



## Human Rights 75 Pledges

### Guidance for Member States

One of the key objectives of the [Human Rights 75 Initiative](#) is to generate pledges that bring about concrete change towards greater enjoyment of human rights for all from State institutions (executive, legislative and judicial authorities), local and regional authorities, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society organisations, UN entities, international financial institutions, business, young people and others.

#### What are Human Rights 75 pledges?

Human Rights 75 pledges are commitments to take a specific action, with the aim of promoting and protecting human rights. The High Commissioner invites pledges that are transformative, innovative and catalytic, with significant impact on the enjoyment of human rights in the respective country/region.

All Member States of the United Nations are **urged to propose at least one and up to five flagship pledges** as part of Human Rights 75. Each State is encouraged to organize a country dialogue in the framework of the Human Rights 75 Initiative, which can trigger one or more flagship pledges.<sup>1</sup>

#### What can a pledge be based on?

- Efforts already taking place nationally
- Commitment to prioritise the implementation of a recommendation made by international, regional or other human rights mechanisms, within a certain timeframe and with an action plan.
- Asks from the HC's [monthly thematic spotlights](#)

Pledges can relate to actions at domestic, regional and global level.

Pledges can also be made collectively, by a group of States or regional organizations, for instance as an outcome of Human Rights 75 regional dialogues.

Equal consideration should be given to civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Pledges should follow a human rights-based approach and be SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound). Pledges or declarations made in the context of the 2023 SDG Summit should mutually reinforce Human Rights 75 pledges.

<sup>1</sup> In those countries not covered by an OHCHR field presence, States are invited to organise the country dialogues themselves, or with key partners, with the support of their permanent mission to the UN in Geneva.



Pledges can involve one or more of the following actions:

**A. Legal or policy changes, e.g.**

- Introduce or review key legislation
- Institute a new policy/scheme or extending its beneficiaries
- Increase budget allocation for human rights (e.g. health, education, labor, etc).
- Ratify human rights conventions and optional protocols; lift reservations to international human rights treaties
- Strengthen the independence of the judiciary;
- Establish or strengthen an independent national human rights institution and/or a national mechanism for reporting or follow-up

**B. Practices and activities, e.g.**

- holding consultations on specific issues/with specific groups
- campaigns to change public perceptions
- champion a theme or an issue – possibly in alliance with others

**C. A financial contribution** to the UN Human Rights Office or to other part of human rights architecture

**Think about:**



- which national actors are needed to design and effectively implement the pledge?
- what does success look like?



### **Pledges should support the goals of Human Rights 75 to:**

#### 1) revitalise a worldwide consensus on human rights

- E.g., what commitment can a State, or group of States, make to revitalise a global consensus on human rights?

#### 2) look to the future, 25 years down the line

- what commitment can be made to address issues that are expected to escalate in the coming years – e.g. impact of climate change, new technologies, or inequalities?

#### 3) bolster the human rights ecosystem

- what contribution can be made to strengthen the human rights ecosystem (e.g. to strengthen a national human rights institution or international and regional human rights mechanisms; to strengthen the integration of human rights in multilateral fora; to strengthen support to the UN Human Rights Office)?

### **Make sure to partner with others in designing the pledge!**

Work with all:

- OHCHR field presence and UN Country Team
- National human rights institutions
- Civil society organizations, women's groups, human rights defenders, faith-based actors
- Young people
- Victims/survivors

Once you have your pledge(s) submit it through the [online platform](#) dedicated for this purpose.

**All pledges will be made public during the December 2023 high-level event.**

For all questions and comments, please write to: [ohchr-pledgeshr75@ohchr.org](mailto:ohchr-pledgeshr75@ohchr.org)