

MID-TERM UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) ASSESSMENT REPORT

February 2020



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BAHRAIN FORUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS GULF INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

BAHRAIN: UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW - MIDTERM ASSESSMENT SUMMARY OVERVIEW

"Since June 2016, the government of Bahrain has imposed severe restrictions on civil society and political activism through arrests, intimidation, travel bans and closure orders, with increasing reports of torture by the security authorities. Today, the democratic space in the country has essentially been shut down. I have repeatedly drawn the attention of the authorities to the gravity of the situation in the Kingdom, in conjunction with many human rights mechanisms and joint statements by Member States. I have also repeatedly offered the support of my Office to assist with practical improvements. These efforts have been met with point-blank denials, unfounded accusations and unreasonable last-minute conditions to technical missions. But no public relations campaign can paper over the violations being inflicted on the people of Bahrain. They deserve real respect for their human rights, and I continue to offer the assistance of my Office to any genuine effort to address the situation."

Zeid Raad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, speaking on 11 September 2017, at the opening of the 36th Session of the Human Rights Council. See: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22041&LangID=E>

INTRODUCTION

- 1.** The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a cyclical, non-binding peer review mechanism of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR). It is based on state and stakeholder reports and a question and recommendation-based review by fellow High Commission for Human Rights members at which stakeholders, non-government organisations, are permitted to make a brief intervention. The questions and recommendations are collated by a troika of peer state delegates, after which the state under review sets out which of the recommendations it accepts and which it 'notes', or rejects.
- 2.** Bahrain's last, third, UPR was in May 2017, for which its mid-term review is due in November 2019, in order to inform stakeholders, while preparing for the next cycle of the UPR in May 2022.
- 3.** Peers - UN member states and observers - advanced a total of 175 recommendations. In 2017, the Government of Bahrain (GoB) supported 139 of these, suggesting that it would implement elements or the entirety of these recommendations. The GoB 'noted' 36. This means, in practice, that it rejects those recommendations.
- 4.** This summary overview reflects a distillation of findings set out on a matrix, or table, attached, and used by officials of the OHCHR.
- 5.** The submitting organisations have commented only on the recommendations supported by the GoB.
- 6.** This summary overview foreshadows a longer, text-based report, and it is prepared by the mainly London, the Beirut-based Bahrain Forum for Human Rights and the Gulf Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, whose main office is located in Australia.
- 7.** The methodology for this summary centered on statements, laws and policies set out on websites belonging to the Government of Bahrain (GoB); assessments made by treaty bodies since 2016, statements and other forms of correspondence from the OHCHR to Bahrain, including from its special procedures; reports from non-governmental organisations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others, but also findings set out in the work of the co-submitting organisations.

SUMMARY FINDINGS

- 8.** The submitting organisations welcome the commitments made by the GoB as expressed through the many, broad-based recommendations it accepted. However, the GoB has pursued a strategy of accepting broad, generally-framed recommendations but rejecting specific recommendations. This way, it presents itself as positively engaging with the OHCHR. In reality, the GoB does not engage with the OHCHR: it has not extended a standing invitation to special procedures and it has resisted requests for country assessment missions made by a variety of special procedures. Its correspondence with the OHCHR counters recommendations based in international human rights law and practice with

assertions that the matter under consideration is in line with recognised practice, despite this – itself – contradicting the very point raised. The GoB has not verifiably acted on treaty body recommendations made in the reporting period. Rather, it has restored practices ruled out in the landmark BICI report. The GoB is in non-compliance with the OHCHR and the object and purpose of the UPR process.

9. The GoB's inability or unwillingness to address the central socio-political conflict between the government and its supporters and recognised leaders and supporters, including human rights activists, from the Shi'a community mars the ability of the government, country and its people to develop their international human rights standards. The GoB's inability or unwillingness is expressed by its reintroduction of laws and practices heretofore ruled out by the BICI and more recent measures such as the June 2018 Exercise of Political Rights Law, which has served to disenfranchise a swathe of political activists. This core, simmering conflict results in other human rights shortcomings, including in respect to the following matters:

10. The GoB's singular failure to engage meaningfully with the OHCHR, including its outright rejection of repeated recommendations made by different parts of the OHCHR in respect to, say, the release of prisoners of conscience like Nabeel Rajab or in respect to, for example, trial procedures; -

11. Profoundly flawed and discriminatory provisions and practices relating to freedom of expression, association and assembly which, taken together, constitute rights violations in themselves but which have aggravated other violations, say, in relation to the administration of justice, which can be tempered by a freer media environment; -

12. The few, if any objectively verifiable initiatives undertaken by the GoB in respect to gender equality and the rights of women and girls, including migrants, across the range of rights recognised under international standards; -

13. Until recently high rates of arbitrary citizenship stripping of Shi'a Bahrainis; -

14. High levels of judicial, police and intelligence, as well as social harassment of political and human rights activists, including in relation to their own engagement with the OHCHR; -

15. Scores of cases of arbitrary arrest and prolonged pre-trial detention based on vaguely framed, flawed provisions that criminalise acts that are not internationally recognisable as criminal such as "terrorist activities" and in which ill treatment or torture often feature and often culminating in grossly unfair trials carrying multiple-year sentences;

16. The effective re-instatement of the death penalty for acts that may not be violent or have lethal consequences; and

17. The relentless targeting of human rights defenders.

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

18. The characteristics set out above in the findings constitute are, we believe, socio-politically unsustainable: that isolating whole swathes of a community can only lead to further socio-political tension and, with it, frequent and grave human rights violations that, in turn, could fuel future strife.

19. We, the submitting organisations, implore the GoB to use this UPR mid-term review to take stock and re-assess its trajectory, with a view to the GoB deciding to engage with the OHCHR, notably by acting on repeated recommendations. One such could be, for example, a declaration of a moratorium on the death penalty or the release of one or more prisoners held for protected conduct, though these would only be a start to a more comprehensive reform agenda.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UPR and the Mid-Term Assessment

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a mechanism of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) through which a periodic review of human rights records of all UN Member States is carried out. It is based on objective and reliable information as well as interactive dialogue regarding the fulfilment by each member state of its human rights obligations and commitments. The UPR is important as it can serve as a balance in assessing and developing the human rights situation in a country which can lead to an improving of the relationship between the government and civil society in order to strengthen their cooperation and stronger commitment.

Bahrain's last UPR was in May 2017 and the follow up mid-term assessment is ongoing and due to report in November 2019. Bahrain's next review is in May 2022.

Aims

We are an NGO focused on democracy and human rights in Bahrain, and this report aims to put forth an independent review of Bahrain's implementation of the recommendations put forth in the Bahrain UPR cycle in 2017. We also aim to provide comments on the effectiveness of these measures reported by the state to provide a thorough evaluation on the matters brought to light in this report. This report is presented to support the upcoming mid-term assessment in November 2019.

Summary of Key Findings

The findings undertaken the work and research of other organisations like Amnesty International where allegations of torture, ill-treatment and human rights violations in prisons are far and wide which the investigative bodies organised by Bahrain fail to provide effective and robust explanation for. We have documented 108 cases of torture, ill-treatment and denial of medical treatment in detention between June and July 2018. Instances of enforced disappearances and sexual torture have also been recorded and are frequent and politically motivated.

The number of citizenships revoked by Bahrain has not stopped since May 2017, but rather increasing, despite multiple recommendations in the UPR review to halt this practice. The misuse of vague domestic laws which claim "terrorist activities" as the reason behind for the stripping of citizenship whereas most of these acts are often not even internationally recognisable as criminal. While there were a number of citizenships reinstated, there are still 434 citizens who have been rendered stateless by Bahrain. We are based around the evidence of increasing number of victims and the violation of international law under the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) which protects the right to citizenship.

Similarly, Bahrain's law on the death penalty is not in line with the international standards especially when its legal foundations have broad and vague meanings which can be interpreted to mean any political action against the State of Bahrain. These laws include political activists, human right

defenders and dissidents as spies of foreign countries and understood to carrying out hostile actions against Bahrain's sovereignty. The right to appeal the decision of the court is also limited in most cases. Hence, is that the death penalty is not just reserved for the "most serious crimes".

Coerced confessions and unfair trials have been reported on by the UN Human Rights Committee where basis of confessions is obtained under duress and/or torture where trials did not meet international legal standards. We evaluates that there is a systematic failure of the state and judiciary to investigate claims of torture and mistreatment in the last few years.

Currently as the situation lies there is a long list of people who are imprisoned for demanding political freedom, justice, equality and democracy most notably - Nabeel Rajab and Sheikh Ali Salman. Bahrain's laws to protect journalists right to exercise their professions are rarely enforced and often just ornamental. The UN Human Rights Committee in November 2018 noted a number of domestic laws which provide authorities legal grounds to restrict the rights to freedom of expression.

The legal system leads to a disparity between the law and the practice of it domestically. This relates especially in the case of targeting the Shia population of Bahrain, where greater restrictions are placed on the practice of religious rituals related to the Shia sect, a prominent example of this is the "Khums trial".

Summary of Key Recommendations Going Forward

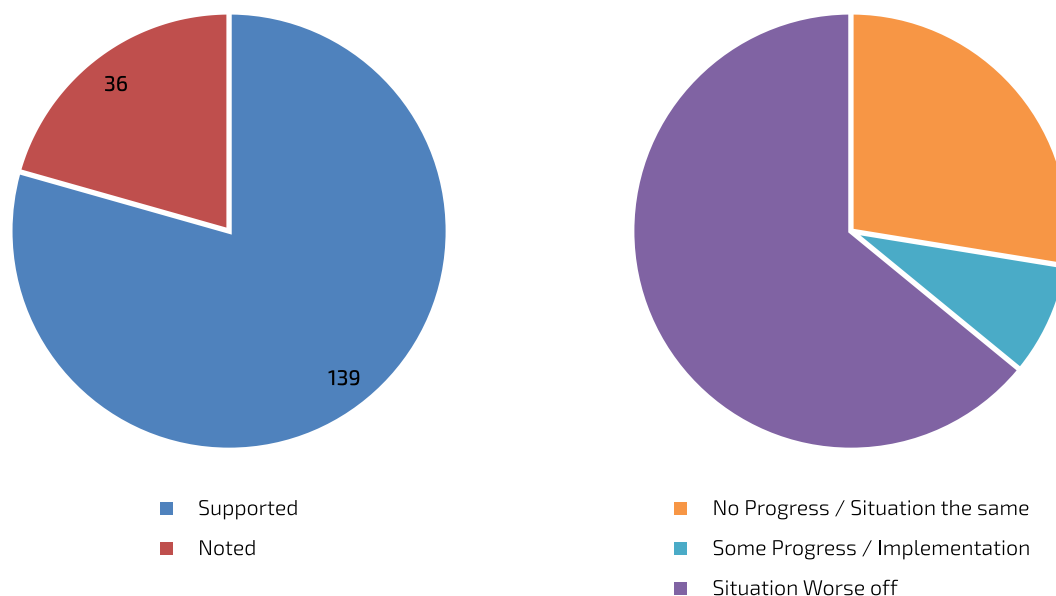
We have made some key recommendations regarding to particular human rights issues in this report, namely the torture and ill treatment of individual persons in detention, the revocation of citizenship, the death penalty and freedom of opinion, expression, political association in regard to political prisoners or human rights defenders. We have also made recommendations around the issue of combating racial discrimination and intolerance as well as the rights of women and children.

We recommends that the state of Bahrain amends the national legislation to be in line with the provisions of the international conventions to which Bahrain has acceded and commit itself to reporting to independent expert bodies. Bahrain should also enact enforced disappearance as an extensive and independent crime, excluding it from the application of amnesty laws and a statute of limitations as well as investigate and prosecute those responsible for enforced disappearance in fair courts and ensure that survivors and their families have the right to reparation.

We urges the government of Bahrain to immediately end the practice of arbitrary citizenship revocation and re-instate full citizenship and rights to the nationals whose citizenship has been revoked through executive orders. We also calls for the repeal of Article 10 of the Citizenship Law of 1963 which allows for the stripping of citizenship for any persons aiding or invoked in the service of a hostile state or who causes harm to the interests of the Kingdom.

We urge the Bahraini authorities to immediately halt the implementation of the death penalty and declare a stop to the practice in line with UN resolutions. Bahrain should also adopt the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and repeal the constitutional amendment which ensures civilians are not tried in military court as well as immediately release all prisoners sentenced for exercising their right to freedom of association or assembly. Bahrain is urged to repeal all provisions which criminalise criticism of public officials and insulting the King among other acts and remove restrictions on freedom of association including those on peaceful assembly.

Matrix Table Assessment



There was a total of 175 recommendations put forward in the UPR cycle and Bahrain supported 139, and noted 36 and rejected none.

Methodology

Sources depends on as its main resources are domestic and international law, legislation and government statements for example for this report the following key documents were analysed; the fact finding 2017 UPR report and the Bahrain national government response to recommendations report published in September 2017.

Local and international media publications, articles and reports which are issued by prominent and independent NGO's as well as international bodies are also vital for the research i.e. UNHRC, CAT, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and Bahrain Centre for Human Rights among others. We also rely on its contacts and testimonies of activists and human right defenders in Bahrain.

This report focuses on the period since the submission of the May 2017 UPR till October 2019.

TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT IN DETENTION

1. Investigation on allegation of torture, the criminal responsibility of the perpetrators

114.79 Investigate all allegations of torture and start prosecuting all individuals found responsible (Norway)

114.80 Ensure accountability for perpetrators of torture and access by victims of torture to justice, redress and rehabilitation (Czechia)

114.81 Further implement measures on the protection of victims of mistreatment and torture and on the prosecution of perpetrators (Italy)

114.82 Criminalise torture in its legislation and establish a national preventive mechanism for torture (Spain)

114.87 Promptly carry out an in-depth investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, such as the case of the three persons executed in January 2017, and bring those responsible to justice (Switzerland)

114.94 Ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearances, torture or any other form of ill-treatment are independently, promptly and thoroughly investigated, and perpetrators are brought to justice in accordance with international rule of law standards (Germany)

114.130 Guarantee the fight against impunity, ensuring that all those persons found guilty are brought to justice, in the context of allegations of the use of torture to obtain confessions from detainees (Luxembourg)

114.167 Continue its steps to promote human rights through effective measures to realize the rights set out in the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Yemen)

Bahrain replies: "The Special Investigation Unit investigates serious complaints filed with it pursuant to Attorney General Decision No. 8 of 2012, including allegations of torture, with a view to determining the criminal responsibility of the perpetrators of such infringements in case of death, torture or inhuman or degrading treatment, in accordance with the Istanbul Protocol."

2. Ratification of international treaties

114.4 Continue the ratification process of the main international human rights-related instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy)

114.17 Take steps to establish an independent, effective and well-resourced national preventive mechanism in compliance with Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture requirements (Ghana)

Bahrain replies: "A Commission for the Rights of Prisoners and Detainees was established by Royal Decree No. 61 of 2013, taking into account the principles enshrined in the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It acts as

an effective national preventive mechanism, performing its functions freely, impartially, transparently and in a fully independent manner."

114.5 Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in order to contribute to the work already done (Uruguay); Ratify before the next universal periodic review cycle the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish a national preventive mechanism accordingly (Czechia); Positively examine the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Cyprus); Move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile)

114.6 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal) (Estonia) (Guatemala) (Ghana) (Denmark) (Luxembourg) (Lithuania)

Bahrain replies (Not fully accepted): A Commission for the Rights of Prisoners and Detainees has been established, as stated in the response to recommendations 114.4 and 114.17.

** No Investigation or Punishment on Allegation of Torture*

As the BICI recommended to conduct investigation on all allegations of torture and ill-treatment by an independent and impartial body¹, Bahrain formed several organisational instruments—the Ombudsman, Special Investigation Unit (SIU), and Prisoners and Detainees Rights Commission (PDRC). These organisations were to examine individual complaints of torture and ill-treatment, and provide effective mechanism to compensate all victims as well as prevent further human rights violations in prisons.

Yet, these bodies, which are under the purview of the Ministry of Interior and the Public Prosecutor, have failed to serve the intended roles. Since the 2017 UPR, numerous cases of torture and ill-treatment of detainees have been continuously reported. However, there have been no genuine efforts by the government of Bahrain to carry out serious investigations on perpetrators. These bodies have rather posed a risk to those who make complaints to be subject to reprisals, and therefore have lost credibility with many Bahraini people.

In December 2017 the prominent political figure, Mohammed Abdullah al-Singace, submitted a complaint to several judicial bodies regarding his traumatic experience of being tortured under detention since he was arrested on 15 May 2013². To date, the recipient bodies—the Chairman of the

1- In 2011, the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI) raised the issue of impunity in Bahrain in the following terms: "many of the detainees expressed the view that the security forces acted with complete impunity and that there was no prospect of accountability for the treatment that the detainees suffered. In some cases, detainees reported that when they were released, they were told simply to "forget about what happened". See further: 'Brief statement: Protecting Perpetrators and Prosecuting Victims. <https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/Protection%20of%20offenders%20and%20prosecution%20of%20victims.pdf>.

2- Al-Singace was sentenced a five-year imprisonment for leading 'the 14 February Youth Coalition', and later sentenced in absentia to 10 years' imprisonment. He and other members of the group boycotted the court and its unfair trials.

Supreme Judiciary Council, the Chairman of the Cassation Court, the court judge, and the Attorney General—have not properly responded nor initiated an investigation on the matter.

Naji Fateel, a human rights defender and the co-founder of Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights (BYSHR), is another victim of severe physical and psychological torture. He has repeatedly filed complaints to the Special Investigation Unit, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ombudsman's Office, the Prisoners' Commission, and the Attorney general, but there has been no effective investigation.

** Systematic Torture and Ill-treatment in Detention*

In the absence of rigorous investigation and punishment on the cases of torture and ill-treatment, Bahraini officials continue to assault detainees and prisoners. The Criminal Investigations Directorate (CDI) and Jau Prison, in particular, have been at the hotbed of coercive interrogation and human rights abuses.

Between June and July 2018, we documented 108 cases of torture, ill-treatment and denial of medical treatment by the security officials in Bahrain. These included:

- Mohammed Issa AlA'adhab, from Al-Duraz in north-western Bahrain, imprisoned in a juvenile facility. Prison officials beat severely harassed him;
- Through repeated beating and torture, security officials fractured leg and hand bones of Ahmed Ismael from Nuwaidrat village;
- Officials severely beat Mohammed Yousef Ne'ama of Al-Duraz and Ahmed Mulla Yusuf of Abu Quwa villages;
- The authorities deprived more than 20 political prisoners of access to adequate health care, including leading public figures Sheikh Ali Salman, Sheikh Abdul Jalil al-Miqdad, Sheikh Mohammed Habib al-Miqdad, Muhammad Hassan Jawad Parweez, Hassan Mushaima, Abdul Wahab Hussein, Dr. Abdul Jalil al-Singace, Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and other political detainees and imprisoned human rights activists.

** Sexual Torture ³*

Sexual torture is also widespread in Bahraini prisons. According to testimonies received, members of the security authorities systematically carry out acts of torture of a sexual nature in places of detention. Torture of a sexual nature is a particularly depraved practice, even compared to other forms of it. Torturers use the most intimate and personal parts of a person in order to inflict suffering. Because of its very nature, in many societies – Bahrain included – it is difficult to discuss with anyone else, let alone in public.

3- For further details, see: "The Crime of Sexual Harassment of Detainees".

See further: "Chambers of Death" is a report that monitors violations by the National Security Agency (NSA) in Bahrain
<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/chmber%20en.pdf>

In May 2017, the National Security Agency summoned Ebtisam AlSaegh, a human rights defender, and physically tortured and sexually abused her during the interrogation over her activities. Ibrahim Sarhan, a lawyer and human rights defender, was also subjected to sexual abuse during the interrogation that lasted more than seven hours. Executioners opened his legs with force and kicked on the genitals, while repeatedly threatening to rape him. Similarly, Younis Sultan, a human rights activist, received a call on 26 November 2017 from the police station in Hamad Town. During the interrogation session, Officer Tahir Al-Alawi and two assistants stripped him by force and inserted a wooden rod into the anus and hit his bottom with sticks and kicking.

** Enforced Disappearance ⁴*

Bahrain's security authorities continue to use the practice of enforced disappearance to suppress human rights and political activities and to exert pressure on opposition figures and human rights defenders.

The United Nations Declaration on the Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance stipulates that "all acts of enforced disappearance shall be offences under criminal law punishable by appropriate penalties which shall take into account their extreme seriousness". The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) also considers enforced disappearance a crime against humanity. By using this crime, the authorities intimidate Bahraini citizens from claiming their rights and spread terror among members of society. However, no laws in Bahrain consider enforced disappearance a criminal offense.

During the abduction, security authorities refuse to disclose whereabouts of victims and do not allow them to contact their families or a lawyer. This is a grave violation of Article 61 of the Bahraini Law No. 46 of 2002 (the code of Criminal Procedures), which states that "every person who is arrested shall be informed of the reasons for his arrest. He shall have the right to contact any of his relatives to inform him of what has happened and to seek the aid of a lawyer".

Sayed Alawi Hussein is one of many victims of enforced disappearance. He was abducted from his workplace on 24 October 2016 and forced to disappear for nearly a year. His family submitted complaints to the Ombudsman and the Special Investigation Unit, only to be told on 11 September 2017 that Alawi "transferred responsibility to another authority outside the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman". On 22 October 2017, Alawi, with three others, was sentenced to death in a military court with the conviction of terrorist activities, which was later eased to life imprisonment. The authorities allowed the very first visit of his family on 22 January 2018.

Recommendations

- Amend the national legislation to be in line with the provisions of the international conventions to which Bahrain has acceded;

4- See further: 'BFHR: Enforced disappearance of 15 citizens from 7 different areas continues' <https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/jadwal%20En.pdf>

- Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and commit itself to reporting to the independent expert body that monitors the implementation of the Convention by States parties;
- Enact enforced disappearance as an extensive and independent crime, excluding it from the application of amnesty laws and a statute of limitations;
- Investigate and prosecute those responsible for enforced disappearance in fair courts and ensure that survivors and their families have the right to reparation.

REVOCATION OF CITIZENSHIP

Termination of Citizenship Revocation

114.174 End the practice of revoking citizenship from individuals (Denmark)

Bahrain replies: "The Bahraini Nationality Act complies with international standards. Decisions concerning the withdrawal and revocation of citizenship are based on Legislative Decree No. 20 of 2013 amending the provisions of Act No. 58 of 2006 on the Protection of Society from Terrorist Acts, which stipulates that, in addition to the prescribed penalty, a person convicted of certain offences defined in the Act concerning terrorism shall be deprived of his citizenship. Such cases may be viewed at all levels of jurisdiction."

* Violation of international law

Bahrain's laws and practice do not comply with the most basic principles of the international law. Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) explicitly protects a right to citizenship, declaring that "everyone has the right to a nationality" and "no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality". Article 7 of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness also prohibits a loss of nationality which results in statelessness, with only a very few tightly drawn exceptions.

The Constitution of Bahrain states under Article 17 that a "person inherently enjoying his Bahraini nationality cannot be stripped of his nationality except in case of treason, and such other cases as prescribed by law", thereby the obligation to avoid statelessness is recognised as a norm of the Constitution of Bahrain.

However, the government of Bahrain has misused domestic laws for the unprecedented practice of citizenship revocation. Several vaguely-termed laws allow the extensive power to authorities to unfairly and arbitrarily deprive dissidents, activists, and clerics, of their rights to citizenship. Under the Article 10 of the 2014 amendments to the Citizenship Law, the Ministry of Interior has the final say on the citizenship revocation of a person who "aids or is involved in the service of a hostile state" or who "causes harm to the interests of the Kingdom or acts in a way that contravenes his duty of loyalty to it".

The most common conviction is "terrorism-related offences", many of which often involve acts that

are not internationally recognisable as criminal acts. The 2013 amendment to the Anti-Terrorism Law of 2006 empowers courts to hand down nationality revocation to the accused when convicted with "terrorism" offenses.

** Increasing number of victims*

Since Bahrain's third UPR in May 2017, the number of victims of the government's arbitrary citizenship revocation has been rapidly increasing. In 2017, Bahrain stripped citizenship of 156 people, and 298 in 2018. In 2019 a further 181 people lost their Bahraini nationality.

The vast majority of victims of citizenship revocation are convicted of terrorist activities based on the vaguely termed domestic laws, as mentioned above. On 31 January 2018, the Fourth High Criminal Court arbitrarily deprived 47 people of their Bahraini nationality on terrorism-related charges. On 18 April, the High Criminal Court issued prison sentences to 24 Bahraini citizens and stripped them of nationality over the similar charges. On 15 May, a Bahraini court stripped other 115 defendants of their nationality during a mass trial, accusing them of 'forming a terrorist group', called the Zulfiqar Brigades, to destabilise the kingdom. This was the highest number against which the Bahraini authorities took such an action at one time⁵. On 15 October, the Fourth High Criminal Court handed prison sentences to seven Bahraini nationals and revoked the citizenship of six over terrorism charges related to the bombing of an oil pipeline in the area of Buri on 10 November 2017.

The first batch of citizenship revocation in 2019 was made on 17 January, when the authorities stripped three people of their nationality over alleged terrorism charges. The number increased on 19 February as the Fourth High Criminal Court ordered citizenship revocation of a total of 25 Bahrainis in three separate cases, all convicted of terrorism⁶. In March, at least 10 more Bahrainis lost their nationality for similar charges⁷, and in a mass trial in April, 138 more people had their citizenship revoked under terrorism charges⁸.

