

**Call for inputs from the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association for his report to be presented at the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

On 17 July 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted Resolution 44/20, on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests. In addition to urging greater respect for the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and closely connected rights, the Resolution called on the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to “prepare a dedicated report on the protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests during crisis situations,” and to take account, in the course of preparing the report, of “the views of States, the Office of the High Commissioner, relevant United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations human rights treaty bodies, regional human rights mechanisms, other relevant special procedure mandate holders, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders, such as law enforcement practitioners”.

In accordance with this resolution, the Special Rapporteur, Clément N. VOULE, will present an additional thematic report to the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, addressing the protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests during crisis situations. The Special Rapporteur is keen to solicit and incorporate the views and insights of key stakeholders in this area. In order to accomplish this aim, the Special Rapporteur kindly requests your response to the annexed questions.

Submissions can be made to [freeassembly@ohchr.org](mailto:freeassembly@ohchr.org) by 31 July 2021 in English, French or Spanish. Kindly indicate in the subject of your email “Submission to 50th HRC session report”. All submissions will be published on <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/AssemblyAssociation/Pages/SRFreedomAssemblyAssociationIndex.aspx> unless otherwise indicated in your submission.

## **Annex – Questions from the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association**

### Types of Crisis Situation

Please consider the following types of crisis situation and respond to the attached questions relative to each. Where in your view the categories overlap, please include your responses wherever seems most appropriate.

#### *Military crises, e.g. war and armed conflict*

1. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on the enjoyment of human rights during protests?
- B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on the enjoyment of human rights during protests?
- C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?
- D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, among other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

#### *Humanitarian crises, e.g. relating to famine or food insecurity, mass displacement*

2. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?
- B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?
- C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?
- D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, among other human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

#### *Crises related to narco-trafficking, gang violence, terrorism, or the like*

3. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?
- B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, among other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Natural and man-made crises, e.g. earthquakes, tsunamis, man-made disasters such as explosions, oil spills*

4. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, among other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, among other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Major environmental crises, e.g. climate change*

5. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Health crises, e.g. pandemics*

6. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Economic crises*

7. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Social & political crises, e.g. related to major political contestation, coup d'etat*

8. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Crises of poverty and inequality*

9. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

*Crises of systemic discrimination against particular groups*

10. A. In what ways have you observed or do you have knowledge of such a type of crisis situation impacting on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

B. What types of measures have you observed or do you have knowledge of being taken in response to such situations, that impact on assemblies and other relevant human rights?

C. In what manners have you observed or do you have knowledge of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, being violated in such a context, or do you imagine it might be violated?

D. What good or promising practices have you observed or do you imagine might be possible that would help to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly amongst other relevant human rights, is better respected, protected and/or fulfilled in such a crisis context?

Final Questions

11. Are there any other types of crisis, not considered above, that you consider it important to address? If so, please provide responses to the above questions relative to the proposed additional categories of crisis as well.

12. Are there any other manners in which peaceful assemblies and other relevant human rights are restricted in crisis situations generally, or positive steps that might be taken, that you have not mentioned above or would like to reinforce?

13. Are there any other related matters to which you would like to direct the Special Rapporteur's attention?