

UN Human Rights Council Elections for 2023-2025 and the Responsibility to Protect

Today, 11 October, the UN General Assembly elected Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Georgia, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Morocco, Romania, South Africa, Sudan and Viet Nam to the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the 2023-2025 term. With the elections of Bangladesh, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Georgia, Germany, Morocco, Romania and South Africa, 23 of the 47 Council members during 2023 will be “Friends of the Responsibility to Protect” – having appointed an R2P Focal Point and/or joined the Group of Friends of R2P in New York and Geneva.

The Human Rights Council and its mechanisms and procedures – including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms, special procedures and treaty bodies, as well as the technical assistance provided by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) – all play an essential role in providing early warning of the risk factors that can lead to crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and genocide, and provide recommendations to prevent their recurrence.

The election of Sudan – a state that is currently implicated in excessive and lethal force against peaceful protesters and that has a history of perpetrating atrocities – undermines the credibility of the HRC. States elected to the HRC are supposed to demonstrate their commitment to the highest standards of human rights, including their full cooperation with all UN mechanisms. These are conditions set forth in UN General Assembly Resolution 60/251. The fact that potential mass atrocity crimes are being perpetrated by a number of HRC member states at home or abroad – including Cameroon, China, Eritrea and the United Arab Emirates – is also deeply disturbing.

Since 2008, the HRC has referred to states’ responsibility to protect their populations in 71 thematic and country resolutions. But more work needs to be done to turn early warning into timely preventive action. In this regard, the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect encourages all HRC members to:

- Ensure the HRC responds in a timely and effective manner to atrocity situations:
 - Actively support the adoption of resolutions addressing serious violations of human rights;
 - Support HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms;
 - Mandate the Council’s mechanisms and procedures to conduct country-specific atrocity risk assessments, including by utilizing the UN Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes;
 - Where an imminent risk of mass atrocity crimes is detected, hold a special session to help mobilize appropriate international diplomatic action.
- Make use of the Irish Principles, which lay out independent and objective considerations to guide decisions on whether and when the HRC should respond to a country-specific situation.
- Improve the link between human rights and peace and security:
 - Ask the UN Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Security Council relevant decisions and reports by the HRC;
 - Encourage the UN General Assembly to ensure information collected by special procedures and international investigative mechanisms, including those mandated by the HRC, is relayed to the Security Council in a timely manner;
 - Encourage the Security Council to request regular briefings by OHCHR and other relevant HRC mechanisms and procedures;
 - Promote continued dialogue on human rights and the prevention of mass atrocities.
- Make better use of the UPR to detect early warning signs of potential mass atrocity crimes:
 - In preparation for your national report, consider what action your government has taken to uphold its primary responsibility to protect all populations on your territory;

- Use the UPR to ask relevant questions regarding the ratification and implementation of core human rights treaties, as well as regarding risk factors related to systematic violations and abuses of human rights.

The Global Centre has compiled profiles on each of the newly elected Human Rights Council members. These provide a basic overview of their commitment to prevent mass atrocities by protecting and promoting human rights.

Algeria

Head of State: President Abdelmadjid Tebboune

Head of Government: Prime Minister Aïmene Benabderrahmane

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Ramtane Lamamra

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Lazhar Soualem

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Africa Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2007, 2014-2016
UN Security Council Membership:	1968-1969, 1988-1989, 2004-2005
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	2
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2022 Previous reviews: May 2017, May 2012, April 2008
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea) 2017: A/HRC/RES/35/33 (DRC), 36/30 (DRC) 2018: A/HRC/RES/39/20 (DRC), 39/19 (CAR) 2019: A/HRC/RES/42/36 (CAR) 2020: A/HRC/45/35 (CAR) 2021: A/HRC/46/29 (South Sudan), 48/19 (CAR) 2022: A/HRC/49/35 (South Sudan)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 12 September 1989
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Signed: 6 February 2007, but not ratified
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Signed: 28 December 2000, but not ratified
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 31 October 1963
Arms Trade Treaty:	-

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- No voluntary pledges

On R2P: “The responsibility of protecting populations against the four major crimes of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing are at the heart of the African culture of peace. The African Union, taking as a central reference the protection of vulnerable populations, has set up a political framework and institutions that are aimed at protecting populations against these four international crimes. The many tools developed by the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development demonstrate the commitment of African States to take responsibility. Prevention and rapid conflict resolution have a prime place among these tools.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2009)