Recommendations

The revocation of citizenship might severely impact on the victims and their families, and put a strain on various facets of their lives. It deprives their rights to work, to travel, and to identify, and precludes

5- The Appeal Court upheld the decision on 29 January 2019.

6- High Criminal Court Rules in Terror Case Bahrain News Agency, 17 Terror Suspects Sentenced for Arson Bahrain News Agency, Court Issues Multiple Rulings in Terror Case Bahrain News Agency.

7- Courts uphold a seven-year prison sentence and revoke nationality on political charges Manama Post, Court order 10 years in prison for citizens with a revocation of citizenship on charges of political background Manama Post

8- Bahrain mass trial: 138 citizenships revoked Amnesty International

See further:

Revoking Citizenship: the Silent Execution <http://www.gidhr.org/Home/ReportsShare/11>

BFHR: The Military judiciary in comparison with the standards and guarantees of fair trials

https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/pdf/The_Military_judiciary_in_comparison.pdf

Report : The Missing Justice

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/pdf/The%20missing%20justice.pdf>

them from accessing benefits for basic social services, eventually forcing them to exposure to a situation of immigration and asylum.

To combat such a horrendous abuse of power and gross violation of human rights, and urges the government of Bahrain to:

- Immediately end the practice of arbitrary citizenship revocation;
- Reinstate full citizenship and concomitant rights to the hundreds of nationals whose citizenship has been revoked through executive orders or unfair court decisions since 2012, especially those targeted for the exercise of their fundamental human rights;
- Repeal Article 10 of the Citizenship Law of 1963 which allows the Ministry of Interior to strip the citizenship of a person who 'aids or is invoked in the service of a hostile state' or who 'causes harm to the interests of the Kingdom or acts in a way that contravenes his duty of loyalty to it'.

DEATH PENALTY

1. Restrictions to the death penalty

114.78 Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the threshold of "most serious crimes" under international law (Belgium)

Bahrain replies: "This penalty is imposed for a limited number of criminal offences. The Criminal Code permits the death penalty to be commuted to life imprisonment or imprisonment for a shorter period if the offence is committed in circumstances meriting communication of the sentence".

2. Moratorium on executions

114.74 Abolish the death penalty, and commute all death sentences to prison terms (Sweden)

114.75 Commute all the death sentences and establish a moratorium on executions (Portugal); Commute all death sentences, declare a moratorium on executions and move towards an abolition of the death penalty (Norway); Introduce a moratorium on the execution of the death penalty (Germany); Impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro); Reintroduce the moratorium on executions with a view to definitively abolishing the death penalty (Spain); Impose an official moratorium on the death penalty and replace the death penalty with a sentence that is fair and proportionate and respects international human rights standards (Bulgaria)

114.76 Suspend without delay the executions and declare a moratorium on the application of death penalty as the first phase towards its abolition (France); Immediately implement a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing the practice (Australia); Immediately declare an official moratorium on executions with a view to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the abolition of the death penalty (Austria);

Establish without delay a legal moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its subsequent abolition (Luxembourg)

114.77 Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania); Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy); Take urgent measures to establish a formal moratorium on executions of prisoners on death row (Argentina); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Chile)

Bahrain replies (Not fully accepted): "The position of Bahrain on this matter has not changed. The death penalty is imposed only in limited cases involving serious and grievous crimes. The Criminal Code permits the death penalty to be commuted to life imprisonment or imprisonment for a shorter period if the offence is committed in circumstances meriting commutation of the sentence".

3. Ratification of international treaties

114.2 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Estonia) (Uruguay) (Ireland)

114.3 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and abolish the death penalty (Portugal); Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Angola)

Bahrain replies (Not fully accepted): The position of Bahrain on this matter has not changed. The death penalty is imposed only in limited cases involving serious and grievous crimes. The Criminal Code permits the death penalty to be commuted to life imprisonment or imprisonment for a shorter period if the offence is committed in circumstances meriting commutation of the sentence.

* *Death penalty over "most serious crimes"?⁹*

In contrast to the claim of the government, Bahrain's laws on death penalty is not in line with the international standard. Article 6 of the ICCPR states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life, emphasising that death penalty would be imposed only for the "most serious crimes" involving intentional killing. It also states that the death sentence cannot be imposed without a guaranteed fair trial. Bahrain's domestic law, however, allows the authorities to impose the death penalty for crimes such as drug trafficking, deliberately obstructing funerals or memorial services, offences against property under aggravating circumstances as well as any crimes defined as having been perpetrated for the purposes of "terrorism".

9- See further:

«Death or Confession»: a report by human rights organizations monitors the torture of civilians in Bahrain's first military trial
<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/Almawt%20EN.pdf>

Former MP spends more than 700 days in solitary confinement in Bahrain

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/isa%20en.pdf>

A Crime Outside Coverage a human rights report on the grave violations in suppressing the peaceful assembly near the house of Ayatollah Qassim

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/jreema%20EN.pdf>

The authorities have arbitrarily interpreted legal provisions to punish citizens. For instance, Article 122 of the Criminal Code, which states that "capital punishment shall be handed down to any person who spies for a foreign country or communicates therewith or with any person acting on its behalf to carry out hostile actions against the State of Bahrain", contains broad and vague definitions. These endanger activists and dissidents. In addition, while a defendant sentenced to death may be entitled to an appeal to a higher court within 30 days, those who are convicted of offenses against "internal security" do not have the right to appeal.

** Coerced confession and unfair trials*

The UN Human Rights Committee expressed concern about allegations that "death sentences have been imposed on the basis of confessions obtained under duress or torture or in the context of trials that did not meet the standards of article 14 of the Covenant".

The Bahraini Constitution states confessions extracted under coercion and torture to be void. However, this is not the case in practice. Hussain Abdullah Marhoon Rashid, one of the defendants handed down the death penalty in November 2018, claimed that the authorities secured his "confession" under torture. He reported it to the Public Prosecution during an interrogation as well as the trial, but none of relevant authorities investigated the case, including the Ombudsman's office. All other sentenced to death, including those who were executed in January 2017¹⁰, reported that they were subject to similar mistreatment and acts of torture – such as blindfolding, long periods of forced standing, electrocution, and sleep deprivation – during interrogation.

** Refusal to ratify international treaties*

Today, 81 countries have joined the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1989, on the abolition of the death penalty. Bahrain still refuses to accede to it, although it has ratified and acceded to the Covenant.

The UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council also adopted resolutions on the death penalty. The UN General Assembly, for instance, adopted a resolution calling for a moratorium on the death penalty in the world in 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2014 by a majority. In 2014, the resolution received 117 votes in favour, 38 against, with 34 abstentions.

The number of countries abolishing the death penalty in law or practice is 141, the number of countries abolishing the death penalty for all crimes is 97, and abolitionist countries are 36, while 8 abolished the death penalty in the crimes of public rights.

¹⁰ - Bahrain resumed the use of executions in 2017 after a seven-year absence. On 9 January 2017, the Bahraini authorities upheld the death sentence against three activists – Sami Mushaima, Abbas Al-Samea, and Ali Abdulshaheed Al-Singace – who had been arrested in 2014 and were later convicted of killing three policemen in a bombing incident. After exhausting all legal procedures, on 15 January, the three individuals were immediately executed. It was the first executions of Bahraini nationals since 1996, although the victims were technically stateless after being stripped of their citizenship.

However, the government of Bahrain continues to issue death sentences from arbitrary trials that do not comply with the principles set out in article 14 of the ICCPR.

Recommendations

At the time of writing, there are currently 23 on death row, all at risk of execution. We urge the Bahraini authorities to:

- Immediately halt the implementation the death penalty, quash all death sentences, and declare a moratorium on its practice, in line with successive UN resolutions on the death penalty;
- Ratify and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- Adopt the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary adopted by the UN in 1985; and
- Repeal the constitutional amendment Article 105 to ensure civilians are not tried in military courts.

FREEDOM OF OPINION, EXPRESSION, POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, AND RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

1. Release of political prisoners

114.100 Release as soon as possible all individuals, including human rights defenders, having been imprisoned solely due to the exercise of their fundamental rights of expression and assembly (Norway)

114.102 Release all persons detained solely for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression or their right to peaceful assembly and repeal all legislative provisions criminalizing the exercise of these rights (Switzerland)

114.112 Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience imprisoned only for exercising their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iceland)

114.127 Ensure that all aspects of criminal procedure are in line with accepted international standards (Australia)

114.128 Focus on strengthening the legal framework, the institutions and the judiciary to guarantee an independent judicial system and the right to fair trial guaranteed by articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Article 19 and 20 of the Constitution of Bahrain guarantee personal liberty in accordance with the law and stipulate that no crime shall exist and no penalty shall be imposed save in accordance with the law. Bahrain takes steps to drop all charges that interfere with the right to freedom of opinion and expression, for instance charges of incitement to hatred and the broadcasting of false news and rumours that undermine security and public order. A total of 334 accused persons

were acquitted of such charges. However, some cases were left pending because they comprised other crimes such as incitement to violence and vandalism involving assaults on persons and property."

In Bahrain, there is a long list of people remain behind prison bars, punished for raising their voices to demand freedom, justice, equality and democracy.

** Nabeel Rajab*

Nabeel Rajab, head of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, is one of the most prominent victims of the enhanced crackdown. On 15 January 2018, the Court of Cassation upheld the unfairly imposed two-year prison sentence handed down to Nabeel Rajab. Lower courts had convicted him of undermining 'state prestige' by spreading 'false news' and rumours, citing comments he made in television interviews criticising the government. In a separate case, on 21 February, the Criminal Court sentenced him to five years in prison for tweets criticising the practice of torture at Jau Prison and the Saudi-led Yemen war. On 5 June 2018, the Appeal Court; then on 31 December, the Cassation Court – the country's highest court – upheld this unfair five-year sentence against him.

His case represents an appalling violation of the right to freedom of expression in Bahrain and a concerted attack on human rights defenders. On 29 August 2018, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) issued its second opinion since 2013 regarding the legality of the detention of Nabeel Rajab. It strongly condemned the Bahraini government in the following statement:

'The Working Group cannot help but notice that Mr. Rajab's political views and convictions are clearly at the centre of the present case and that the authorities have displayed an attitude towards him that can only be characterised as discriminatory; indeed, he has been the target of persecution, including deprivation of liberty, for many years and there is no other explanations for this except that he is exercising his right to express such views and convictions.'

** Sheikh Ali Salman*

On 21 June 2018, a Bahraini lower court acquitted Sheikh Ali Salman, the Secretary General of the leading political association, al-Wefaq (forcibly closed by the government on 17 July 2016), of all charges in his trial for alleged spying for regional rival Qatar. However, on 4 November 2018, two weeks before the parliamentary elections, an appeal court handed down a life sentence. He was convicted of "exchanging intelligence information" with Qatar and thereby "harm(ing) military, political and economic standing" of Bahrain and "undermin(ing) its national interests". Sheikh Ali Salman was supposed to have been released at the end of December 2018 after serving his unfairly imposed four-year prison sentence.

The international community has strongly criticised Bahrain's discriminatory sentences against Ali Salman. In June 2016, the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, David Kaye, condemned the court verdict of nine years imprisonment against him 'seems to confirm a worrying trend of political repression further shrinking the space for any form of dissent in Bahrain today'.

114.96 Take necessary measures to guarantee the enjoyment of all fundamental freedoms, including the participation in political and public affairs by all (Botswana)

114.101 Protect the rights to freedom of association and assembly in accordance with its international obligations, notably those under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and cease the dissolution of political parties and civil society organizations (Sweden)

114.109 Take measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly and to promote and facilitate the activities of NGOs (France)

114.115 Respect the legitimate rights of all its citizens to freedom of assembly, expression and participation in political societies (Australia)

114.116 Reduce restrictions on peaceful assembly and association, allow individuals to participate freely in independent political societies, consistent with the Constitution and national action charter, and cease unwarranted legal action against Wefaq and Wa'ad for engaging in protected activities (United States of America)

114.122 Respect and protect the right of all groups and individuals to participate in legitimate political activities (New Zealand)

114.123 Remove restrictive limitations on the establishment of political parties or membership therein, and cease the dissolution by law of opposition political societies (Canada)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Bahrain is taking all possible steps to support the principle of respect for the law, to promote citizenship based on coexistence, tolerance and respect for others, and to create a democratic environment conducive to political activity. Political associations are disbanded solely by the judiciary on the basis of court rulings in cases involving associations which engage in practices that undermine the principles and foundations of the State. This is evidenced by the judgments handed down against associations that have been disbanded. They state that the associations persistently challenged the legitimacy of the Constitution, supported violence, and conspired with those convicted of incitement to hatred of the Government, calling for its overthrow and insulting the judiciary. Other associations supported terrorism and violence by praising those convicted of bombings and terrorist killings that resulted in the death of security officers, and by supporting parties convicted of incitement to violence."

114.104 Remove undue restrictions on the online publication of news media, and the licencing restrictions on media organizations and individuals seeking to practise journalism (Canada)

114.107 Redouble efforts to promote and safeguard the freedom and independence of the press and electronic media on the basis of international standards and norms (Cyprus)

Bahrain position in 2017: "The press and electronic media bill has been finalized with the participation of local partners representing press institutions and relevant civil society organizations. It promotes the freedom and independence of newspapers and electronic media institutions, in line with international norms, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It also prohibits incitement to violence or hatred, threats to national security and public order, infringement of the rights, reputation and dignity of others, and violations of public morals."

114.113 Implement relevant legislation for the full exercise of the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Italy)

114.114 Continue strengthening the freedom of the media and the rights of media workers (Lebanon)

114.117 Take further steps to create a more enabling environment for international and national media platforms and ensure plurality of opinions within the country (Lithuania)

114.118 Allow journalists to exercise their profession, and refrain from arbitrarily withholding licence renewals (Lithuania)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Legislative Decree No. 47 of 2002 guarantees journalists the right to practise their profession without prior supervision as well as equality of opportunity. It also guarantees journalists access to information and news from their sources, and prohibits the imposition of restrictions on the flow of such information or attempts to compel journalists to disclose their sources of information. Personal exposure to abuse, slander or defamation and incitement to crime are criminalized. It should be noted that no journalists have been detained or imprisoned for practising their profession in accordance with the relevant legislation."

Although there are laws in Bahrain to protect journalists' rights to exercise their profession, they are rarely enforced.

On 17 July 2016, Nazeeha Saeed, Bahraini journalist working for the French news outlet France 24 and Radio Monte Carlo Doualiya, was summoned by the Bahraini Prosecution on charges of practicing journalism without prior permission from the Ministry of Information Affairs. On 18 July 2017, the appeal court upheld the fine imposed on her. In May 2011, she was summoned by the police due to her coverage on the peaceful protests earlier that year, and was severely tortured and humiliated by police officers.

In June 2017, the Ministry of Information Affairs ordered Al-Wasat, the only independent media in Bahrain, to 'cease publishing in print and online indefinitely'. It was accused of aggravating social division and defaming a 'sisterly Arab country', referring to an co-ed about protests in Morocco. Bahrain ranks 166th out of 180 countries on the 2018 World Press Freedom index, down from the 164th of 2017.

In November 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee called attention to a number of other domestic laws that provide the authorities with discretionary legal grounds to restrict the rights to freedom of expression:

- (a) Broad provisions in the Criminal Code criminalising and making punishable by imprisonment acts such as criticism of public officials, insulting the King, publishing and disseminating rumours and false news and publication of untrue reports;
- (b) Broad and vague provisions contained in Decree Law No. 47 of 2002, concerning the regulation of the press, printing and publishing, under which journalists and activists can be prosecuted and given sentences of up to five years in prison;
- (c) Article 88 of Decree Law No. 47, under which journalists are required to obtain a licence from the Information Affairs Authority, to be renewed annually, [in order to] work with foreign media outlets.

114.121 Remove undue restrictions on the organization of peaceful protest in opposition to the Government, and repeal the application of criminal penalties to peaceful participation in unauthorized protests (Canada)

Bahrain position in 2017 (Not fully accepted)

Recommendations

- Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners who have been sentenced for exercising their right to freedom of expression, association or assembly;
- Repeal provisions in the Criminal Code which criminalise and make punishable by imprisonment acts such as criticism of public officials, insulting the King, publishing and disseminating rumours and 'false' news and the publication of untrue reports;
- Repeal provisions contained in Decree Law No. 47 of 2002, concerning the regulation of the press, printing and publishing, under which journalists and activists can be prosecuted and given sentences of up to five years in prison;
- Repeal Article 88 of Decree Law No. 47, under which journalists are required to obtain a licence from the Information Affairs Authority, to be renewed annually, [in order to] work with foreign media outlets;
- Rescind the decisions to dissolve al-Wefaq and Wa'ad; and
- Remove restrictions on freedom of association, including those in the Law on Political Associations (Law 26 of 2005 and its amendments) and on peaceful assembly, including those in the Law on Public Gatherings (Law 18 of 1973 and its amendments)

COMBATING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND INTOLERANCE

114.62 Adopt effective measures in law and practice to eradicate all forms of discrimination, in particular on the basis of religion or belief (Honduras)

114.63 Take additional measures to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatisation, as well as discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons based on religion or belief, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 1621/ (Brazil)

Bahrain position in 2017: Bahrain is adopting executive and judicial measures to prevent incitement to sectarianism, violence and national, religious or racial hatred in various fields.

Bahrain's legal system recognises the rights of different religion, sects and schools of religious jurisprudence, including the right to engage in Islamic rituals. The reality, however, is very different; a growing body of law, alongside legal decisions and trials, are being used to target the Shia minority, with ever greater restrictions placed on the practice of rituals related to the Shia sect. Shia religious

organisations have been shut down, Friday prayers have been prohibited, and Shia religious figures have been systematically targeted, all of which has been documented in reports by international human rights organisations.

"Khums trial"

"Khums trial" represents the clearest example of the religious discrimination and persecution being practiced by Bahraini authorities. The trial in question concerned the leader and top jurist of the Shia community in Bahrain. More generally, it focused on the practice of making khums payments, which is a religious obligation within the Twelver Shia tradition. Since khums payments are a religious duty for adherents to the Twelver Shia school of thought, the khums system must be regarded as a protected characteristic, and as such may not be prohibited or restricted¹¹.

In Bahrain, Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Ahmed Qasim is a respected jurist, and has legal authority to collect khums payments on behalf of the top religious authority in Shia Islam, Ali al-Sistani.

On 20 June 2016, however, the Bahraini authorities revoked citizenship of Sheikh Isa Qasim, and on 27 July, the High Criminal Court held its first session to try him in relation to khums payments.

The public prosecutor accused him, and two other clerics (Sheikh Hussein Yousef al-Qasab and Mirza Abdullah al-Dirazi), of taking possession and misappropriating the khums funds. It claimed that the funds had been collected in breach of laws.

RIGHTS OF WOMEN

114.1 Ratify the main human rights instruments to which Bahrain is not yet party, and adapt its national legislation to these and withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain)

114.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Guatemala)

11- Khums payments represent one of the religious obligations of the Twelver Shia sect. Muslims who adhere to the Twelver (or Jafri) Shia sect must fulfil this obligation. According to the religious jurisprudence of this sect, each adherent is required to donate a specified proportion of his or her wealth – that is, one fifth – each year. Shia Muslims in Bahrain are no exception, and comply with this rule, seeing it as a religious "duty".

In keeping with tradition, agents appointed in countries around the world are responsible for collecting these payments, in line with legal rules, and for spending it in line with regulations clearly set out in Sharia rulings. It is to be reserved for those in need, either in the country of collection or in other Muslim-majority countries.

See further:

Religious education in Bahrain: discrimination against Shiites <http://www.gidhr.org/Home/ReportsShare/18>

the 2018 Annual report on legally systematized violations in Bahrain

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/takrir2019.pdf>

THE ANTI TERRORISM LAW

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/Erhab%20EN.pdf>

Bahrain position in 2017 (Not fully accepted): Bahrain reaffirms its aspiration to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Legislative Decree No. 70 of 2014 amending certain provisions of Legislative Decree No. 5 of 2002 rephrases some of the country's reservations to the Convention. It states that Bahrain is committed to implementing the provisions of articles 2, 15(4) and 16 of the Convention without breaching the provisions of the Islamic sharia.

114.73 Continue efforts to promote the participation of women in political, economic, social and all other spheres (Myanmar)

114.134 Review its legislation in order to eliminate provisions that are discriminatory against women (Czechia)

114.135 Take necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Myanmar)

114.136 Pursue efforts to enhance women's rights and fight all sorts of discrimination against women (Tunisia)

114.137 Further its work in empowering women, promoting gender equality and eliminating discrimination and violence against women and children by, inter alia, amending and promulgating relevant laws and implementing the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (Thailand)

114.138 Continue to implement policies that promote gender equality and provide women with opportunities to play an active role in social, economic and political spheres (Singapore)

114.139 Continue to seek and cooperate with partners in the field of the implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in order to build a competitive and sustainable society in the kingdom (Oman)

114.140 Continue to promote gender equality and actively implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 20132022- (China)

114.141 Fully implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in its five lines (Cuba)

114.142 Pursue further measures to strengthen gender equality and guarantee the status of women in society at all levels (Algeria)

114.143 Continue empowering Bahraini women in the economic, political and social spheres (Egypt)

114.144 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and women's political, social and economic empowerment (Nepal)

114.145 Continue efforts to empower and advance women and facilitate women's participation in the society, particularly in political life, decision-making and holding leadership positions (Jordan)

114.146 Adopt holistic plans and policies to achieve gender equality in public and private spheres and further recommends that specific measures be taken to increase women's participation at all levels and promote women's appointment in leadership positions (Chile)

114.147 Further efforts to increase the representation of women in leadership, public and decision-making positions (Sierra Leone)

114.148 Continue to bolster progress in the education of girls and women and to further diversify their educational and professional choices (Libya)

114.155 Continue the important process of reconciling the improvement of women's rights and duties within the provision of sharia law (Indonesia)

114.156 Continue strengthening the policies aimed at protecting women (Kuwait)

114.157 Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013/2022-

114.158 Increase the number of women in political and public life at all levels and in all areas and promote women in leadership positions and ensure that they are granted opportunities in the higher education system (Turkey)

Bahrain position in 2017: Gender equality in political, social, cultural and economic spheres is guaranteed by article 5 (b) of the Constitution. Since its establishment in 2001, the Supreme Council for Women has been operating within an institutional framework based on the terms of reference established by royal edict, which include, in particular: submission of proposed amendments to existing legislation on women; submission of opinions on draft laws and regulations and the decisions pertaining thereto before they are forwarded to the competent authority; recommendation of draft legislation and decisions aimed at enhancing women's status; and monitoring the implementation of international legislation, resolutions and treaties concerning women.

114.149 Amend the citizenship law to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restriction and on an equal basis with men (Slovenia)

114.150 Finalise the draft amending certain provisions of the 1963 citizenship act to enable Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men to confer their nationality on their children without any conditions (Botswana); Expedite the legal procedures relating to the Bahraini nationality act of 1963, thus allowing citizenship to be granted, without restrictions, to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Sierra Leone)

114.151 Step up efforts in amending the law to allow the granting of Bahraini citizenship to children whose mothers are married to foreigners (Philippines)

114.152 Deploy all necessary measures to ensure the quick adoption and implementation of the law on nationality to give nationality to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Uruguay)

Bahrain response: "Citizenship has been granted to 335 children of Bahraini women married to non-Bahrainis pursuant to a Royal Decree issued in 2011. Act No. 35 of 2009 exempts children of Bahraini women married to non-Bahrainis from public fees and all kinds of taxes.

The concluding observations of the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in November 2018 also stressed the importance of women's rights in Bahrain especially the practice of early marriage despite the State party's assertion that early marriage is not widespread and that the Family Code sets the minimum age for marriage at 16 years with certain exceptions

Bahraini law discriminates against women in family law i.e. right to divorce and transmission of nationality to their children on an equal basis to men. The ICCPR is concerned that women, who cannot confer their nationality on their children do not enjoy equal rights with men in this regard and is concerned about the slow adoption of amendments. The ICCPR report also noted the reported negative and unequal economic consequences of divorce on women, such as obligations to return bride prices, pay compensation and accept limited alimony. Bahrain should ensure that women are granted equal rights to divorce, including economic rights.

RIGHTS OF CHILD

114.44 Further enhance the capacity of the national committee for childhood for the full implementation of the national childhood strategic action plan (Ethiopia)

114.159 Continue to promote the rights of children (Pakistan)

114.160 Prohibit by law corporal punishment against children in all settings and contexts, including in the home, and repeal all exceptions to its use (Mexico)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Act No. 37 of 2012 was issued to protect children from physical, psychological or sexual ill-treatment, as well as from neglect or economic exploitation, and to protect the child's life and safety. The National Committee on Childhood was established to develop national strategies to monitor children's needs and problems in cooperation with all official and competent bodies."

Legal background

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESC), all confirm the necessity to protect children's rights and provide a safe environment for them. Bahrain is a signatory to all three.

Children's rights are covered in more detail in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Although Bahrain acceded to and ratified the UNCRC in 1991, signed it without reservations in February 1992, and it indeed came into force in March 1992, legal loopholes regarding children remain to this day. For example, Bahraini laws do not prohibit employers from employing children. Article 7 of the law stipulates that "a child's employment shall not affect their safety, health or the essence of the rights provided for in the law, and as per the Bahrain Labour law."

