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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Forty-second session**  
23 January–3 February 2023

## **Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Pakistan\***

### **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.<sup>1</sup> It is a summary of 43 stakeholders' submissions<sup>2</sup> for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

#### **II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles**

#### **III. Information provided by other stakeholders**

##### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>3</sup> and cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

2. Amnesty International reiterated its recommendations from the three previous reviews, to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and incorporate it into domestic law.<sup>4</sup> Joint Submissions 9 and 20 made similar recommendations.<sup>5</sup>

3. ICJ recommended to Pakistan to become a party to the ICCPED, the ICMRW, the Rome Statute of the ICC, OP-CAT and the second optional protocol to ICCPR.<sup>6</sup>

4. Joint Submission 14 encouraged Pakistan to submit its overdue periodic report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.<sup>7</sup>

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\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



## **B. National human rights framework**

### **1. Constitutional and legislative framework**

5. Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS) recommended to repeal and replace current blasphemy laws (Sections 295 to 298 of the Pakistan Penal Code) with provisions in conformity with Pakistan's Constitution and the international human rights law instruments to which Pakistan is a party.<sup>8</sup>

### **2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures**

6. Joint Submission 10 advised that appointments of chairpersons and staff to National Human Rights Institutions be made in accordance with the Paris Principles.<sup>9</sup>

## **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*

7. Digital Rights Foundation stressed that laws and mechanisms should be developed to ensure non-discrimination and safeguard against the misuse of emerging technologies (such as Artificial Intelligence, Facial Recognition Technologies, etc.) for profiling of citizens in public spaces based on their race, ethnicity, gender identity, class, disabilities, nationality, occupation, and religion.<sup>10</sup>

8. Hakpaan recommended that state institutions and intelligence agencies put an end to racial profiling of students and release all the disappeared students and bring them before the courts of law.<sup>11</sup>

9. Joint Submission 2 (JS 2) recommended to amend Articles 25-27 of the Constitution to formally recognize SOGIESC as protected grounds on the basis of which discrimination is prohibited and enact a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of protected grounds, including SOGIESC status, in access to services, employment, healthcare, education in all public and private settings, and provides effective redress mechanisms. And to ensure that LGBTI people, especially minors, facing abuse have free, equal and non-discriminate access to shelter homes.<sup>12</sup>

10. JS2 also requested to establish at least one functional protection centre for transgender people, as mandated by the law, in each province by 2025 and delineate adequate budget, resources and SOPs regarding provision of support and legal assistance at these centres.<sup>13</sup>

11. Decriminalize same-sex relations and ensure equal rights and protection for the LGBTQ+ community and investigate all forms of attacks against LGBTQ+ members with a view to bring perpetrators to justice in accordance with international human rights standards, stated Front Line Defenders.<sup>14</sup>

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

12. The State of Pakistan must respect the fundamental rights of citizens as enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan, including the right to life and liberty, the right to be treated in accordance with the law, the right to enjoy constitutional safeguards in relation to detention and torture, and the right to a fair trial and due process, highlighted JS 9.<sup>15</sup>

13. Joint Submission 1 recommended to abolish the death penalty and to review and revise the evidence-collection practices of law enforcement agencies, with the aim of aligning them with best practices, including the use of modern technology.<sup>16</sup>

14. DUNE requested to abolish the death penalty for all drug offences under the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997.<sup>17</sup>

*International humanitarian law*

15. ICAN urged Pakistan to take steps to pursue nuclear disarmament and to sign, ratify and implement the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.<sup>18</sup>

*Human rights and counter-terrorism*

16. ADF advised to amend the 1997 Anti-Terrorism Act to ensure it does not unduly restrict the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of religion or belief.<sup>19</sup>

17. Amnesty International recommended to remove Sections 295-A and 298-A from the list of scheduled offences under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997.<sup>20</sup>

18. Joint Submission 5 (JS5) requested to halt the use of anti-terrorism legislation to arrest, detain and and prosecute Human Rights Defenders and activists for the peaceful exercise of their rights.<sup>21</sup>