Bangladesh

Head of State: President Mohammad Abdul Hamid

Head of Government: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. A.K. Abdul Momen MP

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Mustafizur Md. Rahman

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Asia-Pacific Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2009, 2010-2012, 2015-2017, 2019-2021
UN Security Council Membership:	1979-1980, 2000-2001
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	6692
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2023 Previous reviews: May 2018, April 2013, February 2009
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	-
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Acceded: 5 October 1998
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	-
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 23 March 2010
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 5 October 1998
Arms Trade Treaty:	Signed: 26 September 2013, but not ratified

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Work with the international community to create awareness about genocide and crimes against humanity, promote collective action to prevent genocide and similar crimes, and support initiatives to ensure justice for the victims of genocide;
- Work with the Special Rapporteur and international accountability mechanisms to promote and protect the human rights of the Rohingya;
- Strengthen multilateralism and promotion and protection of human rights through an inclusive and cooperative global approach;
- Empower and enhance the operational effectiveness of the National Human Rights Commission, National Election Commission, Anti-Corruption Commission, Public Service Commission and Information Commission;
- Promote the realization of the right to development as an inalienable right for all and support the ongoing efforts to develop the concept further;
- Pursue the issue of human rights and climate change at national and international levels to further enhance the interface between human rights and climate change.

On R2P: “We support the centrality of a multilateral approach in implementing the principle of R2P with the UN playing the main coordination role. In doing so, it is critical to ensure synergies and complementarities among the UN’s humanitarian, development and peace mandates and initiatives. Existing human rights mechanisms, including the UPR, also support Member States through evidence-based risk assessment, early warning, and mitigation measures.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2022)

Belgium

Head of Government: Prime Minister Alexander de Croo

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Ms. Hadja Lahbib

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Marc Pecsteen de Buytsverve

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the European Union: 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement with Netherlands and Luxembourg: 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Western European and Others Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2009-2012, 2016-2018
UN Security Council Membership:	1947-1948, 1955-1956, 1971-1972, 1991-1992, 2007-2008, 2019-2020
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	55
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: May 2026 Previous reviews: May 2021, January 2016, May 2011
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2008: HRC/RES/7/25 (Prevention of Genocide) 2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), 17/17 (Libya), S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide), 23/26 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea), 25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide), 30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria), 33/19 (Transitional Justice) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/26 (Syria), 34/25 (South Sudan), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/33 (DRC), 35/26 (Syria), 36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/1 (Eastern Ghouta, Syria), 37/31 (South Sudan), 37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 37/26 (Prevention of Genocide), 38/16 (Syria), 39/19 (CAR), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/20 (DPRK), 40/19 (South Sudan), 40/17 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 42/27 (Syria), 42/17 (Transitional Justice), 42/36 (CAR) 2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 43/27 (South Sudan), 43/25 (DPRK), 44/21 (Syria), 44/14 (R2P), 45/35 (CAR), 45/21 (Syria)

	2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK), 46/22 (Syria), 47/13 (Ethiopia), 47/18 (Syria), 48/15 (Syria) 2022: A/HRC/49/2 (South Sudan), 49/22 (DPRK), 49/27 (Syria), 50/19 (Syria)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 25 June 1999
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Ratified: 2 June 2011
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 28 June 2000
Genocide Convention:	Ratified: 5 September 1951
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 3 June 2014

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Strengthen accountability and the rule of law, including through continuing support for the ICC and a proposal for a multilateral treaty for mutual legal assistance and extradition for national-level prosecution of the most serious international crimes;
- Continue to strengthen the linkages and cooperation between the HRC and regional organizations;
- Promote civic space and protect human rights defenders, including through efforts to prevent reprisals against civil society actors engaging with the UN human rights system;
- Enhance equality and counter discrimination, with particular attention to women and girls, and continue to draw attention to the plight of all victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
- Support the HRC in addressing situations of violations of human rights, serving as a forum for dialogue on thematic issues, contributing to the prevention of human rights violations and responding promptly to human rights emergencies.

