

# Call for written submissions – Visit by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions to the Federal Republic of Nigeria (dates pending confirmation)

## **Introduction**

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Dr. Agnes Callamard is planning to undertake an official visit to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. While the visit has been agreed by the Government, the exact dates are yet to be confirmed. The Special Rapporteur's visit will focus on good practices as well as challenges in relation to the realisation of the right to life in Nigeria.

## **Who is the Special Rapporteur?**

The Special Rapporteur is an independent expert appointed by the [United Nations Human Rights Council](#). The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 Member States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe. Nigeria is a Member of the Council.

Special Rapporteurs are selected on the basis of their expertise and experience in the area of their mandate, personal integrity, independence and impartiality and objectivity. They are not employed by the United Nations and receive no remuneration for their UN work. Dr. Agnes Callamard took up her functions as Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions on 1 September 2016. Her full bio is available [here](#)

## **What does a country visit entail?**

The Special Rapporteur is part of a system of so-called [UN Special Procedures](#), made up of independent experts who regularly undertake country visits around the world to report on human rights issues. Dr. Callamard has previously undertaken country visits to Iraq (November 2017) and El Salvador (January/February 2018). Every country is different and each faces its own human rights challenges. The Special Rapporteur thus adapts her approach in accordance with the specific circumstances of the country involved.

Country visits usually last for about two weeks and include meetings between the Special Rapporteur and government officials, members of the legislature and judiciary, state institutions, civil society organizations, academics, and individuals.

## **Call for written submissions**

The Special Rapporteur would like to invite all interested individuals and organizations working on issues related to the right to life in Nigeria, including representatives of civil society organizations, experts and academics, to provide input for the preparation of the foreseen visit. She would welcome information on the protection of the right to life in Nigeria, including on the prohibition of arbitrary killings and arbitrary deprivation of life; particular and systemic challenges, including those related to economic, social or cultural rights; as well as any examples of best practices. She would also appreciate suggestions for which areas of the country she should consider visiting along with information on the protection of the right to life in these areas. The Special Rapporteur will adopt a gender-sensitive approach to her visit and would also appreciate receiving information related to the protection afforded

to women, girls and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and intersex persons against arbitrary deprivations of life.

**Please send your submissions to: [eje@ohchr.org](mailto:eje@ohchr.org).** Please note that the Special Rapporteur is also open to receiving input via browser-based encrypted email. Please contact the Special Rapporteur and her team via [eje@ohchr.org](mailto:eje@ohchr.org) about how to further communicate via encrypted email. Respondents are requested to limit their submissions to a **maximum of 2,500 words**. Reports, academic studies and other types of background materials can be attached as an annex to the submission. The Special Rapporteur would appreciate receiving initial short submissions on key points as soon as possible (ideally by 14 November 2018) and longer detailed submissions by **3 December 2018**. All input will be treated confidentially by the Special Rapporteur and her team and for the sole purpose of preparing for the country visit.