company, based at the postal services headquarters in Managua.

5. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

- 5.1** During Nicaragua's 3rd UPR cycle review, the government received 35 recommendations on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly. The government accepted 11 recommendations, including to 'Ensure that members of the political opposition and civil society organisations, as well as journalists, can freely express their opinions and that their right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed'⁷³ and to 'Respect the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association with effective guarantees and protection mechanisms'.⁷⁴ It noted 24 recommendations. However, the government has not implemented any of the recommendations.
- 5.2** ICCPR article 21 guarantees freedom of peaceful assembly. Articles 52, 53 and 54 of the constitution also guarantee this right.⁷⁵ However, in policy and practice, freedom of peaceful assembly is tightly restricted.

⁷¹ Nicaraguan Platform of NGO Networks, 2024, op. cit.

⁷² 'IACHR and Its Special Rapporteurships Condemn Arbitrary Interference with Academic Freedom in Nicaragua', IACHR, August 2023, https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/jsForm/?File=/en/iachr/media_center/preleases/2023/201.asp.

⁷³ Recommendation 125.145.

⁷⁴ Recommendation 125.151.

⁷⁵ Political Constitution of Nicaragua, 2022, op. cit.

- 5.3** The government uses Laws No. 1055⁷⁶ and No. 1060⁷⁷ to persecute dissent. In its November 2022 concluding observations on Nicaragua, the OHCHR expressed concern about the misuse of Laws No. 1055 and No. 1060, which extend detention without charge from 48 hours to 90 days. It also expressed concern at reports of excessive use of pretrial detention, in particular against HRDs, journalists and political opponents.
- 5.4** Persecution of the Catholic Church persists. The limitations imposed by the authorities on the exercise of the right to freedom to manifest one's religion are incompatible with Nicaragua's obligations under the ICCPR. The OHCHR was informed of the banning of several Catholic masses in 2023.⁷⁸
- 5.5** On 18 November 2023, Miss Nicaragua, Sheynnis Palacios, won the Miss Universe pageant. However, although the Ortega government expressed pride and joy at the event, in a statement after the victory it condemned the fact that Palacios graduated from one of the universities that was at the centre of anti-government protests in 2018 and had apparently participated in the demonstrations. The Nicaraguan population, who cannot go out to protest in the streets or carry the national flag for fear of government reprisals, took advantage of the Miss Universe victory to celebrate in the streets. The use of the blue and white national flag, as opposed to the red and black Sandinista flag of the Ortega government, was not well received by First Lady Rosario Murillo, who criticised opposition social networking sites, many run from exile, that celebrated Palacios' victory as a victory for the opposition.⁷⁹

6. Recommendations to the Government of Nicaragua

CIVICUS, REDLAD, the Central American Association for Development and Democracy and Fundación del Río urge the Government of Nicaragua to create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society, in accordance with the rights

⁷⁶ 'Law No. 1055, Defence of the Rights of the People to Independence, Sovereignty and Self-Determination for Peace', La Gaceta, December 2020, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/Normaweb.nsf/\(\\$All\)/9B31A065DE57FB94062586450070CE59](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/Normaweb.nsf/($All)/9B31A065DE57FB94062586450070CE59).

⁷⁷ 'Law No. 1060, Law reforming and adding to Law No. 406', Criminal Procedural Code of the Republic of Nicaragua, La Gaceta, No. 25, May 2021, [http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetan.nsf/15a7e7ceb5efa9c6062576eb0060b321/340092e5ab81d59206258673005afe4f/\\$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201060%20Ley%20de%20Reforma%20y%20Adici%C3%B3n%20a%20la%20Ley%20N%C2%B0.%20C%C3%B3digo%20Procesal%20Penal.pdf](http://legislacion.asamblea.gob.ni/SILEG/Gacetan.nsf/15a7e7ceb5efa9c6062576eb0060b321/340092e5ab81d59206258673005afe4f/$FILE/Ley%20N%C2%B0%201060%20Ley%20de%20Reforma%20y%20Adici%C3%B3n%20a%20la%20Ley%20N%C2%B0.%20C%C3%B3digo%20Procesal%20Penal.pdf).

⁷⁸ 'Interactive Dialogue on the oral update by the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua', Nada Al-Nashif, December 2023, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements-and-speeches/2023/12/nicaragua-report-points-continuing-violations>.