On R2P: “The conceptual debate should not prevent us from continuing to work on operationalizing the Responsibility to Protect. We owe it to the populations who are victims of multiple atrocities in Yemen, Myanmar, Syria and elsewhere, but also to those in countries where there is a risk of atrocities. Beyond the primary role of States, the commitment made in 2005 emphasized that the international community should intervene when national authorities are unable to fulfil their Responsibility to Protect, or when they are manifestly failing to protect their populations.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2021)

Chile

Head of State and Government: President Gabriel Boric Font

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Ms. Antonia Urrejola Noguera

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Ms. Claudia Fuentes Julio

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Latin America and Caribbean Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2008-2011, 2011-2014, 2018-2020
UN Security Council Membership:	1952-1953, 1961-1962, 1996-1997, 2003-2004, 2014-2015
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	16
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: May 2024 Previous reviews: January 2019, January 2014, May 2009
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria), 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide) 2014: 25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide), 30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/33/19 (Transitional Justice) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/25 (South Sudan), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/33 (DRC) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/31 (South Sudan), 37/26 (Prevention of Genocide) 2019: A/HRC/RES/42/17 (Transitional Justice) 2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 44/14 (R2P)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 30 September 1988
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Ratified: 8 December 2009
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 29 June 2009
Genocide Convention:	Ratified: 3 June 1953
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 18 May 2018

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Promote the incorporation of a gender perspective in the UN system;
- Fight against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity;

- Strengthen autonomy and independence of special procedures;
- Improve protection for human rights defenders, particularly in the context of protests;
- Cooperate and collaborate with all human rights mechanisms in order to strengthen the rule of law and ensure justice, truth and compensation for the victims of social unrest;
- Strengthen affirmative measures to ensure the full inclusion of, and non-discrimination against, persons and groups that have been historically excluded, such as indigenous persons, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, migrants, people of African descent and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

On R2P: “Chile recognizes that the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document is a relevant milestone, as it establishes that the Responsibility to Protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity is a collective mandate given to the entire international community. (...) The Responsibility to Protect does not end once a conflict has abated. It is the duty of States to ensure guarantees of non-recurrence through memorialization and the principles of transitional justice.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2021)

Costa Rica

Head of State and Government: President Rodrigo Chaves Robles

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Arnoldo Ricardo André Tinoco

Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Ms. Shara Duncan Villalobos

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Latin America and Caribbean Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2011-2014
UN Security Council Membership:	1974-1975, 1997-1998, 2008-2009
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	-
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2024 Previous reviews: May 2019, April 2014, November 2009
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), RES/17/17 (Libya), S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide), 30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria), 33/19 (Transitional Justice), 2017: /HRC/RES/34/24 (DPRK), 35/26 (Syria), 36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 37/26 (Prevention of Genocide), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/20 (DPRK), 40/19 (South Sudan), 40/17 (Syria) 2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 43/28 (Syria), 43/27 (South Sudan), 43/25 (DPRK), 44/21 (Syria), 44/14 (R2P), 45/35 (CAR), 45/21 (Syria) 2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK), 46/22 (Syria), 46/23 (South Sudan), 46/29 (South Sudan), 47/18 (Syria), 48/15 (Syria) 2022: A/HRC/49/2 (South Sudan), 49/22 (DPRK), 49/27 (Syria), 49/35 (South Sudan), 50/19 (Syria)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 11 November 1993
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Ratified: 16 February 2012

Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 7 June 2001
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 14 October 1950
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 25 September 2013

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Promote better connection between policy and institutional processes among the various UN bodies;
- Strengthen protection mechanisms for human rights defenders, particularly environmental defenders;
- Promote the implementation of the right to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment and support the work of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment;
- Support processes that promote equality, non-discrimination and the eradication of violence against women;
- Promote a human rights approach to managing human mobility, be it that of refugees, migrants or internally displaced persons.