At the same time, Bahrain Labour Law states in Article 24 that "it is prohibited to employ anyone who

is less than fifteen years of age", while Article 4 of the Bahraini Child Law states that "the term 'child' shall apply to all persons under the age of 18." This does not comply with the UNCRC which states that children shall not be subject of human trafficking, in any form, nor be admitted to employment before an appropriate minimum age.

In the Bahraini legislation, there is no financial assistance given to children of low-income families. In addition, children of families whose fathers or mothers face long prison terms are forced to work, often in dangerous conditions. Many children also have to leave school when their parents are prohibited from work because they have not been able to obtain work permits from the security authorities. The system of work in the private and public sectors obliges the employer not to employ the job seeker if they have not obtained a certificate of good conduct from these agencies.

Children facing political reprisals

In addition to legal shortcomings, the Bahraini authorities have actively used the children of political and human rights activists, and opponents as forms of blackmail and reprisal. For example, arbitrary deprivation of nationality has been used against children born while their parents are imprisoned for their demands for political and civil rights. Such examples include Sara, the daughter of Sheikh Ali Salman who was recently sentenced to life imprisonment, the child Hadi Wafi Kamel Al-Majid, and the child Hussein Mortetha Abdul Jalil Al-Meqdad.

In Bahrain, children themselves are also subject to the punishment of revoking nationality. For example, in 2016, a Bahraini court in absentia sentenced Mehdi Farhan, aged 17 at the time, to ten years' imprisonment and the revocation of his citizenship. The authorities have also refused to grant citizenship to children who were born following the citizenship revocation of their parents, including Zahrra Saber Al-Salatnh, Ruqayya Yousef Imran and many others. These children are deprived of the right to treatment in public hospitals because they do not have the basic documents such as a passport or national ID card, and as such are denied the right to study, travel and many other basic civil rights.

In the juvenile prison in Bahrain, there are hundreds of children arrested and sentenced on political charges on the back of confessions extracted under torture. For example, on 14 August 2018, we published a report on 108 cases of torture and ill-treatment, including a child in the juvenile prison, Mohammed Isa Al-A'adab, who was beaten and severely harassed by the prison administration. They are also deprived of the right to adequate education and medical care, the full opportunity to play, to build capacity and self-confidence.

Recommendations

While many countries are quick to implement and respect the UNCRC, we see that Bahrain is lagging behind, and children are still being subjected to widespread and systematic human rights violations, including enforced disappearance and torture, sexual harassment, denial of education, and the deprivation of many basic rights guaranteed in the constitution and international treaties. Therefore, we urge the government of Bahrain to:

- Enact legislation that protects children from the dangers of poverty or labour;
- Respect the international charters and treaties that have been ratified, especially the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Stop discriminating between children on sectarian or regional grounds.
- Fully realise children's rights, including their rights to life, development, education, and care;
- Immediately release children in detention and fully compensate for all the suffering they have endured.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

114.57 Take urgent steps to facilitate the work of civil society and human rights defenders, and guarantee protection of all persons from intimidation or reprisals for seeking to cooperate with the United Nations (Ireland)

114.70 Review the anti-terrorism law and its implementation in order to ensure it cannot be abused for harassment, detention and prosecution of dissenters (Czechia)

114.97 Avoid the intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations, lifting the restrictions imposed on them and allowing them to freely exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Spain);

114.98 Adopt a law to protect human rights defenders that includes special protection for vulnerable groups of defenders, including women defenders and those who express themselves through the Internet and social media (Mexico)

114.99 Rescind impediments to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (New Zealand)

114.119 Adopt appropriate measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and members of the political opposition from acts of aggression and intimidation and abstain from taking any restrictive measures or reprisals against human rights defenders, notably those who cooperate with the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg)

114.124 End immediately the reprisals against human rights defenders and lift restrictions on civil society (Estonia)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Freedom of opinion and expression is guaranteed by the Constitution and national legislation and in all the media. The only restrictions are those based on the professional and ethical precepts enshrined in the Constitution, the law, and local and international instruments applicable to the press and the media, which prohibit incitement to sectarianism or to religious, racial or denominational hatred, or rhetoric that threatens national security and public order, infringes the rights, reputation and dignity of others, or violates public morals or human rights principles. The competent

authorities in Bahrain have not taken criminal action against any natural or legal person for engaging in political, rights-related or social activities. As criminal liability is determined in accordance with the law, nobody is charged unless there is clear evidence that he has committed an offence defined by law."

Human rights defenders in Bahrain are not protected and instead targeted by authorities which intimidate and employ violence and torture to silence any dissent. Naji Fateel who co-founded Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights (BYSHR) was tortured in Jau Prison and on other instances but these complaints have not been investigated by the so called investigative and accountable bodies set up by Bahrain like the Special Investigation Unit, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ombudsman's Office, the Prisoners' Commission, and the Attorney-General.

Nabeel Rajab another human rights defender has been imprisoned for upholding his right to freedom of expression through online communication. Human rights defenders in Bahrain also face severe intimidation and reprisals for engaging with the UN bodies and in most cases, these result in travel bans for activists and human rights defenders who simply aim to engage in their professional activities.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BICI RECOMMENDATIONS

114.37 Set a timeline with clear deadlines for the implementation of all Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry recommendations and provide regular and public reports on the progress of their implementation (Slovenia)

114.58 Maintain its commitment to achieving concrete political reform based on respect of the legitimate rights and aspirations of all its citizens, consistent with Bahrain's international obligations and acceptance of the findings and recommendations of the 2011 report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Australia)

114.59 Ensure the full implementation of all recommendations from the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Belgium)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Bahrain attached great importance to the report of the BICI and to the implementation of all its recommendations. It issued comprehensive reports specifying all steps taken by Bahrain and announced on 9 May 2016 that the process of implementing the recommendations had been completed."

Despite Bahrain's ratification of the international treaties and expressing its commitment to fight against torture during the government-led Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI) investigation in 2011, 'there continue to be numerous and consistent allegations of widespread torture and ill-treatment' as the UN Committee against Torture pointed out in May 2017¹².

12- See further: 'Report: Electoral intimidation':
<https://salam-dhr.org/wp-content/uploads/201812/Electoral-Intimidation-.pdf>
 Bahrain elections: <http://www.gidhr.org/Home/ReportsShare/23>

Timelines have not been set and there is a lack of transparency in the procedures and hence many Bahraini citizens have lost faith in its effectiveness to implement policies and investigations.

NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

114.38 Strengthen partnerships between official institutions and the national human rights institutions through the implementation of the bilateral programmes of cooperation (Algeria)

114.39 Continue to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ombudsman of the National Security Agency and the Special Investigations Unit, so they can fulfil their mandates effectively (New Zealand)

114.40 Take all measures to ensure the independence, including financial, and the effectiveness of the national human rights institution and to protect it from all forms of pressure or reprisal in connection with its work to promote and protect human rights (Montenegro); Strengthen the national human rights institution of Bahrain and ensure its full compliance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea); Continue strengthening the national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles, especially in terms of increasing its independence and authority (Indonesia)

114.41 Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (State of Palestine); Strengthen the capacity of the national human rights institution to have access to cases that require special attention (Libya)

114.42 Continue introducing international norms of human rights in the national legislation and efforts to increase the potential and capacity of national human rights institutions (Uzbekistan)

114.83 Ensure the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Special Investigations Unit and other relevant human rights institutions in investigating all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, unlawful killings and deaths in custody (Finland)

114.126 Ensure that the oversight institutions established following the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry are fully impartial and independent in order for them to effectively carry out their work (Sweden)

114.129 Continue making progress on its reform agenda and to become a role model for the region, including through strengthening the independence, effectiveness and transparency of its oversight bodies, and cooperating with the United Nations system (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Bahrain position in 2017: "Legislative Decree No. 20 of 2016 amended the provisions of Act No. 26 of 2014 establishing the National Human Rights Institution with a view to ensuring that it complied fully with the Paris Principles. It was given more authority to assert its financial and administrative independence and to perform its functions freely, impartially and independently. The Special Investigation Unit was

established by Attorney General Decision No. 8 of 2012 as an independent and impartial mechanism for prosecuting government officials for the perpetration of unlawful acts or for dereliction of duty in cases of murder, torture and ill-treatment of civilians, given the obligation to fully implement the recommendations of the BICI. The Office of the Secretary-General for Grievances is fully independent in both financial and administrative terms, as confirmed by Decree No. 27 of 2012 and amended Decree No. 35 of 2013."

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES AND MECHANISMS

114.7 Ratify the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia)

114.9 Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organisation (Switzerland) (Philippines) (Ghana) (Uganda)

114.10 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines) (Ghana) (Guatemala)

114.11 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay) (Ghana) (Portugal)

114.15 Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Uganda)

114.16 Accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mexico)

114.12 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal) (Estonia)

114.13 Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia)

114.14 Proceed with the ratification of, and full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including incorporating the Statute's definition of crimes as amended at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 2010 and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court, and accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Finland)

114.18 Adhere and adopt national legislation in line with the Rome Statute, including the incorporation of the provisions for swift cooperation with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala)

Bahrain response (Not fully accepted): Bahrain participates as an observer in the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and has attended all conferences of the Assembly of States Parties since the Kampala Conference in 2010.

COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

114.19 Continue cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms in order to protect and promote human rights (Saudi Arabia)

114.20 Continue efforts for international cooperation in the field of human rights and benefit from relevant international experiences (Sudan)

114.21 Continue to extend cooperation with the United Nations and to make the best use of the international expertise available through the relevant international mechanisms (Azerbaijan)

114.22 Ensure that all Bahrainis can freely cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Czechia)

114.23 Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

114.26 Encourage the Government to cooperate with all special procedures mandate holders (Iraq)

114.27 Continue to strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by accepting country visits of special rapporteurs (Republic of Korea)

114.31 Encourage the Government to implement the pledges and commitments undertaken during the second cycle of the universal periodic review in 2012 (Iraq)

114.32 Continue the project of technical cooperation with OHCHR in a number of different areas, particularly to strengthen the capacity of persons in charge of enforcing the law (Djibouti)

114.33 Strengthen the cooperation with OHCHR (Honduras)

114.55 Allow international NGOs to visit Bahrain and to carry out their human rights work without restrictions, including by abolishing the current five-day limit for such visits (Iceland)

Bahrain response: Bahrain is committed to the principles of cooperation and dialogue with United Nations bodies in a spirit of transparency and openness with a view to promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international level by providing humanitarian assistance and participating in relevant international conferences. Bahrain continues to cooperate with OHCHR. It responds to urgent appeals, questions and inquiries from special procedures, submits periodic reports to the treaty bodies, and cooperates with many international NGOs for purposes of communication and protection of human rights.

114.24 Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures as soon as possible (Netherlands); Extend the standing invitation to all the mechanisms and special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Honduras); Facilitate a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Guatemala); Issue a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Bulgaria)

114.25 Cooperate with special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including by swiftly providing

access for special rapporteurs with outstanding requests for visits to Bahrain (Iceland)

114.28 Allow the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit Bahrain, following up on the acceptance of recommendations to that effect made in the second cycle (Austria)

114.29 Accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on torture and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (France)

114.34 Accept a visit from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or a United Nations special rapporteur to identify steps to strengthen human rights institutions (United States of America)

Bahrain response (Not fully accepted): Reference was made to cooperation in paragraph 22.

114.30 Implement fully recommendations made by the United Nations mandate holders, including through the immediate release of all political prisoners and by ending impunity, thus bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice (Islamic Republic of Iran).

Bahrain response (Not fully accepted): Bahrain is determined to provide the requisite legal means to ensure the criminal and disciplinary accountability of anyone suspected of committing acts of torture or cruel or degrading treatment. In compliance with the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, the Public Prosecution Service has reaffirmed its intention to punish any acts of torture or cruel or degrading treatment in accordance with the law, utilizing available material means and ethical procedures to conduct an independent investigation in accordance with international standards.

STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL UNITY

114.56 Engage in a genuine national dialogue in an open and inclusive manner with all stakeholders, with the aim of effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of all the population in a comprehensive and inclusive manner (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Bahrain response: The National Dialogue Conference was held in July 2011 and the national dialogue was consistent with the governmental and community approach, since the Government has continuously emphasized that it would involve all sectors of Bahraini society. The dialogue was supported by consensus on basic principles that resulted in broad popular participation.

114.60 Continue adopting programmes and policies to strengthen national unity and cohesion (Egypt)

114.61 Take specific and additional measures aimed at strengthening its national unity and internal domestic security and fostering cooperation in order to disseminate the culture of social peaceful coherence and guarantee freedom of expression that ensures social justice among all components of society (Iraq)

Bahrain response: Bahrain has organized a number of events aimed at strengthening national cohesion and bolstering the principles of peaceful coexistence, including the national campaign to strengthen national unity and cohesion based on the slogan "Unity Unity".

Religious discrimination, political division and sectarian persecution are weakening national unity in Bahrain which has led to a fragmentation of political society and divisions in social life. Citizenship revocations and repressive laws like the death penalty and military courts for civilians has led to a decrease in political participation as candidate selection and elections are not fair and free¹³.

13- More Info. on the continuous violations of Human Rights in Bahrain:

Animation: Watch the full story of Hameem al-Araibi

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIPhX4K92CI&t=1s>

The Bahrain Forum for Human Rights records 1272 human rights violations in the Monthly Indicator

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hdmb_nSIHvMhJsJOf2pmZXTA_CH1Wzh9/view

Monthly Indicator

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/monthly%20indicator%20eng.pdf>

The Bahrain Forum for Human Rights records 1272 human rights violations in the Monthly Indicator

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/monthly%20indicator%20eng.pdf>

The human rights situation in Bahrain continued to deteriorate in April 2018

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/MO%20en.pdf>

Monthly report for examining the human rights situation and monitoring violations

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/march%20en.pdf>

BFHR: Monthly report for examining the human rights situation and monitoring violations

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/sahri%20en.pdf>

The Bahrain Forum for Human Rights launches the Monthly Indicator: 995 violations in January in Bahrain

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/Monthly%20Indicator.pdf>

Report on the human rights situation in Bahrain in 2016

<https://www.bfhr.org/english/uploaded/pdf/Taq.En.pdf>

UPR of Bahrain (3RD Cycle– 27TH Session) Thematic list of recommendations

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
114.33 Strengthen the cooperation with OHCHR (Honduras); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>A53 Professional training in human rights</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented; actively rejected by the Government of Bahrain (GoB).</p> <p>By expressing support but then actively opposing the very things the GoB asserts that it supports, the GoB undermines the very purpose of the UPR process. It mocks the OHCHR and international human rights standards. While the GoB will engage with the UN on matters such training or discussions on legal reform, there is no political willingness to engage in or adhere to substantive UN human rights recommendations, whether from peers, legally binding treaty bodies; special procedures or the Office of the High Commissioner, as expressed through successive statements from the latter.</p> <p>Ongoing: the GoB has not issued a standing invitation to Special Procedures of the OHCHR; and the GoB expressly rejects cooperation with the OHCHR, as evidenced by, inter alia, their continued refusal to meaningfully act on Opinions adopted by, inter alia, the WGAD or WGEID and recommendations made by the Special Procedures; or set out in statements, but rather to reply with assertions that GoB laws and practices adhere to the very international standards that experts, themselves, say they do not, including in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WGAD Opinion 55/2016: Mahmood Abdulredha Hasan al-Jazeeri; - 29.05.17 - The GoB rejecting the express recommendation of the Committee against Torture, made in paras 10 and 11 of the Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, adopted 8 and 9 May 2017, reference CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, notably in respect to arrest powers of the National Security Agency and trial by military court of civilians; and, from paragraph 33: the release from detention human rights defenders and journalists who have allegedly been detained and imprisoned in retaliation for their work, including Abdulhadi al-Khawaja, Naji Fateel, Nabeel Rajab, Abduljalil al-Singace, Hussain Jawad and Abdulwahab Hussain; the investigation - promptly, thoroughly and impartially - of all allegations of harassment, arbitrary arrest, torture or ill-treatment of human rights defenders and journalists, prosecute and punish appropriately those found guilty while

			<p>ensuring that they have access to justice and are guaranteed fundamental legal safeguards, and provide redress to the victims; and ending the use of revocation of citizenship as a form of reprisal against human rights defenders, journalists and any other critics who are political activists and not in favour of the authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16.06.17 - Contents and recommendations of statements, such as Bahrain must end worsening human rights clampdown, issued by a group of United Nations human rights experts regarding the GoB crackdown on civil society through the use of repressive legislation, in particular the Law of Associations, and anti-terrorism laws; and the resumption of executions after a de facto moratorium in place since 2010; the broader powers given to National Security Agency officers and a constitutional amendment allowing for military courts to try civilians. - 11.09.17 - Human Rights Council 36th session, Opening Statement by Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Darker and more dangerous: High Commissioner updates the Human Rights Council on human rights issues in 40 countries, 11 September 2017; see: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22041&LangID=E, in which he said: "Since June 2016, the government of Bahrain has imposed severe restrictions on civil society and political activism through arrests, intimidation, travel bans and closure orders, with increasing reports of torture by the security authorities. Today, the democratic space in the country has essentially been shut down. I have repeatedly drawn the attention of the authorities to the gravity of the situation in the Kingdom, in conjunction with many human rights mechanisms and joint statements by Member States. I have also repeatedly offered the support of my Office to assist with practical improvements. These efforts have been met with point-blank denials, unfounded accusations and unreasonable last-minute conditions to technical missions. But no public relations campaign can paper over the violations being inflicted on the people of Bahrain. They deserve real respect for their human rights, and I continue to offer the assistance of my Office to any genuine effort to address the situation." - WGAD Opinion No. 51/2018: Sayed Nazar Naama Baqquer Ali Yusuf Alwadaei, Mahmood Marzooq Mansoor and Hajar Mansoor Hassan;
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			<p>- The GoB response to OHCHR letter AL BHR 1/2019, dated 18.09.19, from the Mandates of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, in relation to the alleged denial of adequate health care for serious health conditions of several detainees held in the Jau Prison, namely: Elyas Faisal Maki, Ebrahim Ismaeel AlMulla; Hassan Mushaima; Husain Abdulaziz Ali Husain Mohamed; Sayed Kadhem Abbas Hashem Ali; Abduljalil AlSingace; Mohamed Hameed Abdulla Hasan AlDaqqaq, Mohamed Merza Ali Moosa; Habib Ali Habib Mohamed Hasan Mubarak; Ali Mahdi Abdulhusain Mohamad Alaiwi and Khalil Ibrahim al-Saffar; as well as other communications during the period in question.</p> <p>18.06.18 - Outgoing UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, at opening of 38th Human Rights Council session, expressed concern that the Government of Bahrain (GoB) continued to refuse access to the country to both the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and its thematic mechanisms. While access to OHCHR lessened to a small degree, the GoB refuses to engage with visits by thematic mechanisms.</p> <p>06.18 - The Human Rights Committee (HRC), the independent body that assesses implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), expressed concern at the large number of reports of reprisals against Bahraini defenders and journalists, in particular when they collaborate with the treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council. The HRC cited the cases of Mr. Sayed Ahmed AL-Wadaei and Ms. Ebtesam Abdulhusain Ali-Alsaegh. See: UN documents CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, para. 59 and 02.08.19, General Assembly, Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General / Human rights bodies and mechanisms / Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights / Human</p>
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			<p>Rights Council, 42nd session, A/HRC/42/30</p> <p>13.08.18 - UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) called for release of HRD, Nabeel Rajab, noting detention resulted from exercise of his right to freedom of expression and constituted discrimination based on political or other opinion. GoB continues to detain him as of November 2019.</p> <p>10.0918 - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet expressed concern at high numbers of citizenship revocations and called for release of HRDs, including Nabeel Rajab, during opening of 39th Human Rights Council session. No action taken.</p> <p>03.19 - Reports indicate that travel bans remained on a number of individuals who sought to engage with the OHCHR in March 2019, some of whose names have not been made public out of a fear for their safety. Other HRDs, who faced reprisals, included: Sayed Ahmed Al-Wadaei, Hajar Mansoor Hassan, Medina Ali, Najah Yusuf, Ebtesam Abdulhusain Ali-Alsaegh, Nabeel Rajab. A 19.06.19 response by the GoB, consisting of assertions, did not refute evidence of arbitrariness. See: 02.08.19, General Assembly, Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General / Human rights bodies and mechanisms / Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights / Human Rights Council, 42nd session, A/HRC/42/30</p> <p>With respect to the GoB's non-engagement with UN thematic mechanisms, according to information received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 01.17 - UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) reiterated standing request to visit. GoB has not addressed the request. - 2018 (exact date not known) - UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) issued a third reminder of its request to visit, pending since 2005 - Request to visit by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture remains pending since 2011; the mandate is understood to have sent repeated follow-up requests, but without reply. - Request by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression pending since 2011.
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<p>114.125 Take effective measures to raise awareness of the rights stipulated in the conventions it has acceded to concerning the judiciary and law enforcement officials (Qatar);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>A54 Awareness raising and dissemination</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - judges, lawyers and prosecutors - law enforcement / police officials 	<p>Not known.</p> <p>The Bahraini Police website contains a 'human rights' portal with pages in both English and Arabic that contain information about human rights standards. We do not have objectively verifiable information about Bahrain's dissemination about human rights awareness-raising efforts by the GoB amongst the judiciary and law enforcement officials.</p>
<p>114.4 Continue the ratification process of the main international human rights-related instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 20</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>Not implemented; actively opposed by the Government of Bahrain (GoB). Its expression of support followed by active opposition reflects government cynicism towards the UN and the UPR process.</p> <p>According to the OHCHR website, the last international instrument relating to human rights that the GoB acceded to was in 2011, in relation to disabilities. It has not acceded to the OP-CAT cited. See: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx?CountryID=13&Lang=EN</p>

<p>114.88 Implement a national strategy to tackle the trafficking of women and girls, while building on its excellent work to ensure the effective protection of all workers, including migrant workers, against discrimination, and to ratify the 2014 protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 of the International Labour Organization (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking</p> <p>E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - women - girls 	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>While the GoB is a state party to the UN Convention on Human Trafficking and a related protocol (with reservations), in relation to the trafficking of women and girls, the US State Department reported, in its 2019 report on human trafficking: <i>"Although the government meets the minimum standards, it did not regularly investigate as potential trafficking crimes cases of unpaid or withheld wages, passport retention, and related abuses—all potential indicators of forced labor - which it handled administratively as labor law violations. Its law enforcement efforts were disproportionately focused on sex trafficking, as it infrequently investigated, prosecuted, or convicted cases of forced labor."</i> See: https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2019-TIP-Report-Narratives-A-C.pdf and scroll through to the entry on Bahrain.</p> <p>Despite its stated support, the GoB has not ratified the ILO's 2014 protocol to the Forced Labour Convention. The GoB has not ratified core ILO conventions. See: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11210:0::NO::P11210_COUNTRY_ID:103396</p> <p>For the purposes of this recommendation, the GoB must address, inter alia, paragraphs 17-25 of the Concluding Observations by the Human Rights Committee of the initial report of Bahrain (CCPR/C/BHR/1), considered at the HRC's 3492nd and 3493rd meetings (see CCPR/C/SR.3492 and 3493), held on 3 and 4 July 2018, and whose Concluding Observations they adopted at its 3516th meeting, held on 19 July 2018. See UN document CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, 15 November 2018.</p>
<p>114.162 Take effective measures to realize the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was ratified in 2011 (United Arab Emirates);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>F4 Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons with disabilities 	<p>Not known; the government appears to have taken some measures to make rights and services available, but the exact scope is not known. See: https://services.bahrain.bh/wps/portal/!ut/p/a1/jzBND4lwDIZ_iweutHxPbxMNDDXEGCLuYtDMqUFmEMWfL3lzUaS3Ns-Tvi1wSIEX2eMks-qkiix_99zdEhL4_hknMKFiyKVLd8j0WTQ1EtwE2DeAQ0w9nDRBbtoPU_ni3HSRxaGGM_3w9oaHtzRLSJiWwyDifecIH13H4-_ij_6d_9KFLAG3mJdV7RAV8wW6MgRAZe52rU_3dBiZxEJvBQHUYpSv5fN-FhV19tIQw3ratalUjIX-l5dNPymH_NWtgVSTh0slSdlnOzv5Y07pYPAC0pX7tw!!/d15/d5/L2dBIS9nQSEh/ or http://www.mlsd.gov.bh/en/disabled/rehabilitation_and_social_services/disabled-services</p>

Theme: A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies			
<p>114.19 Continue cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms in order to protect and promote human rights (Saudi Arabia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented; actively opposed.</p> <p>The GoB expresses support for its “continued cooperation”. It does not, however cooperate. See above, under 114.33, in theme A12.</p>
<p>114.27 Continue to strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by accepting country visits of special rapporteurs (Republic of Korea);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented; actively opposed. See above, under 114.33, in theme A12.</p> <p>Paragraph 40 of the Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, states that “The Committee is concerned that, despite repeated requests to visit the country by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the State party postponed the visit, claiming that it had come at an inopportune time on account of its efforts to implement the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry and a far-reaching process of reform and development. The Committee is also concerned that the representatives of the State party were not able to indicate when the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights would be permitted to visit the country in response to the invitation that the Parliament of Bahrain issued through the media to visit places of detention and Shia villages in Bahrain. The invitation had been accepted by the High Commissioner, but the Government of Bahrain had taken no action in that regard at the time of the dialogue with the Committee.” The Committee, in paragraph 41, “recommends that the State party promptly accept the request of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit the country. The State party is encouraged to enable the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit the country, particularly its places of detention, which are a matter of relevance to the compliance by Bahrain with the provisions of the Convention.”</p> <p>Furthermore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The GoB has not issued a standing invitation to Special Procedures of the OHCHR; - The GoB expressly refuses to meaningfully act on Opinions adopted by, inter alia, the WGAD or

