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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Forty-third session**  
1–12 May 2023

## **Summary of stakeholders' submissions on France\***

### **Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

#### **I. Background**

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review and the outcome of the previous review.<sup>1</sup> It is a summary of 50 stakeholders' submissions<sup>2</sup> for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

#### **II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles**

2. The National Advisory Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH) noted that institutional life is marked by the normalization of states of exception, which has restricted freedoms and diminished the quality of democratic debate.<sup>3</sup> Laws have been adopted to legitimize the transfer to the executive of a number of prerogatives normally reserved for the judiciary. CNCDH recommended the formal withdrawal of states of emergency in order to restore all fundamental rights and freedoms to the country's citizens.<sup>4</sup>

3. Noting that the Government's use of an accelerated legislative procedure has become a regular practice, CNCDH recommended carrying out rigorous impact studies, with consideration being given to fundamental rights, and undertaking the consultations necessary for democratic debate.<sup>5</sup>

4. In the light of prison overcrowding and the lack of improvement in detention conditions, CNCDH recommended adopting a law that prohibits all prisons from exceeding their 100 per cent occupancy rates and encouraged the State to focus on prisoner reintegration efforts.<sup>6</sup>

5. Given the frequent use of abusive and discriminatory practices by law enforcement agencies, CNCDH recommended moving away from quantified evaluations of police performance to focus on the quality of the service provided to the population and re-

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\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



establishing genuine community policing backed by an approach based on a relationship of trust with the population, particularly with a view to providing better safeguards for the freedom to demonstrate.<sup>7</sup>

6. Given the lack of criminal convictions for discrimination, CNCDH called for action to combat underreporting and police practices that prevent offences from being dealt with by the courts, measures to combat systemic discrimination and stronger measures to combat the normalization of racist and xenophobic comments, including online.<sup>8</sup>

7. CNCDH deplored the misuse of surveillance devices by the police and recommended an independent evaluation of the impact of public video surveillance and the use of drone cameras on crime and on the exercise of fundamental rights, such as the freedom to demonstrate.<sup>9</sup>

8. CNCDH expressed concern at the lack of a genuine public policy to combat trafficking in persons and recommended that a new plan be drawn up, in consultation with civil society, that covers all forms of trafficking and contemporary exploitation and that incorporates the digital dimension and the imperative of child protection.<sup>10</sup>

9. CNCDH recommended that the national strategy to prevent and reduce poverty be suitably resourced and developed with the involvement of the persons concerned.<sup>11</sup>

10. Given the inadequacy of policies to combat homelessness, CNCDH recommended building social housing, implementing a more restrictive regulatory framework to ensure that all evicted persons are rehoused permanently and recognizing travellers' caravans as housing in its own right.<sup>12</sup>

11. Noting the existence of territorial inequalities in access to health care, CNCDH recommended developing a democratic approach to health care that allows members of the public to participate in decision-making, creating an interministerial delegation to address social inequalities in health care, establishing truly universal health insurance, providing sufficient resources for mental health policies and implementing specific policies and budgets for the overseas territories, which are particularly poorly served in terms of access to health care.<sup>13</sup>

12. CNCDH recommended creating an observatory to characterize, quantify and identify the problem of non-enrolment of school-age children so as to develop appropriate responses.<sup>14</sup>

13. In view of the low rates of criminal convictions on charges of rape or attempted rape, CNCDH recommended reviewing the relevant laws to incorporate the concept of non-consent, conducting rigorous investigations and creating dedicated centres to provide comprehensive care for victims of sexual violence.<sup>15</sup>

14. CNCDH noted the insufficiency of the measures adopted to address domestic violence and recommended setting up emergency shelters for victims, facilitating access to justice, guaranteeing effective protection for victims and affording police officers, gendarmes and magistrates specialized training.<sup>16</sup>

15. CNCDH recommended raising awareness among the general public and adopting measures, starting with the schools, to combat gender stereotypes.<sup>17</sup>

16. CNCDH expressed concern at the lack of official data on infanticide and violence against children and recommended developing tools to gauge the scale of these problems and design public policies to prevent them.<sup>18</sup>

17. CNCDH noted that unaccompanied minors faced a number of forms of violence, inadequate responses to their basic needs and the risk of being trafficked. It recommended ensuring effective protection for unaccompanied minors and applying the principle of the presumption of minority.<sup>19</sup>

18. CNCDH recommended adopting a strategy for implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and reviewing the entire French legal framework in that connection.<sup>20</sup>

19. In view of the increasing complexity of issues associated with the right to asylum, CNCDH recommended stepping up efforts to build new accommodation facilities and called on France to increase the resources allocated for integration policies and to review its border control policy in order to ensure that the right of asylum is respected.<sup>21</sup>

### **III. Information provided by other stakeholders**

#### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>22</sup> and cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

20. MAAT recommended to ratify the ICMRW; the ILO Convention No. 189 concerning domestic workers; the ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; and to withdraw reservations to articles 13 and 27 of the ICCPR and article 4 of the ICERD. Having noted that France suspended the visit of many special procedures mandate holders, MAAT recommended to allow special procedure mandate holders to carry out their pending visits.<sup>23</sup>

21. ICAN recommended to ratify the TPNW, as a matter of international urgency, and immediately start the process of eliminating nuclear weapons from its territory.<sup>24</sup>

#### **B. National human rights framework**

##### **1. Constitutional and legislative framework**

22. While concluding that the French presidential election was held in a competitive and pluralistic environment, OSCE-ODIHR recommended the adoption of legislation aiming to further clarify and regulate the use of funds and public resources by political parties and candidates to the elections in order to increase transparency and accountability. They also recommended to review legal frameworks to further guarantee media pluralism and avoid the concentration of media ownership.<sup>25</sup>

