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Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Tajikistan*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review and the outcome of the previous review.[1] It is a summary of 26 stakeholders' submissions[2] for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations[3] and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. A number of organisations have recommended Tajikistan to sign and ratify the core conventions it was not yet a party to, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.[4]

3. L4L observed that, while Tajikistan had engaged significantly with various international human rights mechanisms in recent years, it rarely responded to communications by special procedure mandate holders.[5]

4. HRW called on the government to implement the Rome Statute in national legislation, incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court and to investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes before its national courts in accordance with international law.[6]

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

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B. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

5. JS9, JS14 and ECOM recommended Tajikistan to bring legislation and practice relating to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, and expression into line with international human rights standards.[7]

6. JS14 called on the government to repeal Section 181 of the Criminal Code on 'false publication and broadcasting; repeal articles 137 and 330 of the Criminal Code which criminalise defamation; and review Articles 189 (incitement to hatred), 305 (extremism) and 307 (high treason).[8]

7. JS10 recommended Tajikistan to introduce legislation authorizing CSOs to carry out independent monitoring of all places of deprivation of liberty, including those under the authority of the State Committee for National Security.[9]

8. JS3 called on the government to revise the Law "On Assemblies, Meetings, Demonstrations, and Marches" so that it fully complies with international standards; and abolish legislative provisions that classify CSOs based on their territorial scope and ensure their right to carry out their activities freely without establishing territorial restrictions.[10]

9. JS3 advised accelerating the adoption of the Information Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.[11]

10. JS12 recommended the government to amend existing law to ensure non-discriminatory access to justice for national minorities, including effective provision of professional interpretation, availability of court documents in minority languages and provision of legal aid in minority languages when necessary, including in civil, criminal and administrative cases.[12]

11. JS3 urged Tajikistan to review legislation restricting access to master's and doctoral programs for citizens who have not completed military service and guarantee the preservation of the right to deferment in the event of academic leave or transfer; and to amend the law to provide for the possibility of alternative (civilian) service for persons who refuse military service on grounds of freedom of conscience or religion.[13]

12. JS6 recommended the government to promptly adopt legislation recognizing the right to conscientious objection to military service in line with international human rights law and standards, including the exemption of conscientious objectors from the compulsory military service and reserve duties.[14]

13. JS3 recommended Tajikistan to repeal Government Resolution No. 325 prohibiting asylum seekers and refugees from residing in certain cities and districts of Tajikistan and amend the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan and exempt asylum seekers from criminal responsibility for illegally crossing the state border.[15]

14. JS7, JS4 and Human Rights Center TJ urged Tajikistan to revise Article 125 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan to decriminalize HIV exposure and prevent criminal prosecution in the absence of intent; and JS4 urged to amend the Health Code to specify the grounds for developing procedures for issuing breast milk substitutes for children born to HIV-infected mothers.[16]

15. JS5, JS8 and JS11 recommended Tajikistan to include a separate article in the draft Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan criminalising domestic violence; and to introduce a consent-based definition of rape and define the age of consent, as recommended by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women.[17]

16. JS8 similarly recommended the government to introduce a consent-based definition of rape in line with international human rights standards, including those developed by the CEDAW Committee, and ensure that marital and intimate partner rape are treated as aggravating circumstances.[18]

17. JS5 further recommended to develop a new version of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On the Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls", providing a

comprehensive definition of gender-based violence, including the establishment of an inter-agency coordination mechanism; and amend the Law on Legal Aid to ensure that survivors of violence receive free qualified secondary legal aid in court proceedings and during investigations in all cases.[19]

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

18. JS2 called on the government to publicize a timeline for abolishing the death penalty and ratifying the Second Optional Protocol, with a view to completion no later than 2027.[20]

19. UPR BCU urged Tajikistan to ensure full compliance of the Human Rights Ombudsman with the Paris Principles and to provide it with a mandate to advise on legislative reform towards the abolition of the death penalty.[21]