			<p>WGEID and recommendations made by the Special Procedures; including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WGAD Opinion 55/2016: Mahmood Abdulredha Hasan al-Jazeeri - WGAD Opinion No. 51/2018: Sayed Nazar Naama Baqquer Ali Yusuf Alwadaei, Mahmood Marzooq Mansoor and Hajar Mansoor Hassan; - The GoB response to OHCHR letter AL BHR 1/2019, dated 18.09.19, from the Mandates of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, in relation to the alleged denial of adequate health care for serious health conditions of several detainees held in the Jau Prison, namely: Elyas Faisal Maki, Ebrahim Ismaeel AlMulla; Hassan Mushaima; Husain Abdulaziz Ali Husain Mohamed; Sayed Kadhem Abbas Hashem Ali; Abduljalil AlSingace; Mohamed Hameed Abdulla Hasan AlDaqqaq, Mohamed Merza Ali Moosa; Habib Ali Habib Mohamed Hasan Mubarak; Ali Mahdi Abdulhusain Mohamad Alaiwi and Khalil Ibrahim al-Saffar; as well as other communications during the period in question. - 18.06.18 - Outgoing UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, at opening of 38th Human Rights Council session, expressed concern that the Government of Bahrain (GoB) continued to refuse access to the country to both the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and its thematic mechanisms; and on - 02.08.19, General Assembly, Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General / Human rights bodies and mechanisms / Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights / Human Rights Council, 42nd session, A/HRC/42/30
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<p>114.21 Continue to extend cooperation with the United Nations and to make the best use of the international expertise available through the relevant international mechanisms (Azerbaijan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>See, inter alia, 114.33, under theme A12.</p> <p>By expressing support but then actively opposing the very things the GoB asserts that it supports, the GoB undermines the very purpose of the UPR process. It mocks the OHCHR and international human rights standards. While the GoB will engage with the UN on matters such training or discussions on legal reform, there is no political willingness to engage in or adhere to substantive UN human rights recommendations, whether from peers, legally binding treaty bodies; special procedures or the Office of the High Commissioner, as expressed through successive statements from the latter.</p>
<p>114.22 Ensure that all Bahrainis can freely cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Czechia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>D31 Liberty and security - general</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- human rights defenders</p>	<p>Not implemented; despite the expression of support, the GoB has expressly prohibited people from engaging with UN human rights mechanisms:</p> <p>18.06.18 - Outgoing UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, at opening of 38th Human Rights Council session, expressed concern that the Government of Bahrain (GoB) continued to refuse access to the country to both the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and its thematic mechanisms.</p> <p>See also, inter alia:</p> <p>19.12.17 - Reference BHR 13/2017, the UN SR on HRDs expressed concern about travel ban placed on Nedal Al-Salman in respect to her engagement with the OHCHR. Her case had previously been raised in: BHR 7/2016. If the GoB was serious about its support for this recommendation, it could simply announce it was lifting travel bans.</p>
<p>114.23 Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- public officials</p>	

Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures			
114.26 Encourage the Government to cooperate with all special procedures mandate holders (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22	Supported	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	The GoB has not substantially cooperated with United Nations human rights mechanisms. However, while it has supported the recommendation, it has refused substantive cooperation, as set out above, in this table, under 114.33, theme A12. While the GoB will engage with the UN on legal reform or training, there is no political willingness to adhere to substantive UN human rights recommendations.
Theme: A2A Voluntary human rights goals and other commitments			
114.31 Encourage the Government to implement the pledges and commitments undertaken during the second cycle of the universal periodic review in 2012 (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22	Supported	A2A Voluntary human rights goals and other commitments A43 Human rights policies A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Affected persons: - general	The GoB has indicated that it will support many, significant measures that would improve human rights in Bahrain. It has not, however, implemented commitments made in previous UPR cycles; shown no substantive move to implement those of the third cycle, and rejects both special procedures and treaty body recommendations, while asserting that it is cooperating.
Theme: A3 Inter-State cooperation & development assistance			
114.20 Continue efforts for international cooperation in the field of human rights and benefit from relevant international experiences (Sudan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 22	Supported	A3 Inter-State cooperation & development assistance Affected persons: - general	The GoB has not substantially cooperated with United Nations human rights mechanisms. However, while it has supported the recommendation, it has refused substantive cooperation, as set out above, in this table, under 114.33, theme A12. While the GoB will engage with the UN in relation to training or legal reform, there is no political willingness to adhere to substantive UN human rights recommendations.
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
114.35 Review laws and practices to ensure that they are compliant with international human rights law (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 24a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - general	<p>There is no evidence that there has been any review of legislation to make laws compliant with international human rights standards. Conversely, the GoB continues to use overlay broad definitions of, say, terrorism to secure convictions for non-violent acts, including in relation to "public order", "threatening safety and security" and "damaging national unity".</p> <p>Contrary to this recommendation, that it supported, the GoB:</p> <p>05.03.17 – Contrary to BICI recommendations, parliament approved provisions to allow military courts to try civilians 'terroroism'-related crimes;</p> <p>05.01.17 – Contrary to BICI recommendations, the NSA was once again given the power of arrest.</p>

<p>114.105 Amend the penal code and the press law to remove criminal penalties for alleged libel and insult offences, as accepted by Bahrain during its last universal periodic review (Canada);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Despite support for this recommendation, the GoB has not amended the press law, but in 2017 the Ministry of Information suspended the license of al-Wasat, the last independent newspaper.</p> <p>Existing , vaguely worded Penal Code and Press Code provisions remain in force. Despite asserting support, the government has shown no political will to amend laws.</p> <p>The GoB has not acted on the following 2018 recommendations from the Human Rights Committee:</p> <p>54. The State party should protect freedom of expression, in accordance with article 19 of the Covenant. In particular, it should:</p> <p>(a) <i>Decriminalize blasphemy and insulting and criticizing public officials;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Consider decriminalizing defamation and, in any case, apply criminal law only in the most serious cases, bearing in mind that, as stated by the Committee in its general comment No. 34 (2011) on the freedoms of opinion and expression, imprisonment is never an appropriate penalty for defamation;</i></p> <p>(c) <i>Release immediately and unconditionally anyone held solely for the peaceful exercise of his or her rights, including human rights defenders, activists, lawyers and trade unionists;</i></p> <p>(d) <i>Review and amend the provisions of the Criminal Code, Decree Law No. 47 and regulations on digital rights to bring them into line with article 19 of the Covenant and general comment No. 34 (2011);</i></p> <p>(e) <i>Effectively protect journalists, activists and human rights defenders from attacks or intimidation and ensure that all human rights violations perpetrated against them are thoroughly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice.</i></p> <p>Source: UN, Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1</p>
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114.42 Continue introducing international norms of human rights in the national legislation and efforts to increase the potential and capacity of national human rights institutions (Uzbekistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	Not implemented, the GoB has rejected the introduction of international norms but has re-asserted the use of flawed practices, previously ruled out, such as in relation to civilians being tried by military courts and the NSA being empowered to make arrests.
114.120 Finalize and enact the new media law with the meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, providing for a truly independent regulatory body (Austria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>A61 Cooperation with civil society</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- media</p>	<p>Reports indicated that a revised Media Law has been under discussion in March 2019 (see: https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/legal/story/New_media_law_planned_in_Bahrain-SNG_140206750/ and https://www.arabianbusiness.com/technology/420657-bahrain-to-increase-penalties-for-misuse-of-social-media)</p> <p>Press reports indicate that there has been no consultation regarding its contents nor in respect to an independent regulatory body, which the GoB indicates it supports.</p>
114.82 Criminalize torture in its legislation and establish a national preventive mechanism for torture (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Following issue on 29.05.17 by the Committee against Torture of its Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, adopted 8 and 9 May 2017, reference CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, the GoB does not appear to have taken into consideration, let alone enacted, any of the recommendations, backsliding in respect to the National Security Agency's power of arrest and the trial by military court of civilians. See above.</p>

<p>114.62 Adopt effective measures in law and practice to eradicate all forms of discrimination, in particular on the basis of religion or belief (Honduras);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 28</p>	Supported		<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>In November 2018, the Human Rights Committee (HRC) expressed "<i>about the existence of practices that adversely affect the exercise of the right to freedom of religion or belief enshrined in article 18 of the Covenant. In particular, the Committee is concerned about reports that members of the Shia community have been subjected to restrictions of their rights to worship and profess their religious beliefs and that liberty of conscience is not effectively guaranteed (art. 18)</i>" (paragraph 51).</p> <p>The HRC called on the GoB to "<i>decriminalize blasphemy and guarantee that all people within its territory can fully enjoy the right to freedom of conscience, religion or belief enshrined in article 18 of the Covenant. In particular, it should eliminate discriminatory practices that violate the right to freedom of religion or belief, including by stepping up its efforts to ensure that the Shia population is fairly represented in the public and political spheres. The State party should take immediate steps to ensure that the Shia population is effectively protected from discrimination in every field.</i>"</p> <p>See: UN, Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1</p> <p>In the intersectionality of public representation of the Shi'a community and protection of the community's right to its religious rites, the GoB's structural exclusion to political figures associated with the Shi'a community has served to reinforce the government's marginalisation of community religious practice.</p>
<p>114.106 Align the press law and penal code with the obligations under international human rights law, especially article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	<p>While the authorities have not amended the Press Law, in 2017, they suspended the last independent media platform, al-Wasat, contrary to the spirit, if not letter of this recommendation.</p> <p>Moreover, in 2018, the Human Rights Committee expressed "concern about the serious restrictions imposed on freedom of expression and the large number of arrests and prosecutions of individuals criticizing State authorities or political figures, including through social media. In this regard, the Committee notes with concern the cases of Nabeel Rajab, Zainab al-Khawaja, Ghada Jamsheer, Qasim Zainal Deen, Ahmed al-Fardan, Faisal Hayyt and others. The Committee is also concerned about reports that the State party has targeted Al-Wasat, which was said to be the country's only semi-independent newspaper, including by suspending its print and online publication, leading to its definitive closure in 2017.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee is concerned about:</p> <p>(a) Broad provisions in the Criminal Code criminalizing and making punishable by imprisonment acts such as criticism of public officials, insulting the King,</p>

			<p>publishing and disseminating rumours and false news and publication of untrue reports;</p> <p>(b) Broad and vague provisions contained in Decree Law No. 47 of 2002, concerning the regulation of the press, printing and publishing, under which journalists and activists can be prosecuted and given sentences of up to five years in prison;</p> <p>(c) Article 88 of Decree Law No. 47, under which journalists are required to obtain a licence from the Information Affairs Authority, to be renewed annually, to work with foreign media outlets;</p> <p>(d) Significant restrictions on digital rights, including the power to filter websites that criticize the royal family or the Government or that publish material that can be seen as encroaching on religions and jeopardizing public peace (arts. 2, 14, 18 and 19).</p> <p>The Human Rights Committee urged the GoB to:</p> <p>54. The State party should protect freedom of expression, in accordance with article 19 of the Covenant. In particular, it should:</p> <p>(a) Decriminalize blasphemy and insulting and criticizing public officials;</p> <p>(b) Consider decriminalizing defamation and, in any case, apply criminal law only in the most serious cases, bearing in mind that, as stated by the Committee in its general comment No. 34 (2011) on the freedoms of opinion and expression, imprisonment is never an appropriate penalty for defamation;</p> <p>(c) Release immediately and unconditionally anyone held solely for the peaceful exercise of his or her rights, including human rights defenders, activists, lawyers and trade unionists;</p> <p>(d) Review and amend the provisions of the Criminal Code, Decree Law No. 47 and regulations on digital rights to bring them into line with article 19 of the Covenant and general comment No. 34 (2011);</p> <p>(e) Effectively protect journalists, activists and human rights defenders from attacks or intimidation and ensure that all human rights violations perpetrated against them are thoroughly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice."</p> <p>Source: UN, Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1</p> <p>Despite the GoB 2017 acceptance of the recommendation, it has not even acted on legally binding recommendations made by a treaty body.</p>
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114.107 Redouble efforts to promote and safeguard the freedom and independence of the press and electronic media on the basis of international standards and norms (Cyprus); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	Not implemented. See above, 114.106 See, also, UN, Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, paragraph 54(e), in which the HRC calls on the GoB to: <i>"Effectively protect journalists, activists and human rights defenders from attacks or intimidation and ensure that all human rights violations perpetrated against them are thoroughly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice."</i>
114.102 Release all persons detained solely for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression or their right to peaceful assembly and repeal all legislative provisions criminalizing the exercise of these rights (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not implemented; actively resisted. The GoB has repeatedly rejected OHCHR assessments of such cases, exemplifying its rejection of the UPR process and substantive cooperation with the OHCHR. These occasions included: - WGAD Opinion 55/2016: Mahmood Abdulredha Hasan al-Jazeera; - 29.05.17 - The GoB rejecting the express recommendation of the Committee against Torture, made in paragraph 33, regarding the release from detention of human rights defenders and journalists who have allegedly been detained and imprisoned in retaliation for their work, including Abdulhadi al-Khawaja, Naji Fateel, Nabeel Rajab, Abduljalil al-Singace, Hussain Jawad and Abdulwahab Hussain; the investigation - promptly, thoroughly and impartially - of all allegations of harassment, arbitrary arrest, torture or ill-treatment of human rights defenders and journalists, prosecute and punish appropriately those found guilty while ensuring that they have access to justice and are guaranteed fundamental legal safeguards, and provide redress to the victims; and ending the use of revocation of citizenship as a form of reprisal against human rights defenders, journalists and any other critics who are political activists and not in favour of the authorities. - WGAD Opinion No. 51/2018: Sayed Nazar Naama Baqquer Ali Yusuf Alwadaei, Mahmood Marzooq Mansoor and Hajar Mansoor Hassan; - The GoB response to OHCHR letter AL BHR 1/2019, dated 18.09.19, from the Mandates of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Special

			<p>Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, in relation to the alleged denial of adequate health care for serious health conditions of several detainees held in the Jau Prison, namely: Elyas Faisal Maki, Ebrahim Ismaeel AlMulla; Hassan Mushaima; Husain Abdulaziz Ali Husain Mohamed; Sayed Kadhém Abbas Hashem Ali; Abduljalil AlSingace; Mohamed Hameed Abdulla Hasan AlDaqqaq, Mohamed Merza Ali Moosa; Habib Ali Habib Mohamed Hasan Mubarak; Ali Mahdi Abdulhusain Mohamad Alaiwi and Khalil Ibrahim al-Saffar; as well as other communications during the period in question.</p> <p>- 13.08.18 - UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) called for release of HRD, Nabeel Rajab, noting detention resulted from exercise of his right to freedom of expression and constituted discrimination based on political or other opinion. GoB continues to detain him as of November 2019.</p> <p>- 10.0918 - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet expressed concern at high numbers of citizenship revocations and called for release of HRDs, including Nabeel Rajab, during opening of 39th Human Rights Council session. No action taken.</p>
<p>114.108 Ensure that the new bill for the press and electronic media complies with international norms and continues its efforts to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly and association (State of Palestine);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - media - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>See above, 114.106</p> <p>See, also, UN, Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, paragraph 54(e), in which the HRC calls on the GoB to:</p> <p><i>"Effectively protect journalists, activists and human rights defenders from attacks or intimidation and ensure that all human rights violations perpetrated against them are thoroughly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice."</i></p> <p>At the same time, according to information available, the websites of a range of human rights organisations remain blocked in Bahrain, including Manama's own Bahrain Center for Human Rights.</p>

<p>114.113 Implement relevant legislation for the full exercise of the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Italy);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>In respect to assembly and association, the Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 55 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, the HRC expressed concern that: "<i>the right to freedom of assembly is severely limited and notes that public gatherings and marches are severely restricted by a 1973 decree on public gatherings and Decree No. 32/2006. In this regard, the Committee notes with concern that participating in public gatherings without government authorization is a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. The Committee is also concerned about reports that the State party regularly avails itself of legal provisions making assemblies illegal to disperse protests violently and arrest activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition (arts. 19 and 21).</i>"</p> <p>In paragraph 56, the HRC called on the GoB to: "<i>ensure that the right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed to all individuals without discrimination. The State party should also ensure the prompt, effective and impartial investigation of threats against and harassment and assaults of activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition and, when appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such acts.</i>"</p> <p>With respect to freedom of association, the HRC expressed concern "<i>about reports that authorities have placed restrictions on human rights organizations and opposition groups and in some cases dissolved them. The Committee notes with concern the use of restrictive legislation, including the Law on Associations, the Law on Political Societies, the Criminal Code and the Act on the Protection of Society from Acts of Terrorism, to make it difficult for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to register and pursue their activities. In this regard, the Committee is concerned about the 2014 order of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development to close the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights. The Committee is also concerned about the prohibition of civil society organizations from engaging in any activity interpreted to be political (arts. 2, 19 and 22).</i>"</p> <p>In paragraph 58, the HRC urged the GoB to "<i>amend relevant laws, regulations and practices with a view to bringing them into full compliance with articles 19 and 22 of the Covenant. In particular, it should refrain from dissolving human rights organizations and opposition groups for having</i></p>
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			<p><i>legitimately exercised their rights and take all measures to re-establish such organizations. It should simplify registration rules and revise the grounds for refusing to allow NGOs to register or permanently closing them. The State party should also amend its laws to allow civil society organizations to engage in political activities."</i></p> <p>With respect to assembly, the HRC expressed concern "that the right to freedom of assembly is severely limited and notes that public gatherings and marches are severely restricted by a 1973 decree on public gatherings and Decree No. 32/2006. In this regard, the Committee notes with concern that participating in public gatherings without government authorization is a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. The Committee is also concerned about reports that the State party regularly avails itself of legal provisions making assemblies illegal to disperse protests violently and arrest activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition (arts. 19 and 21)."</p> <p>In paragraph 56, the HRC called on the GoB to "ensure that the right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed to all individuals without discrimination. The State party should also ensure the prompt, effective and impartial investigation of threats against and harassment and assaults of activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition and, when appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such acts."</p>
<p>114.110 Modify the legislation to repeal criminal responsibility for activities that fall within the legitimate exercise of the freedom of expression, particularly on the Internet and Twitter (France);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D46 Right to private life, privacy</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	Not implemented. See response to 114.113, above.
<p>114.98 Adopt a law to protect human rights defenders that includes special protection for vulnerable groups of defenders, including women defenders and those who express themselves through the Internet and social media (Mexico);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - human rights defenders 	Not implemented. See above, at 114.33

<p>114.116 Reduce restrictions on peaceful assembly and association, allow individuals to participate freely in independent political societies, consistent with the Constitution and national action charter, and cease unwarranted legal action against Wefaq and Wa'ad for engaging in protected activities (United States of America);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented; rejected and opposed.</p> <p>With respect to freedom of association, the Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 57 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 expressed concern: "about reports that authorities have placed restrictions on human rights organizations and opposition groups and in some cases dissolved them. The Committee notes with concern the use of restrictive legislation, including the Law on Associations, the Law on Political Societies, the Criminal Code and the Act on the Protection of Society from Acts of Terrorism, to make it difficult for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to register and pursue their activities. In this regard, the Committee is concerned about the 2014 order of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development to close the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights. The Committee is also concerned about the prohibition of civil society organizations from engaging in any activity interpreted to be political (arts. 2, 19 and 22)"</p> <p>The HRC called on the GoB to "amend relevant laws, regulations and practices with a view to bringing them into full compliance with articles 19 and 22 of the Covenant. In particular, it should refrain from dissolving human rights organizations and opposition groups for having legitimately exercised their rights and take all measures to re-establish such organizations. It should simplify registration rules and revise the grounds for refusing to allow NGOs to register or permanently closing them. The State party should also amend its laws to allow civil society organizations to engage in political activities."</p> <p>Moreover, in 2017 the government forcibly dissolved Wa'ad, the National Democratic Action Party and the 2018-enacted Exercise of Political Rights Law disqualified those with sentences of over 6 months, called as felonies, and leaders and members of forcibly dissolved political parties that are alleged - without qualification - to have violated the Constitution or people who disrupt the conduct of the constitution or parliamentary life.</p>
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			<p>More particularly, the HRC also expressed concern "about reports that the Shia population is underrepresented in political and public life, including in the National Assembly. It is also concerned that the opposition parties Al-Wefaq and Wa'ad have recently been dissolved and that their leaders and members have been prosecuted. In addition, the Committee is concerned about allegations of gerrymandering and voter fraud during elections. Despite the existence of the National Audit Office, in charge of investigating cases of public corruption, the Committee finds it regrettable that high-ranking officials suspected of corruption are rarely punished (arts. 2, 25 and 26)."</p> <p>The HRC urged the GoB to "guarantee equal enjoyment of the rights of all citizens to ensure effective participation in public life, as required under article 25 of the Covenant. It should review decisions to dissolve opposition parties and ensure that political parties and their members are allowed to participate in political life, in line with article 25. The State party should step up its efforts to combat corruption, particularly among government figures."</p> <p>As a result, the election in November 2018 to the lower house, Council of Deputies, systematically excluded political figures from formerly prominent political groupings such as al-Wefaq and Wa'ad. It constituted legalised, normalised discrimination and a violation of human rights.</p> <p>We believe that this form of imposed political isolation is not only a human rights violation, but, in itself, stokes future conflict by silencing a social 'valve' in the form of elected representation.</p>
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<p>114.127 Ensure that all aspects of criminal procedure are in line with accepted international standards (Australia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>Not implemented; opposed and reversed.</p> <p>While the GoB supported the notion that criminal procedure be in line with international standards, and the GoB asserted to the Human Rights Committee that it had implemented the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, on 5 March 2017, parliament approved provisions to allow military courts to try civilians; in January 2017, it gave the NSA the power of arrest - and yet, despite the existence of BICI bodies, they failed to hold the authorities to account for past violations.</p> <p>In this regard, the Human Rights Committee, stated, in paragraph 11 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 that "the State party's affirmation that it has fully implemented the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, which was mandated to investigate, report and make recommendations regarding the events that occurred in February and March 2011. However, it notes with concern that key recommendations have not been implemented (arts. 2, 6, 7 and 14)" The HRC called on the GoB to "conduct a thorough review of the recommendations made by the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry with a view to fully implementing them. It should ensure that all human rights violations committed during the state of national safety declared in 2011 are thoroughly, effectively, independently and impartially investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned in a manner commensurate with the gravity of the crimes and that victims or their families are provided with effective remedies, including equal and effective access to justice and reparations."</p>
<p>114.172 Continue to improve measures to strengthen the rights of foreign migrant workers, including putting in place the necessary domestic legislation and access to health care and legal aid (Sri Lanka);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>E41 Right to health - General</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>S03 SDG 3 - health</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - migrants 	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.88 above</p> <p>Following the June 2018 protests by hundreds of migrant workers, over unpaid wages, the GoB took no action.</p>

114.151 Step up efforts in amending the law to allow the granting of Bahraini citizenship to children whose mothers are married to foreigners (Philippines); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - children	Not implemented. Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 20 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, urged the GoB to " <i>repeal all discriminatory provisions against women in its legislation. In particular, it should (a) expedite adoption of the amendments to the Nationality Act to ensure that women and men have equal rights in transmitting their nationality to their children; and (b) ensure that women are granted equal rights to divorce, including economic rights.</i> "
114.152 Deploy all necessary measures to ensure the quick adoption and implementation of the law on nationality to give nationality to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Uruguay); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - women - children	Not implemented. See response to 114.151 above
114.149 Amend the citizenship law to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restriction and on an equal basis with men (Slovenia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women - children	Not implemented. See response to 114.151 above
114.133 Consider adopting a unified and modern personal status law that is compatible with all legal and procedural requirements (Morocco); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 13	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D8 Rights related to marriage & family Affected persons: - general	

114.137 Further its work in empowering women, promoting gender equality and eliminating discrimination and violence against women and children by, inter alia, amending and promulgating relevant laws and implementing the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (Thailand); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>F13 Violence against women</p> <p>S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Discrimination in relation to divorce, conferral of nationality rights (see above) remain in place; Article 353 of the Penal Code reportedly exempts convicted rapists from prosecution and punishment if they marry the victim. Parliament proposed an amendment in 2016 but the government rejected it. Article 334 of the Penal Code reportedly reduces punishments if carried out in the name of 'honour'.</p>
114.134 Review its legislation in order to eliminate provisions that are discriminatory against women (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	<p>Largely not implemented; some cosmetic changes which are not translated into practice.</p> <p>See 114.137 and several rows above.</p>
114.153 Make necessary efforts to reform all legislation that is discriminatory towards women, in particular the nationality act and the family affairs laws (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 13	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>D8 Rights related to marriage & family</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	<p>See several rows above.</p>