19. Front Line Defenders requested that the government ensure that Human Rights Defenders are protected from legal persecution as reprisal for their human rights work, especially under anti-terror laws and criminal legislation.<sup>22</sup>

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

20. UPR BCU advised Pakistan to affirm its commitment to SDG 16 on access to justice and strong institutions through its support to the next vote on the UNGA Resolution on the moratorium on the use of the death penalty.<sup>23</sup>

21. Human Rights Watch recommended to ensure the effective implementation of the legislation on gender-based violence including domestic violence and acid attacks and prosecute those responsible.<sup>24</sup>

22. Human Rights Watch urged Pakistan to ensure that police officers implicated in torture or ill-treatment, regardless of rank, are disciplined or prosecuted as appropriate and independently investigate every case of custodial death.<sup>25</sup>

23. The National Commission for Human Rights recommended to develop a plan of action to provide adequate rehabilitation to the prison population including provision of treatment for both physical and mental health issues.<sup>26</sup>

24. JS 9 stressed that enforced disappearance a distinct and autonomous crime under local/domestic law and to terminate all forms of impunity in dealing with this crime.<sup>27</sup>

25. Amnesty International recommended that Pakistan immediately releases all forcibly disappeared people or promptly bring them before a judge in a civilian court of law to rule on the lawfulness of their arrest or detention and whether they should be released. As previously recommended, establish an independent inquiry into all suspected cases of enforced disappearance and hold those suspected to be responsible to account, which Pakistan had accepted to do in the previous review.<sup>28</sup>

26. Front Line Defenders encouraged an impartial, prompt and thorough investigation into the killings, enforced disappearances and torture of Human Rights Defenders with a view to bring perpetrators to justice in accordance with international human rights standards.<sup>29</sup>

27. Joint Submission 13 advised to create an appeal or reporting mechanism to flag judges, police officers, religious institutes, Muslim clerics, and official actors who discriminate against, violate the rights of, or fail to protect religious minorities.<sup>30</sup>

28. JS2 requested to reform criminal codes, reporting procedures and justice delivery mechanisms tackling SGBV (e.g. Women and Child Protection Units, Gender Crime Cells, Gender-Based Violence Courts) to explicitly recognize and incorporate violence on the basis of SOGIESC in their mandate by amending relevant governing laws and to amend *Anti-Rape (Investigation and Trial) Act, 2021* and provincial domestic violence laws to include transgender persons in their ambit. It also requested timely, thorough and competent investigation and trial in cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).<sup>31</sup>

29. Joint Submission 21 recommended to ensure that the judiciary branch in Pakistan and the lawyers, working whether independently or as part of the Pakistan Bar Council, conduct their work independently of outside interference and influence.<sup>32</sup>

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

30. ADF International recommended to ensure full respect for freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression, in accordance with its human rights obligations and amend Penal Code Article 153-A to align it with international law and standards governing freedom of expression.<sup>33</sup>

31. SAR requested to refrain from the use of force, arrests, imprisonment and the death sentence in connection with students and scholars non violent exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and academic freedom.<sup>34</sup>

32. The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) urged the Government to provide due process of law and protection of fundamental rights, including life and liberty, to all, especially the vulnerable groups such as women and minorities. Further, the Government of Pakistan must take measures to stop the abuse of blasphemy laws.<sup>35</sup>

33. Amnesty International advised to amend the Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Act, in particular Section 6, to avoid broad and vague formulations that lack legal clarity and may be used to unlawfully restriction the right to freedom of expression.<sup>36</sup>

34. Digital Rights Foundation stressed that safeguards should be implemented for protected speech by journalists and human rights defenders in online and offline spaces, particularly their right to speak critically of public figures and institutions.<sup>37</sup>

35. Joint Submission 7 urged to establish independent commissions for the protection of journalists and media professionals without delay to tackle impunity in crimes against journalists as required under the Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Bill, 2021 and the Sindh Protection of Journalists and Other Media Practitioners Bill 2021 and to establish and strengthen mechanisms for ensuring the safety of journalists, particularly women journalists and those from minority communities.<sup>38</sup>