⁷⁹ 'Nicaragua's Miss Universe title win exposes deep political divide in the Central American country', Gabriela Selsler, AP, 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/nicaragua-ortega-miss-universe-controversy-be790de436c56e98674fd40b9a5e1301>.

enshrined in the ICCPR, the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and Human Rights Council resolutions 22/6, 27/5 and 27/31.

At a minimum, the following conditions must be guaranteed: freedoms of association, expression and peaceful assembly, the right to act without unwarranted state interference, the right to communicate and cooperate, the right to seek and secure funding and the state's duty to protect. The following specific recommendations are made:

6.1 Freedom of association

- Take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society, including the elimination of legal and policy measures that unreasonably limit freedom of association.
- Immediately reinstate any CSO that has been sanctioned or had its legal personality arbitrarily and unreasonably terminated.
- Refrain from actions that lead to the closure of CSOs or the suspension of their peaceful activities, and instead promote meaningful political dialogue that allows for and embraces divergent views, including those of CSOs, HRDs, journalists, political activists and others.
- Amend the Anti-Money Laundering Law and Law on Regulation of Non-Profit Organisations to remove undue restrictions on freedom of association to comply with ICCPR articles 21 and 22.

6.2 Protection of human rights defenders, civil society activists and journalists

- Provide HRDs, activists and journalists with a safe environment in which to carry out their work, conduct impartial, thorough and effective investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment and intimidation against them and bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice.
- Ensure that HRDs are able to carry out their legitimate activities without fear or undue hindrance, obstruction or legal and administrative harassment.
- Pursue a consolidated process of repealing or amending laws and decrees that unjustifiably restrict the legitimate work of HRDs, in line with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.
- Immediately and unconditionally release all HRDs, including journalists and bloggers, detained for exercising their fundamental rights to freedoms of association, expression and peaceful assembly, review their cases and prevent further harassment.
- Publicly condemn, at the highest levels of government, cases of harassment and intimidation of HRDs, activists and journalists.
- Systematically implement legal provisions that promote and protect human rights and establish mechanisms to protect HRDs, including by adopting a specific law on the protection of HRDs.

6.3 Freedom of expression, freedom of the media and access to information

- Provide journalists with a safe environment in which they can carry out their legitimate activities without fear, undue obstruction or legal or administrative harassment.
- Amend the Cybercrime Law No. 1042 of 2020, to guarantee fully the rights to freedom of expression, media freedom and access to information, and to prevent the criminalisation of journalists and critical voices and thus comply with ICCPR article 19 and constitutional articles 30, 66 and 68.
- Repeal the constitutional amendment to article 37 passed by the National Assembly in 2020 imposing life imprisonment for 'hate crimes', which allows for the criminalisation of independent journalism, in order to comply with ICCPR article 19.
- Put an immediate end to attacks on journalists and media outlets and take tangible measures to restore the integrity and rights of those who have suffered persecution.
- Cease the confiscation of assets and restore the nationality of journalists and HRDs who have been forced to leave Nicaragua and create an enabling and safe environment for the return of those in forced exile, ensuring that they can freely carry out their journalistic work without fear of reprisals.
- Restore legal personality and seized assets to all unjustifiably closed media outlets during the period from 2018 to 2022.

6.4 Freedom of peaceful assembly

- Repeal Laws No. 1055 and 1060 that hinder legitimate activities for the promotion and defence of human rights, thus respecting the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Cease judicial persecution of dissenting voices, release those imprisoned for political reasons and ensure impartial and thorough investigations into allegations of human rights violations, leading to accountability for those responsible and effective reparation for victims.
- Release all HRDs and journalists unlawfully imprisoned for exercising the right to protest and ensure due process and fair treatment at all stages.

6.5 Access to UN Special Procedures mandate holders

- Prioritise official visits by: 1) the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; 2) the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; 3) the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; 4) the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; and 5) the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

6.6 State engagement with civil society

- Implement transparent and inclusive mechanisms for public consultation with CSOs on all of the above issues and enable more effective civil society participation in the preparation of laws and policies.
- Include CSOs in the UPR process before finalising and submitting the national report.
- Systematically consult civil society on the implementation of UPR recommendations, including by holding regular in-depth consultations with a broad range of civil society.

Incorporate the results of this UPR into action plans for the promotion and protection of all human rights, taking into account the proposals of civil society, and submit a mid-term review report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the recommendations of this session.

