

Note for the facilitator

Module 1: Overview of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Session sequence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short video on the experiences of the relatives of the disappeared (duration: 3:49 minutes); 2. Quiz (5 minutes); 3. Interactive presentation (25 minutes); 4. Group activity: clustering exercise (15 minutes); 5. Debrief (20 minutes); 6. Wrap-up (5 minutes).
Total duration	75 minutes
Venue requirements	Spacious training hall arranged in such a way as to promote peer-to-peer atmosphere; preferably round tables with 4 to 5 persons at each table (maximum of 25 participants).
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video projector and screen • Laptop or computer connected to the Internet • Speakers with 2–3 microphones (ideally wireless) • Presentation remote • Large sticky notes
Training materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • PowerPoint presentation – overview of the Convention • Handouts for the quiz • Facilitator’s copy of the quiz • Handout for the clustering exercise
Online adaptation	<p>The session can be adapted to be held online as follows:</p> <p>Step 1: Show the video online (inserted in a PowerPoint slide)</p> <p>Step 2: Conduct the quiz (question on preprepared PowerPoint slides)</p> <p>Step 3: Continue with the presentation and go through PowerPoint slides</p> <p>Step 4: Randomly divide participants into four breakout groups, which will be asked to identify the obligations under the categories below and to designate the person who will write them in the chat box.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group 1: definition and criminalization of enforced disappearance (arts. 1–7); 2. Group 2: judicial procedures, cooperation in criminal matters and assistance to victims (arts. 8–15); 3. Group 3: measures to prevent enforced disappearance (arts. 16–23); 4. Group 4: victims’ rights and the protection of children against enforced disappearance (arts. 24–25) <p>Show the instructions, for example on a preprepared PowerPoint slide.</p> <p>Step 5: Continue with the presentation and go through the PowerPoint slides</p> <p>Step 6: Wrap up</p> <p>Show key messages, for example on a preprepared PowerPoint slide.</p>
Background reading for facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section II of part I of the training guide • OHCHR, The United Nations Human Rights Treaty System, Fact Sheet No. 30/Rev. 1 • OHCHR, Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, Fact Sheet No. 6/Rev. 3 • OHCHR, 10th anniversary of the Convention, brochure • Committee on Enforced Disappearances, statement on the <i>ratione temporis</i> element in the review of reports submitted by States parties under the international convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance <p>Note: Before the session, please make sure to check the updated list of States parties to the Convention and the acceptance of the competence of Committee under articles 31 and 32, here.</p>

Learning objectives

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the main features of the Convention
- Describe the structure and applicability of the Convention
- Explain the nature of the obligations established by the Convention
- Enumerate its key overarching and substantive provisions

Session preparations

- Test the video and the sound system. In case of connectivity problems, prepare a USB key with the video.
- Prepare copies of the handouts for the quiz and the clustering exercise.
- Write the following headlines on large sticky notes: (a) definition and criminalization of enforced disappearance (arts. 1–7); (b) judicial procedure and cooperation in criminal matters (arts. 8–15);

(c) measures to prevent enforced disappearance (arts. 16–23); and (d) measures to provide reparation and to protect children against enforced disappearance (arts. 24–25).

- Write the key messages on large sticky notes.

Session sequence

Step 1: Short video on the Convention

Duration: 5 minutes

- Explain to participants that you are going to show them a [video on the experiences of the relatives of the disappeared](#) (duration: 3:49 minutes).
- Inform them that the video will be followed by a short quiz for a group activity. Clarify that the video will provide some answers to the questions of the quiz so participants should listen carefully to it and take note of the main information relayed in it.

Step 2: Quiz

Duration: 5 minutes

- Distribute the quiz to participants and ask them to answer it in groups.

Step 3: Participatory presentation

Duration: 25 minutes

- Explain that the aim of the presentation is to:
 - Provide an overview of the Convention
 - Clarify questions participants may have with respect to the main features of the Convention
- Take your time to carefully explain the main features of the Convention during the presentation. Note that the substantive provisions will be discussed in detail in the upcoming sessions (modules 3 and 4).
- Read the quiz questions and provide answers to them as you move along in your presentation. Try to first refer to the question of the quiz, ask participants to share their answer and use the presentation to verify or complement as needed. Reference to the relevant slides is included in the annotated facilitator's copy of the quiz.

Step 4: Clustering exercise

Duration: 15 minutes

- Stop the presentation. Divide participants into four groups (slide 12). Provide each group with a handout of the headlines of the clusters. Put four sets of the headlines ((a) definition and criminalization of enforced disappearance (arts. 1–7); (b) judicial procedure and cooperation in criminal matters (arts. 8–15); (c) measures to prevent enforced disappearance (arts. 16–23); and (d) measures to provide reparation and to protect children against enforced disappearance (arts. 24–25)) on the wall (on stickers). Give each group one set of obligations. Ask each group to identify the obligations under the respective category.

Step 5: Debrief

Duration: 20 minutes

Continue presentation of the Convention using the debrief on the clustering exercise.

Step 5: Wrap-up

Duration: 5 minutes

Prepare a large sticky note for each key message and place each one on the wall or board as you explain the key message. This (very simple) visual aid could help participants to better retain the key messages. For example, the notes could say:

- Universal treaty and comprehensive treaty on enforced disappearances
- Territorial/temporal scope of applicability of the Convention
- State obligations

Alternatively, you could simply ask participants to share what their main takeaways of this session are, and then supplement with additional information, if necessary. This would also give the facilitator a sense of how much they have processed.

Key messages for the wrap-up can include the following:

- The Convention is a universal human rights treaty.
- The Convention is a comprehensive treaty on enforced disappearances.
- The Convention applies in the entire territory of a State party and, in exceptional circumstances, also extraterritorially, whenever the State exercises jurisdiction abroad. The application of the Convention starts from the point in time when it enters into force with respect to the State party concerned. While the Convention generally does not apply retroactively, given the continuous nature of enforced disappearance, some of the obligations contained in the Convention may apply with respect to cases in which the disappearance commenced prior to the entry into force of the Convention with respect to the State concerned.
- The States parties of the Convention have an obligation to respect and ensure the rights contained therein to all individuals. They are obliged to prevent and to repress enforced disappearances and to provide the victims with a remedy. The obligations to cooperate and to take preventive measures are also affirmed in the Convention. The prohibition of enforced disappearance under the Convention is absolute and not subject to any limitations or derogations.