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Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 7 July 2026

62/27. Twentieth anniversary of the Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and other relevant human rights instruments,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, which established the Human Rights Council as its subsidiary organ responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner,

Reaffirming also that the Council should address situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations, and making recommendations thereon, and for promoting the effective coordination and the mainstreaming of human rights within the United Nations system,

Reaffirming further that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Emphasizing the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language or religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007,



Recognizing that the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Human Rights Council provides an opportunity to build on its legacy and achievements, to reflect on its challenges, to consider how to reinforce its work, and to improve its effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of its mandates and resolutions,

Recognizing also that through its work, including its debates, decisions and resolutions, such as those establishing or renewing mandates of special procedures, intergovernmental working groups, investigative bodies and other human rights mechanisms, as well as through the universal periodic review, and with the support and technical assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Council has developed and strengthened human rights standards, contributed to the implementation of States' obligations under international human rights law, as well as international humanitarian law, promoted accountability on human rights violations, supported capacity-building initiatives, as well as encouraged national implementation and respect for human rights throughout the world,

Recalling that members elected to the Council shall uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights, shall fully cooperate with the Council and be reviewed under the universal periodic review mechanism,

Recognizing the importance of the participation and contributions of all States in the work of the Human Rights Council,

Recognizing also that universal and meaningful participation is enhanced by strengthening the capacity of delegations of least developed countries and small island developing States to participate in the activities of the Council, and welcoming the efforts of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council to meet fully the mandate of the Trust Fund,

Reiterating that all States should fully cooperate with the Council and its mechanisms, and affirming the need to take all appropriate measures to prevent the occurrence of acts of intimidation or reprisal, whether online or offline, including by promoting a safe and enabling environment for engagement with the United Nations on human rights and to effectively protect those who seek to cooperate, cooperate or have cooperated with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights from any act of intimidation or reprisal,

Underscoring that all participants and other stakeholders engaging with the Council and its mechanisms should refrain from acts of intimidation or harassment, whether online or offline,

Recognizing the important role and contributions of the universal periodic review, which ensures universality of coverage and equal treatment with respect to all States Members of the United Nations, in the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, and recalling the need for all States to cooperate with the universal periodic review mechanism and undergo, within the established periodicity, their respective review,

Recognizing also the valuable contribution of special procedures and all other Council mechanisms in the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, and stressing the need for all mandate holders to act in an objective, independent, non-selective, impartial and non-politicized manner, and deploring the increasing targeting against them in connection with their functions and mandates,

Recognizing further the significant contributions and support provided to the Council by the Office of the High Commissioner, including through technical assistance and capacity-building to States, in accordance with relevant General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions,

Reaffirming the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions in the work of the Human Rights Council, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent national authorities, and their role in preventing, remedying and assisting victims to find remedies to human rights violations and abuses, in the dissemination of human rights information and in education in human rights,

Acknowledging the contribution of and important and legitimate role played by civil society organizations locally, nationally, regionally and internationally in the promotion and protection of human rights, and recognizing their contributions to the work of the Human Rights Council, including through monitoring and documenting, advocacy and awareness-raising, sharing expertise and knowledge,

Recognizing the contributions of all other stakeholders, such as Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, human rights defenders, persons with disabilities, and the private sector, in accordance with applicable resolutions and modalities, including General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, and Human Rights Council resolution 5/1,

Recognizing also the constant efforts to mainstream human rights and to increase coherence within the United Nations system at all levels, and reaffirming the need to continue and strengthen cooperation within the framework of its mandates, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 80/251 of 31 March 2026,

Expressing concern about the negative impact of the liquidity and financial crisis of the United Nations and the lack of adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for its human rights pillar in the fulfilment of the mandates of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms,

1. *Reaffirms* the essential role the Human Rights Council has in the United Nations System in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner;

2. *Welcomes* the significant contributions of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms in the development of international human rights law and international human rights standards and norms, as well as in the prevention of human rights violations through dialogue and cooperation, addressing situations of violations of human rights, responding promptly to human rights emergencies, and promoting human rights education, technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights;

3. *Also welcomes* the active and constructive contribution of States, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and all other stakeholders in the fulfilment of the Human Rights Council's mandate;

4. *Reaffirms* that the work of the Human Rights Council shall be guided by the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights;

5. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen their commitment, through dialogue and cooperation, towards the prevention of human rights violations, and to respond promptly to human rights emergencies;

6. *Also calls upon* all States to cooperate with the Council and its mechanisms in the performance of their mandated tasks, to provide all necessary information in a timely manner and to respond without undue delay to communications transmitted to them;

7. *Encourages* States to establish and/or strengthen national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up for further compliance with human rights obligations and commitments and to continue to share good practices and experiences;

8. *Recalls* the importance of States providing adequate, predictable and sustainable funding through the payment in full and in a timely manner of their regular budget contributions so that the Human Rights Council can effectively carry out its mandate, and also encourages States to provide voluntary contributions;

9. *Decides* to convene, during the high-level segment of the Human Rights Council at its sixty-fourth session, a high-level panel discussion on "The twentieth anniversary of the Human Rights Council: building on its achievements and strengthening its effectiveness across the United Nations System", and invites the President of the Human Rights Council to consider this theme for the annual high-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming, to be held at the sixty-fourth session of the Council;

10. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a summary report of the above-mentioned high-level panel discussion, to be submitted to the sixty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council.

*34th meeting
7 July 2026*

[Adopted without a vote.]