114.161 Unify the criminal age in the kingdom's legislation to uphold the best interest in the treatment of the child in a manner compatible with his age and dignity and to facilitate his rehabilitation and reintegration in society (Morocco); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24c	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	Not known to have been implemented. Children of dissidents and those whose parents nationality has been revoked face hardship in relation to their own citizenship and complications with birth certificate passports and documentation.
114.154 Continue efforts to ensure the safety, security and dignity of foreign migrant workers, including women domestic workers, through requisite institutional and legislative measures (Nepal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	No new measures as far as known; not implemented. The GoB has not acceded to any ILO standards, for example.
Theme: A42 Institutions & policies - General			
114.126 Ensure that the oversight institutions established following the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry are fully impartial and independent in order for them to effectively carry out their work (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A42 Institutions & policies - General B51 Right to an effective remedy S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. As set out in March 2017, Bahrain's NIHR suffers structural / institutional The Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 10 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 urged the GoB to " <i>continue its efforts and adopt all legislative, policy and institutional measures necessary to ensure that the National Institution for Human Rights fully complies with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and is able to carry out its mandate fully, effectively and independently. The State party should also strengthen the power of the Institution and ensure that it is able to investigate all allegations of violations of rights recognized in the Covenant committed by any official entity.</i> "

Theme: A43 Human rights policies			
114.38 Strengthen partnerships between official institutions and the national human rights institutions through the implementation of the bilateral programmes of cooperation (Algeria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	<p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>A44 Structure of the national human rights machinery</p> <p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented; or partially implemented between state and state-sponsored NIHR.</p> <p>The Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 10 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 urged the GoB to "<i>continue its efforts and adopt all legislative, policy and institutional measures necessary to ensure that the National Institution for Human Rights fully complies with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and is able to carry out its mandate fully, effectively and independently. The State party should also strengthen the power of the Institution and ensure that it is able to investigate all allegations of violations of rights recognized in the Covenant committed by any official entity.</i>"</p>
114.60 Continue adopting programmes and policies to strengthen national unity and cohesion (Egypt); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16b	Supported	<p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Incorrect recommendation: as no such policies in place, the GoB cannot 'continue' to implement them.</p> <p>By legalising disenfranchisement; by preventing or limiting the right to take part in or hold religiously-rooted events and through targeted arbitrary deprivation of citizenship, the GoB is doing more to divide society than unite it.</p>
114.51 Disseminate widely in the society the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (United Arab Emirates); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	<p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>A53 Professional training in human rights</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- law enforcement / police officials</p>	Not known
114.64 Continue the application of policies and programmes on comprehensive and sustainable development (Cuba); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	<p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>B41 Right to development</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>We are concerned that the GoB's refusal to engage meaningfully with the OHCHR and binding international human rights instruments fundamentally undermines its Economic Vision 2030, launched in 2008. For example, the 'vision' states (see: page 11 at https://www.bahrain.bh/wps/wcm/connect/38f53f2f-9ad6-423d-9c96-2dbf17810c94/Vision%2B2030%2BEnglish%2B%28low%2Bresolution%29.pdf?MOD=AJPERES) :</p>

		<p><i>"Fairness in society means that all are treated equally under the law, in accordance to international human rights; and that everyone has equal access to services, namely education and health care, and that the needy are supported via adequate job training and a targeted social safety net."</i></p> <p>However, at its core, the GoB's failure to treat individuals equally; failure to align its policies with international standards means that the heart of Vision 2030 is flawed from the outset as a vehicle to empower communities and individuals on a politically-motivated basis.</p> <p>The specific targets of Goal 16, of Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (see:https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice/) will fail if the GoB refused to implement them. For example:</p> <p><i>16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all</i></p> <p>>>> By conducting unfair trials; by detaining human rights and political activists for peaceful expression and protected conduct, the GoB expressly excludes swathes of its own population from the promise of sustainable development.</p> <p><i>16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels</i></p> <p>>>> Refusal to implement sound BICI outcomes; refusal to engage with OHCHR recommendations and appeals; refusal to grant independence to the Ombudsman and by reversing BICI outcomes means that the GoB likewise refuses to develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at any level.</p> <p><i>16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</i></p> <p>>>> By implementing the June 2018 Exercise of Political Rights Law that excludes swathes of political activists, the GoB has legalised disenfranchisement and fair political representation: it serves to exclude up to 50% of the population by deigning to select what representation it chooses, undermining the spirit and the letter of GoB law itself, Vision 2030 and international human rights standards.</p> <p><i>16.B Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development</i></p>
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			>>> The GoB has discriminated against the Shi'a community by restricting, inter alia, prisoners' access to religious rites; by the wholesale demolition of Shi'a places of worship and, in one instance, the removal of a historic mosque along a motorway. Lip-service to non-discrimination is not the same as non-discrimination.
114.66 Continue to implement policies and programmes for comprehensive and sustainable development (Libya); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	A43 Human rights policies B41 Right to development Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See immediately above.
114.169 Continue strengthening its sound social policies that favour the people, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a	Supported	A43 Human rights policies E24 Right to social security Affected persons: - vulnerable persons/groups	See response to 114.60 above
Theme: A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)			
114.41 Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (State of Palestine); Strengthen the capacity of the national human rights institution to have access to cases that require special attention (Libya); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. The Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 10 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 urged the GoB to " <i>continue its efforts and adopt all legislative, policy and institutional measures necessary to ensure that the National Institution for Human Rights fully complies with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and is able to carry out its mandate fully, effectively and independently. The State party should also strengthen the power of the Institution and ensure that it is able to investigate all allegations of violations of rights recognized in the Covenant committed by any official entity.</i> " To name two: the country's NIHR does not abide by the Paris Principles and there is a general lack of confidence in the NIHR due to a lack of transparency and effectiveness

<p>114.39 Continue to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ombudsman of the National Security Agency and the Special Investigations Unit, so they can fulfil their mandates effectively (New Zealand);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A42 Institutions & policies - General</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 12 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, urges the GoB to "<i>conduct a thorough review of the recommendations made by the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry with a view to fully implementing them. It should ensure that all human rights violations committed during the state of national safety declared in 2011 are thoroughly, effectively, independently and impartially investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned in a manner commensurate with the gravity of the crimes and that victims or their families are provided with effective remedies, including equal and effective access to justice and reparations.</i>"</p>
<p>114.129 Continue making progress on its reform agenda and to become a role model for the region, including through strengthening the independence, effectiveness and transparency of its oversight bodies, and cooperating with the United Nations system (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>By legalising political disenfranchisement and structuring social policy along sectarian lines (eg, housing assistance); by preventing or limiting the right to take part in or hold religiously-rooted events and through targeted arbitrary deprivation of citizenship, the GoB has extinguished any meaningful reform while oversight bodies are totally subordinate to political objectives.</p>

114.40 Take all measures to ensure the independence, including financial, and the effectiveness of the national human rights institution and to protect it from all forms of pressure or reprisal in connection with its work to promote and protect human rights (Montenegro); Strengthen the national human rights institution of Bahrain and ensure its full compliance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea); Continue strengthening the national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles, especially in terms of increasing its independence and authority (Indonesia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation) Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. - See response to 114.41 above - See response to 114.26 above
Theme: A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)			
114.139 Continue to seek and cooperate with partners in the field of the implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in order to build a competitive and sustainable society in the kingdom (Oman); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - general - women	Not implemented; erroneous recommendation as no such partners exist, on which basis there would be something to 'continue'.

114.157 Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022 Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F11 Advancement of women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented; erroneous recommendation as no such partners exist, on which basis there would be something to 'continue'.
114.140 Continue to promote gender equality and actively implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022 (China); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	No known evidence.
114.44 Further enhance the capacity of the national committee for childhood for the full implementation of the national childhood strategic action plan (Ethiopia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	Partial, uneven implementation. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, in its 29 February 2019 Concluding Observations on the combined fourth to sixth periodic reports of Bahrain, reference CRC/C/BHR/CO/4-6, addresses the strategic action plan. They make a number of recommendations which indicate that partial implementation of this recommendation.
114.43 Continue the implementation of the national strategic action plan 2012-2016 on persons with disabilities (Djibouti); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	

Theme: A51 Human rights education - general			
<p>114.45 Continue to promote human rights education (Pakistan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a</p>	Supported	<p>A51 Human rights education - general</p> <p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - children 	<p>Not implemented; no known evidence.</p> <p>The UN Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 12 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, urged the GoB to “widely disseminate the Covenant, its initial report, the written replies to the Committee’s list of issues and the present concluding observations with a view to raising awareness of the rights enshrined in the Covenant among the judicial, legislative and administrative authorities, civil society and NGOs operating in the country, and the general public.”</p> <p>We did not find any evidence in respect to this, supported, recommendation. For example, the place of international human rights standards appears absent from the GoB’s education strategy 2015-2018: http://www.moe.gov.bh/pdf/StratigicPlan.pdf Or, the twitter account of the GoB’s “Ministry of Human Rights”.</p>
<p>114.46 Take measures to improve the education system and carry out programmes aimed at enhancing awareness about human rights at the national level (Uzbekistan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a</p>	Supported	<p>A51 Human rights education - general</p> <p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	<p>Not implemented; no known evidence.</p> <p>See response to 114.45 above</p>
<p>114.47 Include human rights education in school curricula (Armenia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a</p>	Supported	<p>A51 Human rights education - general</p> <p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - children 	<p>Not implemented; no known evidence.</p> <p>See response to 114.45 above</p>

114.49 Strengthen education for law enforcement personnel on international human rights laws, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Korea); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	A51 Human rights education - general E51 Right to education - General F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented; no known evidence. See response to 114.35 above
Theme: A53 Professional training in human rights			
114.32 Continue the project of technical cooperation with OHCHR in a number of different areas, particularly to strengthen the capacity of persons in charge of enforcing the law (Djibouti); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A53 Professional training in human rights A12 Acceptance of international norms Affected persons: - law enforcement / police officials	This is reportedly under consideration; precise details not known at the time of writing.
114.52 Continue the training programmes for magistrates and law enforcement officials in accordance with international standards and human rights principles (Lebanon); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	A53 Professional training in human rights D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - judges, lawyers and prosecutors - law enforcement / police officials	Not implemented; no known evidence. See response to 114.35 above

Theme: A54 Awareness raising and dissemination			
114.54 Raise awareness in the society, among people of all ages, to enable them to recognize the importance of civil society organizations and their role in the dynamics of Bahraini society (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A54 Awareness raising and dissemination Affected persons: - general	Not implemented; no known evidence. See response to 114.125, above Support for this recommendation was hampered by the government's restrictions on association, and in particular in relation to civil society. The UN Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 58 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, urged the GoB to "revise the grounds for refusing to allow NGOs to register or permanently closing them. The State party should also amend its laws to allow civil society organizations to engage in political activities." This recommendation cannot be realized without changes with respect to civil society.
114.53 Continue to raise awareness of human rights among all groups, particularly the younger generations, through education, training and media communications (Thailand); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A54 Awareness raising and dissemination E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - media - youth	Not implemented; no known evidence. See response to 114.125 and 114.54 above
Theme: A61 Cooperation with civil society			
114.55 Allow international NGOs to visit Bahrain and to carry out their human rights work without restrictions, including by abolishing the current five-day limit for such visits (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A61 Cooperation with civil society A28 Cooperation with other international mechanisms and institutions D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D45 Freedom of association Affected persons: - human rights defenders	Not implemented; actively resisted by the GoB. See the comments at the very start under 114.33, theme A12. Also, Amnesty International, in its 2018 annual report on Bahrain, stated that Bahrain is "closed to outside observers" and that the organisation was not granted access by the government. In 2019, too, the GoB continues to restrict and deny international NGOs and journalists - along with UN experts - entry into Bahrain.

Theme: A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation)			
114.168 Ensure the completion and successful running of the nine rehabilitation centres in a comprehensive disability complex Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation) F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	Not known.
Theme: B32 Racial discrimination			
114.63 Take additional measures to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization, as well as discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons based on religion or belief, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 (Brazil); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 28	Supported	B32 Racial discrimination B31 Equality & non-discrimination D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion Affected persons: - general - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	Not implemented. No additional measures taken despite the increasing trend of using and legitimising of hate speech and violence against the Shi'a population of Bahrain. This failure to take concrete measures has worsened discrimination and the welfare of the targeted persons.

Theme: B51 Right to an effective remedy			
<p>114.37 Set a timeline with clear deadlines for the implementation of all Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry recommendations and provide regular and public reports on the progress of their implementation (Slovenia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14</p>	Supported	<p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>There appears to be some confusion about this issue: at the 2017 UPR session, the GoB supported the Slovenian recommendation; while the Committee against Torture made the same recommendation in May 2017; but it asserted full implementation by the November 2018 review of its ICCPR treaty obligation. And yet, the Human Rights Committee urged the GoB to conduct a review of the BICI recommendations "with a view to fully implementing them". The government has not taken action to address this recommendation.</p> <p>Paragraph 9d of the Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3 calls on the GoB to "Establish a plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry".</p> <p>The Human Rights Committee, stated, in paragraph 11 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1 that "the State party's affirmation that it has fully implemented the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, which was mandated to investigate, report and make recommendations regarding the events that occurred in February and March 2011. However, it notes with concern that key recommendations have not been implemented (arts. 2, 6, 7 and 14)" The HRC called on the GoB to "conduct a thorough review of the recommendations made by the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry with a view to fully implementing them. It should ensure that all human rights violations committed during the state of national safety declared in 2011 are thoroughly, effectively, independently and impartially investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned in a manner commensurate with the gravity of the crimes and that victims or their families are provided with effective remedies, including equal and effective access to justice and reparations."</p> <p>Moreover, in paragraph 9a of its 2019 Concluding Observations, the UN Committee against Torture stated that the GoB should "Take additional measures to effectively implement the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, in particular recommendation No. 1719 on investigating cases of alleged torture and ill-treatment". (United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3)</p>

114.58 Maintain its commitment to achieving concrete political reform based on respect of the legitimate rights and aspirations of all its citizens, consistent with Bahrain's international obligations and acceptance of the findings and recommendations of the 2011 report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14	Supported	B51 Right to an effective remedy S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See above. The GoB has no plan to achieve political reform but has, rather, imposed further restrictions on political rights, say by way of the June 2018 Exercise of Political Rights Law (see above); as political parties likewise remain banned and activists collectively targeted and/or marginalised.
114.59 Ensure the full implementation of all recommendations from the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14	Supported	B51 Right to an effective remedy S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See above, under 114.37 / B51.
Theme: B52 Impunity			
114.80 Ensure accountability for perpetrators of torture and access by victims of torture to justice, redress and rehabilitation (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a	Supported	B52 Impunity B51 Right to an effective remedy D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not implemented. As noted above, in paragraph 9a of its 2019 Concluding Observations, the UN Committee against Torture stated that the GoB should " <i>Take additional measures to effectively implement the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, in particular recommendation No. 1719 on investigating cases of alleged torture and ill-treatment</i> ". (Source: United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3) Paragraph 9 adds: (b) <i>Strengthen measures to prevent acts of torture and ill-treatment in all places where persons are deprived of their liberty;</i> (c) <i>Take vigorous measures to eliminate impunity for acts of torture by holding alleged perpetrators accountable for such acts;</i> (d) <i>Establish a plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry.</i>

114.87 Promptly carry out an in-depth investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, such as the case of the three persons executed in January 2017, and bring those responsible to justice (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a	Supported	B52 Impunity D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not implemented. See response to 114.80, immediately above.
114.130 Guarantee the fight against impunity, ensuring that all those persons found guilty are brought to justice, in the context of allegations of the use of torture to obtain confessions from detainees (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7	Supported	B52 Impunity D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not implemented. See response to 114.80 above
Theme: B71 Human rights and the environment			
114.67 Work towards raising awareness of the right to a safe environment through participation and cooperation among all partners (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	B71 Human rights and the environment A54 Awareness raising and dissemination S13 SDG 13 - climate change Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. Marginalisation of civil society means that environmental concerns are either academic in nature, government-led or UN-linked worked carried out by the grace of the government.

Theme: B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism			
<p>114.69 Ensure that counter-terrorist measures are fully consistent with Bahrain's international human rights obligations (Brazil);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 – Para. 30</p>	Supported	<p>B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>In paragraphs 29 and 30 of its 2018 Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, the UN's Human Rights Committee states:</p> <p><i>"29. The Committee acknowledges the State party's need to adopt measures to combat terrorism. However, it is concerned that the Act on the Protection of Society from Acts of Terrorism (Act No. 58 of 2006) includes an overly broad definition of terrorism that provides too much room for interpretation and may result in violations of the right to freedom of expression, association and assembly. The Committee is also concerned about reports of the extensive use of the Act outside the scope of terrorism, including against human rights defenders and political activists, and of violations of article 14 of the Covenant in the context of trials based on the Act. In this respect, the Committee notes with concern the case of the 14 February Coalition, in which 50 individuals, including human rights defenders and political activists, were tried under the Act, and that of the so-called Bahrain Thirteen, in which 13 Bahraini opposition leaders were tried and convicted under the Act (arts. 9, 14, 17, 19, 21 and 22)."</i></p> <p>And:</p> <p><i>"30. The State party should bring its counter-terrorism and counter-extremism legislation and practices into full compliance with the Covenant, not least by amending the Act on the Protection of Society from Acts of Terrorism (Act No. 58 of 2006) with a view to clarifying and narrowing the broad concepts referred to above and thus to ensuring that they comply with the principles of legal certainty and predictability and that the application of such legislation does not suppress protected conduct and speech. It should also ensure that the rights to a fair trial and access to justice are respected in all criminal proceedings for terrorism."</i></p> <p>In sum, Bahrain's counter-terrorist measures are not consistent with its human rights obligations as the amendments made to the Anti-Terrorism Law allows courts to revoke nationality of persons convicted with 'terrorism' offenses which is against the principles of the UDHR.</p>

114.70 Review the anti-terrorism law and its implementation in order to ensure it cannot be abused for harassment, detention and prosecution of dissenters (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D26 Conditions of detention A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not implemented. See 114.69, immediately above. No amendments have been made and instead these laws are directed to those persons that participate in political activism. The vaguely framed provisions include 'defaming' the image of the regime, 'inciting' against the regime and 'spreading false news to hinder the rules of the constitution' and other peaceful acts that do not form internationally recognisable criminal offences.
114.72 Continue with the strategy of combating terrorism in order to protect human rights (Kuwait); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 30	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See 114.69 and 114.70 above.
Theme: D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation			
114.96 Take necessary measures to guarantee the enjoyment of all fundamental freedoms, including the participation in political and public affairs by all (Botswana); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.38 and 114.113 above In paragraphs 29 and 30 of its 2018 Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, the UN's Human Rights Committee states: 56. The State party should ensure that the right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed to all individuals without discrimination. The State party should also ensure the prompt, effective and impartial investigation of threats against and harassment and assaults of activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition and, when appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such acts. 58. The State party should amend relevant laws, regulations and practices with a view to bringing them into full compliance with articles 19 and 22 of the Covenant. In particular, it should refrain from dissolving human rights organizations and opposition groups for having legitimately exercised their rights and take all measures to re-establish such organizations. It should simplify registration rules and revise the grounds for refusing to allow NGOs to register or permanently closing them. The State party should also amend its laws to allow civil society organizations to engage in political activities. 64. The State party should guarantee equal enjoyment of the rights of all citizens to ensure effective participation in public life, as required under article 25 of the Covenant. It should review decisions to dissolve opposition parties and ensure that political parties and their members are allowed to participate in political life, in line with article 25. The State party should step up its efforts to combat corruption, particularly among government figures.

Theme: D23 Death penalty			
<p>114.78 Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the threshold of "most serious crimes" under international law (Belgium);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 35</p>	Supported	<p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.35 above.</p> <p>Also, in paragraphs 31 and 32 of its 2018 Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, the UN's Human Rights Committee states - in toto:</p> <p>31. The Committee notes with concern that the State party lifted its moratorium on the death penalty in January 2017 and that, since then, the number of death sentences is reported to have increased. It is particularly concerned that the death penalty is imposed for crimes other than the "most serious crimes" within the meaning of article 6 (2) of the Covenant, which allows the death penalty only for intentional killing. Instead, domestic law provides for the imposition of the death penalty for crimes such as drug trafficking, deliberately obstructing funerals or memorial services, certain crimes against property under aggravating circumstances and any offence punishable by life imprisonment under common law if that offence is perpetrated for the purposes of terrorism. The Committee is also concerned about allegations that death sentences have been imposed on the basis of confessions obtained under duress or torture or in the context of trials that did not meet the standards of article 14 of the Covenant. The Committee finds it regrettable that the State party has not provided information on the current number of inmates on death row. The Committee also notes that although the Constitution of Bahrain recognizes many rights, it does not explicitly recognize the right to life (arts. 2, 6, 7, 9 and 14).</p> <p>32. The State party should reinstate the moratorium and consider abolishing the death penalty and acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the Covenant, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. If the death penalty is maintained, the State party should, as a matter of priority, take all measures necessary to ensure that it is imposed only for the most serious crimes, involving intentional killing; that it is never mandatory; that pardons or commutations of the sentence are available in all cases, regardless of the crime committed; that it is never imposed in violation of the Covenant, including in the absence of fair trial procedures; and that it is not imposed by military courts, in particular against civilians.</p> <p><i>The State party should:</i></p> <p>(a) Consider the prompt re-establishment of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty;</p>

			<p>(b) Consider, in that context, pardoning and reprieving all inmates currently on death row and commuting their sentences;</p> <p>(c) Ensure that allegations by defendants that their confessions have been obtained under torture are properly investigated by competent bodies. No court rulings should be based on confessions obtained as a result of torture, which contravene article 15 of the Convention against Torture and the State party's Constitution and Criminal Code;</p> <p>(d) Introduce a mandatory system of review of cases in which capital punishment has been handed down, with suspensive effect following a death penalty sentence in the first instance;</p> <p>(e) Bring to the attention of judges that investigations and a new trial of Mohammed Ramadhan and Hussain Ali Moosa will be needed if coerced confessions were taken into account as evidence during their previous trial, guarantee the two men effective assistance by legal counsel at all stages of the new judicial proceedings and ensure the strict confidentiality of all meetings with their lawyers.</p>
Theme: D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment			
<p>114.17 Take steps to establish an independent, effective and well-resourced national preventive mechanism in compliance with Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture requirements (Ghana);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 20</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.124 and 114.4 above</p> <p>Regarding detention, in paragraphs 25c and d of its Concluding Observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3), the United Nations, Committee against Torture called -n the GoB to: <i>"Ensure that effective investigations are conducted into all cases of violence and that conditions of detention do not provoke riots by the inmates; (d)Ensure that thorough investigations are conducted into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment committed in detention facilities, punish any perpetrators who are found guilty and provide redress, including medical and psychological rehabilitation, to the victims."</i></p>

<p>114.81 Further implement measures on the protection of victims of mistreatment and torture and on the prosecution of perpetrators (Italy);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented. See the partial response to 114.80 above, but also: no perpetrators are persecuted and there has been a lack of action to thoroughly investigate cases.</p> <p>See: United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3.</p> <p>25. <i>The State party should:</i></p> <p>(a) Ensure that the use of force by security forces in places of detention during security operations is not excessive and that tear gas is not fired in closed spaces to quell riots, which endangers the lives of the inmates;</p> <p>(b) Ensure that the basic rights of detainees are maintained in all circumstances and that detainees are not subjected to collective punishment by the prison administration;</p> <p>(c) Ensure that effective investigations are conducted into all cases of violence and that conditions of detention do not provoke riots by the inmates;</p> <p>(d) Ensure that thorough investigations are conducted into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment committed in detention facilities, punish any perpetrators who are found guilty and provide redress, including medical and psychological rehabilitation, to the victims.</p>
<p>114.79 Investigate all allegations of torture and start prosecuting all individuals found responsible (Norway);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.80 and 114.81 above, but also the Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, in which the UN's Human Rights Committee states:</p> <p>38. The State party should:</p> <p>(a) Take vigorous steps to prevent torture and ill-treatment and ensure that all such cases are promptly, independently and thoroughly investigated, that perpetrators are brought to justice and that victims receive full reparation;</p> <p>(b) Set up an accessible, independent and effective complaint mechanism to combat torture;</p> <p>(c) <i>Collect accurate data on cases of torture and ill-treatment and related prosecutions, convictions and sentences and make those data public;</i></p> <p>(d) <i>Ensure that confessions obtained in violation of article 7 of the Covenant are not accepted by courts under any circumstances, that allegations made by defendants that a statement was made under torture or ill-treatment are promptly and adequately investigated and that the burden of proving that confessions were made voluntarily falls on State authorities;</i></p>

			<p>(e) Provide security forces and other law enforcement personnel with effective training on torture prevention and humane treatment.</p> <p>And: United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3.</p> <p>6. While commending the establishment of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry and taking note of the amendments to national legislation concerning the definition of torture and the establishment of the institutional framework pursuant to the recommendations of the Commission, the Committee is concerned at the substantial gap between the amended legislative and institutional frameworks and their effective implementation in practice with regard to the obligations of the Convention (arts. 2, 4, 10 and 12-13).</p> <p>7. The State party should unambiguously proclaim at the highest level that torture will not be tolerated. It should take the necessary measures to narrow the gap between the legislative and institutional frameworks and their implementation in practice by, inter alia, announcing and ensuring that investigations and prosecutions will be carried out promptly against perpetrators of torture and those with command responsibility in all cases, and issuing a warning that anyone committing acts of torture or found to be otherwise complicit or acquiescent in acts of torture will be held personally responsible before the law and will be subject to criminal prosecution and appropriate penalties.</p>
<p>114.83 Ensure the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Special Investigations Unit and other relevant human rights institutions in investigating all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, unlawful killings and deaths in custody (Finland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>D21 Right to life</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.80 and 114.81 above. There has been a chronic lack of independent inquiry into human rights abuses and violations.</p>

