First newsletter covering the period from November 2020 to February 2021.

Call for input for his HRC48 report on planning and GA76 report on water commodification. The deadline for submission is 15 April 2021.

"Open Channel of Dialogue" defenders of human rights to water and sanitation are invited to register for a bilateral meeting with the Special Rapporteur to discuss specific issues.
2 March 2021

4 March 2021
HRC46 side-event “Agua y derechos humanos en Colombia”.

10 March 2021
Meeting with the members of the Commission of Hydraulic Resources of the Senate of Mexico.

11 March 2021
Addressed inquiry committee of the French Parliament about appropriations of water resources by private sector.
15 March 2021
“El Valor del Agua en tiempos de pandemic”. - Opening Conference of the Water Week of the National University of Costa Rica: Cooperation for Management.

17 March 2021
34th UN-Water Meeting.

18 March 2021
Webinar titled “Speaking about the elephant in the room: human rights under pressure of speculative strategies” Video

19 March 2021
Agua Publica Europea Board members.
19 March 2021

Virtual public hearing of the Colombia Senate on right to water, in accordance with Proposition No. 56 of 2021, presented by the Honorable Senator Guillermo García Realpe, and approved in a virtual session of the Committee, Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

22 March 2021

World Water Day Statement (English Spanish French)

- Values of water (English Spanish)
- Water for life (English Spanish)
- Water for public interest (English Spanish)
- Water for economy (English Spanish)
- Crime water (English Spanish)
- Message to faith based organizations (English Spanish French)
- Message on COVID19 (English Spanish)

Launch of 4th Human Rights Youth Challenge

Video message (English Spanish French)
Flyer (English Spanish French)

About Youth Challenge
22 March 2021

Online debate: “Il futuro dell’acqua non è in borsa”

Organized by Acqua Bene Commune on the occasion of World Water Day

22 March 2021

International Seminar: “El Valor Del Agua”

Organized by the Global Water Partnership on the occasion of World Water Day

22 March 2021

Online conference: “L’eau pour moi, c’est…”

Organized by Coordination Eau IDF

22 March 2021

Webinar: “Spiritual and Ethical Values of Water: A faith perspective”

Organized with the World Council of Churches on the occasion of World Water Day
22 March 2021

FENTAP (Peru’s main water and sanitation workers’ union) 40th anniversary celebration

23 March 2021

Webinar “Le Printemps de l’Eau” on the financialization of water
Organized by Coordination Ile-de-France

23 March 2021

Virtual Conversation: “El Valor del Agua para la vida”
Organized by Latin WASH on the occasion of World Water Day

25 March 2021

Webinar: “El valor del agua en la gestión comunitaria de agua y el saneamiento”
Organized by CLOCSAS on the occasion of World Water Day
26 March 2021

Closing ceremony of the 15th Water Congress with the theme “For a water policy in Portugal”

Organized by APRH (Professional Association of Water and Sanitation Management) - Portugal

March 2021

Bilateral consultations with international and regional organizations including: WHO, IADB, UNFCC, ITU, WMO

Social Shield Project (A to Z of disconnections)

See the twitter thread here.

Social Shield Project (Communications to States)

Ecuador (24 February 2021)

Colombia (24 February 2021)

Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (24 February 2021)

Argentina (1 March 2021) – Response 3 March 2021

Costa Rica (5 March 2021)

Chile (5 March 2021)

Peru (9 March 2021)

Uruguay (16 March 2021)
Spain (18 December 2020) – Concerning the situation of the residents of the informal settlement "Cañada Real Galiana", particularly 1,812 children, affected by power cuts during months marked by low temperatures.

Egypt (20 December 2020) – Concerning the serious human rights violations that women detainees face in Al-Qanater prison and the deplorable conditions of their detention, which could amount to gender-based discrimination and violence as well as torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatments.