20. UPR BCU noted that Tajikistan continued to retain the death penalty in law; however, it did not carry out an execution since 2004, making it a de facto abolitionist state.[22] UPR BCU called on the government to accept UPR recommendations on the abolition of the death penalty, signalling Tajikistan's affirmation of commitments to SDG 16 on strong institutions.[23]

21. UPR BCU recommended the government to remove all references to the death penalty from Article 18 of the Constitution through constitutional reform.[24]

22. JS7 recommended Tajikistan to expand the mandate of the Ombudsperson to systematically monitor human rights violations against LGBTI persons and people living with HIV.[25]

23. UPR BCU recommended the government to uphold and enforce its international obligations to safeguard the right to life, pursuant to Articles 6, 7 and 14 of the ICCPR. [26]

C. Promotion and protection of human rights

1. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

Equality and non-discrimination

24. In its 2024 Hate Crime Report, OSCE-ODIHR noted that Tajikistan had failed to report any data or information on hate crimes since 2008. OSCE-ODIHR observed that Tajikistan would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address this hate crime. JS7 recommended to introduce legislation on hate crimes, explicitly including sexual orientation and gender identity as protected grounds.[27]

25. JS12 observed that Tajikistan was populated by different ethnic and linguistic groups. The majority were Tajiks, making up 86.1% of the population, according to latest population census from 2020. In Tajikistan, the term 'national minorities' refers to ethnic groups living within the country who were citizens of Tajikistan but did not belong to the majority ethnic group (the Tajiks).[28]

26. JS12 recommended Tajikistan to establish, under the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner, an independent ombudsman for the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and ensure that the composition of representatives of the courts, law enforcement agencies, and other institutions for the protection of rights at all levels includes various population groups and national minorities.[29]

27. JS1 called on the government to ensure full and effective implementation of the 2022 Law on Equality and Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by adopting secondary legislation and enforcement mechanisms that explicitly protect Indigenous peoples, including Pamiris, from direct, indirect, and systemic discrimination in policing, judicial processes, and public administration.[30]

28. JS11 and JS7 called on the government to amend the Law on Equality to explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected characteristics.[31]

Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

29. JS10 positively noted that, since its last UPR review, Tajikistan had made some progress in addressing torture and ill-treatment. In 2023, Tajikistan adopted its first National Strategy on Human Rights (NSHR) through 2038, along with an Action Plan aligned with UN recommendations. Legal reforms increased penalties for torture and strengthened safeguards for detainees. The country had also aligned legislation regulating compensation for moral damages from torture with international standards, however in practice victims were rarely awarded fair and adequate compensation. Furthermore, reforms to the penitentiary system, developed with civil society participation, allowed independent monitoring visits to a large number of detention facilities. Additionally, improvements in juvenile justice include stronger protections for minors and the removal of punitive isolation for children.[32]

30. Despite these measures, JS10 held that torture and ill-treatment remained widespread in Tajikistan, especially in police custody and pre-trial detention. Legal safeguards were inconsistently applied and some legislative gaps remained. There was no institution of independent forensic medical examination. Judges rarely ordered thorough investigations into allegations of torture and ill-treatment.[33]

31. JS10 recommended Tajikistan to establish an independent forensic medical service as well as a mechanism tasked with receiving complaints of torture and other forms of ill-treatment and carrying out prompt, thorough and impartial investigations.[34]

32. JS4 recommended Tajikistan to establish an effective, accessible, and confidential system for receiving and investigating complaints of torture or abuse in all places of detention; and develop concept for a state model of rehabilitation for victims of torture and state-level monitoring, with the involvement of international experts.[35]

33. JS10 also called on the government to introduce a probation system and alternative, non-custodial criminal penalties, in line with the Strategy for Reforming the Penitentiary System; put an end to the harsh conditions, including strict regimes and isolation in small, dark and unventilated cells, of prisoners serving life sentences; and reduce the period of detention before the remand hearing from the current 72 to 48.[36]