<p>114.94 Ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearances, torture or any other form of ill-treatment are independently, promptly and thoroughly investigated, and perpetrators are brought to justice in accordance with international rule of law standards (Germany);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D32 Enforced disappearances</p> <p>D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- disappeared persons</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.35, 114.80 and 114.81 above.</p> <p>Also: United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3 - in toto:</p> <p>36. The State party should fully investigate, in accordance with international standards, all allegations of involvement by members of its law enforcement and security forces in the killing of civilians, excessive use of force, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture and ill-treatment from 2011 onward. Furthermore, the State party should initiate criminal proceedings against the alleged perpetrators of such acts, sentence convicted perpetrators and afford victims integral reparation, including adequate compensation. In the event of enforced disappearances, the fate or the whereabouts of victims should be elucidated. The State party should also ensure that all demonstrators injured during demonstrations have access to medical assistance. In addition, it should take measures to effectively prevent and eradicate all excessive use of force by law enforcement and security officials, including by guaranteeing that such officials receive systematic training on the use of force, taking due account of the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.</p> <p>37. The Committee is concerned about reports that acts of torture and ill-treatment are often committed by law enforcement officials, including as a means of eliciting confessions, that, despite the prohibition in domestic law, confessions obtained under duress have been used as evidence in court and that allegations made by defendants in this respect have not been adequately investigated. The Committee is also concerned about reports of torture in prisons, particularly in the Jau prison. It notes with concern the lack of information on investigations carried out and convictions handed down vis-à-vis the number of complaints of torture and ill-treatment (arts. 2, 6, 7 and 14).</p> <p>38. The State party should:</p> <p>(a) Take vigorous steps to prevent torture and ill-treatment and ensure that all such cases are promptly, independently and thoroughly investigated, that perpetrators are brought to justice and that victims receive full reparation;</p>
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Theme: D26 Conditions of detention			
<p>114.112 Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience imprisoned only for exercising their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iceland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>Not implemented and actively resisted by the GoB. See responses under A12 Acceptance of international norms, above. Not implemented; actively rejected by the Government of Bahrain (GoB). By expressing support but then actively opposing the very things the GoB asserts that it supports, the GoB undermines the very purpose of the UPR process. It mocks the OHCHR and international human rights standards. While the GoB will engage with the UN on matters such training or discussions on legal reform, there is no political willingness to engage in or adhere to substantive UN human rights recommendations, whether from peers, legally binding treaty bodies; special procedures or the Office of the High Commissioner, as expressed through successive statements from the latter.</p> <p>Already cited above, examples of this include:</p> <p>WGAD Opinion 55/2016: Mahmood Abdulredha Hasan al-Jazeeri;</p> <p>29.05.17 - The GoB rejecting the express recommendation of the Committee against Torture, made in paras 10 and 11 of the Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, adopted 8 and 9 May 2017, reference CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, notably in respect to paragraph 33: the release from detention human rights defenders and journalists who have allegedly been detained and imprisoned in retaliation for their work, including Abdulhadi al-Khawaja, Naji Fateel, Nabeel Rajab, Abduljalil al-Singace, Hussain Jawad and Abdulwahab Hussain; the investigation - promptly, thoroughly and impartially - of all allegations of harassment, arbitrary arrest, torture or ill-treatment of human rights defenders and journalists, prosecute and punish</p>

			<p>appropriately those found guilty while ensuring that they have access to justice and are guaranteed fundamental legal safeguards, and provide redress to the victims; and ending the use of revocation of citizenship as a form of reprisal against human rights defenders, journalists and any other critics who are political activists and not in favour of the authorities.</p> <p>11.09.17 - Human Rights Council 36th session, Opening Statement by Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Darker and more dangerous: High Commissioner updates the Human Rights Council on human rights issues in 40 countries, 11 September 2017; see: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22041&LangID=E, in which he said: "Since June 2016, the government of Bahrain has imposed severe restrictions on civil society and political activism through arrests [...]. But no public relations campaign can paper over the violations being inflicted on the people of Bahrain. They deserve real respect for their human rights, and I continue to offer the assistance of my Office to any genuine effort to address the situation."</p> <p>WGAD Opinion No. 51/2018: Sayed Nazar Naama Baqqer Ali Yusuf Alwadaei, Mahmood Marzooq Mansoor and Hajar Mansoor Hassan;</p> <p>13.08.18 - UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) called for release of HRD, Nabeel Rajab, noting detention resulted from exercise of his right to freedom of expression and constituted discrimination based on political or other opinion. GoB continues to detain him as of November 2019.</p> <p>10.09.18 - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet called for release of HRDs, including Nabeel Rajab, during opening of 39th Human Rights Council session. No action taken.</p>
<p>114.100 Release as soon as possible all individuals, including human rights defenders, having been imprisoned solely due to the exercise of their fundamental rights of expression and assembly (Norway);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders 	Not implemented. See response to 114.98 and 114.105 above

Theme: D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking			
114.85 Continue and further efforts to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons (Saudi Arabia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking Affected persons: - general	Partially implemented. See: United Nations, Committee against Torture, Concluding observations on the second and third periodic reports of Bahrain, 29 May 2017, CAT/C/BHR/CO/2-3, in which the Committee welcomed the GoB's <i>"initiatives to amend its policies, programmes and administrative measures to give effect to the Convention, including the adoption of: (a) Act No. 1 establishing the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons, in 2008"</i> Full and independent assessment of the the GoB's implementation of the recommendation is needed.
114.90 Further intensify the combating of human trafficking and the protection of victims of trafficking in persons by removing the existing obstacles (Ethiopia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above
114.91 Consider formulating a strategy against trafficking in persons (India); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A43 Human rights policies A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above
114.92 Adopt a comprehensive national strategy against trafficking in persons (Maldives); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A43 Human rights policies A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above

114.93 Intensify efforts to provide public education and training on the human trafficking law (Azerbaijan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A51 Human rights education - general Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above
114.86 Further improve measures aimed at combating human trafficking, including victim assistance (Sri Lanka); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking B53 Support to victims and witnesses Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above
114.89 Step up efforts to combat human trafficking and strengthen the protection of victims (Angola); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking B53 Support to victims and witnesses Affected persons: - general	Partial implementation. See response to 114.85 above
Theme: D31 Liberty and security - general			
114.50 Improve the capacity and training of the security forces in the area of human rights and moderate use of force, both in their response to peaceful protests and in places of detention (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	D31 Liberty and security - general D44 Right to peaceful assembly Affected persons: - general - law enforcement / police officials	Not implemented. Despite featuring human rights standards on a police website, the actual level of training is not known. The GoB claims to aim to abide by international standards and has prepared an <i>"integrated plan to be implemented by the Royal Academy of Police...related to the principles of the use of force"</i> as well as sponsoring scholarships for individuals to learn about human rights at university however these are merely words and the police and the NSA are increasingly accused of abuse and human rights violations.
Theme: D32 Enforced disappearances			
114.167 Continue its steps to promote human rights through effective measures to realize the rights set out in the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Yemen); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a	Supported	D32 Enforced disappearances Affected persons: - disappeared persons	Not implemented. At present no law in Bahrain considers enforced disappearance a criminal offense, and authorities intimidate Bahraini citizens and spread terror among members of society through abductions.

Theme: D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion			
114.171 Strengthen the legal protection for migrant workers, including domestic workers, against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, religion or nationality (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	Not implemented. See response to 114.88 above
Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression			
114.104 Remove undue restrictions on the online publication of news media, and the licencing restrictions on media organizations and individuals seeking to practise journalism (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	<p>Not implemented. The 2017 closure of al-Wasat exemplifies that restrictions on media publication or international journalists remain in place. Journalists need a permit to work and domestic journalists have to apply for licenses to collaborate or work for international media groups while an abundance of restrictions and this prevents free and independent media presence in Bahrain.</p> <p>In its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee recommended that:</p> <p>54. The State party should protect freedom of expression, in accordance with article 19 of the Covenant. In particular, it should:</p> <p>(a) Decriminalize blasphemy and insulting and criticizing public officials;</p> <p>(b) Consider decriminalizing defamation and, in any case, apply criminal law only in the most serious cases, bearing in mind that, as stated by the Committee in its general comment No. 34 (2011) on the freedoms of opinion and expression, imprisonment is never an appropriate penalty for defamation;</p> <p>(c) Release immediately and unconditionally anyone held solely for the peaceful exercise of his or her rights, including human rights defenders, activists, lawyers and trade unionists;</p> <p>(d) Review and amend the provisions of the Criminal Code, Decree Law No. 47 and regulations on digital rights to bring them into line with article 19 of the Covenant and general comment No. 34 (2011);</p> <p>(e) Effectively protect journalists, activists and human rights defenders from attacks or intimidation and ensure that all human rights violations perpetrated against them are thoroughly investigated and that those responsible are brought to justice.</p>

114.114 Continue strengthening the freedom of the media and the rights of media workers (Lebanon); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	Not implemented. See response to 114.104, immediately above.
114.117 Take further steps to create a more enabling environment for international and national media platforms and ensure plurality of opinions within the country (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	Not implemented. See response to 114.104, above, as well as 114.107.
114.118 Allow journalists to exercise their profession, and refrain from arbitrarily withholding licence renewals (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	Not implemented. See response to 114.104, above.
114.61 Take specific and additional measures aimed at strengthening its national unity and internal domestic security and fostering cooperation in order to disseminate the culture of social peaceful coherence and guarantee freedom of expression that ensures social justice among all components of society (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression B31 Equality & non-discrimination S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See response to 114.104 and 114.160 above The government's 2017 Exercise of Political Rights Law disenfranchised swathes of the population; repressive restrictions on media and the closure in 2017 of al-Wasat; practices that have alienated Shi'a on grounds of religion; whose leading activists have been unfairly imprisoned and about whom international calls for release have been ignored; as well as failure to include in any meaningful way have undermined national unity and domestic security and destroyed social justice.

<p>114.99 Rescind impediments to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (New Zealand);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	Not implemented. See responses to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13 and others, above.
<p>114.115 Respect the legitimate rights of all its citizens to freedom of assembly, expression and participation in political societies (Australia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- media</p>	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.5, 114.7 and 114.13 above.</p> <p>Note that in its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee expressed concern <i>"that the right to freedom of assembly is severely limited and notes that public gatherings and marches are severely restricted by a 1973 decree on public gatherings and Decree No. 32/2006. In this regard, the Committee notes with concern that participating in public gatherings without government authorization is a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. The Committee is also concerned about reports that the State party regularly avails itself of legal provisions making assemblies illegal to disperse protests violently and arrest activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition (arts. 19 and 21)."</i></p> <p>It called on the GoB to: <i>"ensure that the right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed to all individuals without discrimination. The State party should also ensure the prompt, effective and impartial investigation of threats against and harassment and assaults of activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition and, when appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such acts."</i></p>

<p>114.97 Avoid the intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations, lifting the restrictions imposed on them and allowing them to freely exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Spain);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - media - human rights defenders 	<p>Not implemented and actively resisted by the GoB. See responses to 114.5, 114.7 and 114.13 above.</p> <p>Its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee expressed concern at the "large number of reports of reprisals against human rights defenders and journalists because of their work, particularly when such individuals collaborate with United Nations treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council. Notwithstanding the information provided by the State party's delegation, the Committee received a number of reports of reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders, including continuing reports of travel bans, harassment or intimidation, death threats, violence, arrests and arbitrary detention, which appear to have escalated in the last years. The Committee notes with concern the cases of Yusuf al-Hoori, Sayed Ahmed Alwadaei, Ebtisam al-Saegh and others who were alleged victims of reprisals. The Committee draws particular attention to resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014, in which the General Assembly stated that it "strongly condemns all acts of intimidation and reprisals against individuals and groups for their contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies, and urges States to take all appropriate action ... to prevent and eliminate such human rights violations" (arts. 2, 6, 7, 19, 21 and 22)"</p> <p>The HRC called on the GoB to "take all necessary steps to ensure that it does not exert any undue influence over human rights defenders and that they are free to work without fear of reprisals or unjustified restrictions on their activities. The State party should ensure that everyone has unhindered access to the treaty bodies and their members for the effective implementation of the treaty body mandates, in accordance with the Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals (San José Guidelines). The State party should also investigate all cases of violence committed against journalists and human rights defenders thoroughly, effectively, independently and impartially and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned and that victims or their families are provided with effective remedies."</p>
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Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly			
<p>114.109 Take measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly and to promote and facilitate the activities of NGOs (France);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - human rights defenders 	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Note that in its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee expressed concern <i>"that the right to freedom of assembly is severely limited and notes that public gatherings and marches are severely restricted by a 1973 decree on public gatherings and Decree No. 32/2006. In this regard, the Committee notes with concern that participating in public gatherings without government authorization is a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. The Committee is also concerned about reports that the State party regularly avails itself of legal provisions making assemblies illegal to disperse protests violently and arrest activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition (arts. 19 and 21)."</i></p> <p>It called on the GoB to: <i>"ensure that the right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed to all individuals without discrimination. The State party should also ensure the prompt, effective and impartial investigation of threats against and harassment and assaults of activists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition and, when appropriate, prosecute the perpetrators of such acts."</i></p>
<p>114.101 Protect the rights to freedom of association and assembly in accordance with its international obligations, notably those under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and cease the dissolution of political parties and civil society organizations (Sweden);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	Not implemented. See immediately above.

Theme: D45 Freedom of association			
114.122 Respect and protect the right of all groups and individuals to participate in legitimate political activities (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D45 Freedom of association D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. The government's 2017 Exercise of Political Representation Law removed the right of association to swathes of activists and people; its banning of political groupings, too, undermines this fundamental freedom. Note also that in paragraph 58 its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the Human Rights Committee called on the GoB to " <i>amend relevant laws, regulations and practices with a view to bringing them into full compliance with articles 19 and 22 of the Covenant. In particular, it should refrain from dissolving human rights organizations and opposition groups for having legitimately exercised their rights and take all measures to re-establish such organizations. It should simplify registration rules and revise the grounds for refusing to allow NGOs to register or permanently closing them. The State party should also amend its laws to allow civil society organizations to engage in political activities.</i> "
114.123 Remove restrictive limitations on the establishment of political parties or membership therein, and cease the dissolution by law of opposition political societies (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D45 Freedom of association D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented. See immediately above.
Theme: D51 Administration of justice & fair trial			
114.128 Focus on strengthening the legal framework, the institutions and the judiciary to guarantee an independent judicial system and the right to fair trial guaranteed by articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b	Supported	D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - judges, lawyers and prosecutors	Not implemented. Note that in paragraph 45 its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the Human Rights Committee expressed concern that " <i>in practice, the judiciary is neither fully independent nor impartial. In particular, the Committee is concerned about the fact that judges are appointed by royal order and that several of them have renewable employment contracts of one to three years, a circumstance that jeopardizes the security of their tenure (arts. 14 and 25).</i> " It called on the GoB to " <i>take all measures necessary to safeguard, in law and in practice, the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary, including by ensuring that the procedures for the selection and appointment of judges are based entirely on objective, transparent criteria for the assessment of candidates' merits in terms of their qualifications, competence and integrity, in compliance with the principles of independence and impartiality, as set out in the Covenant. The State party should guarantee that the judiciary can carry out its functions without any form of political interference.</i> "

Theme: D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality			
<p>114.174 End the practice of revoking citizenship from individuals (Denmark);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9b</p>	Supported	<p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>Not implemented. See responses to 114.69 and 114.70 above. According to the monitoring website, "I am Bahraini" (https://www.anabahraini.org/), in 2016, the authorities arbitrarily stripped the citizenship of 90; in 2017, 156; in 2018, 298 and in 2019, 181. In April 2019, the GoB restored the citizenship of 551 persons, leaving 434 persons deprived of their citizenship since the practice was reintroduced in 2012.</p> <p>Note that in its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee called on the GoB, in paragraph 62, to <i>"take specific steps to amend its current legislation to ensure that citizenship is not revoked, except in accordance with the Covenant and international standards and under independent judicial review. It should also adopt all necessary legal and practical measures to prevent and reduce statelessness, including by considering accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness."</i></p>
<p>114.150 Finalize the draft law amending certain provisions of the 1963 citizenship act to enable Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men to confer their nationality on their children without any conditions (Botswana); Expedite the legal procedures relating to the Bahraini nationality act of 1963, thus allowing citizenship to be granted, without restrictions, to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Sierra Leone);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a</p>	Supported	<p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - children 	<p>Not implemented. See response to 114.151 above, but also the following: in its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee called on the GoB, in paragraph 20, to <i>"repeal all discriminatory provisions against women in its legislation. In particular, it should (a) expedite adoption of the amendments to the Nationality Act to ensure that women and men have equal rights in transmitting their nationality to their children; and (b) ensure that women are granted equal rights to divorce, including economic rights."</i></p>

Theme: D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote			
<p>114.56 Engage in a genuine national dialogue in an open and inclusive manner with all stakeholders, with the aim of effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of all the population in a comprehensive and inclusive manner (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16a</p>	Supported	<p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented. The government's 2017 Exercise of Political Rights Law disenfranchised swathes of the population; repressive restrictions on media and the closure in 2017 of al-Wasat; practices that have alienated Shi'a on grounds of religion; whose leading activists have been unfairly imprisoned and about whom international calls for release have been ignored; as well as failure to include in any meaningful way have undermined national unity and domestic security and destroyed social justice.</p> <p>In its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee called on the GoB, in paragraph 63, to <i>"guarantee equal enjoyment of the rights of all citizens to ensure effective participation in public life, as required under article 25 of the Covenant. It should review decisions to dissolve opposition parties and ensure that political parties and their members are allowed to participate in political life, in line with article 25. The State party should step up its efforts to combat corruption, particularly among government figures."</i></p>
<p>114.145 Continue efforts to empower and advance women and facilitate women's participation in the society, particularly in political life, decision-making and holding leadership positions (Jordan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>F14 Participation of women in political and public life</p> <p>S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	<p>Partially implemented. There are some efforts but they are only cosmetic and not genuine, theoretical and not practically implemented.</p> <p>Also, in its Concluding Observations, on the initial report of Bahrain (15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the UN's Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 21, expressed concern that <i>"notwithstanding the information provided by the State party, women are underrepresented in political and public life, in particular in decision-making positions. It is also concerned about Act No. 36/2012 governing labour in the private sector, under which the Minister of Labour and Social Development is authorized to define the jobs women may not take, and the lack of clear information on the specific jobs prohibited to women and the criteria for determining those jobs (arts. 2, 3, 25 and 26)."</i></p> <p>In paragraph 22, the HRC called on the GoB to <i>"strengthen measures to ensure gender equality and develop strategies to combat patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society at large. The State party should step up its efforts to achieve the equitable representation of women in the public and political spheres, particularly in decision-making positions, if necessary through appropriate temporary special measures, to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant. It should also ensure that women have equal access to employment opportunities and that the labour laws do not perpetuate stereotypes about women."</i></p>

Theme: E31 Right to work			
<p>114.131 Take further steps to ensure equality with respect to all aspects of employment and occupation (Republic of Korea);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 18</p>	Supported	<p>E31 Right to work</p> <p>E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>Not implemented. In the state sector, there is rampant discrimination in employment. In the education sector, the government has imposed implicit restrictions that flies in the face of equality. As a result, youth unemployment has increased, notably amongst the Shi'a community. However, precise data is not available.</p> <p>While outside the UPR framework, Bahrain has ratified ILO convention C111 - Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111). See: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312256:NO</p> <p>In 2019, the ILO's Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR) addressed observations submitted by the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Union (GFBTU) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) received respectively on 30 August and 1 September 2018. Its findings are at: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3962136:NO</p> <p>CEACR set out findings of high levels of discrimination, and asked the GoB to "take steps to raise awareness of the principles of equality and non-discrimination in employment and occupation and the procedures available and to keep it informed of any progress in the establishment of the special unit that will be dedicated to receiving and dealing with workers' complaints related to discrimination. In the meantime, noting the Government's readiness to collaborate with the ILO so as to provide additional training on discrimination in employment and occupation to officials in charge of enforcement, the Committee asks the Government to provide information on any action taken to enhance the capacity of these officials to detect and address discriminatory practices."</p>
Theme: E41 Right to health - General			
<p>114.163 Develop health programmes in health-care centres and correctional and rehabilitation centres to accommodate all age groups and people with special needs (Oman);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a</p>	Supported	<p>E41 Right to health - General</p> <p>F4 Persons with disabilities</p> <p>S03 SDG 3 - health</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons with disabilities</p> <p>- vulnerable persons/groups</p>	<p>Partially implemented. Anecdotal information indicates that health care is generally declining amongst large swathes of society, amidst a shortage of medicines.</p>

Theme: E51 Right to education - General			
114.48 Intensify programmes aimed at promoting and protecting human rights in school curricula (Kuwait); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - children	Not implemented; no known evidence. The UN Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 12 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, urged the GoB to " <i>widely disseminate the Covenant, its initial report, the written replies to the Committee's list of issues and the present concluding observations with a view to raising awareness of the rights enshrined in the Covenant among the judicial, legislative and administrative authorities, civil society and NGOs operating in the country, and the general public.</i> " We did not find any evidence in respect to this, supported, recommendation. For example, the place of international human rights standards appears absent from the GoB's education strategy 2015-2018: http://www.moe.gov.bh/pdf/StrategicPlan.pdf Or, the twitter account of the GoB's "Ministry of Human Rights".
114.65 Continue paying attention to achieving comprehensive development through support for a human rights culture through the media and the educational system (Jordan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	E51 Right to education - General B41 Right to development A43 Human rights policies Affected persons: - general - media	See above. Not implemented; no known evidence.
114.148 Continue to bolster progress in the education of girls and women and to further diversify their educational and professional choices (Libya); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	E51 Right to education - General E54 technical and vocational education S04SDG4-education Affected persons: - women - girls	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in paragraph 22 of its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, called on the GoB to " <i>step up its efforts to achieve the equitable representation of women in the public and political spheres, particularly in decision-making positions, if necessary through appropriate temporary special measures, to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant. It should also ensure that women have equal access to employment opportunities and that the labour laws do not perpetuate stereotypes about women.</i> "
114.158 Increase the number of women in political and public life at all levels and in all areas and promote women in leadership positions and ensure that they are granted opportunities in the higher education system (Turkey); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	E51 Right to education - General E55 higher education F14 Participation of women in political and public life Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. See above.

Theme: F1 Women			
114.156 Continue strengthening the policies aimed at protecting women (Kuwait); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F1 Women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality. For example, paragraph 22 states: "22. The State party should strengthen measures to ensure gender equality and develop strategies to combat patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society at large. The State party should step up its efforts to achieve the equitable representation of women in the public and political spheres, particularly in decision-making positions, if necessary through appropriate temporary special measures, to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant. It should also ensure that women have equal access to employment opportunities and that the labour laws do not perpetuate stereotypes about women."
Theme: F11 Advancement of women			
114.147 Further efforts to increase the representation of women in leadership, public and decision-making positions (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F11 Advancement of women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. See above.
114.141 Fully implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in its five lines (Cuba); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F11 Advancement of women A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - women	Partially implemented.
114.143 Continue empowering Bahraini women in the economic, political and social spheres (Egypt); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality.