On R2P: “My country reiterates its legal, political and, above all moral commitment to achieving the full implementation of this principle and its three pillars outlined in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, so as to increase the capacity of the Organization and States in matters of prevention, early warning and effective and rapid response. ... The principle of the Responsibility to Protect was conceptualized in line with States’ obligations – under international law, international humanitarian law and human rights law – to not commit systematic human rights violations against the civilian population. Those obligations must therefore be incorporated into the internal legal frameworks of States. Likewise, in order to strengthen internal early warning mechanisms and others for the prevention of atrocities, coordination between the principal organs of the UN and the mechanisms established under resolutions of the Security Council must be strengthened.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2019)

Georgia

Head of State: President Salome Zourabichvili

Head of Government: Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Ilia Darchiashvili

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Alexander Maisuradze

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the European Union: 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Eastern Europe Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2016-2018
UN Security Council Membership:	-
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	-
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: January 2026 Previous reviews: January 2021, November 2015, January 2011
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2011: A/HRC/RES/S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide), 23/1 (Syria & Al-Qusayr), 23/26 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide), 30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria), 33/19 (Transitional Justice) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/26 (Syria), 34/25 (South Sudan), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/26 (Syria), 36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/31 (South Sudan), 37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 38/16 (Syria), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/19 (South Sudan), 40/17 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 42/27 (Syria), 42/17 (Transitional Justice) 2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 43/28 (Syria), 43/25 (DPRK), 44/21 (Syria), 44/14 (R2P), 45/21 (Syria) 2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK), 46/22 (Syria), 47/18 (Syria), 48/15 (Syria) 2022: A/HRC/49/22 (DPRK), 49/27 (Syria), 50/19 (Syria)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Acceded: 26 October 1994
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	-

Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 5 September 2003
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 11 October 1993
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 23 May 2016

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Combat discrimination and promote the rights of the most vulnerable groups, with special emphasis on minorities, internally displaced persons, persons with disabilities and conflict-affected people;
- Ensure full enjoyment of women’s and girls’ rights and to protect them from violence, including in humanitarian situations, and bolster gender equality work;
- Increase activities aimed at sharing best practices and experiences in promoting and protecting human rights, and carrying out internationally renowned reforms in institutional democracy, rule of law, good governance, and evidence-based public service delivery, which serve the goal of effective implementation of human rights;
- Work closely with all interested NGOs, especially grassroots CSOs, to increase their representation and participation in international human rights forums;
- Promote the mainstreaming of the environmental dimension into human rights and a rights-based approach to environmental protection.

On R2P: ““Systematic human rights violations, widespread impunity, hate speech, exclusion and discrimination can be the early warning indicators and triggers of atrocity crimes. The HRC and its mechanisms – including the UPR, special procedures and treaty bodies - all play an essential role in providing early warning of the risk factors, and their effective work are therefore key. Georgia is committed to further strengthening our national human rights machinery and attaches great importance to cooperation with existing human rights mechanisms. We also recognize the importance of safeguarding the space for civil society, including human rights defenders, to ensure that their voices are heard.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2022)

Germany

Head of State: President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Head of Government: Chancellor Olaf Scholz

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Ms. Annalena Baerbock

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Ms. Katharina Stasch

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the European Union: 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Western European and Others Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2009, 2013-2015, 2016-2018, 2020-2022
UN Security Council Membership:	1995-1996, 2003-2004, 2011-2012, 2019-2020
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	579
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2023 Previous reviews: May 2018, April 2013, February 2009
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2008: HRC/RES/7/25 (Prevention of Genocide) 2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), 17/17 (Libya), S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide), 23/26 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea), 25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide), 30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria), 33/19 (Transitional Justice) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/26 (Syria), 34/25 (South Sudan), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/33 (DRC), 35/26 (Syria), A/HRC/RES/36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/1 (Eastern Ghouta, Syria), 37/31 (South Sudan), 37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 37/26 (Prevention of Genocide), 38/16 (Syria), 39/19 (CAR), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/20 (DPRK), 40/19 (South Sudan), 40/17 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 42/27 (Syria), 42/17 (Transitional Justice), 42/36 (CAR) 2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 43/28 (Syria), 43/27 (South Sudan), 43/25 (DPRK),

	44/21 (Syria), 44/14 (R2P), 45/35 (CAR), 45/21 (Syria) 2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK), 46/22 (Syria), 46/23 (South Sudan), 47/13 (Ethiopia), 47/18 (Syria), 48/15 (Syria) 2022: A/HRC/49/2 (South Sudan), 49/22 (DPRK), 49/27 (Syria), 50/19 (Syria)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 1 October 1990
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Ratified: 24 September 2009
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 11 December 2000
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 27 March 1973
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 2 April 2014