7. Annex: Assessment of implementation of civic space recommendations under the 3rd cycle

Recommendation	Position	Assessment/Comments on level of implementation
<p>125.10 Allow access to the country by the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, in accordance with the open invitation extended by the State in 2006 (Honduras); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.11 Allow the return of international and regional bodies, including the OHCHR country team, the Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua, and the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and grant them full, unhindered access to all parts of the country, including detention centres (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.12 Provide access to international bodies investigating human rights violations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and provide them with the necessary assistance for the fulfilment of their mandate (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.13 Accept international scrutiny, facilitating visits by human rights mechanisms and resuming cooperation with the Inter-American system and the United Nations system (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.14 Summarizes its cooperation with OHCHR, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, as well as OAS and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.15 Grant international mechanisms full and unhindered access to all parts of the country, including to detention facilities, as well as access to all official documentation (Poland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.16 Allow the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that have requested an official visit access to the country, in accordance with the standing invitation extended by the State in 2006 (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.17 Guarantee access to regional and international human rights mechanisms (France); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.18 Cooperate with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms and allow them access to the country and monitor the human rights situation on the ground (Republic of Korea); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3

<p>125.19 Allow the return of the OHCHR country team and grant it full and unhindered access to all parts of the country and the information requested by it (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.20 Accept the return to Nicaragua of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, taking into account the criticisms contained in the report of the United Nations and the allegations about the lack of independence of the national human rights mechanisms (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.21 Allow access to OHCHR and all relevant international and regional human rights monitoring mechanisms (Georgia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.22 Ensure effective access, without restrictions, to international and regional human rights mechanisms to the whole country, including to victims and human rights defenders (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.23 Cooperate closely with OHCHR and with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, allowing them access to the country in accordance with the standing invitation extended by the State in 2006, especially taking into account that the last such visit took place 10 years ago (Ukraine); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.24 Resume cooperation with OHCHR and allow access to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that had requested an official visit (Afghanistan); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.25 Resume its cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and relevant treaty bodies, as well as the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, including by facilitating visits and allowing unfettered access throughout the country, including to detention centres (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.26 Resume cooperation with international human rights observers and impartially investigate, without impunity, all alleged human rights abuses and violations, and hold those responsible to account (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.27 Fully cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms with a view to ensuring full compliance with its human rights obligations (Austria); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.28 Give consideration to allowing independent human rights bodies access to the country, as previously extended by the Government of Nicaragua (Bahamas); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.29 Re-establish full cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, including by granting them once again unrestricted access to the country and facilitating their work in the discharge of their mandate (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.30 Resume cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and other human rights bodies, and consider the implementation of their recommendations (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.31 Re-establish the conditions for the return of the human rights mechanisms of the Inter-American system and of the Human Rights Council to monitor and document the human rights situation in situ (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.32 Restore the presence in situ of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization of American States (Colombia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.33 Resume the cooperation of Nicaragua with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and their mechanisms, and give them all the guarantees necessary for the fulfilment of their mandates (Costa Rica); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.34 Allow international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms unrestricted access to the country to monitor and document the human rights situation (Croatia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.35 Continue dialogue and take concrete steps towards increased collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedure mandate holders (Greece); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.36 Promptly allow OHCHR to return to the country, and resume its cooperation with OHCHR, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and the relevant treaty bodies (Denmark); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.37 Provide further support to the Office of the Human Rights Advocate to enable it to fulfil its mandate in the best manner and in accordance with the Paris Principles (Qatar); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.40 Strengthen the national human rights institution (Senegal); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.41 Continue to support the work of the Office of the Human Rights Advocate (South Africa); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.42 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Uruguay); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.43 Increase efforts to strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights (Belarus); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.44 Restore the autonomy of the Office of the Human Rights Advocate and allocate sufficient human, technical and financial resources to it (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.45 Strengthen the mandate of independent human rights institutions, providing them with capacities and resources (Colombia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3

<p>125.54 Implement effective policies to better promote and protect access to information, including through collaboration with other States (Indonesia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4
<p>125.56 Ensure that the National Police refrain from carrying out acts that constitute torture or other ill-treatment against detainees and demonstrators (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.59 Take effective, primarily legislative, steps to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty (Ukraine); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.60 Cease the excessive use of force by the police against the exercise of peaceful protest, and guarantee the immediate disarmament of civilians close to the Government (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 5
<p>125.63 Take immediate steps to prevent the excessive use of force against peaceful protestors (Cyprus); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 5
<p>125.65 Ensure that the police, the army and the judicial system remain under the rule of law, curbing the activity of paramilitary forces and ensuring that no acts of ill-treatment are tolerated in detention facilities (Holy See); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3