##### **2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures**

23. Having noted the extension of the state of emergency in France and the incorporation of several emergency provisions into general French law, the Association européenne pour la défense des droits et des libertés (European Association for the Defence of Rights and Freedoms) (ASSEDEL) and Human Rights Watch recommended exercising strict judicial oversight of the application of measures adopted during states of emergency and taking the necessary steps to ensure that emergency measures remain limited in time and do not become part of general French law.<sup>26</sup>

#### **C. Promotion and protection of human rights**

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

###### *Equality and non-discrimination*

24. Many stakeholders have noted the use of legal provisions to target the Muslim community, by closing by decree religious organizations<sup>27</sup> and by effectively banning the niqab.<sup>28</sup> AI recommended to avoid the dissolution of civil society or religious organizations unless demonstrably necessary and proportionate and as a result of a court-led process.<sup>29</sup> MAAT recommended to repeal or amend the law prohibiting hiding the face or wearing the niqab in public places to ensure that women who choose to hide their faces for religious reasons may do so without fear of legal punishment.<sup>30</sup>

25. Many stakeholders have noted that religious minorities and especially the Muslim community are still subject to recurrent hate crimes, discriminations, discriminatory identity checks and various police abuses.<sup>31</sup> ODVV recommended France to take steps to eliminate

all forms of discrimination against minorities including Muslims<sup>32</sup> and MAAT recommended to ensure effective response to anti-Muslim attacks and incidents and hold those responsible for these attacks accountable.<sup>33</sup> Many stakeholders also recommended that the authorities adopt concrete measures to end discriminatory identity checks and other abusive and violent behaviour directed at ethnic and religious minorities by law enforcement officials.<sup>34</sup>

*Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture*

26. Having noted that France had delivered arms worth more than 8 billion Euros that were used to perpetrate human rights violations, AI recommended a full ban of arms transfer wherever there is a substantial or clear risk that the arms could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international human rights or humanitarian law and substantially increase transparency and legislative control over arms transfers.<sup>35</sup>

27. The Inspector General of Places of Deprivation of Liberty and the French branch of the Observatoire international des prisons (International Prisons Watch) recalled that in 2020 the European Court of Human Rights had admonished France for the degrading conditions of detention existing in its prisons and for the absence of effective recourse. The Court had also denounced prison overcrowding.<sup>36</sup> Several stakeholders recommended that France adopt the necessary measures to effectively combat prison overcrowding and the inhumane or degrading treatment of prisoners and to guarantee and protect all of their rights,<sup>37</sup> particularly in terms of access to health care.<sup>38</sup> The Inspector General also recommended improving the material conditions of custody.<sup>39</sup>

*Human rights and counter-terrorism*

28. HRW reported that, in 2018, the UN special rapporteur on human rights and counterterrorism expressed concerns about the 2017 counterterrorism law, which incorporated state of emergency powers into ordinary law and includes insufficient safeguards in the use of non-criminal measures against terrorism suspects.<sup>40</sup> HRW recommended to ensure that counterterrorism measures are non-discriminatory and proportionate and require judicial authorization for measures such as raids and searches<sup>41</sup> and that the state of emergency be subject to rigorous judiciary oversight.<sup>42</sup>

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law*

29. Given the insufficient care provided to women victims of violence, Femmes solidaires recommended increasing the number of police officers who assist women victims of violence as a matter of urgency.<sup>43</sup> OSCE-ODIHR recommended to ensure that specialized training, focused on hate crime victims and their needs, is provided for officials and civil society organizations within the victim support structures.<sup>44</sup>

30. Many stakeholders noted the excessive and disproportionate use of force by law enforcement agencies.<sup>45</sup> The authors of joint submissions 8 and 12 noted that a relaxation of legislation on the use of lethal weapons by the police had led to a worrisome increase in the use of such weapons.<sup>46</sup>

31. Joint submission 8 denounced the lack of independence of the police and gendarmerie inspectorates.<sup>47</sup> It recommended ensuring that thorough and effective investigations are carried out systematically by a fully independent body and that officials who use excessive force are effectively prosecuted and given penalties commensurate with the seriousness of their acts.<sup>48</sup>

32. To effectively combat corruption, the CoE recommended that the multi-annual plan for the fight against corruption be extended to cover the Private Office of the President of the Republic; that persons with top executive functions be required to disclose on a regular basis details of the lobbyists they meet and the topics discussed;<sup>49</sup> that the conditions relating to the use of parliamentary assistants and collaborators, the operational expenses allowance and the parliamentary reserve facility be thoroughly reformed in order to ensure the transparency, accountability and supervision of the resources concerned; that the parliamentary regulations on gifts and other benefits be revised; and that declarations of assets by members of the National Assembly and Senators be made easily accessible to the public at large.<sup>50</sup>

*Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life*

33. Several stakeholders denounced legislation that provides increased scope for the dissolution of associations.<sup>51</sup> UNPO recommended to cease dissolving non-violent civil society organizations.<sup>52</sup>

34. In particular, the authors of joint submission 4 noted the use of these laws to close a number of places of worship and recommended that France ensure respect for freedom of religion, freedom to practise religious rites and freedom of association.<sup>53</sup> The Coordination des associations et particuliers pour la liberté de conscience recommended ensuring that article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is respected by French institutions.<sup>54</sup> JS10 recommended to put an end to religious discrimination and stigmatization of Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>55</sup>