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Work actively on the UPR by offering recommendations to States and by cooperating with the UPR;
- Support the UN treaty body reform process with a view to furthering its effectiveness and efficiency while securing the independence of the treaty bodies and their experts;
- Strengthen the link between climate change and human rights and support a rights-based approach to guide global climate change policies and actions;
- Lead engagement on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation as well as on adequate housing and on the human rights of victims and survivors of trafficking in persons;
- Promote the full, equal, and meaningful participation of all women and girls and fight conflict related sexual violence;
- Fulfill the third Action Plan on the Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 on WPS and develop a fourth national action plan on WPS;
- Advocate for and strengthen human rights both offline and online, including by promoting the resolution on Privacy in the Digital Age and by broadening its scope to also consider the impact of artificial intelligence.

On R2P: “Seventeen years ago, we as the international community unanimously agreed on the R2P principle, and our joint responsibility to save populations from genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Despite various commitments and promises, children and young people continue to be caught up in conflicts and fall victim to atrocity crimes across the world. (...) From Yemen to Afghanistan, from Syria to Myanmar – the latest report on children and armed conflict lists a total of 21 situations of concern, a number that is far too high and even likely to increase in the coming years. (...) Member states should put effective early warning systems in place that include the collection of age- and gender specific data. Strengthening accountability is both a critical deterrent for future perpetrators and a necessary response to atrocity crimes already committed.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2022)

Kyrgyzstan

Head of State: President Sadyr Zhaparov

Head of Government: Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Akylbek Zhaparov

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Omar Sultanov

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	-
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Asia-Pacific Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2009-2012, 2016-2018
UN Security Council Membership:	-
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	6
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: May 2025 Previous reviews: January 2020, January 2015, May 2010
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	-
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Acceded: 5 September 1997
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	-
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Signed: 8 December 1998, but not ratified
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 5 September 1997
Arms Trade Treaty:	-

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- No voluntary pledges

On R2P: “The Kyrgyzstan Republic continues to support human rights, including the rights of minorities, as this is an essential part of Kyrgyzstan and this is why we were elected to the HRC. (...) As many experts have noted about the Third Pillar of R2P, it has yet to reach consensus and has yet to be ratified by all countries because there is contradiction in this Pillar with the ideas of territorial integrity and the principles of sovereignty, which are laid out in the UN Charter.” (UN General Assembly Thematic Panel Discussion on “From commitment to implementation: Ten years of the Responsibility to Protect,” 2016)

Maldives

Head of State and Government: President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Asim Ahmed

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	-
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Asia-Pacific Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2010-2013, 2014-2016
UN Security Council Membership:	-
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	-
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: October 2025 Previous reviews: November 2020, May 2015, November 2010
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), 17/17 (Libya), S-18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 23/1 (Syria & Al-Qusayr), 23/26 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/30/10 (Syria) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/26 (Syria), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/26 (Syria), 36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/1 (Eastern Ghouta, Syria), 37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 38/16 (Syria), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/20 (DPRK), 40/17 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 42/27 (Syria), 42/17 (Transitional Justice) 2020: A/HRC/43/25 (DPRK) 2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK) 2022: A/HRC/49/22 (DPRK)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Acceded: 20 April 2004
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Signed: 6 February 2007, but not ratified
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Acceded: 21 September 2011
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 24 April 1984
Arms Trade Treaty:	Acceded: 27 September 2019

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Adopt a whole-of-society approach to the protection and promotion of human rights;
- Strengthen efforts to achieve gender equality and eliminate violence against women and girls;
- Promote and protect rights to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment;
- Continue to promote youth advocacy;
- Strengthen national mechanisms and government institutions to mainstream and uphold human rights;
- Engage constructively at the HRC and with its mechanisms and contribute meaningfully to the Treaty Body strengthening process;
- Promote inclusivity at the HRC by encouraging the participation of under-represented UN Member States.