36. JS5 recommended to remove all undue restrictions on the ability of Civil Society Organisations to receive international and domestic funding in line with best practices articulated by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association and to ensure that Human Rights Defenders are able to carry out their legitimate activities without fear or undue hindrance, obstruction, or legal and administrative harassment such as travel restrictions under the Exit Control List.<sup>39</sup>

37. Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) encouraged to remove religious content from non-religious subjects, as per instructions from the Supreme Court's One-Man Commission, and to ensure that government officials who promote or ally with extremist elements are held to account.<sup>40</sup>

*Right to privacy*

38. Digital Rights Foundation recommended that an oversight body be constituted, a data protection commission, which is independent and has substantive powers to hold private and public bodies accountable for breaches of citizens' privacy and data security.<sup>41</sup>

*Right to marriage and family life*

39. CLAAS recommended to revise the Child Marriage Restraint Act to set the minimum age of marriage regardless of sex at 18 years across Pakistan and make the protection offered by the law more robust so tribunals cannot use Sharia Laws to allow child and forced marriages to happen.<sup>42</sup>

*Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work*

40. ECLJ reiterated that the government must enforce the Bonded Labor Act to stop the scourge of bonded labor. The law exists on the books, but the government has no enforcement mechanisms in place.<sup>43</sup>

41. Joint Submission 11 urged Pakistan to develop a comprehensive human rights development plan, which includes effective implementation of all human rights and labor rights for peasants, workers and bonded laborer's in the agriculture.<sup>44</sup>

42. Minority Concern stressed that the government should come up with legislation to protect domestic workers and for the safe working environment of sanitary workers.<sup>45</sup>

*Right to an adequate standard of living*

43. DUNE referred to the vulnerability of homeless and street-based people who use drugs to illegal organ trafficking and demanded to extend social security and protection to them.<sup>46</sup>

*Right to health*

44. Joint Submission 6 (JS6) stressed the need to create harmony and balance in eight pillars of health structure including Health Service Delivery, Health Financing, Human Resource for Health, Governance, Health Information System, Cross-sectoral linkages, Essential Medicines & Technology, and Global Health Responsibilities.<sup>47</sup>

45. Geneva for Human Rights recommended Health Centres in all remote rural areas of the country with qualified midwives and well equipped to provide the best possible antenatal advice and care.<sup>48</sup>

46. Joint Submission 17 recommended to set up youth-friendly health service centres across the country- not only within the premises of public and private health facilities, but also within educational institutions, sport complexes, community centres and playgrounds so that more young people have access and can visit the facilities and seek services, information, and counselling.<sup>49</sup>

47. Joint Submission 18 suggested to include life skills based education programs for young people, to prevent HIV infections amongst them and ensure and increase access to HIV prevention options for all young people.<sup>50</sup>

*Right to education*

48. Broken Chalk recommended to allocate the resources necessary to ensure public education's high quality and accessibility and regulate and monitor private schools to address inequality in the education system by building schools, providing supplies and training teachers.<sup>51</sup>

49. It also stressed the need to strengthen the capacity of pre-service teacher training institutions to deliver quality literacy instructions in primary schools and equip pre-service teachers in colleges of education and universities with the necessary skills to deliver quality literacy instruction in primary schools.<sup>52</sup>

50. Broken Chalk encouraged a comprehensive strategy aimed at improving water, sanitation, and hygiene in schools, including public awareness-raising activities and monitoring the implementation of the national standards on water and sanitation facilities, and ensure that sufficient resources are allocated for the performance of the strategy.<sup>53</sup>

51. JS6 informed that the infrastructure of all public schools – including missing facilities – need to be drastically improved and at least 100,000 public schools need to be immediately constructed. Provision of free books, shoes and uniforms in remote rural and far-flung underdeveloped areas – along with those charity schools completely following the public schools system – should be ensured.<sup>54</sup>

*Development, the environment, and business and human rights*

52. Joint Submission 19 recommended to conduct fulsome environmental impact assessments of development projects and cease the construction of mega projects in fragile environments which could potentially harm the biodiversity and the people of the regions.<sup>55</sup>