35. AI noted that France has not taken sufficient action to investigate, stop and provide remedies for human rights violations stemming from the use of spyware against journalists and members of civil society revealed by the Pegasus Project.<sup>56</sup> They recommended to impose an immediate moratorium on the sale, transfer, and use of spyware technology.<sup>57</sup> ASSEDEL denounced the adoption of two laws in 2021 and 2022 that extend the surveillance powers of law enforcement agencies.<sup>58</sup> It also recommended clearly defining the terms of such legislation to avoid infringing the rights to privacy, freedom of expression and of the press on the basis of vague concepts.<sup>59</sup>

36. Many stakeholders noted serious infringements of the right to protest and freedom of assembly, including, in particular, the excessive use of force by law enforcement authorities.<sup>60</sup> WILPF recommended to immediately ban the use of "defensive ball launchers" and dispersion grenades; review police doctrine so that it is based on de-escalation tactics; ensure diligent investigation by an independent authority and guarantee access to justice and remedies to victims of police brutality.<sup>61</sup> Other stakeholders made similar recommendations.<sup>62</sup>

37. The CoE has raised concerns regarding the possible adoption of the bill on strengthening and guaranteeing public order at demonstrations, which would introduce an administrative ban on demonstrating, seriously interfering with the right to freedom of assembly.<sup>63</sup>

*Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons*

38. The CoE considered that France should mobilise sufficient funding and human resources in order to effectively combat all forms of trafficking; take further steps to facilitate and guarantee access to justice for all victims of trafficking; encourage the training and specialisation of lawyers to provide legal aid to trafficking victims; provide medical and psychological assistance to victims; guarantee access to justice and effective remedies; and open independent investigations on the matter, leading to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sentences.<sup>64</sup>

*Right to an adequate standard of living*

39. In order to combat poverty, the Confédération générale du travail force ouvrière (CGT-FO) recommended increasing statutory minimum income benefits, raising the minimum wage to 80 per cent of median earnings and strengthening State support for associations, particularly local associations.<sup>65</sup> In order for public policies to effectively serve the most disadvantaged persons, ATD Fourth World (ATDFW) recommended developing such policies on the basis of those individuals' situations and with their participation.<sup>66</sup>

40. The Fondation Abbé Pierre noted that, despite the efforts of the Government of France, the shortage of affordable housing remains a concern.<sup>67</sup> A number of stakeholders recommended that France significantly strengthen housing assistance mechanisms for low-income persons.<sup>68</sup> The Fondation recommended prohibiting the eviction of renters unless a sustainable alternative housing solution is provided.<sup>69</sup>

41. Joint submission 16 recommended rendering the slum clearance policy more effective by enshrining it in law; improving living conditions in slums and squats; prohibiting all evictions from squats, plots of land and slums unless a dignified, appropriate and permanent

housing solution is provided for their inhabitants and proposing broad measures to regularize the status of persons in irregular situations living in temporary or emergency accommodations so that they will have access to the labour market and housing.<sup>70</sup>

42. Joint submission 17 denounced the critical situation with regard to access to water and sanitation of persons living in overseas departments and regions: water is not continuously available or accessible, and it is expensive and often unfit for consumption, with serious health and epidemiological consequences for the persons concerned.<sup>71</sup> The authors also noted the absence of effective legal recourse, thereby depriving users of reparation and compensation for the harm suffered.<sup>72</sup> Joint submission 17 recommended ensuring the existence of sustainable, durable and affordable water supply systems in overseas departments and regions and providing effective legal remedies.<sup>73</sup>

43. JS2 noted the serious lack of access to water and sanitation in the regions of Northern France hosting refugees and asylum seekers.<sup>74</sup> The authors recommended that access to water and sanitation be urgently guaranteed in those regions.<sup>75</sup>

#### *Right to health*

44. CGT-FO recommended extending access to health care throughout the country in order to allow all persons to benefit from the best quality care when needed.<sup>76</sup> Additionally, the Inspector General of Places of Deprivation of Liberty recommended reducing the systematic restrictions of the freedoms of persons hospitalized without their consent.<sup>77</sup> Médecins du Monde France (MDM-FR) noted the adoption of a law in 2019 that created new obstacles to health-care coverage for foreigners and recommended removing the three-month waiting period and providing effective access to health care to all asylum-seekers.<sup>78</sup>

45. Two stakeholders denounced the French Government's policy on surrogate motherhood, which it prohibits on its territory but facilitates abroad for its nationals. This use of foreign surrogate mothers could encourage trafficking in persons and violate the rights of both women and children.<sup>79</sup> These stakeholders recommended strengthening the legislative framework for surrogate motherhood so that foreign companies marketing surrogacy services in France are subject to the law.<sup>80</sup>

46. Having established that many women freely choose not to have abortions, Alliance VITA recommended restoring the universal availability of family allowances and creating specific support mechanisms for young pregnant students by affording them housing, childcare and specific study arrangements.<sup>81</sup>

47. Given the discrimination faced by vulnerable persons who use drugs, MDM-FR recommended abolishing legal and administrative barriers to care, bringing the entire legal system into line with the harm reduction approach and decriminalizing drug use.<sup>82</sup>

#### *Right to education*

48. Apprentis d'Auteuil noted the wide disparities in access to schooling, particularly for unaccompanied minors, children living in French Guiana and children living in substandard housing.<sup>83</sup> It recommended adopting measures to ensure the right to a quality education for all children, particularly unaccompanied minors and children living in overseas France.<sup>84</sup> BCN recommended that France address the problems asylum seekers, foreign children and undocumented children face to access secondary education.<sup>85</sup>