On R2P: *Maldives has yet to formally comment on the Responsibility to Protect.*

Morocco

Head of Government: Prime Minister Aziz Akhannouch

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Omar Zniber

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Africa Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2007, 2014-2016
UN Security Council Membership:	1963-1964, 1992-1993, 2012-2013
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	1707
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2022 Previous reviews: May 2017, May 2012, April 2008
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2011: A/HRC/RES/17/17 (Libya) 2012: A/HRC/RES/21/26 (Syria), 20/22 (Syria), 19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 19/22 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/23/1 (Syria & Al-Qusayr), 22/24 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/27/16 (Syria), 25/23 (Syria), 25/35 (Guinea) 2015: A/HRC/RES/30/10 (Syria) 2016: 33/19 (Transitional Justice), 33/23 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 31/17 (Syria) 2017: A/HRC/RES/36/20 (Syria), 36/30 (DRC), 35/26 (Syria), 35/33 (DRC), 34/26 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/39/15 (Syria), 39/20 (DRC), 39/19 (CAR), 38/16 (Syria), 37/29 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/42/36 (CAR), 42/17 (Transitional Justice), 42/27 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 40/17 (Syria) 2020: A/HRC/44/14 (R2P), 44/21 (Syria), 43/28 (Syria) 2021: A/HRC/RES/46/29 (South Sudan), 48/19 (CAR) 2022: A/HRC/RES/49/35 (South Sudan)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 21 June 1993
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Ratified: 14 May 2013
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Signed: 8 September 2000, but not ratified
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 24 January 1958
Arms Trade Treaty:	-

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Work to strengthen UN human rights mechanisms, including the treaty bodies and the UPR;
- Pursue efforts to promote education and training in the field of human rights at the national and international levels;
- Promote exchange of experience and best practices between States, with a view to strengthen dialogue and cooperation, more particularly South-South cooperation, in the field of human rights;
- Share experience regarding the permanent national coordination mechanisms in charge of reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by UN human rights bodies;
- Cooperate fully with the various Treaty Monitoring Committees by submitting its periodic reports on time, engaging in interactive dialogue with the Committees at the time of the review and actively following up on the recommendations made by them;
- Strengthen its commitments related to strategic planning in the field of human rights and promote this practice in the framework of HRC's work.

On R2P: “We want to recall the interlinkages among the three pillars of the Responsibility to Protect and reiterate that the Third Pillar falls primarily to States. However, we must recognize that in conflict situations the capacities of States can be insufficient or non-existent. In those situations, the international community has the responsibility to support them by strengthening their capacities or providing the necessary means to protect their people. That can be done, for instance, by bolstering legal instruments and national institutions and consolidating democracy and the primacy of law. Capacity building and technical assistance are fundamental preventive measures that enable States to reassert their national mechanisms for protecting their people.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2018)

Romania

Head of State: President Klaus Werner Iohannis

Head of Government: Prime Minister Nicolae-Ionel Ciucă

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Bogdan Lucian Aurescu

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Răzvan-Victor Rusu

Summary of R2P Engagement

Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2014, 2015, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the Group of Friends of R2P: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 Also part of the statement for the European Union: 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	Yes
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes

Relevant Background Information

Regional Group:	Eastern Europe Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2008, 2011-2014
UN Security Council Membership:	1962, 1976-1977, 1990-1991, 2004-2005
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	56
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: May 2023 Previous reviews: January 2018, January 2013, May 2008
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2008: HRC/RES/7/25 (Prevention of Genocide) 2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2011: A/HRC/RES/S-15/1 (Libya), 17/17 (Libya), 18/1 (Syria) 2012: A/HRC/RES/19/22 (Syria), S-19/1 (Syria & El-Houleh), 20/22 (Syria), 21/26 (Syria) 2013: A/HRC/RES/22/24 (Syria), 22/22 (Prevention of Genocide) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea), 25/23 (Syria), 26/23 (Syria), 27/16 (Syria) 2015: A/HRC/RES/28/34 (Prevention of Genocide) 2016: A/HRC/RES/31/17 (Syria), 32/25 (Syria), 33/23 (Syria), 33/19 (Transitional Justice) 2017: A/HRC/RES/34/26 (Syria), 34/25 (South Sudan), 34/24 (DPRK), 35/33 (DPRK), 35/26 (Syria), 36/20 (Syria) 2018: A/HRC/RES/37/1 (Eastern Ghouta, Syria), 37/31 (South Sudan), 37/29 (Syria), 37/28 (DPRK), 37/26 (Prevention of Genocide), 38/16 (Syria), 39/19 (CAR), 39/15 (Syria) 2019: A/HRC/RES/40/20 (DPRK), 40/19 (South Sudan), 40/17 (Syria), 41/23 (Syria), 42/27 (Syria), 42/17 (Transitional Justice)