34. JS1 advised the government to allow independent monitoring of all detention facilities, including access for international mechanisms, national NGOs, and qualified lawyers, and restore regular family visits and communication rights for detainees; and improve detention conditions and medical care by ensuring timely access to qualified healthcare, prohibiting prolonged solitary confinement, and implementing the Mandela Rules to protect the physical and psychological integrity of all persons deprived of liberty.[37]

35. JS4 recommended the government to adopt a state program for the re-socialization of former convicts and persons released from detention centers; pass a national law on probation and establish a probation service; and draw up and approve a list of professions and specialties, for which a certificate of criminal record/certificate attesting to a record with no criminal convictions may be requested.[38]

International humanitarian law

36. HRW noted that, on 14 September 2022, tensions between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan over their never-fully-demarcated border erupted into armed conflict in and around the Ferghana valley. The fighting lasted four days, until 17 September. HRW found that both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan forces committed apparent war crimes in attacks on civilians during this conflict.[39]

37. HRW recommended Tajikistan to conduct a thorough and independent investigation into violations of international humanitarian law committed by Tajik forces during the September 2022 border conflict, including killings of civilians, destruction of civilian property, and attacks on fleeing persons.[40]

38. HRW urged to ensure those found responsible are prosecuted and held to account, and that victims and families receive adequate reparations and to endorse the Safe Schools

Declaration and the Political Declaration on the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas.[41]

39. JS6 recommended the government to explicitly prohibit and criminalize in law the recruitment and involvement of children under 18 years of age by armed forces, non-State armed groups and security companies in any armed conflict and define and punish the recruitment of children under the age of 15 as a war crime.[42]

Human rights and counter-terrorism

40. JS1 and HFHR PCP advised the government to reform counter extremism and counter terrorism legislation to bring definitions and procedures into compliance with international standards on legality, necessity, and proportionality, ensuring these laws cannot be used to criminalize peaceful expression, civic activism, or Pamiri identity.[43]

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

41. JS1 recommended Tajikistan to guarantee fair trial rights in line with ICCPR Article 14, including public hearings, access to independent legal counsel from the moment of detention, the exclusion of evidence obtained under torture, and the publication of court decisions, particularly in cases involving Pamiri detainees.[44]

42. JS1 called on the government to ensure prompt, independent, and impartial investigations into all allegations of torture, ill treatment, and deaths in custody, including the cases of Pamiri detainees, and prosecute perpetrators regardless of rank or institutional affiliation; and to guarantee fair trial rights by ensuring public hearings, access to independent legal counsel from the moment of detention, timely disclosure of charges, and publication of court decisions, particularly in cases linked to Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO).[45]

43. JS9 recommended the government to ensure full respect for fair trial proceedings and due process; and immediately and unconditionally release those detained or prosecuted solely for carrying out their legitimate human rights work or exercising their fundamental freedom.

44. L4L has long been concerned about attempts to harass and disrupt the work of lawyers in Tajikistan, particularly those who work on cases that involve human rights or are of politically sensitive nature, in contravention to UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.[46]

45. L4L called on Tajikistan to take immediate measures to ensure that sufficient safeguards are in place, both in law and in practice, to guarantee the full independence and safety of lawyers and their effective protection against any form of retaliation in connection with their professional activity.[47]

46. L4L urged the government to refrain from any actions that may constitute harassment, persecution, or undue interference in the work of lawyers, including their criminal prosecution on improper grounds such as the expression of critical views or the nature of the cases that the lawyer is involved in; and to immediately and unconditionally release all lawyers detained for their professional activities and dismiss all charges against them.[48]

47. JS3 called on Tajikistan to ensure the independence of the judicial system and judges from the executive branch and that the Constitutional Law "On Courts" regulate procedures for selecting judges and candidates for judges.[49]

48. JS11 recommended that the Plenum of the Supreme Court adopt a resolution providing guidance to courts on adjudicating cases of gender-based violence, including sexual violence.[50]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

49. OSCE-ODIHR deployed a Needs Assessment Mission in December 2024 for the parliamentary elections of March 2025.[51] OSCE-ODIHR eventually cancelled the mission due to the continuing lack of assurances that ODIHR experts and international observers would receive the accreditation needed.[52]

