UN HRC President (#HRCPres) Twitter Q&A

On 1 June 2015, at 4.30pm, Ambassador Ruecker as President of the Human Rights Council held his first Q&A on Twitter, live from his Office in the Palais des Nations of the United Nations Office in Geneva. To find out about his next Twitter Q&A, follow the Presidency @UN_HRC.

The goal was to offer an opportunity for anyone with a Twitter account, anywhere in the world, to interact with the President of the Council, ask him any question about human rights, about the Council and his role and receive a response straight from the source.
This lively conversation reached **Tweeters from over 20 countries** including France, China, Kenya, Japan, Armenia, Colombia, the US, the Philippines and Australia, receiving **more than 80 unique questions** addressed to the President.

See some of the highlights from the discussion below.

https://storify.com/UNHRC/unhrc-president-hrcpres-twitter-q-a
Mélissa C.  
@MelissaRakovsky

#AskHRCPres @UN_HRC how can we improve coordination/cooperation between the HRC in Geneva and the General Assembly /Security Council in NY?

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT  
@UN_HRC

@MelissaRakovsky #HRCPres: I discussed this with 3rd and 5th Committee in NY in April. We will strive to avoid overlap #AskHRCPres

6 MONTHS AGO

Nicolas Agostini  
@Nico_Agostini

#AskHRCPres What can you do to protect human rights defenders & uphold rules for civil society participation in the @UN_HRC’s work?

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT  
@UN_HRC

@Nico_Agostini #HRCPres: growing body of HRC res on HRDs & Civil Soc space. Must keep urging States to fulfill responsibilities. #AskHRCPres

6 MONTHS AGO

PhilippeDam  
@philippe_dam

#AskHRCPres How to respond to states ignoring all visit requests by Special rapporteurs? I.e. #Uzbekistan since 2002 & #Venezuela since 1996

6 MONTHS AGO
HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

.@philippe_dam #HRCPres: let's continue urging states to extend standing invitations publicly and bilaterally! #AskHRCPres

6 MONTHS AGO

Peter Svidler @SvidlerPeter

@UN_HRC #AskHRCPres how can UN balance it's western democratic ideals while accepting other cultures & forms of gov., namely in Middle East?

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

.@SvidlerPeter #HRCPres: there is no such thing as "Western" HRs. #HumanRights are universal. #AskHRCPres

6 MONTHS AGO

Sophie Richardson @SophieHRW

#AskHRCPres Curious to know how President is addressing case of death of Cao Shunli? hrw.org/news/2014/03/1…

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

.@SophieHRW #HRCPres: on all cases brought to my attention, I am providing input to the annual report of the #UNSG due in Sept #AskHRCPres

6 MONTHS AGO
Dear @UN_HRC, Isn't it a gross violation of equality that your June agenda singles out #Israel only? pic.twitter.com/sLCYnAHP4Z

@HillelNeuer #HRCPres: one can discuss proportionality, however many issues(thematic&country situations) are discussed in June #AskHRCPres

What - in addition to QA on Twitter - will you do to ensure victims of human rights violations see #HRC as a space to be heard? #AskHRCPres
HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

@IneichenM #HRCres: precond. for remedy is making violations public by providing space for victims voices to be heard=HRC core #AskHRCres

6 MONTHS AGO

Pedro Taborda @pedromtaborda

Ambassador, how can the UN partner with the EU to really find a solution, regarding the refugees from N. Africa? #AskHRCres .@UN_HRC

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

@pedromtaborda #HRCres: we will have SR on migrants report at #HRC29 and States have asked for more time to be devoted to this #AskHRCres

6 MONTHS AGO

Angelie Camache @IamTherese

@UN @UN_HRC #AskHRCres What are your plans to address the increasing killing of journalists and activists?

6 MONTHS AGO

HRC SECRETARIAT @UN_HRC

@IamTherese @UN #HRCres: HRC has been vocal on this and shld continue to address, see Safety of Journalists Res A/HRC/RES/27/5 #AskHRCres

6 MONTHS AGO

https://storify.com/UNHRC/unhrc-president-hrcpres-twitter-q-a
What can be done to ameliorate LGBTI rights, cognisant of the growing territorial disparity between E+W, N+S? @UN @UN_HRC #AskHRCRes

@DonalFKennedy #HRCRes: mindful, but Res from last Sept was powerful signal and shows way ahead #AskHRCRes

How can we address discrepancies between how States act in #HRC and at domestic level? #AskHRCRes

@hyeongsik_yoo #HRCRes: aim must always be impact on the ground - we need you all to help translate commitments into actions #AskHRCRes

#AskHRCRes @UN_HRC we're looking forward to the publication of OISL report. Any thoughts on how HRC will continue work in SL afterwards?
@SLcampaign #HRC: report will likely contain recommendations & shed light on important issues, States to decide on follow up #AskHRC:

@Harutimon #HRC: our HRC #ColSyria reported on it with a view to accountab. of perpetrators Shows importance of their work #AskHRC

#AskHRC: How will the HRC help prevent the weaponized use of chlorine in Syria

@UNWatch #HRC: the HR sit in all these countries were raised at HRC mtgs as well as UPR sessions where their HR record was reviewed
How can HRC balance between political agendas and needs of humanity? Can it?  

@Ilya_A_I  

6 MONTHS AGO

@Ilya_A_I  

#HRCPres: individual HR holders shld always be the focus, will keep reminding States (who also acknowledge this)  

#AskHRCPres  

6 MONTHS AGO

#HRCPres: Surpassed an hour and 10' - Thanks to all for participating in this useful Q&A session. Be back soon  

#AskHRCPres  

6 MONTHS AGO

Thanks to everyone who took part in making this a truly genuine and diversified exchange!

Do keep posting your questions on Twitter via  

#AskHRCPres... another Q&A is upcoming soon...

Stay tuned  

@UN_HRC  

for updates on the next opportunity for a real-time exchange.

For more information on the Human Rights Council and its President go to our site  

ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/P...  

https://storify.com/UNHRC/unhrc-president-hrcpres-twitter-q-a
United Nations Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of ...