<p>125.66 Release without delay lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in detention after the events of April 2018 and guarantee dignified conditions for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons arrested and detained for other reasons (Malta); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.67 Disband paramilitaries, prevent excessive use of force by police and investigate perpetrators to protect the rights to association and peaceful assembly (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5</p>
<p>125.68 Release all arbitrarily detained political opponents and critics, including journalists (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.69 Honour without delay the commitment to free all political prisoners (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.70 Release all those arbitrarily or illegally detained, guarantee due process, and ensure that the conditions of detention are compliant with international human rights obligations (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.71 Release political prisoners immediately and implement a comprehensive reparation policy for victims and families that includes measures to establish the truth, the identification of victims and perpetrators, and allows the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts to enter and stay for an indefinite period of time, as well as the presence of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and all its mechanisms (Paraguay); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.72 Immediately release political prisoners, guarantee the independent investigation of complaints of rape, torture and other ill-treatment committed in detention centres, and provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Peru); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.73 Release prisoners held since the beginning of the crisis without court supervision (France); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.74 Release all those who were unlawfully imprisoned and ensure due process and fair treatment at all stages (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.75 Release, immediately, and within the established deadlines, all the prisoners on the lists provided by the Government and the Civic Alliance (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.76 Honour its commitments related to the release of political prisoners (Georgia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.77 Release all prisoners of conscience immediately and unconditionally, and take immediate steps to end arbitrary arrest and detention (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.78 Release without delay political prisoners and guarantee the prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation of allegations of rape, torture and other ill-treatment committed in detention centres, and provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.79 Release all students, human rights defenders, journalists and other protestors who were arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, without resorting to house arrests, and ensure that their right to due process is fully respected (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 4; Section 5

<p>125.80 Immediately release political prisoners and guarantee independent and transparent investigations into allegations of rape, torture and other ill-treatment committed in detention centres (Brazil); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.81 Expeditiously release all prisoners per the announcement made in the context of the National Dialogue, including those arbitrarily sentenced for their participation in social protests (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.82 Immediately release political prisoners in accordance with the commitment undertaken by the Government of Nicaragua within the framework of the negotiations (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.83 Immediately release all political prisoners, guaranteeing the prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation of allegations of rape, torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment committed in detention centres, and provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Colombia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.84 Adopt measures to release political prisoners without delay and guarantee prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation into allegations of rape, torture and other ill-treatment committed in detention centres, and provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Ecuador); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.85 Conduct thorough investigations into all acts of violence against journalists and media outlets, including the assassination on 21 April 2018 of Ángel Eduardo Gahona, and hold the perpetrators accountable (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.86 Conduct prompt and impartial investigations into the widespread violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms perpetrated in the country and release all unlawfully detained political opponents (Italy); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.87 Guarantee respect for all internationally recognized human rights standards, starting with those related to habeas corpus, fair trial and freedom of association and expression, including press freedom (Italy); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4</p>

<p>125.89 Create a mechanism for investigating acts of violence occurring in the context of demonstrations, with guarantees of autonomy and independence, to ensure the right to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 5
<p>125.91 Conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into the widespread human rights violations perpetrated by the police and armed pro-government groups against the participants in protests since April 2018 and ensure the victims access to effective remedies (Poland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 5
<p>125.92 Immediately investigate all cases of attacks or violations against human rights defenders, members of NGOs and journalists and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Poland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.94 Conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into the widespread human rights violations perpetrated by various officials, including police and armed pro-government groups (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.96 Undertake independent investigations into all reported incidents of attacks, intimidation or harassment of journalists since April 2018 (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3