50. HFHR PCP stated that, since 2022, Tajikistan has faced an ongoing narrowing of civic space marked by growing restrictions on freedom of expression, association and assembly. Human rights defenders (HRDs), journalists, and independent activists faced intimidation, surveillance, arbitrary arrests and prosecution, and long prison sentences on politically motivated charges. Media freedom was heavily constrained through legal pressure, censorship, and security service interference, while online expression was closely monitored through centralised internet control and affected by vague "extremism" legislation.[53]

51. CPJ observed that the period since Tajikistan's last UPR in 2021 had seen a significant degradation of press freedom and journalists' ability to report freely and without fear. Tajikistan already had one of the world's most restrictive environments for media, but the current review period has seen a steep deterioration, conditioned by a violent government crackdown on protests by the Pamiri ethnic minority in the eastern Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region.[54]

52. JS14 and HFHR PCP called on the government to immediately and unconditionally release human rights defenders and end politically motivated prosecutions of human rights defenders and journalists, immediately release those arbitrarily detained.[55]

53. HRW called for an end to all politically motivated closures of NGOs and civil society organizations; allow closed organizations to re-register and resume operations; and end the practice of labelling civil society organizations, opposition media, and websites as "extremist" to silence their work.[56]

54. ECOM urged the government to adopt and implement effective measures to prevent and respond to reprisals against individuals and groups cooperating with international and regional human rights mechanisms.[57]

55. JS14 advised the government to end censorship practices, particularly during protests, including internet shutdowns, throttling and blockage of independent media websites; and to stop arbitrary interception, holding and use of communications, including the surveillance of citizens and journalists in violation of their right to privacy as enshrined in international law.[58]

56. CPJ recommended Tajikistan to cease all efforts to stop independent media operating freely[59]; and end the practices of banning media outlets, blocking their websites, threatening them with closure over legitimate reporting, and using state "curators" to informally pressure independent media.[60]

57. CPJ urged the government to end the practice of subjecting journalists to torture, ill-treatment, threats and psychological pressure, including to obtain false confessions[61]; and ensure that all allegations of torture and abuse raised in this submission are fully and transparently investigated.[62]

58. Similarly, HRW advised the government to immediately and unconditionally release all HRDs, lawyers, journalists, and civil society activists imprisoned in connection with the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO) protests of November 2021 and May 2022; and ensure effective, independent, and transparent investigations into the killings of protesters, all deaths in custody and reports of torture in detention.[63]

59. Similarly, JS3 advised the government to end the practice of mass liquidation of CSOs, providing protection of human rights defenders and civil activists from pressure and persecution.[64]

60. JS3 further recommended eliminating the requirement for re-registration in the case of minor changes (e.g., a change of legal address) and introduce a notification system and simplifying state registration and re-registration of CSOs and introducing electronic procedures for online registration and re-registration of CSOs, submission of reports.[65]

61. EAJW encouraged Tajikistan to ensure that freedom of worship and its public manifestation are respected and to allow Jehovah's Witnesses to legally re-register according to due process of law so they can freely conduct their religious activities.[66]

62. ECLJ called on the government to reform its laws to allow for all Christians to freely and peacefully practice their faith.[67]

63. ECLJ stated that, since Tajikistan's last review, there had been numerous reports of Baptist, Evangelical, and Pentecostal churches being raided, threatened, fined, and their members arrested.[68] ECLJ urged the government to protect members of these communities.[69]

Right to health

64. Human Rights Center TJ observed that, in Tajikistan, widespread practices, policies, and laws deterred people from accessing health services, and that such rights, as the right to informed consent and confidentiality were being violated. Laws such as mandatory testing of people living with HIV allowed discriminatory treatment toward certain groups or fail to ensure the enforcement of anti-discrimination laws; and practices such as unlawful prosecution and deprivation of liberty had been reported.[70]

65. Human Rights Center TJ urged the government to abolish compulsory HIV testing and the liability of HIV-positive patients who refuse treatment and testing, as well as other discriminatory regulations.[71]

66. JS4 called on the government to ensure that people living with HIV have access to comprehensive health services, taking into account the special needs of women; and increase the age of children with HIV who are eligible for social benefits from 16 to 18 years old.