53. It also encouraged to allocate the development funds it received for infrastructure and land projects to provide upgraded water and sewer irrigation systems that do not let harmful toxins or waste flow into the natural groundwater surrounding development projects.<sup>56</sup>

54. Joint Submission 20 advised to the Government to aid the Ministry of Human Rights in the implementation of the National Action Plan and pass legislation to institutionalise the principles contained in the Plan.<sup>57</sup>

## 2. Rights of specific persons or groups

### *Women*

55. ODVV urged Pakistan to take broader efforts to protect women against violence, including more state prosecutions of “honor killings”.<sup>58</sup>

56. ADF recommended to urgently enact and implement laws outlawing forced conversion and forced marriage and protecting women and girls who have been subject to, or are at risk of suffering these human rights violations.<sup>59</sup>

57. ECLJ encouraged the Government to stop forced religious conversions and forced marriages of minority women. The government has the responsibility not only under its Constitution, but also pursuant to multiple treaties it has ratified, to protect minority women from abuse.<sup>60</sup>

58. Amnesty International requested Pakistan to implement previously accepted recommendations to pass and implement legislation to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, in line with international human rights law and standards. Also to ensure that prompt, impartial, effective and gender-sensitive investigations are carried out into incidents of violence against women or girls and members of the transgender community with the purpose of holding perpetrators to account without recourse to the death penalty.<sup>61</sup>

59. JS6 encouraged effective implementing mechanisms by government and state actors and national bodies to take serious actions against gender-based violations that may be eliminated by ensuring women’s representation at the decision-making tables and by involving them in social, political, and economic forums.<sup>62</sup>

60. Joint Submission 3 (JS3) recommended the implementation of maternal health policies and programs that increase availability and access for women, particularly from poor socio-economic backgrounds, rural areas and marginalized ethnic groups, including without limitation, the Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition Vision Action Plan 2016–2025 and the Sindh Reproductive Healthcare Rights Act 2019.<sup>63</sup>

61. DUNE encouraged measures to improve access to affordable, effective and community-based treatment and care for drug dependence, with dedicated facilities for women, in line with internationally recognised standards and good practices.<sup>64</sup>

62. CLAAS advised to implement legislation to halt the practice of forced conversion to Islam of women and girls from religious minorities. including with respect to the right to freedom of religion or belief and the principle of legality.<sup>65</sup>

63. Joint Submission 12 recommended to amend the Citizenship Act of 1951 to enable Pakistani women to transmit their nationality to a foreign spouse on an equal footing with Pakistani men.<sup>66</sup>

### *Children*

64. ADF recommended to ensure the protection of children by mandating that the custody of an abducted and converted child be immediately returned to the parents or legal guardians.<sup>67</sup>

65. JS3 recommended to take concrete measures to remove barriers to adolescents’ access to sexual and reproductive health services by ensuring adolescents access to comprehensive sexuality education, addressing social and cultural taboos that prevent adolescents from accessing reproductive health services and ensuring availability of support and protection mechanisms for girls who are victims of child marriage.<sup>68</sup>

66. CSW encouraged to take steps to sensitise police and members of the judiciary to issues relating to the abduction, forced conversion and forced marriage of religious minority

girls, ensuring that justice is served in such cases and that minor girls are not wrongfully returned to their abductors.<sup>69</sup>

#### *Persons with disabilities*

67. Joint Submission 16 requested that the entire political voting process be accessible for persons with disabilities, including polling stations, voting process and material and registration.<sup>70</sup>

#### *Minorities*

68. ADF asked to repeal laws unjustly targeting or discriminating against the Ahmadiyya and other religious minority communities and recommended to establish a Commission for Minorities at the provincial level, composed primarily of minority representatives, rights workers, and retired judges, with clarified procedures, adequate provision of security, and with the relevant authority to propose reforms on minority rights.<sup>71</sup>

69. Joint Submission 4 (JS4) recommended to repeal all anti-blasphemy laws, and ensure that the State's domestic laws, policies and practices comply with the international human rights covenants, in particular articles 2, 18, 19 and 26 of the ICCPR. It also addressed the multiple and intersecting forms of violence and discrimination suffered by the Ahmadi community, including those faced by Ahmadi women, children and refugees.<sup>72</sup>