<p>125.98 Create a mechanism of international investigations into the violence that had occurred (Georgia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.99 Hold accountable all government officials, agents, or para-police forces who are responsible for human rights violations or abuses - including unlawful or arbitrary killings, forced disappearances, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, physical abuse, and rape - by initiating investigations immediately (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.101 Address and ensure thorough and impartial investigation of human rights violations, including excessive use of force, torture, arbitrary detention and killings committed by State officials and paramilitary groups, and guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Austria); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.102 Launch thorough investigations into the events that began on 18 April 2019 and bring to justice those responsible for human rights violations (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.104 Set up a mechanism of international investigation into the violent events that took place, with guarantees of autonomy and independence, to ensure the right to truth and to duly identify those responsible (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.106 Prosecute the perpetrators of violence against demonstrators, especially those who caused deaths, and provide justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition to the victims or their surviving family members (Ecuador); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.108 Immediately halt the persecution of political opponents and swiftly release all individuals who have been arbitrarily detained (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.109 Revoke anti-terrorism laws that allow for the persecution of human rights defenders, including women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex defenders, journalists and peaceful protesters (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 5</p>
<p>125.110 Promote freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>

<p>125.111 Ensure that human rights standards for freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including press freedom, are upheld (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.113 Enhance the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and of the media and the right to peaceful assembly, and resolve ongoing problems through dialogue between the Government and the people (Japan); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.115 Comply with international human rights obligations to guarantee that all persons and civil society actors can freely exercise, without fear of persecution or violence, their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, including peaceful protest and dissent; refrain from using arbitrary restrictions and excessive force against protesters; and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are brought to justice and held to account (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5</p>
<p>125.116 Take all necessary steps to fully protect the freedom of the media and of expression, both online and offline, to ensure the safety of journalists and accountability for violence and attacks against them (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>

<p>125.117 Restore civil and political rights, including the right to demonstrate and freedom of the press (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.118 Protect civil society organizations and individuals, including organizations that defend women's rights (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.119 Guarantee the exercise of freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly, avoiding acts of repression against journalists or human rights defenders (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.120 Respect and guarantee freedom of expression for all civilians, which includes the unconditional release of incarcerated journalists and political prisoners and the return of confiscated material to the media and human rights organizations (Netherlands); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 4</p>
<p>125.121 Respect and guarantee the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Finland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5</p>
<p>125.123 Immediately cease the repression of public protests, particularly the unlawful arrests and arbitrary detentions of those involved in public protests (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>

<p>125.124 Guarantee the human rights and fundamental freedoms of its citizens, especially their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals, threats, attacks, harassment or unjust prosecution (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.125 Repeal any law, policy or practice that places obstacles to legitimate activities to promote and defend human rights, including the misuse of legislation and administrative measures by the Government to close down, raid or silence civil society organizations (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.126 Respect the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly by ending the repression of people involved in peaceful protests and allowing human rights defenders, civil society organizations and the media to carry out their work (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.128 Guarantee freedom of expression and demonstration, as a way of advancing towards effective dialogue with all the parties involved (Paraguay); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4; Section 5</p>

<p>125.129 Respect and guarantee the full enjoyment of the population's rights to protest, freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and political participation and dismantle the pro-government armed groups, given the negative impact of their actions on human rights (Peru); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.130 Ensure the international human rights standards related to freedom of expression, including media freedom, both online and offline, are upheld, and refrain from using any administrative, judicial or financial means to unduly restrict the exercise of this right (Poland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.131 Continue effective dialogue with the opposition and all concerned parties to the conflict (Poland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.132 Refrain from resorting to violence and give the highest priority to the implementation of a credible and inclusive reconciliation and dialogue process (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.133 Restore civil society space and guarantee that local human rights defence organizations can operate freely (France); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3</p>

<p>125.134 Restore and ensure public freedoms, in particular freedom of expression and of opinion (France); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.135 Adopt urgently all the necessary measures to guarantee the full exercise and enjoyment of the freedoms of association, assembly, demonstration and expression, as recognized in the Constitution, including the cessation of arbitrary detentions and of the excessive use of force by the police (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.136 Restore legal personality and seized goods to non-governmental organizations that defend human rights and to the media (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 5</p>
<p>125.137 Reform legislation which is used to detain and prosecute demonstrators and human rights defenders, especially to reconsider charges of terrorism under Act No. 977 and assure that the offences cannot be extrapolated to situations unrelated to the aim of the Act (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.138 Guarantee freedom of expression and non-resumption of violence (Georgia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>

