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DIRECTORY OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS

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HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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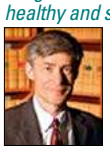
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The Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council are independent human rights experts with mandates to report and advise on human rights from a thematic or country-specific perspective. The system of Special Procedures is a central element of the 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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The OHCHR website (http://www.ohchr.org) provides information on the system of Special Procedures, including details on each mandate (also accessible by clicking on the photos in this Directory). The website also contains details of the Coordination Committee as well as country visits, links to reports and press statements.

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