49. ECLJ and ADF noted the adoption by France of the Anti-Separatism Bill, whose stated goal was to fight extremism, which effectively strongly restricted home-schooling.<sup>86</sup> ADF reminded France that according to the Ministry of Education's impact study, no evidence whatsoever has been provided as to the existence of any links between home-schooling and extremism.<sup>87</sup> ADF and ECLJ have both recommended France modify its legislation in order to provide parents with greater freedom when it comes to deciding how to educate their children.<sup>88</sup>

50. Apprentis d'Auteuil recommended developing childcare facilities for the children of parents seeking to enter the labour market with the aim of overcoming the social determinism that many children face at school.<sup>89</sup> BCN recommended France to further combat problems of violence, abuse and bullying in schools as well to assign better qualified teachers to more

challenging environments and to strengthen its efforts to address high rates of repetition and school dropout.<sup>90</sup> CGT-FO recommended recruiting teachers, re-establishing quality training for teachers at all levels and reducing class sizes.<sup>91</sup>

*Development, the environment, and business and human rights*

51. In view of the particularly alarming environmental emergency, Notre Affaire à Tous (NAAT) recommended that the French Government amend the Constitution to include obligations to act on climate and biodiversity issues and to introduce the crime of ecocide.<sup>92</sup> It also recommended that, as soon as possible, the French Government align its regulatory framework, National Low Carbon Strategy and Multiannual Energy Plan with European objectives and then go on to exceed those targets;<sup>93</sup> strengthen the public's rights to information and participation in environmental matters;<sup>94</sup> and, given the rise in fuel poverty, recognize the right to energy.<sup>95</sup>

52. CGT-FO recommended regulating temperatures in the workplace, combating energy wastage, developing suitable mobility policies and means of transport, and making long-term investments in building renovations, equipment modernization and renewable energy.<sup>96</sup>

## **2. Rights of specific persons or groups**

*Women*

53. Several stakeholders denounced the many forms of gender inequality. Femmes solidaires noted persistent disparities across the country in the application of laws and measures to combat violence against women.<sup>97</sup> It also observed that the training given to doctors and other health-care professionals in dealing with violence against women and sexual violence was optional and inadequate<sup>98</sup> and noted the existence of bilateral agreements that undermine women's rights. The Civil Code is based on the premise that, with respect to personal status issues, all persons are effectively subject to the law of the country of which they are nationals. However, some countries have legal frameworks that discriminate against women in matters of marriage, divorce, filiation and inheritance.<sup>99</sup>

54. The authors of joint submission 5 noted that schools continue to perpetuate discriminatory gender stereotypes and recommended providing an education that is free from stereotypes, furnishing training to teachers about violence against girls, providing genuine sexuality education and ensuring mixed-sex teaching at all levels.<sup>100</sup>

55. CGT-FO recommended upgrading low-paid and part-time jobs, which are often held by women.<sup>101</sup>

56. MDM-FR recommended that the Government of France decriminalize sex work by abrogating laws that criminalize clients and laws on procuring, adopting a national referral mechanism to combat trafficking in persons and involving sex workers in the development, implementation and evaluation of health and other policies that affect them.<sup>102</sup> The authors of joint submission 7 recommended improving protection and care for victims of prostitution, particularly minors,<sup>103</sup> and adopting a new definition of prostitution to improve the effectiveness of efforts to combat emerging online forms of pandering.<sup>104</sup>

57. Several stakeholders denounced the insufficiency of the care given to women victims of violence.<sup>105</sup> The authors of joint submission 6 recommended adopting immediate and unconditional measures to ensure the safety of all women victims of violence; expanding shelters for them; establishing specialized courts; ensuring that superintendents are held responsible for serious failings; systematically withdrawing parental authority from fathers convicted of sexual, paedophilic and/or intra-family abuse; removing statutory limitations on the crime of rape when the victim was a minor and recognizing the concept of amnesia following emotional trauma.<sup>106</sup>

*Children*

58. Femmes Solidaires noted that, despite significant progress, child protection measures remain insufficient in France. Reception and support facilities for children in care lack capacity, resources and sufficiently trained teams. Femmes Solidaires recommended placing

children at the heart of the support system for women victims of violence as a matter of urgency.<sup>107</sup> The CoE urged France to review its legislation to ensure effective protection of children from situations where abuse is made of a recognised position of influence; carry out awareness raising activities, especially in schools; provide specific training to professionals working within the police and units and services in charge of investigations.<sup>108</sup>

#### *Older persons*

59. The Defender of Rights denounced the recurrent infringements of the fundamental rights, dignity and integrity of persons living in accommodation facilities for dependent older persons and recommended that the Government of France improve the care given to persons living in those facilities and guarantee their rights.<sup>109</sup>

60. CGT-FO voiced its opposition to the idea of raising the legal retirement age based on the view that everyone should benefit from a decent period of retirement.<sup>110</sup>

#### *Persons with disabilities*

61. Several stakeholders denounced serious acts of violence and discrimination against persons with disabilities.<sup>111</sup> APF recommended to adopt and implement a true national disability strategy.<sup>112</sup> Alliance VITA expressed alarm at a new form of eugenics in France which particularly stigmatizes persons with Down's syndrome. Antenatal screening, which is systematically performed in France, is thought to lead to therapeutic abortion in up to 90 per cent of cases of Down's syndrome.<sup>113</sup> Alliance VITA recommended providing support for families and increasing the number of facilities adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities.<sup>114</sup> FJL recommended to "review the policy of systematic prenatal detection of Down syndrome", in line with the principles of the UDHR, and fund research to better understand the medical needs of people with Down syndrome.<sup>115</sup>