	2020: A/HRC/43/29 (Prevention of Genocide), 43/28 (Syria), 43/27 (South Sudan), 43/25 (DPRK), 44/21 (Syria), 44/14 (R2P), 45/21 (Syria) 2021: A/HRC/46/17 (DPRK), 46/22 (Syria), 46/24 (South Sudan), 47/13 (Ethiopia), 47/18 (Syria), 48/15 (Syria) 2022: A/HRC/49/2 (South Sudan), 49/22 (DPRK), 49/27 (Syria), 50/19 (Syria)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Acceded: 18 December 1990
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Signed: 3 December 2008, but not ratified
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 11 April 2002
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 2 November 1950
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 2 April 2014

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Promote democracy as the only viable political system which generates peace, stability and prosperity as guided by our strong belief in human rights, the rule of law and democratic governance;
- Fight corruption and tackle the nexus with organized crime, by means of coordinated responses, domestically and internationally;
- Employ new technologies to their full potential for the protection and promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and democratic governance;
- Maintain a long-standing principled position to reject and condemn all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia, and antisemitism;
- Fight to achieve full and unhindered access of women to public life, decision-making positions and institutional gender parity and close the pay gaps;
- Defend the freedom of expression indispensable to the full and effective enjoyment of other human rights;
- Invest efforts and resources in promoting and advancing media education at home and abroad, building abilities to discern, to fact check and responsibly distribute media content, which will add up to and strengthen efforts to fight disinformation.

On R2P: “Events in recent years have reaffirmed the relevance of the principle of the Responsibility to Protect and the importance of continuing efforts to implement it, given that the main purpose of R2P is preventing mass atrocities. We believe that Member States should make good use of all the relevant instruments that the UN offers in this area. (...) As a strong supporter of the rules-based international order, Romania is committed to the unique role played by the International Criminal Court in preventing and punishing the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. Human protection begins with prevention. Ensuring that the HRC is considering the human rights situation in various countries can itself be a useful early warning instrument.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2021)

South Africa

Head of State and Government: President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Ms. Naledi Pandor

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Mxolisi Nkosi

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	Yes
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Africa Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2006-2007, 2007-2010, 2014-2016, 2017-2019
UN Security Council Membership:	2007-2008, 2011-2012, 2019-2020
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	1,191
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2022 Previous reviews: May 2017, May 2012, April 2008
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea) 2017: A/HRC/RES/35/33 (DRC), 36/30 (DRC) 2018: A/HRC/RES/39/20 (DRC), 39/19 (CAR) 2019: A/HRC/RES/42/36 (CAR) 2020: A/HRC/RES/45/35 (CAR) 2021: A/HRC/RES/46/29 (South Sudan), 48/19 (CAR) 2022: A/HRC/RES/49/35 (South Sudan)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 10 December 1998
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	-
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Ratified: 27 November 2000
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 10 December 1998
Arms Trade Treaty:	Ratified: 22 December 2014

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Respect the integrity and dignity of the OHCHR and ensure that the High Commissioner for Human Rights and personnel are above the manipulation and influences of states;
- Support important funds and programs within the OHCHR aimed at advancing the cause of human rights;
- Work to ensure that the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is established in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights through the rectification of its status as per HRC Resolution 4/7;
- Work to promote a common understanding that human rights can only be practically enjoyed through an effective partnership with all the relevant stakeholders at all levels;
- Commit to ensuring that the HRC adopts four requisite additional protocols to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, covering xenophobia, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and the incitement to hatred through ethnic, religious and racial profiling.