Theme: F12 Discrimination against women			
114.135 Take necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Myanmar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality.
114.136 Pursue efforts to enhance women's rights and fight all sorts of discrimination against women (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality.
114.142 Pursue further measures to strengthen gender equality and guarantee the status of women in society at all levels (Algeria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality.
114.155 Continue the important process of reconciling the improvement of women's rights and duties within the provision of sharia law (Indonesia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality.
114.144 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and women's political, social and economic empowerment (Nepal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women F14 Participation of women in political and public life S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality. For example, paragraph 22 states: "22. <i>The State party should strengthen measures to ensure gender equality and develop strategies to combat patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society at large. The State party should step up its efforts to achieve the equitable representation of women in the public and political spheres, particularly in decision-making positions, if necessary through appropriate temporary special measures, to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant. It should also ensure that women have equal access to employment opportunities and that the labour laws do not perpetuate stereotypes about women.</i> "

114.138 Continue to implement policies that promote gender equality and provide women with opportunities to play an active role in social, economic and political spheres (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	See above.
114.146 Adopt holistic plans and policies to achieve gender equality in public and private spheres and further recommends that specific measures be taken to increase women's participation at all levels and promote women's appointment in leadership positions (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	See 114.144, above.
114.170 Ensure the effective protection of migrants, particularly women migrant workers, against discrimination (Philippines); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality. For example, paragraph 48 states: <i>"48. The State party should further strengthen its efforts to combat, prevent, eradicate and punish trafficking in persons and forced labour. In particular, it should ensure that all cases of human trafficking and forced labour are thoroughly investigated, that perpetrators are brought to justice and that victims receive full reparation and means of protection. In addition, the State party should expand labour law protection to domestic workers, including by ensuring that they can exercise their rights and that they are protected from exploitation and abuse, and provide access to effective legal remedies for the protection of domestic migrant workers' rights."</i>

Theme: F14 Participation of women in political and public life			
114.73 Continue efforts to promote the participation of women in political, economic, social and all other spheres (Myanmar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F14 Participation of women in political and public life F11 Advancement of women Affected persons: - women	Not implemented. The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, reported significant shortcomings in relation to gender equality. For example, paragraph 22 states: <i>"22. The State party should strengthen measures to ensure gender equality and develop strategies to combat patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society at large. The State party should step up its efforts to achieve the equitable representation of women in the public and political spheres, particularly in decision-making positions, if necessary through appropriate temporary special measures, to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant. It should also ensure that women have equal access to employment opportunities and that the labour laws do not perpetuate stereotypes about women."</i>
Theme: F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection			
114.159 Continue to promote the rights of children (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	Not implemented. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, in its Concluding observations on the combined fourth to sixth periodic reports of Bahrain (27 February 2019, CRC/C/BHR/CO/4-6) sets out flaws regarding the promotion and protection of the rights of children.
114.160 Prohibit by law corporal punishment against children in all settings and contexts, including in the home, and repeal all exceptions to its use (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F32 Children: family environment and alternative care Affected persons: - children	Not implemented. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, in its Concluding observations on the combined fourth to sixth periodic reports of Bahrain (27 February 2019, CRC/C/BHR/CO/4-6) stated, in paragraph 28 that it was <i>"concerned that corporal punishment is still permitted in alternative care settings, in the home and in the administration of justice."</i> The Committee called on the GoB to: (a) Explicitly prohibit, through legislative and administrative provisions, the use of corporal punishment, however light, in all settings, including in early childhood care institutions, in alternative care settings, in the home and in the administration of justice, and ensure that its prohibition is adequately monitored and enforced in all settings; (b) Strengthen and expand new and existing awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns, among parents, teachers and relevant professional groups to promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline, and to promote a change in the mindset with regard to corporal punishment in all settings.

Theme: F4 Persons with disabilities			
114.166 Promote the participation of persons with disabilities and integrate them more widely in Bahraini society (Sudan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	Insufficient evidence; no comment.
114.164 Continue to improve the social security system, and take further steps to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (China); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities E24 Right to social security Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	Insufficient evidence; no comment.
114.165 Continue to support the integration of persons with disabilities in society by strengthening educational support and job training (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	Insufficient evidence; no comment.
114.132 Continue to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular girls, women, migrants and persons with disabilities (Senegal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities G4 Migrants Affected persons: - women - girls - migrants - vulnerable persons/groups	Partially implemented.

Theme: H1 Human rights defenders			
114.119 Adopt appropriate measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and members of the political opposition from acts of aggression and intimidation and abstain from taking any restrictive measures or reprisals against human rights defenders, notably those who cooperate with the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	<p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>A61 Cooperation with civil society</p> <p>D31 Liberty and security - general</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- human rights defenders</p>	<p>Not implemented and actively resisted by the GoB. Also , see response to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.98 and 114.105 above. . The UN Human Rights Committee, in its Concluding observations on the initial report of Bahrain, 15 November 2018, CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1, expressed concern, in paragraph 59, at the "large number of reports of reprisals against human rights defenders and journalists because of their work, particularly when such individuals collaborate with United Nations treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council. Notwithstanding the information provided by the State party's delegation, the Committee received a number of reports of reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders, including continuing reports of travel bans, harassment or intimidation, death threats, violence, arrests and arbitrary detention, which appear to have escalated in the last years. The Committee notes with concern the cases of Yusuf al-Hoori, Sayed Ahmed Alwadaei, Ebtisam al-Saegh and others who were alleged victims of reprisals. The Committee draws particular attention to resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014, in which the General Assembly stated that it "strongly condemns all acts of intimidation and reprisals against individuals and groups for their contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies, and urges States to take all appropriate action ... to prevent and eliminate such human rights violations" (arts. 2, 6, 7, 19, 21 and 22)."</p> <p>The HRC called on the GoB to: "take all necessary steps to ensure that it does not exert any undue influence over human rights defenders and that they are free to work without fear of reprisals or unjustified restrictions on their activities. The State party should ensure that everyone has unhindered access to the treaty bodies and their members for the effective implementation of the treaty body mandates, in accordance with the Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals (San José Guidelines). The State party should also investigate all cases of violence committed against journalists and human rights defenders thoroughly, effectively, independently and impartially and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned and that victims or their families are provided with effective remedies."</p>

114.57 Take urgent steps to facilitate the work of civil society and human rights defenders, and guarantee protection of all persons from intimidation or reprisals for seeking to cooperate with the United Nations (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - human rights defenders	Not implemented. See responses to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.98 and 114.105 above.
114.124 End immediately the reprisals against human rights defenders and lift restrictions on civil society (Estonia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - human rights defenders	Not implemented. See responses to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.98 and 114.105 above.

//END OF RECOMMENDATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN//

.The GoB “noted” the following recommendations

Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
114.13 Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms Affected persons: - general	

114.1 Ratify the main human rights instruments to which Bahrain is not yet party, and adapt its national legislation to these and withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21a	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A13 Reservations A41 Constitutional and legislative framework F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	
114.36 Adhere to and adopt national legislation to bring it into line with the Arms Trade Treaty (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 25	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A43 Human rights policies Affected persons: - general	
114.14 Proceed with the ratification of, and full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including incorporating the Statute's definition of crimes as amended at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 2010 and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court, and accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Finland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - general	
114.18 Adhere and adopt national legislation in line with the Rome Statute, including the incorporation of the provisions for swift cooperation with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - general	

114.12 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal) (Estonia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms B11 International humanitarian law B52 Impunity D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - general - persons deprived of their liberty - refugees & asylum seekers - law enforcement / police officials	
114.7 Ratify the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation Affected persons: - general	
114.2 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Estonia) (Uruguay) (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21b	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty Affected persons: - general - persons deprived of their liberty	
114.3 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and abolish the death penalty (Portugal); Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Angola); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21b	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty Affected persons: - general - persons deprived of their liberty	

<p>114.76 Suspend without delay the executions and declare a moratorium on the application of death penalty as the first phase towards its abolition (France); Immediately implement a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing the practice (Australia); Immediately declare an official moratorium on executions with a view to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the abolition of the death penalty (Austria); Establish without delay a legal moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its subsequent abolition (Luxembourg)</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	
<p>114.5 Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in order to contribute to the work already done (Uruguay); Ratify before the next universal periodic review cycle the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish a national preventive mechanism accordingly (Czechia); Positively examine the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Cyprus); Move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21c</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	

114.6 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal) (Estonia) (Guatemala) (Ghana) (Denmark) (Luxembourg) (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21c	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
114.11 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay) (Ghana) (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D32 Enforced disappearances Affected persons: - disappeared persons	
114.16 Accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - stateless persons	
114.9 Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization (Switzerland) (Philippines) (Ghana) (Uganda); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work Affected persons: - general	
114.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21a	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	
114.10 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines) (Ghana) (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	

114.15 Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Uganda); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms G4 Migrants G5 Refugees & asylum seekers Affected persons: - refugees & asylum seekers	
Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures			
114.24 Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures as soon as possible (Netherlands); Extend the standing invitation to all the mechanisms and special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Honduras); Facilitate a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Guatemala); Issue a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	
114.25 Cooperate with special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including by swiftly providing access for special rapporteurs with outstanding requests for visits to Bahrain (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	
114.34 Accept a visit from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or a United Nations special rapporteur to identify steps to strengthen human rights institutions (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	

114.28 Allow the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit Bahrain, following up on the acceptance of recommendations to that effect made in the second cycle (Austria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
114.29 Accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on torture and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (France); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association Affected persons: - general - media - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders	
Theme: A25 Follow-up to special procedures			
114.30 Implement fully recommendations made by the United Nations mandate holders, including through the immediate release of all political prisoners and by ending impunity, thus bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice (Islamic Republic of Iran); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A25 Follow-up to special procedures D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote B52 Impunity D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - general - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders	
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
114.71 Amend the 2006 law on protecting society from terrorist acts to avoid imposing statelessness on individuals and minimize the negative impact on the families of those affected (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism Affected persons: - general - stateless persons	

114.68 Rescind the amendment of law 105b that allows for civilians to be prosecuted in military courts if accused of terrorism (Netherlands); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 31	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - general	This amendment has not been rescinded and civilians are still tried in military courts, in violation of the fair trial rights enshrined in the UDHR (Article 10) and the ICCPR (Article 14)
114.111 Repeal or amend all laws that restrict the freedoms of expression, association or assembly, including decree No. 31 of 2013, Law No. 34 of 2014, and Law No. 26 of 2015 (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 25	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association Affected persons: - general - media	
114.173 Speed up the legislative process to operationalize the draft law amending the nationality act so as to address the problem of statelessness in the country (Uganda); Amend article 10 (c) of the 1963 citizenship act to bring it into line with international standards (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - non-citizens - stateless persons	There are a thousand of stateless <i>Bidoon</i> (an ethnoreligious group of predominantly Shia individuals of Persian descent) in Bahrain's <i>Ajam</i> population and this denial of citizenship has forced the community into lower socio-economic conditions. Children of stateless fathers also remain stateless

Theme: B51 Right to an effective remedy

114.175 End the practice of revocation of citizenship, adopt legal and institutional safeguards to prevent discrimination against members of religious minorities and provide effective remedy for victims of arbitrary arrest, detention, summons or travel bans (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	<p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention</p> <p>D41 Freedom of movement</p> <p>D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups - persons deprived of their liberty 	
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Theme: D23 Death penalty

114.75 Commute all the death sentences and establish a moratorium on executions (Portugal); Commute all death sentences, declare a moratorium on executions and move towards an abolition of the death penalty (Norway); Introduce a moratorium on the execution of the death penalty (Germany); Impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro); Re-introduce the moratorium on executions with a view to definitively abolishing the death penalty (Spain); Impose an official moratorium on the death penalty and replace the death penalty with a sentence that is fair and proportionate and respects international human rights standards (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36	Noted	<p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	
114.74 Abolish the death penalty, and commute all death sentences to prison terms (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36	Noted	<p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	

114.77 Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania); Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy); Take urgent measures to establish a formal moratorium on executions of prisoners on death row (Argentina); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36	Noted	D23 Death penalty D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
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Theme: D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

114.95 Release all arbitrarily detained persons in Bahrain, including the Danish-Bahrain citizen Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja, a victim of torture who needs treatment and rehabilitation (Denmark); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 8	Noted	D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
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Theme: D26 Conditions of detention

114.103 Review convictions, commute sentences, or drop charges for all persons imprisoned solely for non-violent political expression (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 8	Noted	D26 Conditions of detention D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
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Theme: D41 Freedom of movement

114.176 Abolish the practice of revoking nationality as a punishment on any grounds (Mexico); End the practice of arbitrarily revoking citizenship, especially where this renders individuals stateless and forces them into exile (Belgium). Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	D41 Freedom of movement D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - non-citizens - stateless persons	
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Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly			
114.121 Remove undue restrictions on the organization of peaceful protest in opposition to the Government, and repeal the application of criminal penalties to peaceful participation in unauthorized protests (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 34	Noted	D44 Right to peaceful assembly Affected persons: - general	
114.84 Strengthen health services for prisoners and detainees (Qatar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1		Affected persons:	

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UPR of Bahrain (3rd Cycle – 27th session) Thematic list of recommendations

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com-ments on level of implementation
Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
114.33 Strengthen the cooperation with OHCHR (Honduras); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms A53 Professional training in human rights Affected persons: - general	- 2 years have passed since this recommendation and there has been no evidence of implementation in practice
114.125 Take effective measures to raise awareness of the rights stipulated in the conventions it has acceded to concerning the judiciary and law enforcement officials (Qatar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms A54 Awareness raising and dissemination D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - judges, lawyers and prosecutors - law enforcement / police officials	- UN Committee Against Torture (CAT) and the ICCPR in their respective reports on Bahrain have noted numerous situations and areas where human rights need to be prioritised and implemented
114.4 Continue the ratification process of the main international human rights-related instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 20	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- refer to CAT report - Bahrain has not yet ratified

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.88 Implement a national strategy to tackle the trafficking of women and girls, while building on its excellent work to ensure the effective protection of all workers, including migrant workers, against discrimination, and to ratify the 2014 protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 of the International Labour Organization (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking</p> <p>E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - women - girls 	<p>- An Amnesty International 2018 Report on Bahrain has revealed that workers continue to face labour exploitation and hundreds of workers took to protests in June requesting unpaid wages.</p> <p>- Mercury MENA an engineering company has left many of its workers unpaid for over a year, the government has not alleviated the situation</p>
<p>114.162 Take effective measures to realize the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was ratified in 2011 (United Arab Emirates);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>F4 Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons with disabilities 	<p>- Bahrain has ratified the treaty but has not taken active steps to implement its values</p>
Theme: A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies			
<p>114.19 Continue cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms in order to protect and promote human rights (Saudi Arabia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	<p>- There are restrictions and cancellations of Special Rapporteurs visits into Bahrain hence limited cooperation</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.27 Continue to strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by accepting country visits of special rapporteurs (Republic of Korea);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>- The government of Bahrain has repeatedly refused requests by Special Rapporteur on Torture to visit the Kingdom and allow investigation, this has not changed.</p>
<p>114.21 Continue to extend cooperation with the United Nations and to make the best use of the international expertise available through the relevant international mechanisms (Azerbaijan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	
<p>114.22 Ensure that all Bahrainis can freely cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Czechia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies</p> <p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>D31 Liberty and security</p> <p>- general</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- human rights defenders</p>	<p>- <i>Ebtisam AlSaegh</i> and <i>Najah Yousef</i> case, detained since 2017 because of cooperation with UN bodies</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.23 Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies A47 Good governance D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote Affected persons: - public officials	-
Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures			
114.26 Encourage the Government to cooperate with all special procedures mandate holders (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.27 above.
Theme: A2A Voluntary human rights goals and other commitments			
114.31 Encourage the Government to implement the pledges and commitments undertaken during the second cycle of the universal periodic review in 2012 (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A2A Voluntary human rights goals and other commitments A43 Human rights policies A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Affected persons: - general	- same recommendations have been repeated since 2012 to 2017 and there has been no tangible difference in the time period
Theme: A3 Inter-State cooperation & development assistance			
114.20 Continue efforts for international cooperation in the field of human rights and benefit from relevant international experiences (Sudan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A3 Inter-State cooperation & development assistance Affected persons: - general	- There is no clear or continuous cooperation between the OHRC and the state of Bahrain

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
114.35 Review laws and practices to ensure that they are compliant with international human rights law (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - general	- There have been no legal or constitutional actions undertaken to correlate domestic laws with international laws
114.105 Amend the penal code and the press law to remove criminal penalties for alleged libel and insult offences, as accepted by Bahrain during its last universal periodic review (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR) D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - general	- The previous laws regarding the penal code and press law are still active and there has been no intention or action to remove these clauses. - The authorities in Bahrain revive but still as bad and the overall is evaluation not any better
114.42 Continue introducing international norms of human rights in the national legislation and efforts to increase the potential and capacity of national human rights institutions (Uzbekistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation) Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.35 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com-ments on level of implementation
<p>114.120 Finalize and enact the new media law with the meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, providing for a truly independent regulatory body (Austria);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>A61 Cooperation with civil society</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- media</p>	<p>- the situation regarding media freedom laws is getting worse as more restrictions are placed and penalties increased</p> <p>- see response to 114.98 below</p>
<p>114.82 Criminalize torture in its legislation and establish a national preventive mechanism for torture (Spain);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>- The CAT report for Bahrain has shown that cases of torture are still prevalent and there have been no major changes and systematic torture is ongoing</p>
<p>114.62 Adopt effective measures in law and practice to eradicate all forms of discrimination, in particular on the basis of religion or belief (Honduras);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 28</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups</p>	<p>- systematic discrimination is present in Bahrain i.e. religious persecutions, in areas of employment, education scholarship and housing services among other.</p> <p>-The Human Rights Council Working Group on UPR 27th session noted authorities have worked to systematically disempower and discriminate.</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.106 Align the press law and penal code with the obligations under international human rights law, especially article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - general - media	- See response to 114.105 above
114.107 Redouble efforts to promote and safeguard the freedom and independence of the press and electronic media on the basis of international standards and norms (Cyprus); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	- Nationalising the Media and Legitimizing the Restriction of Social Media Platforms" presents the lack of free press in Bahrain i.e. June 2017 when Bahrain closed the only independent newspaper <i>Al-Wasat</i> - Reporters Without Borders ranked Bahrain as 167/180 for world's press freedom rankings
114.102 Release all persons detained solely for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression or their right to peaceful assembly and repeal all legislative provisions criminalizing the exercise of these rights (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- Number of political prisoners and activists detained have increased.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.108 Ensure that the new bill for the press and electronic media complies with international norms and continues its efforts to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly and association (State of Palestine);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - media - persons deprived of their liberty 	- See response to 114.107 above
<p>114.113 Implement relevant legislation for the full exercise of the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Italy);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	- At present citizens must obtain permits to hold demonstrations to assemble among other onerous restrictions which prevent assembly and expression.
<p>114.110 Modify the legislation to repeal criminal responsibility for activities that fall within the legitimate exercise of the freedom of expression, particularly on the Internet and Twitter (France);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D46 Right to private life, privacy</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	- See response to 114.98 below

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.98 Adopt a law to protect human rights defenders that includes special protection for vulnerable groups of defenders, including women defenders and those who express themselves through the Internet and social media (Mexico);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - human rights defenders 	<p>- In practice there is no such law and at the same time human rights defenders are targeted and imprisoned i.e. <i>Nabeel Rajab</i></p>
<p>114.116 Reduce restrictions on peaceful assembly and association, allow individuals to participate freely in independent political societies, consistent with the Constitution and national action charter, and cease unwarranted legal action against Wefaq and Wa'ad for engaging in protected activities (United States of America);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	<p>- See response to 114.113 above</p> <p>- At present in Bahrain there is political isolation where political parties have been forcibly dissolved and there are restrictions on voting rights and what candidates can stand for election.</p>
<p>114.127 Ensure that all aspects of criminal procedure are in line with accepted international standards (Australia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>- There have been no amendments to any of criminal code</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.172 Continue to improve measures to strengthen the rights of foreign migrant workers, including putting in place the necessary domestic legislation and access to health care and legal aid (Sri Lanka);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>E41 Right to health - General</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>S03 SDG 3 - health</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- migrants</p>	- See response to 114.88 above
<p>114.151 Step up efforts in amending the law to allow the granting of Bahraini citizenship to children whose mothers are married to foreigners (Philippines);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- children</p>	- There have been no changes or amendment to the constitution and Bahraini women are still prevented from enjoying equal citizenship rights as men
<p>114.152 Deploy all necessary measures to ensure the quick adoption and implementation of the law on nationality to give nationality to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Uruguay);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p> <p>- children</p>	- See response to 114.151 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.149 Amend the citizenship law to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restriction and on an equal basis with men (Slovenia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - children 	- See response to 114.151 above
<p>114.133 Consider adopting a unified and modern personal status law that is compatible with all legal and procedural requirements (Morocco);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 13</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D8 Rights related to marriage & family</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	
<p>114.137 Further its work in empowering women, promoting gender equality and eliminating discrimination and violence against women and children by, inter alia, amending and promulgating relevant laws and implementing the national plan for the advancement of Bah-raini women (Thailand);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>F13 Violence against women</p> <p>S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women 	- There have been many reported instances of sexual violence and intimidation of women in detention

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.134 Review its legislation in order to eliminate provisions that are discriminatory against women (Czechia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- The situation has largely remained the same with cosmetic changes which are not translated into practice
<p>114.153 Make necessary efforts to reform all legislation that is discriminatory towards women, in particular the nationality act and the family affairs laws (Argentina);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 13</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>D8 Rights related to marriage & family</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.151 above
<p>114.161 Unify the criminal age in the kingdom's legislation to uphold the best interest in the treatment of the child in a manner compatible with his age and dignity and to facilitate his rehabilitation and reintegration in society (Morocco);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 24c</p>	Supported	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- children</p>	- children of dissidents and those whose parents nationality revoked face hardship in relation to their own citizenship and complications with birth certificate passports and documentation.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.154 Continue efforts to ensure the safety, security and dignity of foreign migrant workers, including women domestic workers, through requisite institutional and legislative measures (Nepal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	- See response to 114.88 above
Theme: A42 Institutions & policies - General			
114.126 Ensure that the oversight institutions established following the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry are fully impartial and independent in order for them to effectively carry out their work (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A42 Institutions & policies - General B51 Right to an effective remedy S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	- National Institute of Human Rights (NIHR) Ombudsman are not independent bodies - The bodies set up by the state are not acting as independent of the policy of the state but instead have compromised interests
Theme: A43 Human rights policies			
114.38 Strengthen partnerships between official institutions and the national human rights institutions through the implementation of the bilateral programmes of cooperation (Algeria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15	Supported	A43 Human rights policies A44 Structure of the national human rights machinery A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) Affected persons: - general	- Most independent NGO's in Bahrain have been banned i.e. Bahrain Centre for Human Rights (BCHR) - The Kingdom of Bahrain discourages cooperation with international NGO's which has led to a deficiency in cooperation and independent reporting

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.60 Continue adopting programmes and policies to strengthen national unity and cohesion (Egypt); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16b	Supported	A43 Human rights policies A47 Good governance Affected persons: - general	- Religious discrimination, political division and persecution are weakening national unity in Bahrain.
114.51 Disseminate widely in the society the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (United Arab Emirates); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b	Supported	A43 Human rights policies A53 Professional training in human rights Affected persons: - general - law enforcement / police officials	
114.64 Continue the application of policies and programmes on comprehensive and sustainable development (Cuba); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	A43 Human rights policies B41 Right to development Affected persons: - general	
114.66 Continue to implement policies and programmes for comprehensive and sustainable development (Libya); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	A43 Human rights policies B41 Right to development Affected persons: - general	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.169 Continue strengthening its sound social policies that favour the people, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a</p>	Supported	<p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>E24 Right to social security</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- vulnerable persons/groups</p>	- See response to 114.60 above
Theme: A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)			
<p>114.41 Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (State of Palestine); Strengthen the capacity of the national human rights institution to have access to cases that require special attention (Libya);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>- Bahrain's human rights situation is significantly below the standards of Paris Principles and there have been no significant efforts made by the government to improve them</p> <p>- there is a general lack of confidence in the NIHR due to a lack of transparency and effectiveness</p>
<p>114.39 Continue to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ombudsman of the National Security Agency and the Special Investigations Unit, so they can fulfil their mandates effectively (New Zealand);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A42 Institutions & policies - General</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	- Bahrain has not managed to support this recommendation in practice

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.129 Continue making progress on its reform agenda and to become a role model for the region, including through strengthening the independence, effectiveness and transparency of its oversight bodies, and cooperating with the United Nations system (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>- This recommendation has not been implemented despite its broad objective</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.40 Take all measures to ensure the independence, including financial, and the effectiveness of the national human rights institution and to protect it from all forms of pressure or reprisal in connection with its work to promote and protect human rights (Montenegro); Strengthen the national human rights institution of Bahrain and ensure its full compliance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea); Continue strengthening the national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles, especially in terms of increasing its independence and authority (Indonesia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)</p> <p>A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See response to 114.41 above - See response to 114.26 above
Theme: A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)			
<p>114.139 Continue to seek and cooperate with partners in the field of the implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in order to build a competitive and sustainable society in the kingdom (Oman);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - women 	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com-ments on level of implementation
114.157 Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022 Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F11 Advancement of women Affected persons: - women	
114.140 Continue to promote gender equality and actively implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women 2013-2022 (China); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	
114.44 Further enhance the capacity of the national committee for childhood for the full implementation of the national childhood strategic action plan (Ethiopia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	- There has been a critical lack of implementation especially relating to children of dissidents or prisoners who face serious consequences in terms of citizenship rights, education and welfare
114.43 Continue the implementation of the national strategic action plan 2012-2016 on persons with disabilities (Djibouti); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A51 Human rights education - general			
114.45 Continue to promote human rights education (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A51 Human rights education - general E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - children	- promotion of human rights is only done on paper but in practice there is a severe deficiency in knowledge of rights as they are so frequently denied, language and translations are also a barrier to its widespread dissemination
114.46 Take measures to improve the education system and carry out programmes aimed at enhancing awareness about human rights at the national level (Uzbekistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A51 Human rights education - general E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.45 above
114.47 Include human rights education in school curricula (Armenia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A51 Human rights education - general E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - children	- See response to 114.45 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.49 Strengthen education for law enforcement personnel on international human rights laws, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Korea);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b</p>	Supported	<p>A51 Human rights education - general</p> <p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.35 above
Theme: A53 Professional training in human rights			
<p>114.32 Continue the project of technical co-operation with OHCHR in a number of different areas, particularly to strengthen the capacity of persons in charge of enforcing the law (Djibouti);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22</p>	Supported	<p>A53 Professional training in human rights</p> <p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- law enforcement / police officials</p>	
<p>114.52 Continue the training programmes for magistrates and law enforcement officials in accordance with international standards and human rights principles (Lebanon);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b</p>	Supported	<p>A53 Professional training in human rights</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- judges, lawyers and prosecutors</p> <p>- law enforcement / police officials</p>	- See response to 114.35 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A54 Awareness raising and dissemination			
114.54 Raise awareness in the society, among people of all ages, to enable them to recognize the importance of civil society organizations and their role in the dynamics of Bahraini society (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A54 Awareness raising and dissemination Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.125 above - The role of civil society has been declining since 2011 in Bahrain especially due to the restrictions on NGO's and political action.
114.53 Continue to raise awareness of human rights among all groups, particularly the younger generations, through education, training and media communications (Thailand); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	A54 Awareness raising and dissemination E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - media - youth	- See response to 114.125 and 114.54 above
Theme: A61 Cooperation with civil society			
114.55 Allow international NGOs to visit Bahrain and to carry out their human rights work without restrictions, including by abolishing the current five-day limit for such visits (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 22	Supported	A61 Cooperation with civil society A28 Cooperation with other international mechanisms and institutions D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D45 Freedom of association Affected persons: - human rights defenders	- International NGO's and journalists, along with UN experts are restricted and even denied entry to visit Bahrain