62. Having noted the violence and discrimination committed against women with disabilities in particular, the authors of joint submission 1 recommended collecting statistics on violence against such women, providing training to staff working with persons with disabilities about violence against women with disabilities and ensuring that girls and women with disabilities enjoy their reproductive rights and right to maternity.<sup>116</sup>

63. APF recommended that a public policy on accessibility and universal design be put in place, and to improve accessibility to all aspects of society, including transport, digital accessibility, access to information through signage, easy-to-read and easy-to-understand language, and accessibility to housing adapted to the needs of individuals living with a disability and their families<sup>117</sup>

#### *Indigenous peoples and minorities*

64. UNPO deplored the constitutional principle of an "indivisible Republic," making minority groups completely invisible in France's legal system.<sup>118</sup> UNPO and IHRC-OU recommended to formally recognize indigenous peoples, national minorities, and other minorities in France.<sup>119</sup>

65. IHRC-OU recommended to introduce into domestic law amendments that recognize the collective rights of indigenous peoples in extraterritorial collectivities.<sup>120</sup>

66. Having noted that national minorities struggled to protect their languages, and were excluded from decisions that directly concern them, UNPO recommended to ensure the true political participation of all its constituent peoples in relevant decision-making, such as over language and cultural rights.<sup>121</sup> Joint submission 4 recommended the effective inclusion of itinerant citizens at all levels of political life in France.<sup>122</sup>

67. Several stakeholders deplored the failure to recognize mobile residences as housing, thus denying Travellers the benefit of housing assistance and protective regulations.<sup>123</sup> The authors of joint submission 3 also denounced the serious lack of transit sites and the harsh penalization of travellers when they stop in prohibited areas.<sup>124</sup> The authors recommended that steps be taken to create the necessary conditions to allow itinerant citizens to continue their way of life and to recognize mobile residences as housing in its own right.<sup>125</sup> Other stakeholders made similar recommendations.<sup>126</sup>



*Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers*

68. Many stakeholders have deplored the abuses against migrants and asylum seekers by the French police forces, and lack of access for migrants and asylum seekers to basic services.<sup>127</sup> MAAT recommended investigating reports of police abuses against asylum seekers and migrants and hold anyone found responsible for abuses accountable; issuing clear directives to police officers outlining the prohibition of unjustified and disproportionate use of force; ensuring timely access to fair and effective asylum procedures for all asylum seekers; and ensuring that individuals are not returned to countries where they may be at risk of serious human rights abuses.<sup>128</sup> Other stakeholders made similar recommendations.<sup>129</sup>

69. The authors of joint submission 13 recommended ensuring access to a safe, dedicated shelter for migrant women and girls; guaranteeing their access to rights, justice and information; promoting training and employment for migrant women and the recognition of their qualifications, and encouraging their political participation.<sup>130</sup>

70. Some stakeholders have also expressed concerns on the treatment of unaccompanied migrant children, with some unable to access services or receive protection as guaranteed by the law.<sup>131</sup> MDM-FR recommended prohibiting any medical forensic examination to determine the age of unaccompanied minors and prohibiting the administrative detention of accompanied and unaccompanied minors throughout the territory.<sup>132</sup> AI recommended to provide unaccompanied children access to effective protection and refrain from detaining families with children or unaccompanied minors.<sup>133</sup>

71. HRW recommended to urgently repatriate all the French nationals from northeast Syria, prioritizing children and their mothers.<sup>134</sup> DDD made similar recommendations.<sup>135</sup>

72. The authors of joint submissions 14 and 15 denounced discriminatory identity checks at the country's borders that contribute to the denial of entry without legal grounds and recommended putting an end to those practices.<sup>136</sup>

73. Joint submission 14 also recommended providing procedural safeguards for persons who are refused entry to ensure that they are informed and able to exercise their rights effectively; undertaking individual examinations of the situations of persons at the border and allowing them to exercise their right of asylum; protecting unaccompanied foreign minors and safeguarding their best interests; respecting the principle of the presumption of minority and putting an end to all forms of arbitrary detention of persons arrested at internal land borders.<sup>137</sup>

74. Joint submission 15 recommended closing waiting areas where detention conditions are demeaning unless they can be refurbished and abolishing the temporary waiting area system.<sup>138</sup>

### 3. Specific regions or territories

75. ICAN recommended the health system and infrastructure in Polynesia be strengthened and adapted to adequately address the on-going consequences of the 193 nuclear tests; that measures be taken to ensure that the Committee for the Indemnification of Victims of Nuclear Tests (CIVEN) operates in a transparent, consistent and effective manner; and that France provide the Algerian authorities with a full list of sites where contaminated waste was buried.<sup>139</sup> WILPF recommended to guarantee access to justice and appropriate remedies to all the victims of French nuclear testing and to conduct rigorous and transparent impact assessments of past nuclear testing on human health and the environment.<sup>140</sup>

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> See [A/HRC/WG.6/29/FRA/2](#), [A/HRC/38/4](#), [A/HRC/38/4/Add.1](#), [A/HRC/38/2](#).

<sup>2</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org) (one asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with A status).