70. Ahmadi Muslim Lawyers Association (AMLA) recommended to repeal Section 48A of the Elections Act of 2017 and permit Ahmadi Muslims to vote alongside all other citizens of Pakistan as a part of a joint electorate and to protect and promote the rights of Ahmadis. It also requested to remove restrictions on freedom of religion or belief and amend legislation that discriminates against Ahmadis and cease prosecuting Ahmadis as "terrorists" under anti-terrorism laws, to combat impunity for attacks on Ahmadis by effectively investigating allegations and by prosecuting those responsible.<sup>73</sup>

71. Joint Submission 8 advised to set up an independent, autonomous, and resourceful National Commission for Minorities' Rights through an act of parliament, with a mandate and resources to contribute to policies on matters that affect minorities with a mandatory representation for the Ahmadi community.<sup>74</sup>

#### *Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers*

72. Joint Submission 15 requested a uniform consular protection policy for Pakistani citizens who are imprisoned abroad and/or face execution.<sup>75</sup>

#### *Stateless persons*

73. Joint Submission 12 stressed the need to provide documentation to undocumented Afghans and other stateless people and to ratify and fully implement the 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>76</sup>

#### *Notes*

<sup>1</sup> See A/HRC/37/13 and the addendum A/HRC/37/13/Add. 1, and A/HRC/37/2.

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

#### *Civil society*

##### *Individual submissions:*

ADF International	ADF International, 1202 Geneva (Switzerland);
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
AMLA USA	Ahmadi Muslim Lawyers Association USA, Silver Spring (United States of America);
Broken Chalk	The Stichting Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);

CLAAS-UK	CLAAS, Greenford (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
CSW	Christian Solidarity Worldwide, New Malden (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
DRF	Digital Rights Foundation, Lahore (Pakistan);
DUNE	DUNE, Islamabad (Pakistan);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, The, Strasbourg (France);
FLD	Front Line Defenders – The International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Blackrock, county Dublin (Ireland);
GDH-GHR	Genève pour les Droits de l’Homme – Geneva for Human Rights, Grand Saconnex (Switzerland);
Hakkpaan	human rights council of Balochistan, Kista (Sweden);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists, Geneva (Switzerland);
MCP	Minority Concern (UK), Blackburn (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
ODVV	Organization for Defending Victim of Violence, Tehran (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
SAR	Scholars at Risk Network, New York, NY (United States of America);
UPR BCU	The UPR Project at BCU, Birmingham (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
WSC	World Sindhi Congress, Welwyn Garden City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
<i>Joint submissions:</i>	
JS1	<b>Joint submission 1 submitted by:</b> Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis (United States of America), The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, Legal Awareness Watch Pakistan, Marvi Rural Development Organization, The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan;
JS2	<b>Joint submission 2 submitted by:</b> Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN), Bangkok (Thailand); Submitted by the Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN) and Global Action for Trans Equality (GATE), in association with Queer Chitai (QC). Endorsed by APCOM Foundation, International Trans Fund (ITF), and Queer Chitai (QC);
JS3	<b>Joint submission 3 submitted by:</b> CRR, New York (United States of America); Center for Reproductive Rights Aahung;
JS4	<b>Joint submission 4 submitted by:</b> Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Paris (France); International Human Rights Committee (IHRC)Forum for Religious Freedom-Europe (FOREF);
JS5	<b>Joint submission 5 submitted by:</b> CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Johannesburg (South Africa); Asian Legal Resource Centre;
JS6	<b>Joint submission 6 submitted by:</b> Child Rights Movement, Islamabad (Pakistan); Given below is the list of the CRM member organizations in alphabetical order, that contributed to the report development:1. Bedari, Contact person: Raffat Shuja, Program Manager, email: raffat.shuja@bedari.org.pk; 2. Child Rights Movement Pakistan, Akhtar Syed, National Coordinator, email: childrightsmovement@gmail.com; 3. Community Development Organization, Pakistan, Aliya Syed, Program Manager, email: aliya.cdopk@gmail.com; 4. Hashoo Foundation, Shahina Qurnab, Program Manager, email: shahinaqurban@hashoofoundation.org; 5. Institute of Development Research and Corresponding Capabilities (IDRAC), Islamabad Amjad Nazeer, Executive Director,