Mexico (23 December 2020) – Concerning the situation of migrants and asylum seekers detained in immigration detention centers in Mexico. Response: 12 February 2021

Japan (13 January 2021) - Concerning the management of contaminated water at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (NPS) by the Government of Japan and TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power) and the serious risks posed to the enjoyment of human rights of affected populations, the grave consequences which nuclear contamination poses to the
physical and mental health and wellbeing of affected populations, including children, recent developments concerning the lifting of a number of evacuation orders, resignation of highly contaminated areas as well as the lack of access to information, and lack of public consultation regarding data, envisaged solutions, past and future decisions affecting directly the wellbeing and human rights of concerned segments of the population. **Response: 11 March 2021**

**United States of America and LaSalle Southwest Corrections** (15 January 2021) - Concerning the lack of appropriate protection measures in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, lack of access to healthcare, ill-treatment, and medical abuses, including unwarranted gynaecological surgeries performed on migrant women without their fully informed consent at the Irwin County Detention Center. **Response:** United States of America (15 January 2021)

**South Africa, Russian Federation, India, Denmark, China, Australia, Yemen, Viet Nam, Uzbekistan, United States of America, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine, Turkey, Tunisia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tajikistan, Switzerland, Sweden, Sudan, State of Palestine, Spain, Somalia, Serbia, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Romania, Portugal, Poland, Philippines, Pakistan, Norway, North Macedonia, Netherlands, Morocco, Maldives, Malaysia, Libya, Lebanon, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Indonesia, Germany, Georgia, France, Finland, Estonia, Egypt, Canada, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, Bangladesh, Azerbaijan, Austria, Algeria, Albania, Afghanistan** (26 January 2021) - Concerning a registration and verification exercise in Al-Hol and Roj camps located in North-East Syria where many nationals, primarily women and children, are currently deprived of their liberty. In these makeshift locked camps made up of unstable tent-like structures which collapse in strong winds or flood with rain or sewage, hygiene is almost non-existent: limited drinking water is often contaminated, latrines are overflowing, mounds of garbage litter the grounds, and illnesses including viral infections are rampant. Food, water, health care and essential non-food supplies are provided by under-resourced humanitarian groups and organisations. According to the Kurdish Red Crescent, at least 517 people, 371 of them children, died in 2019, many from preventable diseases, in Al-Hol camp alone. In August 2020, eight children under the age of five died in that camp in less than a week, with four caused by malnutrition-related complications and the others were due to dehydration from diarrhoea, heart failure, internal bleeding and hypoglycaemia, according to UNICEF. Covid-19 has increased these difficulties, with a reduction in the number of workers operating in the camp. Responses: South Africa (4 March 2021), Viet Nam (26 March 2021), Turkey (26 March 2021), Switzerland (26 March 2021), Spain (25 March 2021), Saudi Arabia (4 February 2021), Romania (22 March 2021), Portugal (1 February 2021), Pakistan (29 January 2021), Malaysia (8 February 2021), Indonesia (22 March 2021), Germany (25 March 2021), France (26 March 2021), Finland (26 March 2021), Estonia (25 March 2021), Austria (15 March 2021), Algeria (28 January 2021, 19 March 2021)

**Colombia (27 January 2021)** – Concerning allegations about the lack of effective inclusion of the migrant population in the Colombian Government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic; the disproportionate impact of the latter on the effective access of this population to health services, including sexual and reproductive health of women and adolescents, housing, water and sanitation; as well as the possible discrimination that
would result from the alleged exclusion of migrants who have not regularized their migratory status from the vaccination program of the Colombian Government.

**Saudi Arabia (28 January 2021)** - Concerning the current situation of migrants who are stranded in overcrowded detention centers for prolonged and indefinite periods. These migrants have been held in unsanitary and dehumanizing conditions without adequate healthcare access nor necessary protection measures in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Follow the mandate!**

The [website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights](https://www.ohchr.org) remains the number one place to discover the mandate’s past and upcoming activities. The mandate is also present on major social media platforms [Twitter](https://twitter.com) and [Youtube](https://youtube.com) (@SRWatSan), where it actively engages with the global community on issues related to the human rights to water and sanitation.