

NOVEMBER

2017



# DIRECTORY OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS

*Working Group of experts on people of African descent*



**Ricardo Sunga III**  
English  
[africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

*Working Group of experts on people of African descent*



**Marie-Evelyne Petrus**  
English, French  
[africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

*Working Group of experts on people of African descent*



**Michal Balcerzak**  
English  
[africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

*Working Group of experts on people of African descent*



**Sabelo Gumede**  
English  
[africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

*Working Group of experts on people of African descent*



**Ahmed Reid**  
English  
[africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on arbitrary detention*



**Leigh Toomey**  
English  
[wgad@ohchr.org](mailto:wgad@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on arbitrary detention*



**Sètondji Roland Jean-Baptiste Adjovi**  
French, English  
[wgad@ohchr.org](mailto:wgad@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on arbitrary detention*



**José Guevara**  
Spanish, English  
[wgad@ohchr.org](mailto:wgad@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on arbitrary detention*



**Seong-Phil Hong**  
English  
[wgad@ohchr.org](mailto:wgad@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on arbitrary detention*



**Elina Steinerte**  
English, Russian  
[wgad@ohchr.org](mailto:wgad@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*



**Michael K. Addo**  
English  
[wg-business@ohchr.org](mailto:wg-business@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*



**Dante Pesce**  
English, Spanish  
[wg-business@ohchr.org](mailto:wg-business@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*



**Anita Ramasastry**  
English  
[wg-business@ohchr.org](mailto:wg-business@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*



**Surya Deva**  
English  
[wg-business@ohchr.org](mailto:wg-business@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises*



**Pavel Sulyandziga**  
Russian  
[wg-business@ohchr.org](mailto:wg-business@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances*



**Bernard Duhaime**  
French, English, Spanish  
[wgaid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgaid@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances*



**Luciano Hazan**  
Spanish, English  
[wgaid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgaid@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances*



**Henrikas Mickevičius**  
English, Russian  
[wgaid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgaid@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances*



**Tae-Ung Baik**  
English, Chinese  
[wgaid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgaid@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances*



**Houria Es Slami**  
French, Arabic, English  
[wgaid@ohchr.org](mailto:wgaid@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*



**Patricia Arias**  
English, Spanish, French  
[mercenaries@ohchr.org](mailto:mercenaries@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*



**Elzbieta Karska**  
English  
[mercenaries@ohchr.org](mailto:mercenaries@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*



**Anton Katz**  
English  
[mercenaries@ohchr.org](mailto:mercenaries@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*



**Saeed Mokbil**  
English, French  
[mercenaries@ohchr.org](mailto:mercenaries@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*



**Gabor Rona**  
English  
[mercenaries@ohchr.org](mailto:mercenaries@ohchr.org)

*Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice*



**Elizabeth Broderick**  
English  
[wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org](mailto:wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org)

*Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice*



**Ivana Radačić**  
English  
[wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org](mailto:wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org)

*Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice*



**Meskerem Techane**  
English  
[wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org](mailto:wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org)

*Working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice*



**Melissa Upreti**  
English  
[wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org](mailto:wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org)

*Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and practice*



**Alda Facio**  
Spanish, English, French  
[wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org](mailto:wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism*



**Ikponwosa Ero**  
English  
[albinism@ohchr.org](mailto:albinism@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights*



**Karima Bennouna**  
English, French  
[srculturalrights@ohchr.org](mailto:srculturalrights@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities*



**Catalina Devandas Aguilar**

English, Spanish  
[sr.disability@ohchr.org](mailto:sr.disability@ohchr.org)

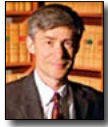
*Special Rapporteur on the right to education*



**Koumbou Boly**

French, English  
[sreducation@ohchr.org](mailto:sreducation@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment*



**John Knox**

English  
[ieenvironment@ohchr.org](mailto:ieenvironment@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions*



**Agnes Callamard**

French, English  
[eje@ohchr.org](mailto:eje@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the right to food*



**Hilal Elver**

English  
[srfood@ohchr.org](mailto:srfood@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights*



**Juan Bohoslavsky**

English, Spanish  
[ieforeigndebt@ohchr.org](mailto:ieforeigndebt@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression*



**David Kaye**

English  
[freedex@ohchr.org](mailto:freedex@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association*



**Annalisa Ciampi**

English, French, Spanish  
[freeassembly@ohchr.org](mailto:freeassembly@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living*



**Leilani Farha**

English, French  
[srhousing@ohchr.org](mailto:srhousing@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health*



**Dainius Puras**

English  
[srhealth@ohchr.org](mailto:srhealth@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders*



**Michel Forst**

French, English  
[defenders@ohchr.org](mailto:defenders@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers*



**Diego García-Sayán**

Spanish, English  
[srindependencejl@ohchr.org](mailto:srindependencejl@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples*



**Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz**

English  
[indigenous@ohchr.org](mailto:indigenous@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons*



**Cecilia Jimenez Damary**

English  
[idp@ohchr.org](mailto:idp@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order*



**Alfred de Zayas**

English, Spanish, French, Russian  
[ie-internationalorder@ohchr.org](mailto:ie-internationalorder@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity*