#### *Civil society*

*Individual submissions:*

ADF International	ADF International, 1202 Geneva (Switzerland);
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
Alliance VITA	Alliance VITA, PARIS (France);
APF France handicap	APF France handicap, Paris (France);
Apprentis d'Auteuil	Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil, 75 116 Paris Cedex 16 (France);
ASSEDEL	Association Européenne des droits et des libertés, Strasbourg (France);
ATD Fourth World	International Movement ATD Fourth World, 95480 Pierrelaye (France);
Broken Chalk	The Stichting Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
CAP Liberté de Conscience	Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Paris (France);
CGLPL	Contrôle général des lieux de privation de liberté, Paris (France);
CGT-FO	Confédération générale du travail – Force ouvrière, Paris (France);
DDD	Défenseur des droits, 75007 (France);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, The, Strasbourg (France);
FAP	Fondation Abbé Pierre, Paris (France);
Femmes solidaires	Femmes solidaires, Paris (France);
Fondation Jérôme Lejeune	Fondation Jérôme Lejeune, Paris (75015) (France);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
IHRC_	The Islamic Human Rights Commission, Wembley, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
IHRC-OU.	International Human Rights Clinic – University of Oklahoma College of Law, Norman, Oklahoma (United States of America);
Juristes pour l'enfance	Juristes pour l'enfance, Lyon (France);
MAAT	Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Cairo (Egypt);
MDM-FR	Médecins du Monde France, Saint-Denis (France);
NAAT	Notre Affaire A Tous, PARIS (France);
O-CR	Observatoire des camps de réfugiés, Paris (France);
ODVV	Organization for Defending Victim of Violence, Tehran (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
OIP-SF	Observatoire international des prisons – section française, Paris (France);
UNPO	Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, The Hague (Netherlands);
WILPF	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Geneva (Switzerland).

*Joint submissions:*

JS1	<b>Joint submission 1 submitted by:</b> Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes, Paris (France); Femmes pour le Dire, Femmes pour Agir;
JS2	<b>Joint submission 2 submitted by:</b> Solidarités International, CLICHY (France); Authors: Calais Food Collective, Roots, Solidarités International, Vents Contraires. Signatories: Calais

- Appeal, Coalition Eau, L’Auberge des Migrants, Médecins du Monde, Refugee Women Center, Utopia 56;
- JS3 **Joint submission 3 submitted by:** Coalition d’ONG françaises sur la question des Voyageurs (« gens du voyage »), Paris (France); Observatoire pour les droits des citoyens itinérants (ODCI), Association Sociale Nationale Internationale Tzigane (ASNIT), Action Grand Passage (AGP);
- JS4 **Joint submission 4 submitted by:** World Evangelical Alliance, Geneva (Switzerland); Conseil National des Evangéliques de France (CNEF), European Evangelical Alliance (EEA), World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), European Baptist Federation (EBF);
- JS5 **Joint submission 5 submitted by:** Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes, Paris (France); Réussir l’Egalité Femmes-Hommes;
- JS6 **Joint submission 6 submitted by:** Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes, Paris (France) ; Fondation des Femmes, Osez le féminisme ! et la Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes ;
- JS7 **Joint submission 7 submitted by:** Equipes d’action contre le proxénétisme et d’aide aux victimes, Paris (France) ; Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes (CLEF), et Equipes d’actions contre le proxénétisme et d’aide aux victimes (EACP) ;
- JS8 **Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Fédération Internationale de l’Action des Chrétiens pour l’Abolition de la Torture, Paris (France) ; ACAT France et FIACAT ;
- JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Geneve (Switzerland); European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR);
- JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES, 1950 KRAAINEM (Belgium); European Association of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Asia-Pacific Association of Jehovah’s Witnesses, African Association of Jehovah’s Witnesses;
- JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** AIDES Médecins du Monde Act Up Paris, Pantin (France) ; AIDES, Médecins du Monde et Act Up Paris ;
- JS12 **Joint submission 12 submitted by:** International Federation for Human Rights, Paris (France); The LDH (Ligue des droits de l’Homme), founded on 5 June 1898, is a generalist association that promotes human rights and fights against attacks on the fundamental rights of the individual in all areas of civic, political and social life. It is part of the International Federation of Human Rights Leagues (FIDH);
- JS13 **Joint submission 13 submitted by:** Olympe, Paris (France) ;
- JS14 **Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Association nationale d’assistance aux frontières pour les étrangers, Paris (France), cimade as a main submitter;
- JS15 **Joint submission 15 submitted by:** Association nationale d’assistance aux frontières pour les étrangers, Paris (France), Anafé, ADDE, GAS, GISTI, Cimade, MRAP ;
- JS16 **Joint submission 16 submitted by:** Collectif national droits de l’homme Romeurope, Paris (France), Acina, Aide et Action, Alpil, Ampil, Area, Asav 92, ASEFRR, Askola, Association Logivar-UDV, Association Solidarité Roms de

Saint Étienne, Assoropa, ATD Quart Monde, Avih – Association Ville Hôpital, CCFD-Terre solidaire, C.I.a.s.e.s, La Cimade, Collectif de soutien aux familles roms de Roumanie et d’ailleurs (95), Collectif Romeurope Nantes, Collectif Romeurope Antony, Collectif Romeurope du Val Maubuée, Collectif roms de Gardanne, Collectif solidarité roms 31, Collectif solidarité roms de Lille Métropole, Collectif Solidarités roms Roubaix et environs, Collectif Romyvelines, Collectif Stop expulsion Rosny, École enchantée, École Ici et Maintenant, Eurrom, Fnasat-GV, Habitat Alternatif Social, Habitat Cité, Hors la rue, Insertion des familles roms de moulin galant (IFRM), L’École au présent, Les bâtisseurs de cabanes, Les Enfants du canal, Ligue des droits de l’homme, Médecins du monde, MRAP, Première Urgence Internationale, Rencont’roms nous, Rencontres tsiganes, Rom Réussite, Romeurope 94, Secours Catholique Caritas France, Système b comme bidonville, Une famille un toit 44, Union juive française pour la paix (UJFP) ;

