

Questionnaire on the use of legislation, including criminal legislation, to regulate the activities and work of human rights defenders

It would be greatly appreciated if responses were brief. They may be submitted in bullet-points if preferred.

For non-governmental organizations, should they wish, their identity will remain confidential (only the country where they operate will be disclosed). Furthermore, they need only answer questions which are relevant to them, and may share information about defenders other than themselves.

1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please indicate if your country has a specific legal framework, laws or regulations that aim to facilitate or protect the activities and work of human rights defenders. Please cite the names of any such laws or regulations in full. b) Please indicate how these laws and regulations are in line with international human rights standards, including, but not limited to, the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. c) Please also indicate what legal or administrative safeguards are put in place to prevent baseless legal action against and/or prosecution of human rights defenders for undertaking their legitimate work.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please describe the measures taken, if any, to ensure that your country's national security-related laws (including laws on public order, public safety, respect for morals and counter-terrorism laws) are not used to unduly restrict the scope of activities of human rights defenders. b) Please also indicate in particular how these national security-related laws respect the human right to freedom of expression and opinion.
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please describe the measures taken, if any, to ensure that provisions of the criminal code, or other national laws, are not ambiguous or too broad to allow their arbitrary use, thereby restricting the activities of human rights defenders. b) Please indicate what legal or administrative safeguards are in place in order to ensure that human rights defenders are not discriminated against in the administration of justice, be it through the handing down of disproportionate sentences, the unreasonable prolongation of criminal or other trials, or any other means.
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please indicate if your country has specific laws or administrative rules governing the registration, functioning and funding of non-governmental organisations. Please cite the names of any such laws or regulations in full. b) Please explain how these legal or administrative provisions comply with your country's international human rights obligations regarding the right

	to freedom of association.
5.	<p>a) Are there criminal or other legal or administrative sanctions for human rights defenders who undertake activities on an individual basis or while the association they are members of is unregistered?</p> <p>b) If such a legal framework exists, does it restrict the type of activities that human rights defenders can undertake? If yes, please provide further details.</p>
6.	Please indicate the measures taken, if any, to ensure that internal security and official secret-related laws are not used to deny freedom of information to human rights defenders and to prosecute them for their efforts to seek and disseminate information on the observance of human rights standards.
7.	<p>a) Please indicate the measures taken, if any, to avoid the use of defamation, slander or blasphemy laws to unduly restrict the right to freedom of opinion and expression of human rights defenders.</p> <p>b) How is it ensured that such laws, as well as laws on printing, publication and censorship, comply with international human rights standards and do not target human rights defenders carrying out their legitimate work?</p>
8.	Please indicate if any other type of legislation is used to regulate the activities of human rights defenders in your country and how the application of the legislation mentioned affects the activities of human rights defenders. Please cite the names of any such legislation in full.