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation)			
114.168 Ensure the completion and successful running of the nine rehabilitation centres in a comprehensive disability complex Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation) F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	
Theme: B32 Racial discrimination			
114.63 Take additional measures to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization, as well as discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons based on religion or belief, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 (Brazil); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 28	Supported	B32 Racial discrimination B31 Equality & non-discrimination D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion Affected persons: - general - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	- There has been an increasing trend calling for and legitimising hate speech and violence against the Shia population of Bahrain which has worsened discrimination and the welfare of the targeted persons
Theme: B51 Right to an effective remedy			
114.37 Set a timeline with clear deadlines for the implementation of all Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry recommendations and provide regular and public reports on the progress of their implementation (Slovenia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14	Supported	B51 Right to an effective remedy S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	- No time line and no transparency has been presented as of yet

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.58 Maintain its commitment to achieving concrete political reform based on respect of the legitimate rights and aspirations of all its citizens, consistent with Bahrain's international obligations and acceptance of the findings and recommendations of the 2011 report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Australia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14</p>	Supported	<p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>- No plan to achieve political reform but instead further restrictions on political rights</p> <p>- Political parties still banned and opponent's still targeted</p>
<p>114.59 Ensure the full implementation of all recommendations from the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Belgium);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 14</p>	Supported	<p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	<p>- This recommendation has not been implemented</p>
Theme: B52 Impunity			
<p>114.80 Ensure accountability for perpetrators of torture and access by victims of torture to justice, redress and rehabilitation (Czechia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>- There have been none to very little follow up to provide support to victims of torture and the Ombudsman has not carried out thorough investigations into these allegations and the process has not been transparent</p> <p>- See response to 114.137 above</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.87 Promptly carry out an in-depth investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, such as the case of the three persons executed in January 2017, and bring those responsible to justice (Switzerland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a	Supported	B52 Impunity D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- See response to 114.80 above
114.130 Guarantee the fight against impunity, ensuring that all those persons found guilty are brought to justice, in the context of allegations of the use of torture to obtain confessions from detainees (Luxembourg); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7	Supported	B52 Impunity D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- See response to 114.80 above
Theme: B71 Human rights and the environment			
114.67 Work towards raising awareness of the right to a safe environment through participation and cooperation among all partners (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	B71 Human rights and the environment A54 Awareness raising and dissemination S13 SDG 13 - climate change Affected persons: - general	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism			
114.69 Ensure that counter-terrorist measures are fully consistent with Bahrain's international human rights obligations (Brazil); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 30	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism Affected persons: - general	- Bahrain's counter-terrorist measures are not consistent with its human rights obligations as the amendments made to the Anti-Terrorism Law allows courts to revoke nationality of persons convicted with 'terrorism' offenses which is against the principles of the UDHR
114.70 Review the anti-terrorism law and its implementation in order to ensure it cannot be abused for harassment, detention and prosecution of dissenters (Czechia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D26 Conditions of detention A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- No amendments have been made and instead these laws are directed to those persons that participate in political activism - Most of them were accused of 'defaming' the image of the regime, 'inciting' against the regime and 'spreading false news to hinder the rules of the constitution'
114.72 Continue with the strategy of combating terrorism in order to protect human rights (Kuwait); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 30	Supported	B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.69 and 114.70 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation			
114.96 Take necessary measures to guarantee the enjoyment of all fundamental freedoms, including the participation in political and public affairs by all (Botswana); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.38 and 114.113 above
Theme: D23 Death penalty			
114.78 Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the threshold of "most serious crimes" under international law (Belgium); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 35	Supported	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- See response to 114.35 above
Theme: D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment			
114.17 Take steps to establish an independent, effective and well-resourced national preventive mechanism in compliance with Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture requirements (Ghana); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 20	Supported	D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	- See response to 114.124 and 114.4 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.81 Further implement measures on the protection of victims of mistreatment and torture and on the prosecution of perpetrators (Italy);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See response to 114.80 above - No perpetrators are persecuted and there has been a lack of action to thoroughly investigate cases
<p>114.79 Investigate all allegations of torture and start prosecuting all individuals found responsible (Norway);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See response to 114.80 and 114.81 above
<p>114.83 Ensure the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Special Investigations Unit and other relevant human rights institutions in investigating all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, unlawful killings and deaths in custody (Finland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 15</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>D21 Right to life</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See response to 114.80 and 114.81 above - There has been a severe lack of independent inquiry into human rights abuses and violations which is a critical issue in Bahrain

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.94 Ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearances, torture or any other form of ill-treatment are independently, promptly and thoroughly investigated, and perpetrators are brought to justice in accordance with international rule of law standards (Germany);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D32 Enforced disappearances</p> <p>D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- disappeared persons</p>	- See response to 114.35, 114.80 and 114.81 above
Theme: D26 Conditions of detention			
<p>114.112 Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience imprisoned only for exercising their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iceland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>- Political prisoners and prisoners of conscience are still imprisoned most notably <i>Nabeel Rajab</i> who is carrying out a 5-year sentence</p> <p>- Human right defenders are targeted for speaking up and cooperating with international NGO's and organisations</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.100 Release as soon as possible all individuals, including human rights defenders, having been imprisoned solely due to the exercise of their fundamental rights of expression and assembly (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b	Supported	D26 Conditions of detention D43 Freedom of opinion and expression H1 Human rights defenders Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders	- See response to 114.98 and 114.105 above
Theme: D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking			
114.85 Continue and further efforts to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons (Saudi Arabia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking Affected persons: - general	- where to find data on trafficking numbers, please add
114.90 Further intensify the combating of human trafficking and the protection of victims of trafficking in persons by removing the existing obstacles (Ethiopia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.85 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.91 Consider formulating a strategy against trafficking in persons (India); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A43 Human rights policies A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.85 above
114.92 Adopt a comprehensive national strategy against trafficking in persons (Maldives); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A43 Human rights policies A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.85 above
114.93 Intensify efforts to provide public education and training on the human trafficking law (Azerbaijan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking A51 Human rights education - general Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.85 above
114.86 Further improve measures aimed at combating human trafficking, including victim assistance (Sri Lanka); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking B53 Support to victims and witnesses Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.85 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.89 Step up efforts to combat human trafficking and strengthen the protection of victims (Angola);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 17</p>	Supported	<p>D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking</p> <p>B53 Support to victims and witnesses</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	- See response to 114.85 above
Theme: D31 Liberty and security - general			
<p>114.50 Improve the capacity and training of the security forces in the area of human rights and moderate use of force, both in their response to peaceful protests and in places of detention (Spain);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26b</p>	Supported	<p>D31 Liberty and security - general</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- law enforcement / police officials</p>	- The Kingdom of Bahrain claims to aim to abide by international standards and has prepared an "integrated plan to be implemented by the Royal Academy of Police...related to the principles of the use of force as well as sponsoring scholarships for individuals to learn about human rights at university however these are merely words and the police and the NSA are increasingly accused of abuse and human rights violations.
Theme: D32 Enforced disappearances			
<p>114.167 Continue its steps to promote human rights through effective measures to realize the rights set out in the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Yemen);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7a</p>	Supported	<p>D32 Enforced disappearances</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- disappeared persons</p>	- At present no law in Bahrain considers enforced disappearance a criminal offense, and authorities intimidate Bahraini citizens and spread terror among members of society through abductions.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion			
114.171 Strengthen the legal protection for migrant workers, including domestic workers, against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, religion or nationality (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	- See response to 114.88 above
Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression			
114.104 Remove undue restrictions on the online publication of news media, and the licencing restrictions on media organizations and individuals seeking to practise journalism (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	- Restrictions have not been removed on media publication, international journalists need a permit to work and domestic journalists have to apply for licenses to collaborate or work for international media groups - There is an abundance of restrictions and this prevents free and independent media presence in Bahrain
114.114 Continue strengthening the freedom of the media and the rights of media workers (Lebanon); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	- See response to 114.104 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.117 Take further steps to create a more enabling environment for international and national media platforms and ensure plurality of opinions within the country (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	- See response to 114.104 and 114.107 above
114.118 Allow journalists to exercise their profession, and refrain from arbitrarily withholding licence renewals (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33c	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression Affected persons: - media	- See response to 114.104 above
114.61 Take specific and additional measures aimed at strengthening its national unity and internal domestic security and fostering cooperation in order to disseminate the culture of social peaceful coherence and guarantee freedom of expression that ensures social justice among all components of society (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression B31 Equality & non-discrimination S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	- See response to 114.104 114.160 above - New laws have imposed further restrictions on social media use and harsh penalties

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.99 Rescind impediments to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (New Zealand);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	- See response to 114.5, 114.7 and 114.13 above
<p>114.115 Respect the legitimate rights of all its citizens to freedom of assembly, expression and participation in political societies (Australia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- media</p>	- See response to 114.5, 114.7 and 114.13 above
<p>114.97 Avoid the intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations, lifting the restrictions imposed on them and allowing them to freely exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Spain);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- media</p> <p>- human rights defenders</p>	- See response to 114.5, 114.7 and 114.13 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly			
114.109 Take measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly and to promote and facilitate the activities of NGOs (France); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association Affected persons: - general - human rights defenders	- not implemented
114.101 Protect the rights to freedom of association and assembly in accordance with its international obligations, notably those under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and cease the dissolution of political parties and civil society organizations (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	- not implemented,
Theme: D45 Freedom of association			
114.122 Respect and protect the right of all groups and individuals to participate in legitimate political activities (New Zealand); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a	Supported	D45 Freedom of association D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote Affected persons: - general	- not only removed but banned

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.123 Remove restrictive limitations on the establishment of political parties or membership therein, and cease the dissolution by law of opposition political societies (Canada);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 33a</p>	Supported	<p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	
Theme: D51 Administration of justice & fair trial			
<p>114.128 Focus on strengthening the legal framework, the institutions and the judiciary to guarantee an independent judicial system and the right to fair trial guaranteed by articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 7b</p>	Supported	<p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- judges, lawyers and prosecutors</p>	- no indication of independence of judiciary
Theme: D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality			
<p>114.174 End the practice of revoking citizenship from individuals (Denmark);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9b</p>	Supported	<p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	<p>- See response to 114.69 and 114.70 above</p> <p>- A total of 550 citizenships have been reinstated but no major changes in the legislation to prevent further revocations and the law is still part of penal code</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com-ments on level of implementation
<p>114.150 Finalize the draft law amending certain provisions of the 1963 citizenship act to enable Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men to confer their nationality on their children without any conditions (Botswana); Expedite the legal procedures relating to the Bahraini nationality act of 1963, thus allowing citizenship to be granted, without restrictions, to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Sierra Leone);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 9a</p>	Supported	<p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - children 	- See response to 114.151 above
Theme: D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote			
<p>114.56 Engage in a genuine national dialogue in an open and inclusive manner with all stakeholders, with the aim of effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of all the population in a comprehensive and inclusive manner (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 16a</p>	Supported	<p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>A47 Good governance</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	- this has not been implemented, political plurality and independent bodies are not allowed to exist under the present conditions in Bahrain and so genuine dialogue and effective communication is not possible, nor does the Kingdom of Bahrain seem keen to initiate this inclusive and transparent policy.

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.145 Continue efforts to empower and advance women and facilitate women's participation in the society, particularly in political life, decision-making and holding leadership positions (Jordan);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</p> <p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>F14 Participation of women in political and public life</p> <p>S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- there are some efforts but they are only cosmetic and not genuine, theoretical and not practically implemented
Theme: E31 Right to work			
<p>114.131 Take further steps to ensure equality with respect to all aspects of employment and occupation (Republic of Korea);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 18</p>	Supported	<p>E31 Right to work</p> <p>E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	- There is rampant discrimination in employment and education which has led to an increasing percentage of the youth to be unemployed
Theme: E41 Right to health - General			
<p>114.163 Develop health programmes in health-care centres and correctional and rehabilitation centres to accommodate all age groups and people with special needs (Oman);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a</p>	Supported	<p>E41 Right to health - General</p> <p>F4 Persons with disabilities</p> <p>S03 SDG 3 - health</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons with disabilities</p> <p>- vulnerable persons/groups</p>	- Health care is generally declining and shortage of medicines

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com- ments on level of implementation
Theme: E51 Right to education - General			
114.48 Intensify programmes aimed at promoting and protecting human rights in school curricula (Kuwait); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 26a	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - general - children	- See response to 114.45 above
114.65 Continue paying attention to achieving comprehensive development through support for a human rights culture through the media and the educational system (Jordan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 29	Supported	E51 Right to education - General B41 Right to development A43 Human rights policies Affected persons: - general - media	- See response to 114.45 above
114.148 Continue to bolster progress in the education of girls and women and to further diversify their educational and professional choices (Libya); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	E51 Right to education - General E54 technical and vocational education S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - women - girls	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com-ments on level of implementation
<p>114.158 Increase the number of women in political and public life at all levels and in all areas and promote women in leadership positions and ensure that they are granted opportunities in the higher education system (Turkey);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>E55 higher education</p> <p>F14 Participation of women in political and public life</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.145 above
Theme: F1 Women			
<p>114.156 Continue strengthening the policies aimed at protecting women (Kuwait);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>F1 Women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.145 above
Theme: F11 Advancement of women			
<p>114.147 Further efforts to increase the representation of women in leadership, public and decision-making positions (Sierra Leone);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.145 above
<p>114.141 Fully implement the national plan for the advancement of Bahraini women (2022) in its five lines (Cuba);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27</p>	Supported	<p>F11 Advancement of women</p> <p>A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	- See response to 114.145 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.143 Continue empowering Bahraini women in the economic, political and social spheres (Egypt); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 above
Theme: F12 Discrimination against women			
114.135 Take necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Myanmar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 above
114.136 Pursue efforts to enhance women's rights and fight all sorts of discrimination against women (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 above
114.142 Pursue further measures to strengthen gender equality and guarantee the status of women in society at all levels (Algeria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 and 114.151 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.155 Continue the important process of reconciling the improvement of women's rights and duties within the provision of sharia law (Indonesia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 above
114.144 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and women's political, social and economic empowerment (Nepal); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women F14 Participation of women in political and public life S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 and 114.151 above
114.138 Continue to implement policies that promote gender equality and provide women with opportunities to play an active role in social, economic and political spheres (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 and 114.151 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.146 Adopt holistic plans and policies to achieve gender equality in public and private spheres and further recommends that specific measures be taken to increase women's participation at all levels and promote women's appointment in leadership positions (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women F11 Advancement of women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 and 114.151 above
114.170 Ensure the effective protection of migrants, particularly women migrant workers, against discrimination (Philippines); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 19	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women G4 Migrants Affected persons: - migrants	- See response to 114.88, 114.145 and 114.151 above
Theme: F14 Participation of women in political and public life			
114.73 Continue efforts to promote the participation of women in political, economic, social and all other spheres (Myanmar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 27	Supported	F14 Participation of women in political and public life F11 Advancement of women Affected persons: - women	- See response to 114.145 and 114.151 above
Theme: F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection			
114.159 Continue to promote the rights of children (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	- the Bahraini government issued regulations preventing individuals whose citizenship has been revoked from sending their children to public schools and to receive free medical care

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.160 Prohibit by law corporal punishment against children in all settings and contexts, including in the home, and repeal all exceptions to its use (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 11	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F32 Children: family environment and alternative care Affected persons: - children	- See response to 114.159
Theme: F4 Persons with disabilities			
114.166 Promote the participation of persons with disabilities and integrate them more widely in Bahraini society (Sudan); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	
114.164 Continue to improve the social security system, and take further steps to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (China); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities E24 Right to social security Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	
114.165 Continue to support the integration of persons with disabilities in society by strengthening educational support and job training (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12b	Supported	F4 Persons with disabilities E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.132 Continue to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular girls, women, migrants and persons with disabilities (Senegal);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 12a</p>	Supported	<p>F4 Persons with disabilities</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - women - girls - migrants - vulnerable persons/groups 	- See response to 114.88 above
Theme: H1 Human rights defenders			
<p>114.119 Adopt appropriate measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and members of the political opposition from acts of aggression and intimidation and abstain from taking any restrictive measures or reprisals against human rights defenders, notably those who cooperate with the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32</p>	Supported	<p>H1 Human rights defenders</p> <p>A61 Cooperation with civil society</p> <p>D31 Liberty and security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - human rights defenders 	- See response to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.98 and 114.105 above

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
114.57 Take urgent steps to facilitate the work of civil society and human rights defenders, and guarantee protection of all persons from intimidation or reprisals for seeking to cooperate with the United Nations (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - human rights defenders	- See response to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.98 and 114.105 above
114.124 End immediately the reprisals against human rights defenders and lift restrictions on civil society (Estonia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 32	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders D31 Liberty and security - general Affected persons: - human rights defenders	- See response to 114.5, 114.7, 114.13, 114.54, 114.98 and 114.105 above
Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
114.13 Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms Affected persons: - general	
114.1 Ratify the main human rights instruments to which Bahrain is not yet party, and adapt its national legislation to these and withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21a	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms A13 Reservations A41 Constitutional and legislative framework F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/com- ments on level of implementation
<p>114.36 Adhere to and adopt national legislation to bring it into line with the Arms Trade Treaty (Guatemala);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 25</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>A43 Human rights policies</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	
<p>114.14 Proceed with the ratification of, and full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including incorporating the Statute's definition of crimes as amended at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 2010 and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court, and accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Finland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>B11 International humanitarian law</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.18 Adhere and adopt national legislation in line with the Rome Statute, including the incorporation of the provisions for swift cooperation with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>B11 International humanitarian law</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	
<p>114.12 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal) (Estonia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21e</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>B11 International humanitarian law</p> <p>B52 Impunity</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty - refugees & asylum seekers - law enforcement / police officials 	
<p>114.7 Ratify the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general measures of implementation <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.2 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Estonia) (Uruguay) (Ireland);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21b</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty 	
<p>114.3 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and abolish the death penalty (Portugal); Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Angola);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21b</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - persons deprived of their liberty 	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.76 Suspend without delay the executions and declare a moratorium on the application of death penalty as the first phase towards its abolition (France); Immediately implement a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing the practice (Australia); Immediately declare an official moratorium on executions with a view to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the abolition of the death penalty (Austria); Establish without delay a legal moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its subsequent abolition (Luxembourg)</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.5 Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in order to contribute to the work already done (Uruguay); Ratify before the next universal periodic review cycle the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish a national preventive mechanism accordingly (Czechia); Positively examine the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Cyprus); Move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21c</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.6 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal) (Estonia) (Guatemala) (Ghana) (Denmark) (Luxembourg) (Lithuania);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21c</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	
<p>114.11 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay) (Ghana) (Portugal);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D32 Enforced disappearances</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- disappeared persons</p>	See response to 114.167 above
<p>114.16 Accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mexico);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- stateless persons</p>	
<p>114.9 Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization (Switzerland) (Philippines) (Ghana) (Uganda);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- general</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Guatemala);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21a</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- women</p>	
<p>114.10 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines) (Ghana) (Guatemala);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- migrants</p>	
<p>114.15 Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Uganda);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 21d</p>	Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>G4 Migrants</p> <p>G5 Refugees & asylum seekers</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- refugees & asylum seekers</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures			
114.24 Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures as soon as possible (Netherlands); Extend the standing invitation to all the mechanisms and special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Honduras); Facilitate a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Guatemala); Issue a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	
114.25 Cooperate with special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including by swiftly providing access for special rapporteurs with outstanding requests for visits to Bahrain (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A24 Cooperation with special procedures Affected persons: - general	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.34 Accept a visit from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or a United Nations special rapporteur to identify steps to strengthen human rights institutions (United States of America);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23</p>	Noted	<p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	
<p>114.28 Allow the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit Bahrain, following up on the acceptance of recommendations to that effect made in the second cycle (Austria);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23</p>	Noted	<p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - persons deprived of their liberty 	
<p>114.29 Accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on torture and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (France);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23</p>	Noted	<p>A24 Cooperation with special procedures</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders 	- not been visited and not given mandate

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A25 Follow-up to special procedures			
114.30 Implement fully recommendations made by the United Nations mandate holders, including through the immediate release of all political prisoners and by ending impunity, thus bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice (Islamic Republic of Iran); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 23	Noted	A25 Follow-up to special procedures D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote B52 Impunity D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - general - persons deprived of their liberty - human rights defenders	
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
114.71 Amend the 2006 law on protecting society from terrorist acts to avoid imposing statelessness on individuals and minimize the negative impact on the families of those affected (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism Affected persons: - general - stateless persons	
114.68 Rescind the amendment of law 105b that allows for civilians to be prosecuted in military courts if accused of terrorism (Netherlands); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 31	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B8 Human rights & counter-terrorism D51 Administration of justice & fair trial Affected persons: - general	- This amendment has not been rescinded and civilians are still tried in military courts - This is in violation of the fair trial rights enshrined in the UDHR (Article 10) and the IC-CPR (Article 14)

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.111 Repeal or amend all laws that restrict the freedoms of expression, association or assembly, including decree No. 31 of 2013, Law No. 34 of 2014, and Law No. 26 of 2015 (Germany);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 25</p>	Noted	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D44 Right to peaceful assembly</p> <p>D45 Freedom of association</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actually, added more made situation worse
<p>114.173 Speed up the legislative process to operationalize the draft law amending the nationality act so as to address the problem of statelessness in the country (Uganda); Amend article 10 (c) of the 1963 citizenship act to bring it into line with international standards (Belgium);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10</p>	Noted	<p>A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - non-citizens - stateless persons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are a thousand of stateless <i>Bidoon</i> (an ethnoreligious group of predominantly Shia individuals of Persian descent) in Bahrain's <i>Ajam</i> population and this denial of citizenship has forced the community into lower socio-economic conditions. - Children of stateless fathers also remain stateless

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: B51 Right to an effective remedy			
<p>114.175 End the practice of revocation of citizenship, adopt legal and institutional safeguards to prevent discrimination against members of religious minorities and provide effective remedy for victims of arbitrary arrest, detention, summons or travel bans (Czechia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10</p>	Noted	<p>B51 Right to an effective remedy</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention</p> <p>D41 Freedom of movement</p> <p>D42 Freedom of thought, conscience and religion</p> <p>D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups - persons deprived of their liberty 	<p>- No change or modification of legislation</p>

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: D23 Death penalty			
114.75 Commute all the death sentences and establish a moratorium on executions (Portugal); Commute all death sentences, declare a moratorium on executions and move towards an abolition of the death penalty (Norway); Introduce a moratorium on the execution of the death penalty (Germany); Impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro); Re-introduce the moratorium on executions with a view to definitively abolishing the death penalty (Spain); Impose an official moratorium on the death penalty and replace the death penalty with a sentence that is fair and proportionate and respects international human rights standards (Bulgaria); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36	Noted	D23 Death penalty Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	
114.74 Abolish the death penalty, and commute all death sentences to prison terms (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36	Noted	D23 Death penalty D26 Conditions of detention Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
<p>114.77 Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania); Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy); Take urgent measures to establish a formal moratorium on executions of prisoners on death row (Argentina); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Chile);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 36</p>	Noted	<p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	
Theme: D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment			
<p>114.95 Release all arbitrarily detained persons in Bahrain, including the Danish-Bahrain citizen Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja, a victim of torture who needs treatment and rehabilitation (Denmark);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 8</p>	Noted	<p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>D31 Liberty and security - general</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	- still imprisoned and carrying out life sentence
Theme: D26 Conditions of detention			
<p>114.103 Review convictions, commute sentences, or drop charges for all persons imprisoned solely for non-violent political expression (United States of America);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 8</p>	Noted	<p>D26 Conditions of detention</p> <p>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>D51 Administration of justice & fair trial</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <p>- persons deprived of their liberty</p>	

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: D41 Freedom of movement			
114.176 Abolish the practice of revoking nationality as a punishment on any grounds (Mexico); End the practice of arbitrarily revoking citizenship, especially where this renders individuals stateless and forces them into exile (Belgium). Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 10	Noted	D41 Freedom of movement D6 Rights related to name, identity, nationality Affected persons: - non-citizens - stateless persons	
Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly			
114.121 Remove undue restrictions on the organization of peaceful protest in opposition to the Government, and repeal the application of criminal penalties to peaceful participation in unauthorized protests (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1 - Para. 34	Noted	D44 Right to peaceful assembly Affected persons: - general	
114.84 Strengthen health services for prisoners and detainees (Qatar); Source of position: A/HRC/36/3/Add.1		Affected persons:	

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