JS17

**Joint submission 17 submitted by:** Coalition Eau, Nogent sur Marne (France) ; Les ONG membres de la Coalition Eau : ACAD, Action contre la Faim, BlueEnergy, CRID, 4D, Dynam’eau, EAST, Eau et Vie, Eau Sans Frontières International, Experts Solidaires, GRDR, GRET, Guinée 44, Hamap Humanitaire, Human Dignity, Hydraulique Sans Frontières, Initiative Développement, Kynarou, Morija, Première Urgence Internationale, Secours Catholique – Caritas France, Secours Islamique France, SEVES, Solidarité Eau Europe, Solidarités International, Vision du Monde, WECF, Wikiwater. Avec les ONG partenaires du Groupe de Travail sur les droits humains à l’eau et à l’assainissement, animé par la Coalition Eau : Coordination Eau Ile de France, Coordination Eau Bien Commun, Croix Rouge française en Guyane, Croix Rouge française à Mayotte, Fédération Nationale des Samus Sociaux, Fondation Abbé Pierre Agence Île de la Réunion/Océan Indien, France Libertés Gironde, Médecins du Monde Guyane, Médecins du Monde Mayotte, Observatoire Terre Monde, Sillages.

*National human rights institution:*

CNCDDH

Commission nationale consultative des droits de l’homme, Paris (France).

*Regional intergovernmental organizations:*

CoE

Council of Europe, 67075 Strasbourg Cedex (France);

OSCE-ODIHR

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights/Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw (Poland).

<sup>3</sup> NHRC, para. 8.

<sup>4</sup> NHRC, paras. 9–13.

<sup>5</sup> NHRC, para. 14.

<sup>6</sup> NHRC, para. 19–20.

<sup>7</sup> NHRC, paras. 15–18.

<sup>8</sup> NHRC, paras. 39–40.

<sup>9</sup> NHRC, paras. 21–23.

<sup>10</sup> NHRC, paras. 37–38.

<sup>11</sup> NHRC, paras. 31–33.

<sup>12</sup> NHRC, para. 36.

<sup>13</sup> NHRC, paras. 29–30.

<sup>14</sup> NHRC, para. 24.

<sup>15</sup> NHRC, para. 42.

<sup>16</sup> NHRC, para. 43.

<sup>17</sup> NHRC, para. 44.

<sup>18</sup> NHRC, para. 48.

<sup>19</sup> NHRC, paras. 50–51.

<sup>20</sup> NHRC para. 46.

<sup>21</sup> NHRC, paras. 54–58.

<sup>22</sup> *The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:*

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

<sup>23</sup> MAAT, p. 2.

<sup>24</sup> ICAN, p. 4.

<sup>25</sup> OSCE-ODIHR, para. 6.

<sup>26</sup> ASSEDEL, p. 5; HRW, para. 11. See also CoE Commissioner for Human Rights, Memorandum on maintaining public order and freedom of assembly in the context of the “yellow vest” movement in France, para. 48.

<sup>27</sup> AI, p. 3; IHRC, p. 3; JS4, para. 15–17.

<sup>28</sup> MAAT, p. 4; IHRC, p. 3.

<sup>29</sup> AI, p. 6.

<sup>30</sup> MAAT, p. 5.

<sup>31</sup> MAAT, p. 4, AI, p. 3, ODVV, paras. 5–8, OSCE-ODIHR, paras. 8–10, ASSEDEL, pp. 3–4, DDD, pp. 3–4, WILPF, p. 13.

<sup>32</sup> ODVV, para. 17.

<sup>33</sup> MAAT, p. 5.

<sup>34</sup> AI, p. 6; ASSEDEL, p. 5; DDD, p. 4; HRW, para. 15, WILPF, para. 14; JS3, p. 13.

<sup>35</sup> AI, pp. 4–5. See also JS9, pp. 21–23; ODVV, para. 19.

<sup>36</sup> CGLPL, p. 2; OIP-SF, para. 10. See also CoE CPT Executive summary, pp. 2–3.

<sup>37</sup> AI, p. 6; CAPLC, p. 5; CGPL, p. 2, DDD, p. 3; OIP-SF paras. 7–8 and 13.

<sup>38</sup> CGPL, p. 5; OIP-SF, para. 19.

<sup>39</sup> CGPL, p. 5, CoE CPT Executive summary, p. 2.

<sup>40</sup> HRW, para. 5.

<sup>41</sup> HRW, para. 11.

<sup>42</sup> HRW, para. 11.

<sup>43</sup> FS, para. 7.

<sup>44</sup> OSCE-ODIHR, para. 11.

<sup>45</sup> JS8, pp. 1–4; MAAT, p. 2; JS12 p. 3, AI, p. 3.