67. JS4 recommended implementing the recommendations of the Resolution of the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Tajikistan "On judicial practice in criminal cases related to human immunodeficiency virus infection".[72]

2. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women

68. JS13 positively noted that Tajikistan had established a relatively comprehensive legal framework aimed at protecting the rights of women and children, and at prevention of domestic violence. The key instrument is the Law "On the Prevention of Domestic Violence" which was adopted in 2013.[73]

69. JS13 recommended Tajikistan to adopt a revised version of the Law on the PDV, including an expanded definition of violence, the concept of "children who witness violence" as a separate category of survivors, a more precise definition of family and family relationships and a recognition of the gender aspect of violence and factors of inequality.[74]

70. JS13 advised the government to criminalize domestic violence as a separate offense in the Criminal Code, with a clear definition of all its forms: physical, psychological, sexual, and economic violence, as well as control and intimidation, including domestic violence, marital rape, and sexual violence within the family.[75]

71. JS5 observed that twelve years after the adoption of the Law "On the Prevention of Domestic Violence", domestic violence has yet to be recognized as a criminal offence in Tajikistan. JS5 stated that there was no victim-centered approach to fight violence against women, which resulted in women being denied full access to effective legal remedies.[76]

72. JS5, JS8 and JS11 recommended Tajikistan to include a separate article in the draft Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan criminalising domestic violence; and to introduce a consent-based definition of rape and define the age of consent, as recommended by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women.[77]

73. JS5 called on the government to digitize the collection of statistics relating to domestic violence; and ensure access for women and children affected by all forms of gender-based violence, as well as child witnesses of violence, to comprehensive free rehabilitation services and compensation for moral and material damages.[78]

Children

74. JS5 recommended the government to develop and adopt a plan (strategy) to ensure that birth certificates are obtained for all children living in the country; strengthen public awareness-raising on new procedures for obtaining birth certificates for parents, particularly in rural areas.

75. JS5 positively noted that legislation on violence against children had been further strengthened, including through the enhancement of criminal liability for sexual offences and amendments to the Law on Education. However, JS5 noted that national legislation did not provide for specific procedures for the investigation of sexual offences against children.[79]

76. JS5 recommended Tajikistan to establish a special procedure for the examination of cases involving sexual offenses against children, to be conducted by specially trained investigators and judges; and guarantee children who have been subjected to violence access to legal assistance, comprehensive rehabilitation, and compensation.[80]

77. JS5 further recommended to develop specialized procedures for the administration of justice in juvenile cases and to establish child-friendly rooms in all courts; provide rehabilitation services to all children in the justice system, including child victims of crime; and provide free legal aid to all children in conflict with the law.[81]

78. JS6 recommended the government to explicitly prohibit and criminalize in law the recruitment and involvement of children under 18 years of age by armed forces, non-State armed groups and security companies in any armed conflict and define and punish the recruitment of children under the age of 15 as a war crime.[82]

Older persons

79. JS5 observed that Tajikistan is home to more than 500,000 people over the age of 60, accounting for 6% of the country's population, and 230 people over the age of 100. According to projections, by 2030, people over the age of 60 will account for more than 11.5% of the country's population.[83]

80. JS5 recommended the government to conduct information campaigns to eliminate stigma and discrimination against older persons; and strengthen the capacity of civil servants, the media, and opinion leaders on issues related to aging, ageism, and promoting a positive perception of older people in society.[84]

81. JS5 further recommended informing older persons about their rights and entitlement to benefits in an accessible manner and adopting a State Programme on Ageing and Social Support for Older Persons.[85]