- email: amjadnazeer@gmail.com; 6. SPARC, Asiya Arif, Executive Director, email: ed@sparcpk.org; 7. Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO), Syed Kausar Abbas, Executive Director, email: ed@ssdo.org.pk;
8. UGOOD, Syed Ishtiaq Ul Hassan Gilani, Founder/Chief Executive Officer, email: ishgilani@hotmail.com;
9. Individual Expert, Wajahat Ali Malik (Advocate), email: adv.wajahat.ali@gmail.com;
- JS7 **Joint submission 7 submitted by:** Coalition of NGOs for UPR-Pakistan, Islamabad (Pakistan); Pakistan Press Foundation, Association of Women for Awareness and Motivation (AWAM), Children Rights Defence, Collective Pakistan, Dera Ismail Khan Press Club, Editors for Safety (EfS), Femonics Pvt Ltd., Global Educational, Economic & Social Empowerment, IRIS Welfare Trust, Karachi Press Club, Karachi Union of Journalists (KUJ), Media Matters for Democracy (MMfD), Multan Press Club, Nawabshah Press Club, Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights (PCHR), Social Uplift of Nowshera, The Truth International, Tribal Development Network;
- JS8 **Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Centre for Social Justice, Lahore (Pakistan); AWAM, NCJP, CICF, UPP, SAP, DCHD, PDO, IHDF, PILER;
- JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Foundation For Fundamental Rights and Defence of Human Rights and Public Service Trust, Islamabad (Pakistan); Defence of Human Rights and Foundation for Fundamental Rights;
- JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** International Federation for Human Rights, Paris (France); The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) is a non-political, not-for-profit organisation committed to realising the entire ambit of human rights for all persons in the country, using the framework provided by the Constitution of Pakistan as well as international human rights instruments, to some of which Pakistan is a state party;
- JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** International Dalit Solidarity Network, Copenhagen (Denmark); The PAKISTAN DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK (PDSN) is a coalition of dozens of rights-based civil society organizations in Pakistan. The Center for Law & Justice (CLJ) The Progressive Human Foundation (PHF) The Rural Advancement Development and Human Rights Association (RADHA) The HARI-Welfare Association The Peace and Development Organization (PDO) The Aurat Foundation (AF) PILER The International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN);
- JS12 **Joint submission 12 submitted by:** Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Eindhoven (Netherlands); Imkaan Welfare Organisation, Nationality For All, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion;
- JS13 **Joint submission 13 submitted by:** JUBILEE CAMPAIGN, FAIRFAX, VA (United States of America); Set My People Free; Voice for Justice;
- JS14 **Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Minority Rights Group International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Bytes for All, Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, Center for Law and Justice and Bargad Youth Organization;
- JS15 **Joint submission 15 submitted by:** World Organisation Against Torture, Geneva (Switzerland); Justice Project Pakistan (JPP);

JS16	<b>Joint submission 16 submitted by:</b> Potohar Mental Health Association, Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) (Pakistan); Potohar Mental Health Association (PMHA) and Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP);
JS17	<b>Joint submission 17 submitted by:</b> Akahata-Equipo de Trabajo en Sexualidades y Géneros, Buenos Aires (Argentina); Forum for Dignity Initiatives Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Sexual Rights Initiative;
JS18	<b>Joint submission 18 submitted by:</b> The Sexual Rights Initiative, Ottawa (Canada); – Hi Voices – The PACT – Sexual Rights Initiative;
JS19	<b>Joint submission 19 submitted by:</b> Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, The Hague (Netherlands); Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization & World Sindhi Congress;
JS20	<b>Joint submission 20 submitted by:</b> The UPR Project at BCU, Birmingham (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); UPR Project at BCURSIL;
JS21	<b>Joint submission 21 submitted by:</b> World Sindhi Congress, Welwyn Garden City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); World Sindhi Congress Global Human Rights Defence;

