



Key messages

- ✎ We are committed to the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, as we have shown in our four previous tenures. As President of the Council in 2015 and Vice-President in 2022, Germany has worked tirelessly with all stakeholders towards finding common ground.
- ✎ We are committed to fighting any form of discrimination. In line with Germany's feminist foreign policy, we will increase our efforts for the equal rights, resources and representation of women and girls as well as for diversity worldwide.
- ✎ Climate change, environmental degradation and pollution pose a serious threat to humanity as much as to human rights. Germany actively promotes a rights-based approach in combating the climate crisis.
- ✎ Germany works to ensure that new and emerging digital technologies work in favour of human rights – a human rights-based approach can ensure that pre-existing discriminations are not replicated or deepened online.
- ✎ Safeguarding human rights begins at home. Germany therefore works relentlessly to protect and empower minorities and marginalised groups, to combat racism, and to engage for gender equality and for due diligence in business operations. We highly value the input from the Universal Periodic Review and have issued a standing invitation to the UN's Special Procedure mandate holders.

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Federal Foreign Office

Germany's candidacy for the UN Human Rights Council 2023–2025

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Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock

Germany – a strong partner for human rights

Germany is committed to the protection, promotion and fulfilment of human rights: Germany’s Basic Law Article 1 declares human rights “the basis of every community, of peace and of justice in the world”. Not only are our foreign policy and development cooperation based on this conviction, but also our responsibility to safeguard the human dignity and fundamental freedoms of every individual in Germany and around the world.

Human rights are inviolable, inalienable and universal by nature. We are strongly dedicated to these ideals as laid down by the United Nations in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. From these values originates Germany’s commitment to engage for human rights in the Human Rights Council. If re-elected, Germany will strive to strengthen the Human Rights Council and its ability to protect and to foster human rights worldwide.

We ask you to support Germany’s candidacy for re-election to the Human Rights Council for the term 2023 to 2025. We want to build on the achievements of the Human Rights Council and to tackle the most pressing human rights challenges of our time worldwide.

Germany’s commitment to the Human Rights Council

Germany believes in the importance and potential of the Human Rights Council, which is crucial to achieving our common goal of protecting and promoting, respecting and fulfilling human rights. For this, it is a necessity to engage in open and inclusive discourse and collaboration between states and civil society as promoted by the Council.

If elected to the Human Rights Council, Germany pledges to:

- ✎ strengthen the rights, resources and representation of women and girls worldwide and promote social diversity in line with our feminist foreign policy, in continuation of our efforts to foster the full, equal and meaningful participation of all women and girls;
- ✎ support effective measures to ensure accountability for human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence, and continue its engagement in fighting conflict-related sexual violence, for example by supporting the accountability work of the OHCHR and international investigative mechanisms, inter alia in Ukraine;
- ✎ continue to strengthen the interlinkages of climate change and human rights and to support a rights-based approach to guide global climate change mitigation policies and actions, as well as to promote the right to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment as a human right;

With the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, @ideals.org.ph have been providing free rights education and legal assistance to vulnerable communities in the Philippines.



- ✎ continue our engagement in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, like the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and the rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.



The German Federal Foreign Office in cooperation with @icarda and @HiveTracks supports the economic empowerment of women small-holder farmers. Beekeepers in Ethiopia receive beekeeping equipment kits.

Guaranteeing human rights at home

Human rights work begins at home, where we uphold the obligation imposed by Germany’s Basic Law to protect fundamental freedoms and to combat any kind of discrimination. We are a party to the fundamental human rights conventions and we have incorporated them into national law. We understand human rights as a cross-cutting issue that has to be integrated into all aspects of our decision-making and must be recognised by all parts of society.

Examples of our current efforts to strengthen human rights at home encompass the implementation of the National Action Plan for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the adjustment of our National Action Plan to Fight Racism, Xenophobia, Antisemitism and related Intolerance. Our comprehensive national due diligence legislation furthers respect for human rights in supply chains in the context of business activities, and we promote this approach on an international level.