- 46 JS12, p. 3; JS8 p. 1–2.
- 47 JS8, pp. 5–6.
- 48 JS8, pp. 6–7. See also MAAT, pp. 2–3.
- 49 CoE GRECO, Fifth Evaluation Round, Compliance Report, 7 January 2022, paras. 12 and 40.
- 50 CoE GRECO, Fourth Evaluation Round, Addendum to the second Compliance Report, 31 March 2022, paras. 9, 26, 35.
- 51 JS12, pp. 4–5; JS4, para. 12; UNPO, p. 5; ASSEDEL, p. 3.
- 52 UNPO, p. 7. See also ASSEDEL, p. 5.
- 53 S4, para. 21.
- 54 CAPLC, p. 5.
- 55 JS10, p. 11.
- 56 AI, p. 2.
- 57 AI, p. 4.
- 58 ASSEDEL, p. 2.
- 59 ASSEDEL, p. 5.
- 60 JS12, p. 2; AI, p. 3; ASSEDEL, p. 3; JS8, pp. 2–3; MAAT, pp. 3–4; CoE, Commissioner for Human Rights, Memorandum on maintaining public order and freedom of assembly in the context of the “yellow vest” movement in France, para. 47.
- 61 WILPF, p. 10.
- 62 AI, p. 5; ASSEDEL, p. 5; JS8, p. 4; MAAT, p. 4.
- 63 CoE Commissioner for Human Rights, Memorandum on maintaining public order and freedom of assembly in the context of the “yellow vest” movement in France, para. 48.
- 64 COE GRETA, Third Evaluation Round, 18 February 2022, pp. 12, 21, 22, 27, 37.
- 65 GT-FO, pp. 2–3.
- 66 ATDFW.
- 67 FAP, paras. 2, 10 and 11.
- 68 CGT-FO, pp. 2–3; FAP, paras. 33–41; ATDFW, para. 20a.
- 69 AP, para. 37.
- 70 JS16 p. 6.
- 71 JS17, pp. 2 and 9.
- 72 JS17, p. 10.
- 73 JS17, p. 11.
- 74 JS2, pp. 4–5.
- 75 JS2, p. 10.
- 76 CGT-FO, p. 5. See also CGLPL, pp. 3–4.
- 77 CGLPL, p. 4.
- 78 MDM-FR, pp. 2–3.
- 79 JPE, paras. 1 and 8; AV p. 5.
- 80 JPE, para. 9; AV, p. 6.
- 81 AV, p. 7.
- 82 MDM-FR, p. 9.
- 83 UNICEF, p. 6; AA, paras. 5, 11, 12 and 15.
- 84 AA, para. 18.
- 85 BCN, paras. 13–14.
- 86 ADF, para. 7; ACLJ, para. 10.
- 87 ADF, para. 10.
- 88 ADF, para. 22; ECLJ, para. 33.
- 89 AA, paras. 5, 8 and 10.
- 90 BCN, paras. 15–17.
- 91 CGT-FO, p. 6.
- 92 AAT, para. 5.
- 93 NAAT, para. 8.
- 94 NAAT, para. 12.
- 95 NAAT, para. 21.
- 96 CGT-FO, pp. 4–5.
- 97 FS, para. 6.
- 98 FS, para. 9.
- 99 FS, para. 11–12.
- 100 JS5, pp. 3–4.
- 101 CGT-GO, p. 2.
- 102 MDM-FR, pp. 8–9. See also JS11, p. 11.
- 103 JS7, pp. 6 and 8.
- 104 JS7, pp. 10, 12 and 14.

- <sup>105</sup> FS, para. 8; JS6, p. 3.
- <sup>106</sup> JS6, pp. 3, 5, 7 and 8. See also CoE. The Committee of the Parties to the Convention of Istanbul, 4 February 2020, pp. 3–5.
- <sup>107</sup> FS, para. 15–16.
- <sup>108</sup> CoE Lanzarote Committee, 1st monitoring round on the “Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust” recommendations, pp. 1–2.
- <sup>109</sup> DDD, pp. 5–6.
- <sup>110</sup> CGT-FO, p. 5.
- <sup>111</sup> APF, p. 1; AV p. 2; FJL, para. 1; JS1, p. 3.
- <sup>112</sup> APF, p. 2.
- <sup>113</sup> AV, p. 2. See also FJL, para. 13.
- <sup>114</sup> AV, p. 3.
- <sup>115</sup> FJL, para. 19.
- <sup>116</sup> JS1, pp. 3–5.
- <sup>117</sup> APS, pp. 3–4 and 6–7.
- <sup>118</sup> UNPO, p. 5.
- <sup>119</sup> IHRC-OU, p. 6; UNPO, p. 6.
- <sup>120</sup> IHRC-OU, p. 6.
- <sup>121</sup> UNPO, pp. 6–7. See also IHRC-OU, p. 6.
- <sup>122</sup> JS3, p. 12.
- <sup>123</sup> JS3, pp. 6–7, FAP, para. 20; DDD, p. 5; CoE, pp. 5–6.
- <sup>124</sup> JS3, p. 8.
- <sup>125</sup> JS3, pp. 12–13.
- <sup>126</sup> FAP, para. 42, DDD, p. 5.
- <sup>127</sup> HRW, para. 16; AI, paras. 13–16; MAAT, p. 5; MDM-FR, pp. 4–6; O-CR, paras. 19–21; JS14, pp.5–9; JS15, pp. 4 and 9–10.
- <sup>128</sup> MAAT, p. 6.
- <sup>129</sup> HRW, paras. 24a–24f; AI, p. 4; MDM-FR, p. 7; O-CR, para. 30; ODVV, para. 19.
- <sup>130</sup> JS13, pp. 4–6.
- <sup>131</sup> HRW, para. 16; AI, para. 12, MDM-FR, p. 10; DDD, p. 4.
- <sup>132</sup> MDM-FR, pp. 10–11.
- <sup>133</sup> AI, p. 4. See also O-CR, para. 30; DDD, p. 4; CGLPL, p. 5.
- <sup>134</sup> HRW, para. 32.
- <sup>135</sup> DDD, p. 2. See also CoE Commissioner for Human Rights before the European Court of Human Rights, para. 38.
- <sup>136</sup> JS14, pp. 4–5; JS5, pp. 5–6.
- <sup>137</sup> JS14, pp.8 and 10. See also JS15, pp. 6, and 10.
- <sup>138</sup> JS15, p. 5.
- <sup>139</sup> ICAN, p. 4.
- <sup>140</sup> WILPF, pp. 4–5.