Persons with disabilities

82. JS11 positively noted that, since 2023, Tajikistan had made some progress in protecting the rights of people with disabilities although the adoption of a human rights–based approach with preparations for the ratification of the CRPD were not met. The NSHR National Action Plan highlighted CRPD ratification and implementation as a central activity, but ratification remained pending.[86]

83. JS11 recommended that Tajikistan ensure that the new 2026-2028 NSHR Action Plan incorporate unfinished measures from the last Action Plan, focus on concrete outcomes, and introduce clear, measurable indicators and monitoring mechanisms to track progress towards a human rights–based model of disability.[87]

84. JS11 urged the government to establish and enforce access standards to buildings, transport, public services, and digital spaces, supported by mandatory monitoring systems and accountability mechanisms; ensure inclusive access to education, justice, and employment; develop inclusive; and introduce disaggregated data collection, institutionalise the participation of PwD CSOs in decision-making and monitoring, expand community-based services, rehabilitation, and independent living support to reduce reliance on institutional care.[88]

85. JS5 called on the government to align the definition of disability with international human rights standard; and accelerate the process of deinstitutionalization of specialized institutions into day care centers.[89]

86. JS5 also recommended developing psychological and pedagogical support services in schools to assist children with disabilities; and expanding the opportunities for distance learning for children with disabilities to make education more accessible to all.[90]

Indigenous Peoples and minorities

87. JS1 recommended Tajikistan to recognize Pamiris as an Indigenous people as well as linguistic and religious minorities in Tajikistan, reflecting their distinct linguistic, cultural, historical, and territorial identity in GBAO, and incorporate this recognition into national legislation, minority rights frameworks, and equality policies in line with UNDRIP and ICERD standards.[91]

88. JS1 called on the government to conduct an independent investigation into the discriminatory and disproportionate use of force during the 2021-2022 security operations in GBAO, including the killing of 40 peaceful demonstrators, over 200 arbitrary detentions, and the mass displacement of Pamiris, ensuring accountability, reparations, and guarantees of non-repetition.[92]

89. JS1 also urged to prevent discriminatory application of counter extremism legislation by introducing safeguards that prohibit profiling and collective punishment of Pamiris as an Indigenous minority group, reviewing all convictions linked to GBAO for bias, and ensuring judicial oversight consistent with international human rights law.[93]

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

90. JS11 expressed concern that police often arbitrarily detained LGBT+ people, particularly gay or bisexual men or trans women, and subjected them to torture, sexual abuse, other forms of ill-treatment and insults. Officers reportedly frequently seized phones without warrants, searched private messages and social media for intimate photos, and charged individuals with "production or distribution of pornographic materials using mass media or the internet."[94]

91. JS11 recommended Tajikistan to publicly condemn human rights violations such as police abuse and discrimination against LGBT+ people; include the protection of the rights of LGBT+ people in NSHR action plans.[95]

92. JS7 recommended to refrain from using Article 241 of the Criminal Code to target or persecute LGBTI persons.[96]

93. COC Netherlands positively noted Tajikistan's adoption of the Law "On Equality and Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination" in 2022; however, it stated that the law did not explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) as protected grounds and observed that LBT women continued to face intersecting forms of discrimination and limited access to protection from gender-based violence.[97]

94. COC observed that transgender persons faced significant barriers in accessing legal gender recognition due to the absence of clear procedures, leading to inconsistent practices and restrictions in accessing basic rights; and stated that reports also indicated cases of violence, arbitrary detention, and ill-treatment by law enforcement against vulnerable groups.[98]

95. COC recommended that Tajikistan establish independent and effective mechanisms to investigate abuses by law enforcement, including arbitrary detention, coercive interrogations, forced HIV testing, extortion, disclosure of confidential personal data (including HIV status and SOGI), and acts of violence, ill-treatment and harassment against LGBTQ+ persons.[99]

96. ECOM advised the government to guarantee a safe and enabling environment for organisations, informal groups, and defenders working on LGBTI issues and HIV, including by ending discriminatory interference by State authorities.[100]

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

97. JS3 recommended Tajikistan to put an end to the practice of extrajudicial expulsions and ensure that, in all cases of detention of asylum seekers and refugees, the Office of UNHCR be promptly notified.