On R2P: “The notion of the Responsibility to Protect as defined in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, highlights that it is the responsibility of the State to protect its population from atrocity crimes namely, genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing. It is recalled that one of the most effective ways achieving such protection is by closing the impunity gap for the perpetrators of such crimes, to criminalize and prosecute offenders in a State’s domestic law.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2022)

Sudan

Head of State and Government: First Lt. General Abdel-Fattah Al-Burhan Abdelrahman Al-Burhan

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Ali Elsadig Ali

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Mr. Hassan Hamid Hassan

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2010, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Africa Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2020-2022
UN Security Council Membership:	1972-1973
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	-
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: November 2026 Previous reviews: November 2021, May 2016, May 2011
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	2010: A/HRC/RES/13/21 (Guinea) 2012: A/HRC/RES/21/26 (Syria) 2014: A/HRC/RES/25/35 (Guinea) 2017: A/HRC/RES/35/33 (DRC), 36/30 (DRC) 2018: A/HRC/RES/39/20 (DRC), 39/19 (CAR) 2019: A/HRC/RES/42/36 (CAR) 2020: A/HRC/RES/45/35 (CAR) 2021: A/HRC/RES/48/19 (CAR), 46/29 (South Sudan) 2022: A/HRC/RES/49/35 (South Sudan)
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 10 August 2021
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	Acceded: 10 August 2021
Rome Statute of the ICC:	Signed: 8 September 2000, but not ratified
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 13 October 2003
Arms Trade Treaty:	-

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Promote and protect human rights through national mechanisms that work in harmony;
- End societal unrest, renounce all forms of violence, encourage societal reconciliation and promote peaceful coexistence in order to lay the foundations for peace and stability and secure the peaceful return of internally displaced persons and refugees from war-affected areas;
- Emphasize the importance of the role of civil society organizations in enhancing the human rights situation through monitoring, preparing reports and monitoring cases of human rights violations;
- Exert all possible efforts to ensure that all human rights contained in the Bill of Rights and Freedoms in the Constitutional Document for the transitional period in Sudan are dealt with equal importance within the HRC.

On R2P: “The concept of the Responsibility to Protect as advanced today is marred by contradictions in relation to the provisions of the Charter of the UN and the system of collective security that it created. It is marred by indifference to the fact that the concept is being exclusively directed at developing countries suffering from underdevelopment, environmental degradation and internal conflict. Indeed, and most importantly, it is marred by the selective approach that it fosters, built as it is on mere feasibility. That is why the concept is theoretically linked to and promoted in conjunction with the call to promote the jurisdiction of the infamous International Criminal Court.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2018)

Viet Nam

Head of State: President Nguyen Xuan Phuc

Head of Government: Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh

Minister of Foreign Affairs: H.E. Mr. Bui Thanh Son

Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: H.E. Ms. Le Thi Tuyet Mai

Summary of R2P Engagement	
Participation in UNGA R2P dialogues and debates:	2009, 2012, 2018
R2P Group of Friends member:	No
Appointed R2P Focal Point:	No
Relevant Background Information	
Regional Group:	Asia-Pacific Group
Human Rights Council Membership:	2014-2016
UN Security Council Membership:	2008-2009
Contribution to UN Peacekeeping:	110
Universal Periodic Review:	Next review: May 2024 Previous reviews: January 2019, January 2014, May 2009
HRC R2P Resolutions co-sponsorship:	-
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:	Ratified: 5 February 2015
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance:	-
Rome Statute of the ICC:	-
Genocide Convention:	Acceded: 9 June 1981
Arms Trade Treaty:	-

Human Rights Council Priorities:

- Promote the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in a comprehensive and holistic manner;
- Combat violence and discrimination against vulnerable groups, namely against women and girls in the era of digital transformation;
- Strengthen the importance of human rights in addressing global issues, especially climate change;
- Engage the right to decent work in a joint effort to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Reinforce the right to quality education based on equality of opportunity and universal access.

On R2P: “Since the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, the international community has been of one mind about the common goal of preventing and fighting against genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. Viet Nam strongly condemns such crimes and is always ready to work with the international community to protect civilians from atrocity crimes. Viet Nam is of the view that States have the primary responsibility to protect their own citizens from such crimes. The responsibility for early warning also rests first and foremost with the State. However, the establishment of early warning measures should be in accordance with specific national circumstances. We also believe that international assistance is most effective and sustainable when it is based on the needs and wishes of the people in the countries concerned and provided in accordance with the Charter of the UN and the principles of international law.” (UN General Assembly Debate on R2P, 2018)