# Pakistan – Updated August 2016

**United Nations**

* Member since ***30 Sep 47***

## **UN Conventions – Ratifications as of 14 January 2011**

(these conventions have established mechanisms to monitor implementation)

**CESCR** – International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

* ***Ratified 17 April 2008***

**ICCPR** – International covenant on Civil and Political Rights

* ***Signed 17 April 2008***

**CCPR-OP1** – Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

* ***Not Signed***

**CCPR-OP2-DP** – Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

* ***Not Signed***

**CERD** – International Covenant on All Forms of Racial Discrimination

* ***Ratified 04 Jan 69***
* But, not a party to Art. 14

**CEDAW** – Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

* ***Acceded 11 Apr 96***

**CEDAW-OP** – Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

* ***Not Signed***

**CAT** – Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

* ***Ratified 17 April 2008***
* Not party to Art. 22 or Optional Protocol

**CRC** – Convention on the Rights of the Child

* ***Ratified 12 Dec 90***

**CRC-OP-AC** – Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of

Children in Armed Conflict

* ***Signed 26 Sep 01***

**CRC-OP-SC** – Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

* ***Signed 26 Sep 01***

**CMW** – International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

* ***Not Signed***

**International Criminal Court**

*Rome Statute*

***Not Signed***

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is a network of over 2,000 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) advocating for a fair, effective and independent International Criminal Court (ICC). (<http://www.iccnow.org/>) For current ratifications see <http://www.iccnow.org/countryinfo/worldsigsandratifications.html>

**Commonwealth Secretariat**

* Member since declaration of independence – ***1989***

[The Commonwealth Secretariat] “work as a trusted partner for all Commonwealth people as: a force for peace, democracy, equality, and good governance; a catalyst for global consensus building; and a source of assistance for sustainable development and poverty eradication.” (<http://www.thecommonwealth.org/Templates/Internal.asp?NodeID=38259>)

The key Commonwealth Secretariat declarations are **The** **Harare Commonwealth Declaration** 20 Aug 91, **The Millbrook Commonwealth Action Program** 12 Nov 1995, and **The Singapore Declaration of Commonwealth Principles** 1971.

For a complete list of Commonwealth Declarations, please see:

(<http://www.thecommonwealth.org/Templates/Document.asp?NodeID=35468&int1stParentNodeID=34293>)

**Universal Periodic Review Second Cycle December 26th 2012**

(Website: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G12/190/31/PDF/G1219031.pdf?OpenElement)

***UPR RECOMMENDATIONS:***

General/Human Rights/ International Human Rights Obligations:

* 122.1 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons From Enforced Disappearance.
* 122.4 Ratify the 2nd Optional Protocol of the ICCPR
* 122.5 Ratify/Accede to the OP CAT. Establish national preventative mechanisms accordingly.
* 122.6 Ratify/Accede to The Rome Statute of the ICC, The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED).
* 122.10 Consider ratifying other international human rights instruments to which Pakistan is not yet a party too.
* 122.16 Continue developing the institutional framework with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights.
* 122.17 Continue its ongoing review of national laws to ensure that they are in line with Pakistan’s international human rights obligations. Review all relevant legislation & procedures to ensure systematic incorporation of international human rights obligations and their implementation on all levels of the government.
* 122.18 Promote the review of national legal provisions in the area of human rights, including constitutional provisions to bring them inline with international standards.
* 122.43 Strengthen efforts to conclude the formation of the Independent National Commission for Human Rights.
* 122.50 Continue evaluating its national capacities so as to be inline with the international human rights treaties Pakistan has acceded to or ratified.
* 122.55 Incorporate human rights into public policy.
* 122.78 Step up cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to pending visit request of special procedures mandate holders. Eventually consider extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council.
* 122.79 Accept the competence of the treaty bodies in complaints, inquiry & urgent action procedures.

Religious Minorities/Vulnerable Groups/Blasphemy Laws/ Freedom of Religion, Beliefs & Expression:

* 122.27 Align the legislation with Freedom of Religion and Belief and Freedom of Expression as stipulated in the ICCPR.
* 122.156 Halt forced conversions/ adopt measure to ensure protection of religious minorities including Ahmadis, Christians, Hindus and Sikhs.
* 122.126 Take preventative/punitive measures against instigation of religious hatred.
* 122.32 Repeal the Blasphemy laws.
* 122.41 Continue to enhance efforts to protect women, children and other vulnerable groups against discrimination and violence.
* 122.108 Ensure that women are not submitted to illegal parallel judicial system.

Death Penalty:

* 122.19 Repeal all provisions providing for mandatory death sentence with a view to abolish them.
* 122.98 Abolish the death penalty.

Enforced Disappearance:

* 122.14 Take effective measures against enforce disappearance by strengthening the Commission of Inquiry and expanding their mandate to all security agencies, grant them greater authority/resources to conduct investigations.
* 122.20 Specifically criminalize enforced disappearances in the penal code/reinforce the capacity of the Pakistan Inquiry Commission On Enforced Disappearance.
* 122.111 Reinforce efforts to fight impunity regarding cases of enforced disappearance by bringing all responsible persons to justice.
* 122.115 Encourage the Supreme Court to continue to investigate those responsible for abduction & enforced disappearances.

Human Rights Defenders/Journalist/Others:

* 122.56 Develop a national policy for the protection of Human Rights Defenders. Bring to justice all perpetrators of attacks on or threats against them to combat impunity.
* 122.101 Implement measures to protect the right to life & freedom of expression of human rights defenders. Ensure that the perpetrators of violence are brought to justice.
* 122.117 Take steps to bring to justice those working to promote democracy and accountability in Pakistan.
* 122.118 Bring to justice perpetrators of attacks on journalist by effectively investigating all individuals & organizations accused of such abuses.
* 122.119 Introduce strong legislation prohibiting attacks on journalist to effectively investigate such acts/ prosecute perpetrators.

Other:

* 122.60 Develop clear implementation/monitoring plan for the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act , 1992, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Rules 1995, and the National policy and Plan of Action for the Abolition of Bonded Labour 2001.

**RECOMMENDATION THAT DID NOT ENJOY THE SUPPORT OF PAKISTAN:**

* 123.1 Halt operations aimed at silencing dissent in Balochistan. Ensure laws are fully equally enforced to investigate/prosecute those responsible for torture & enforced disappearances nationwide.