98. JS3 further urged the government to adopt an inter-agency regulatory framework establishing a clear mechanism for the referral of asylum seekers from border guard units of

national security authorities to the competent bodies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, with a view to ensuring their access to the territory and to fair and efficient asylum procedures, including for those who have crossed the state border irregularly.[101]

Notes

[1] A/HRC/49/12, A/HRC/49/12/Add.1, and A/HRC/49/2.

[2] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org (one asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with A status).

Civil society

Individual submissions:

COC Netherlands	Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
CPJ	Committee to Protect Journalists, New York (United States of America);
EAJW	EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, KRAAINEM (Belgium);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, The, Strasbourg (France);
ECOM	Eurasian Coalition for Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity, Tallinn (Estonia);
HFHR PCP SoJ	Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Press Club Polska, Society of Journalists, Warsaw (Poland);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
Human rights center TJ	Human Rights Center, Dushanbe (Tajikistan);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
L4L	Lawyers for Lawyers, JC Amsterdam (Netherlands);
UPR BCU	The UPR Project at BCU, Birmingham (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

Joint submissions:

JS1	**Joint submission 1 submitted by:** Antidiscrimination Centre Memorial Brussels, Brussels (Belgium); Pamiri Diaspora Human Rights Activists;
JS2	**Joint submission 2 submitted by:** Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis (United States of America); The Advocates for Human Rights; The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty; Capital Punishment Justice Project;
JS3	**Joint submission 3 submitted by:** Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law, Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Bureau of Human Rights and Rule of Law (Dushanbe); Ibtido (Khujand); NANSMIT (Dushanbe); Law and Prosperity (Dushanbe); World of Law (Dushanbe); Inson va Adolat (Dushanbe); Office of Civil Freedoms (Dushanbe);
JS4	**Joint submission 4 submitted by:** Coalition on Economic and Social Rights and Freedom from Torture in Tajikistan, Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Bureau of Human Rights and Rule of Law (Dushanbe); Association of Parents of Children with Disabilities (Dushanbe); Accessible Law (Dushanbe); Women Lawyers for Development (Dushanbe); World of Law (Dushanbe); NANSMIT (Dushanbe); National Union of Persons with Disabilities of Tajikistan; Law and Prosperity (Dushanbe); Rushdi Inclusia (Dushanbe); SPIN Plus (Dushanbe); Tajikistan Network of Women Living with HIV; Foundation for the Development of Society (Istaravshan); Human Rights Center (Dushanbe);
JS5	**Joint submission 5 submitted by:** Coalition for the Protection of Vulnerable Groups in Tajikistan, Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Bureau of Human Rights and Rule of Law (Dushanbe); Diyor (Khujand); Coalition "From Legal Equality to Substantive Equality"; Law and Prosperity (Dushanbe); Public Foundation "Legal Initiative"; Salomati

	(Dushanbe); Network “Life without Violence”; Human Rights Center (Dushanbe); Jahon (Dushanbe);
JS6	**Joint submission 6 submitted by:** Connection e.V., Offenbach (Germany); Connection e.V.War Resisters' International (WRI);
JS7	**Joint submission 7 submitted by:** Eurasian Coalition for Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity, Tallinn (Estonia); TT (Trans Theme), Central Asia;
JS8	**Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Equality Now, Nairobi (Kenya); Equality Now, PO “Women Lawyers for Development” and the Public Foundation “Your Choice”;
JS9	**Joint submission 9 submitted by:** International Federation for Human Rights, Paris (France); FIDH, OMCT within the framework of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders;
JS10	**Joint submission 10 submitted by:** Human Rights Center, Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Human Rights Center, on behalf of the CSO Coalition against Torture and Impunity in Tajikistan; International Partnership for Human Rights; Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights;
JS11	**Joint submission 11 submitted by:** International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR) Central Asia team, Brussels (Belgium); International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR) and Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (HFHR);
JS12	**Joint submission 12 submitted by:** Minority Rights Group International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Minority Rights Group, Coalition of Civil Society Organizations of Tajikistan ‘Civic Solidarity and Cooperation’;
JS13	**Joint submission 13 submitted by:** Public organization “Hukukshinoson”, Rudaki District (Tajikistan); Public Organization “Hukukshinoson”; Public Organization “Jahon”;
JS14	**Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Small Media, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Curious Shapes.

