Students from Public School 22 perform "We the Children" with Charlie Chan at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 20 November 2019)

Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

KEY PROGRAMMES

- Supporting human rights treaty bodies
- Supporting the Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms
- Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities
- Human rights mainstreaming, the right to development, research and analysis

INDICATIVE RESOURCES

$323M

$128M regular assessed, $2M peacekeeping assessed and $193M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, General Assembly resolution 217 (III)
- Declaration on the Right to Development, General Assembly resolution 41/128
- High Commissioner for the Promotion and Protection of all Human Rights, General Assembly resolution 48/141
- Strengthening and Enhancing the Effective Functioning of the Human Rights Treaty Body System, General Assembly resolution 68/268
- Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review, General Assembly resolutions 60/251 and 65/281

SELECT ENTITIES

- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Henrietta Fore, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, stands next to an installation on the lawn of United Nations Headquarters. The 3,758 backpacks each represent a loss of a young life to conflict, commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 9 September 2019)

ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CONTEXT

Fostering peaceful societies and sustainable development goes hand in hand with human rights. Bringing States, civil society, private sector actors and other stakeholders together behind the universal commitment to rights facilitates the building of just and inclusive societies.

Participants take part in a game with questions related to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the special event on Youth Standing Up for Human Rights (New York, 10 December 2019)

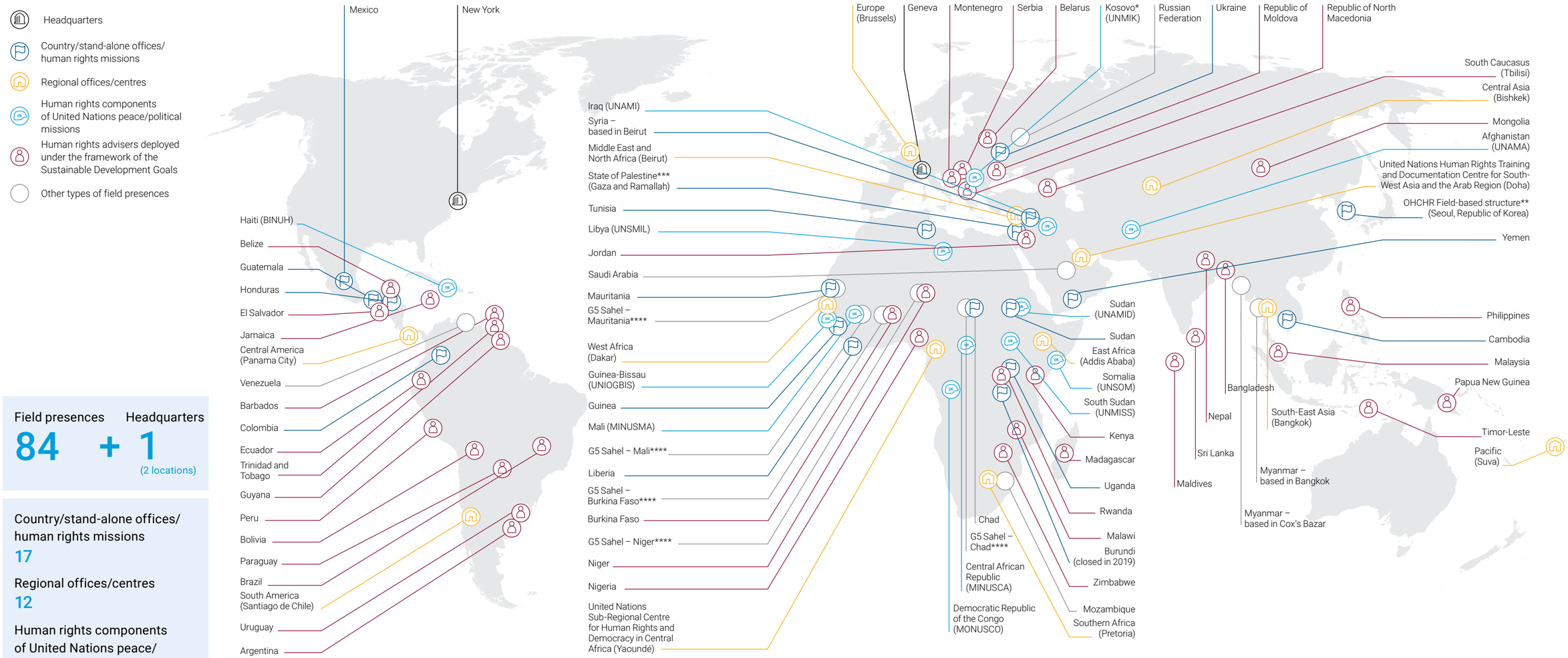
KEY OBJECTIVES

Our work to advance the protection and promotion of human rights spans the following thematic pillars: support for international human rights mechanisms; mainstreaming human rights within development and peace and security efforts; and advancement of the core human rights principles of non-discrimination, participation and accountability. In the context of the current pandemic, the United Nations is working to ensure that human rights are central to the response, including through 14 policy recommendations in a dedicated Secretary-General's brief.

"Bringing up children and young people secure in their rights is fundamental to the future of humanity. Thirty years after it was adopted, the Convention on the Rights of the Child continues to be a vital guide for us all."

Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD IN 2019



Field presences **Headquarters**

84 + **1** (2 locations)

Country/stand-alone offices/ human rights missions
17

Regional offices/centres
12

Human rights components of United Nations peace/ political missions
12

Human rights advisers deployed under the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals
37

Other types of field presences
6

** Reference to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).*

*** Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.*

**** Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood to be in the context of General Assembly resolution 67/19.*

***** G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).*

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

KEY OUTCOMES

Support for international human rights mechanisms

Our support for treaty-based and intergovernmental bodies continued during the past year. For example, the special procedures and other mechanisms of the Human Rights Council undertook 84 visits to 57 States and territories in 2019. The treaty body capacity-building programme helped to strengthen national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Kenya and Sierra Leone, among others.

CALL TO ACTION

The Secretary-General launched his Call to Action for Human Rights at the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council, in February 2020, to advance the effective enjoyment of all human rights by all everywhere, based on the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. With the full strength of the Secretary-General's office and the United Nations family, the call proposes core guiding principles across seven domains to realize the "highest aspiration of humankind".

EXPERTISE AND SUPPORT TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES

TREATY-BASED BODIES

1 Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

2 Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

3 Human Rights Committee

4 Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

5 Committee against Torture

6 Committee on the Rights of the Child

7 Committee on Migrant Workers

8 Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

9 Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

10 Committee on Enforced Disappearances

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

1 Human Rights Council

2 Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

133 State Party reports reviewed by human rights treaty bodies in 2019

92 resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council

42 Member States reviewed for the implementation of Universal Periodic Review recommendations

6 new Human Rights Council mandates established, including 1 new expert mechanism on the right to development

44 thematic and **12** country-specific special procedures mandates

41 newly established and/or strengthened National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up

Secretary-General António Guterres (at podium) makes remarks at the opening of the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, Switzerland, 25 February 2019)

Human rights within development efforts

In 2019, a draft legally binding instrument on the right to development was prepared, as was a prototype tool to design, monitor and assess human rights-based development policies. We also prioritized the integration of human rights in environment and climate policies. In September 2019, the Peoples' Summit on Climate, Rights and Human Survival was held, resulting in a declaration signed by more than 400 organizations.

Peace and security

The integration of human rights in peace operations is a key element of my Action for Peacekeeping initiative. In 2019, we trained more than 500 mission leaders, police and military officers and developed new policy and guidance on preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence, in addition to the work of human rights personnel who conduct investigations and report in conflict settings.

Non-discrimination

In our work to enhance equality and counter discrimination, we provided support to the adoption of 15 new national laws to combat discrimination in all its forms. The roll-out of the standards of conduct for tackling discrimination against LGBTI persons continued, including disseminating them at global corporate events such as the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and receiving the support of 270 of the largest companies in the world.

OUR SUPPORT TO MEMBER STATE COOPERATION

39
treaty actions: **2** signatures; **19** ratifications; **18** accessions

57
Governments hosted **84** visits by special procedures mandates

133
State Party reports reviewed by the treaty bodies with 7 States Parties visited by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture

3,174
official documents submitted for meetings of human rights mechanisms, General Assembly and the United Nations Economic and Social Council

OUR HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

35,997
victims of torture in **77** countries received rehabilitation support

8,594
victims of contemporary forms of slavery in **23** countries obtained assistance

12
human rights components in United Nations peace missions, including **524** staff

37
Human rights advisers deployed in United Nations country teams

An integrated team from the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) investigated recent armed attacks in the Bankass Cercle area, in which preliminary information indicated that at least 16 people were killed (Libe, Mali, 22 February 2019)

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The year 2019 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in which it is recognized that children are entitled to non-negotiable rights. The Convention protects the rights of all children, everywhere, to be free from discrimination, violence and neglect.

CRC30 YEARS
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Amaya Pilla Masaquiza speaks at the high-level commemorative event of the General Assembly on thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 25 September 2019)

196
States parties to the Convention

168
States Parties to Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Armed Conflict

176
States Parties to Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

46
States Parties to Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure

196
States reported at least once

1,592
civil society reports submitted from 2009 to 2019

327
children who met with the Committee during its pre-sessional working group from 2008 to 2019

63
reports submitted by children from 2009 to 2019

52 States made **200+** pledges on **24** articles of the Convention to celebrate the anniversary

Child-friendly version of the Convention produced in
6
United Nations languages

A child stands by the doors to the General Assembly Hall during the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 20 November 2019)

ENHANCING EQUALITY AND COUNTERING DISCRIMINATION

Since its establishment in 1985, United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples has supported the participation of over

2,500

indigenous persons in United Nations human rights mechanisms

15

national laws adopted to combat discrimination in all forms

270

companies expressed public support for the Standards of Conduct for Business in Tackling Discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans and Intersex People

United Nations Human Rights LGBTI Fellowship Programme launched

The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent sent **44** allegation letters and urgent appeals on behalf of over

30,200 victims

A specially trained instructor works with children with disabilities and special needs in an inclusive classroom at LEC centre (Boulaos, Djibouti, 2018)

Participation

We continued our support for the International Decade for People of African Descent, notably through a fellowship programme. Since 2011, 83 fellows from 32 countries have been empowered through the programme and subsequently played instrumental roles in promoting the Decade in their countries.

Accountability

We continued to support States and other stakeholders in the design and implementation of context-specific, victim-centred and human rights-based accountability and transitional justice processes. We worked with security forces to ensure respect for human rights in the context of counter-terrorism and continued to chair the Global Compact Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism and Supporting Victims of Terrorism.

INCREASING PARTICIPATION AND PROTECTING CIVIC SPACE

7.6M

followers across United Nations Human Rights social media platforms

36,900+

unique visitors to the Universal Human Rights Index website

85,000+

publications and other print materials dispatched to **51** countries

4.89M

visits to online publications

481

civil society side events organized during Human Rights Council sessions