

Bulgaria

VNR - Voluntary National Review 2020

The 2030 Agenda is explicitly grounded in human rights norms and standards, making a rights-based approach central to achieving its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the pledge to leave no one behind.

The UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) provides tools and approaches that can help integrate existing human rights information and analysis in the VNRs. These tools can effectively guide national progress monitoring and identifying relevant acceleration points.

Such information can help the national voluntary reporting process take account of issues such as inequality, discrimination, accountability, rule of law, participation, and inclusion by guiding the way the VNR report is prepared.

Human rights analysis can help reporting on SDGs that have corresponding rights (e.g. water, health, housing). It can also help identify groups at risk of being left behind, those furthest behind, and ways of effectively addressing their situation. Systematically linking the 2030 Agenda and human rights follow up processes will also help reduce reporting burdens.

International Human Rights Mechanisms

Reports prepared by and for the human rights mechanisms (Universal Periodic Review, Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures) carry a wealth of data and information relevant to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Relevant country information since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda is featured below. You can find further information in the **Universal Human Rights Index**, OHCHR's online database, which compiles recommendations from all mechanisms for every country and allows searching against SDG targets, groups of persons affected and/or themes.

Interested in the Universal Human Rights Index? More details are available from uhri.ohchr.org/Goals/SDGS



How are independent experts linking their work with the 2030 Agenda? To find out, visit tinyurl.com/SP-2030

Special Procedures

Since 2016, Bulgaria was visited by UN independent experts focusing on issues of sale of children and violence against women.

Visit tinyurl.com/Special-Procedures for more information.

Treaty Bodies

Since 2016, Bulgaria was reviewed by the Committee against Torture, Human Rights Committee, Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Committee on the Rights of the Child, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and engaged with the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Visit tinyurl.com/TB-BGR for more information.

Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Bulgaria was last reviewed by the UPR in May 2015. The country received 182 and supported 174 recommendations, touching upon a variety of SDGs.

Bulgaria's third review under the UPR will take place in May 2020, with the State report deadline of February 2020. Systematically linking the VNR and the UPR reporting processes can benefit both reports and ensure improved coherence in relevant policies, programmes and follow up to both the 2030 and the human rights agendas.

Visit tinyurl.com/UPR-BGR for more information.



The icons show which five SDGs received the most attention during the country's UPR process (as indicated by the percentage of UPR recommendations corresponding to a specific SDG).

Promoting meaningful, safe and inclusive participation

One of the central principles of the 2030 Agenda is the requirement for all its processes to be as participatory and inclusive as possible. Special efforts are often needed to reach out to those at risk of being left behind or not being heard.

Those affected by government's decisions should be able to communicate their needs and interests as well as support tailoring, implementing and reviewing public policies and programmes.

Guidance and practical recommendations on participation, developed by OHCHR, aim to help secure inclusive and accountable SDG implementation.

Guidelines for States on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs

Visit [ohchr.org/participationguidelines](https://www.ohchr.org/participationguidelines)

Practical recommendations for the participation of civil society in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Visit undocs.org/A/HRC/41/41/Add.2

Human rights-based approach to data (HRBAD)

Data collection, disaggregation and analysis is a crucial tool for SDG implementation and reporting on progress made. However, devising disaggregation of indicators (or not) is not a norm or value-neutral exercise.

A human rights-based approach to data has much to offer. It can bring together relevant data stakeholders and develop communities of practice that improve the quality, relevance and use of data and statistics in line with international human rights norms and principles.

Human rights indicators: Tools for measuring progress

Visit: tinyurl.com/HR-indicators

Human rights-based approach to data: Leaving no one behind in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Visit: tinyurl.com/HR-to-data

Human rights indicators tables

Visit: tinyurl.com/IND-tables

National mechanisms for reporting and follow up (NMRF)

All States have established structures or processes for 2030 Agenda and for human rights reporting and implementation.

Systematically connecting these structures and making sure they work hand in hand will improve coherence and reporting quality as well as help secure greater participation and ownership.

Practical guide to effective state engagement with international human rights mechanisms

Visit: tinyurl.com/NMRFguide

National and sub-national structures for the 2030 Agenda implementation, monitoring and reporting



National structures for human rights reporting and follow up and bodies with a human rights mandate (e.g. national human rights institutions)

National recommendations tracking database (NRTD)

OHCHR can support countries in establishing a national recommendations tracking database.

An online database, developed from the good practices in Paraguay, Samoa, and Uganda, can be customized to allow for clustering recommendations, assigning responsibilities to relevant ministries or other bodies, monitoring activities and budget allocations, and recording 2030 Agenda and human rights implementation status in real time.

The database is currently available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

If interested, contact nrt dsupport@ohchr.org for more information.

See also: youtu.be/Ybz2ecDeNA0

For more information, please click on the hyperlinks indicated by the **bold** text.