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

OSCE-ODIHR	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights/Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw (Poland).

[3] The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD

ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

[4] JS8, para 4; JS2, para 9; UPR BCU, p.8; JS10, para 8; JS5, p.11.
[5] L4L, para 6.
[6] HRW, para 3.
[7] JS9, para 32; JS14, p.11; ECOM, para 24.
[8] JS14, p.11.
[9] JS10, para 8.
[10] JS3, p.3.
[11] JS3, p.5.
[12] JS12, p.10.
[13] JS3, p.9.
[14] JS6, para 27.
[15] JS3, p.12.
[16] JS7 , para 40; JS4, p.13; Human Rights Center TJ, p.6.
[17] JS5 p.3; JS8, para 32; JS11, p.5.
[18] JS8, para 32.
[19] JS5 p.3.
[20] JS2, para 9.
[21] UPR BCU, p.8.
[22] UPR BCU, p.8.
[23] UPR BCU, p.8.
[24] UPR BCU, p.8.
[25] JS7 , para 40.
[26] UPR BCU, p.8.
[27] JS7, para 40.
[28] JS12, p.3.
[29] JS12, p.10.
[30] JS1, p.8.
[31] JS11, p.7; JS7, para 40.
[32] JS10, para 2.1.
[33] JS10, para 2.2.
[34] JS10, para 8.
[35] JS4, p.11.
[36] JS10, para 8.
[37] JS1, p.6.
[38] JS4, p.11.
[39] HRW, para 4.
[40] HRW, para 11.
[41] HRW, para 11.
[42] JS6, para 27.
[43] JS1, p.4; HFHR PCP, p.7.
[44] JS1, p.4.
[45] JS1, p.6.
[46] L4L, para 5.
[47] L4L, para 17.
[48] L4L, para 17.
[49] JS3, p.8.
[50] JS11, p.5.
[51] OSCE-ODIHR, para 5.
[52] OSCE-ODIHR, para 7.
[53] HFHR PCP para 1.3.
[54] CPJ, para 4.
[55] JS14, p.11; HFHR PCP, P.10.
[56] HRW, para 29.
[57] ECOM, para 28.
[58] JS14, p.11.
[59] CPJ, para 49.
[60] CPJ, para 50.
[61] CPJ, para 55.
[62] CPJ, para 56.

[63] HRW, para 21.
[64] JS3, p.4.
[65] JS3, p.4.
[66] EAJW, p.6.
[67] ECLJ, para 20.
[68] ECLJ, para 12.
[69] ECLJ, para 21.
[70] Human Rights Center TJ, p.1.
[71] Human Rights Center TJ, p.6.
[72] JS4, p.13.
[73] JS13, p.3.
[74] JS13, p.4.
[75] JS13, p.5.
[76] JS5, p.2.
[77] JS5 p.3; JS8, para 32; JS11, p.5.
[78] JS5, p.3.
[79] JS5, p.6.
[80] JS5, p.6.
[81] JS5, p.6.
[82] JS6, para 27.
[83] JS5, p11.
[84] JS5, p13.
[85] JS5, p13.
[86] JS11, p.10.
[87] JS11, p.11.
[88] JS11, p.11.
[89] JS5, p.11.
[90] JS5, p.11.
[91] JS1, p.8.
[92] JS1, p.8.
[93] JS1, p.8.
[94] JS11,
[95] JS11, p.7.
[96] JS7 , para 40.
[97] COC Netherlands, para 3.
[98] COC Netherlands, para 4.
[99] COC Netherlands, para 30.
[100] ECOM, para 26.
[101] JS3, p.12.