<p>125.139 Restore immediately the rights to freedom of expression and of the media, and carry out investigations into all cases of violence committed against journalists and the media (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.140 Respect the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and release persons arbitrarily detained for having participated in demonstrations, in conformity with the agreements signed on 29 March 2019 by the Government and the Civic Alliance (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5</p>
<p>125.141 Cease harassment of and political pressure on journalists and the press and reduce import restrictions on journalistic supplies and equipment to strengthen protection of freedom of expression (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.142 End immediately all undue interference with rights to freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly, allow all independent media, religious institutions, and civil society organizations to operate without undue coercion, restrictions, legal threat or threat to personal safety (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4; Section 5</p>

<p>125.145 Ensure that members of the political opposition and civil society organizations, as well as journalists, are free to express their opinions and that their right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.146 Cease violent repression of opposition protests, uphold the rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly and expression, and release those arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.147 Refrain from creating or misusing legislative or administrative measures in order to silence civil society organizations active in the field of human rights and democracy (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.148 Take steps to guarantee full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, of the media, of association and of peaceful assembly, and refrain from further acts of intimidation or reprisal, including by paramilitary groups (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 4; Section 5</p>

<p>125.149 Resume the national dialogue between the Government and the Civic Alliance for Justice and Democracy that began on 27 February 2019 and that allowed for the adoption of a roadmap, ensuring a wide, credible, representative, inclusive and transparent dialogue, with the support of the international community, to allow for a peaceful and democratic resolution to the crisis (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. III</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.150 Eliminate the restrictions that are systematically imposed on freedom of expression and freedom of the press by developing policies for the promotion and protection of access to public information (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.151 Respect the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association with guarantees and effective protection mechanisms (Colombia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5</p>
<p>125.152 Guarantee the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, and cease all acts of censorship and harassment of the media (Colombia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4</p>
<p>125.153 Decriminalize the right to hold peaceful protests and release persons arbitrarily detained in the context of civil protests (Costa Rica); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 5</p>

<p>125.154 Restore respect for freedom of expression and of the press and free journalists who are in detention (Costa Rica); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4
<p>125.155 Repeal or amend legislation that may place obstacles to legitimate activities to promote and defend human rights, thereby respecting the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Croatia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4; Section 5
<p>125.156 Guarantee the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and the independence and pluralism of the media (Greece); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4
<p>125.157 Fully guarantee freedom of association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals or unjust prosecution (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 5
<p>125.158 Ensure freedom of expression and refrain from using administrative and judicial means to unduly restrict exercise of this right (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4
<p>125.159 Guarantee press freedom, including by refraining from using administrative, judicial or financial means to unduly restrict its exercise (Denmark); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4

<p>125.160 Immediately cease acts of State repression towards demonstrators, and guarantee the population's right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and political participation (Ecuador); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.162 Safeguard the right to expression and to assembly for all members of society, and the freedom of the press (Holy See); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.163 Ensure that all human rights defenders who engage with multilateral institutions and international and regional human rights bodies can do so without fear of persecution or violence and that any allegations or instances of reprisals are promptly investigated (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.164 Protect human rights defenders, journalists and media workers and fully guarantee the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly by complying with its commitments under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Slovenia); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4; Section 5</p>
<p>125.165 Respect the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression, in particular by ending reprisals and violence against journalists and human rights defenders (Republic of Korea); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3; Section 4; Section 5</p>

<p>125.166 Ensure protection of human rights defenders and journalists and take adequate measures to guarantee their physical and psychological security, as well as the full exercise of the rights to freedom of information, expression and association (Uruguay); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4
<p>125.167 Guarantee freedoms of expression, assembly, association and movement, particularly for human rights defenders and journalists (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4; Section 5
<p>125.168 Institute measures to ensure that human rights defenders, journalists and media workers can exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals, threats, attacks or unjust prosecutions (Ghana); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. IV</p>	Noted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2; Section 3; Section 4; Section 5
<p>125.183 Continue to ensure the full range of human rights of both urban and rural residents (Russian Federation); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3
<p>125.189 Maintain its efforts to promote and protect human rights, in accordance with its international obligations (Turkey); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	Accepted	Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3

<p>125.204 Ensure the protection and promotion of the human rights of the Nicaraguan population in all its spheres (El Salvador); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 3</p>
<p>125.253 Take measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of children and adolescents, particularly the right to life, health, participation and freedom of association (Malta); Source of position: A/HRC/42/16/Add.1 - Para. II</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Status: Not implemented Source: Section 2</p>