**Obiora C. Okafor**

English  
[iesolidarity@ohchr.org](mailto:iesolidarity@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members*



**Alice Cruz**

English, Spanish  
[iesolidarity@ohchr.org](mailto:iesolidarity@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants*



**Felipe González Morales**

Spanish, English  
[migrant@ohchr.org](mailto:migrant@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on minority issues*



**Fernand De Varennes**

English, French  
[minorityissues@ohchr.org](mailto:minorityissues@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons*



**Rosa Kornfeld-Matte**

French, Spanish, English  
[olderpersons@ohchr.org](mailto:olderpersons@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights*



**Philip Alston**

English, French  
[srextremepoverty@ohchr.org](mailto:srextremepoverty@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy*



**Joseph Cannataci**

English, French  
[srprivacy@ohchr.org](mailto:srprivacy@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance*



**E. Tendayi Achiume**

English  
[racism@ohchr.org](mailto:racism@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief*



**Ahmed Shaheed**

English  
[freedomofreligion@ohchr.org](mailto:freedomofreligion@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography*



**Maud De Boer-Buquicchio**

English, French  
[srsaleofchildren@ohchr.org](mailto:srsaleofchildren@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences*



**Urmila Bhoola**

English  
[srslavery@ohchr.org](mailto:srslavery@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*



**Fionnuala Ni Aolain**

English, French  
[srct@ohchr.org](mailto:srct@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment*



**Nils Melzer**

French, English,  
[sr-torture@ohchr.org](mailto:sr-torture@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children*



**Maria Grazia Giammarinaro**

English, French  
[srtrafficking@ohchr.org](mailto:srtrafficking@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence*



**Pablo de Greiff**

English, Spanish  
[srtruth@ohchr.org](mailto:srtruth@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights*



**Idriss Jazairy**

English, French, Arabic  
[ucm@ohchr.org](mailto:ucm@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences*



**Dubravka Šimonović**

English,  
[vaw@ohchr.org](mailto:vaw@ohchr.org)

*Independent expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity*



**To be appointed**

[ie-sogi@ohchr.org](mailto:ie-sogi@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes*



**Baskut Tuncak**

English  
[srtoxicwaste@ohchr.org](mailto:srtoxicwaste@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation*



**Léo Heller**

English, Spanish  
[srwatsan@ohchr.org](mailto:srwatsan@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the right to development*



**Saad Alfarargi**

Arabic, English  
[srdevelopment@ohchr.org](mailto:srdevelopment@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus*



**Miklós Haraszti**

English  
[sr-belarus@ohchr.org](mailto:sr-belarus@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia*



**Rhona Smith**

English  
[srcambodia@ohchr.org](mailto:srcambodia@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic*



**Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum**

French, English  
[ie-car@ohchr.org](mailto:ie-car@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea*



**Tomás Ojea Quintana**

Spanish, English  
[hr-dprk@ohchr.org](mailto:hr-dprk@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea*



**Sheila B. Keetharuth**

English, French,  
[sr-eritrea@ohchr.org](mailto:sr-eritrea@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran*



**Asma Jahangir**

English  
[sr-iran@ohchr.org](mailto:sr-iran@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali*



**Suliman Baldo**

Arabic, French, English  
[ie-mali@ohchr.org](mailto:ie-mali@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar*



**Yanghee Lee**

English, French, Spanish  
[sr-myanmar@ohchr.org](mailto:sr-myanmar@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967*



**Stanley Michael Lynk**

English  
[sropt@ohchr.org](mailto:sropt@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia*



**Bahame Tom Mukirya Nyanduga**

English  
[ie-somalia@ohchr.org](mailto:ie-somalia@ohchr.org)

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan*



**Aristidi Nononsi**

French, English  
[iesudan@ohchr.org](mailto:iesudan@ohchr.org)

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic*



**Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro**

English, French, Spanish  
[srsyria@ohchr.org](mailto:srsyria@ohchr.org)

*The Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council are independent human rights experts with mandates to report and advise on human rights from a thematic or country-specific perspective. The system of Special Procedures is a central element of the United Nations human rights machinery and covers all rights: civil, cultural, economic, political, and social. As of November 2017, there are 56 Special Procedures (44 thematic mandates and 12 mandates relating to countries or territories) with currently 80 mandate-holders.*

*With the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Special Procedures undertake country visits; act on individual cases and concerns of a broader, structural nature by sending communications to States in which they bring alleged violations to their attention; conduct thematic studies and convene expert consultations, develop international human rights standards, engage in advocacy, raise public awareness; and provide advice and support for technical cooperation. Special Procedures report annually to the Human Rights Council; the majority of the mandates also report to the General Assembly.*

*The Special Rapporteurs (SR), Independent Experts (IE) and members of the Working Groups (WG) serve in their personal capacities and undertake to uphold independence, efficiency, competence and integrity through probity, impartiality, honesty and good faith. They are not United Nations staff members and do not receive financial remunerations.*

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## OHCHR SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH

c/o OHCHR-UNOG  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland

Fax: +41 22 917 90 06

To send information on alleged human rights violations to special procedures

E-mail: [urgent-action@ohchr.org](mailto:urgent-action@ohchr.org)

For media enquiries

E-mail: [pressinfo@ohchr.org](mailto:pressinfo@ohchr.org)