*National human rights institution:*

NHRC	National Human Rights Commission for Human Rights Islamabad (Pakistan);
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<sup>3</sup> *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

<sup>4</sup> Amnesty International Submission for Pakistan, para. 36.<sup>5</sup> Joint Submission 9, para. 39I.<sup>6</sup> ICJ submission, page 7.<sup>7</sup> Joint Submission 14.<sup>8</sup> CLAAS Submission page 8.<sup>9</sup> Joint Submission 10, para 85.<sup>10</sup> Digital Rights Foundation, para. 9.4.1.<sup>11</sup> Hakpaan , para. 14.

- 12 Joint Submission 2, para. 58.
- 13 Joint Submission 2, para 58.
- 14 Front Line Defenders, para. 32.5.
- 15 Joint Submission 9, para. 39v.
- 16 Joint Submission 1, para. 34.
- 17 DUNE, para. 31a.
- 18 ICAN, page. 1.
- 19 ADF Submission to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review Working Group, para. 35.
- 20 Amnesty International Submission for Pakistan, para. 44.
- 21 Joint Submission 5, para. 16.2.
- 22 Front Line Defenders, para. 32.3.
- 23 UPR Project at BCU, page 7.
- 24 Human Rights Watch, para. 35.
- 25 Human rights Watch, para. 29.
- 26 NHRC Submission
- 27 Joint Submission 9, para. 39ii.
- 28 Amnesty International Submission for Pakistan, paras. 35 and 38.
- 29 Front Linde Defenders, para. 32.1.
- 30 Joint Submission 13, para. 78.
- 31 Joint Submission 2, para. 58.
- 32 Joint Submission 20, page. 13.
- 33 ADF Submission to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review Working Group, para. 35.
- 34 SAR Submission, para. B.
- 35 ECLJ, para. 28.
- 36 Amnesty International Submission for Pakistan, para. 47.
- 37 Digital Rights Foundation, para. 9.1.3.
- 38 Joint Submission 7, para. 39.
- 39 Joint submission 5, paras. 16-1 and 2.
- 40 Christian Solidarity Worldwide, paras. 32 and 57.
- 41 Digital Rights Foundation, para. 9.2.2.
- 42 CLAAS Submission, page 8.
- 43 ECLJ, para. 28.
- 44 Joint Submission 11, page 8.
- 45 Minority Concern Submission, page 7.
- 46 DUNE, para. 31e.
- 47 Joint Submission 6, para 105.
- 48 Geneva for Human Rights, page 7.
- 49 Joint Submission 17, para. 41.
- 50 Joint Submission 18, paras. 22–23.
- 51 Broken Chalk, page 5.
- 52 Broken Chalk, page 5.
- 53 Broken Chalk, page 5.
- 54 Joint Submission 18, paras. 10–12.
- 55 Joint Submission 19, page 7.
- 56 Joint Submission 19, page 7.
- 57 Joint Submission 20, page 9.
- 58 ODVV Submission, para. 19.
- 59 ADF Submission to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review Working Group, para. 35.
- 60 ECLJ, para. 28.
- 61 Amnesty International Submission for Pakistan, paras. 48–49.
- 62 Joint Submission 6, para. 50.
- 63 Joint Submission 3, page 7.
- 64 DUNE, para. 31c.
- 65 CLAAS Submission, page 8.
- 66 Joint Submission 12, page 16.
- 67 ADF Submission to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review Working Group, para. 35.
- 68 Joint Submission 3, page 7.
- 69 Christian Solidarity Worldwide, para. 44.

<sup>70</sup> Joint Submission 16, page 14.

<sup>71</sup> ADF Submission to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review Working Group, para. 35.

<sup>72</sup> Joint Submission 4.

<sup>73</sup> Ahmadi Muslim Lawyers Association (AMLA) submission page 4, Christian.

<sup>74</sup> Joint Submission 8, para. 5.3.

<sup>75</sup> Joint Submission 15, para. 25.

<sup>76</sup> Joint Submission 12, para. 17.

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