Human Rights Watch Submission to Joint Questionnaire of Special Procedures

Overview

- Waiting for the Storm: The Coronavirus in Africa
- The Coronavirus in Europe: From Lockdowns to Power Grabs
- More than Just China: Covid-19 May Ravage Asia
- When Health Care is Decimated By War: Covid-19 in the Middle East and North Africa
- Central Asia: Respect Rights in Covid-19 Responses
- “The Country is Bleeding”: Covid-19 in the US

Authoritarianism, Repression and Rule of Law

- Hungary's Orban Uses Pandemic to Seize Unlimited Power
- Cambodia: Emergency Bill Recipe for Dictatorship
- How Authoritarians Are Exploiting the Covid-19 Crisis to Grab Power
- Brazil: Bolsonaro Sabotages Anti-Covid-19 Efforts
- Egypt: Covid-19 Cover for New Repressive Powers

Children’s Rights

- UK School Closures Could Leave Children Hungry
- Pandemic shakes up world’s education systems
- France: Children Left in Limbo despite Covid-19
- As Schools Close Over Coronavirus, Protect Kids’ Privacy in Online Learning
- Bosnia and Herzegovina's Coronavirus Curbs on Children and Older People Are Ill-Conceived
- Covid-19’s Devastating Impact on Children
- Covid-19 and Children’s Rights
- Greece: Free Unaccompanied Migrant Children
- How girls' education and safety will be harmed by the covid response
- Millions of Children Threatened by Violence Risk Being Forgotten Amid Coronavirus Lockdowns
- Why Covid-19 Choices are Critical for Children
• Coronavirus Adds Urgency to Ending Egypt’s Detention and Torture of Children
• Detained Children Left Out of Covid-19 Response
• UK: Children in England Going Hungry with Schools Shut
• When schools reopen, many children will be missing
• Covid-19 Pandemic Threatens Progress on Child Labor
• School Closures Hurt Even More in Afghanistan

Civil and Political Rights, incl. Free Speech and Free Expression
• Egypt: Four Arrested Over Covid-19 Protest
• Cambodia: Covid-19 Clampdown of Free Speech
• Thailand: Covid-19 Clampdown on Free Speech
• Bangladesh: End Wave of Covid-19 “Rumor” Arrests
• Sri Lanka Uses Pandemic to Curb Free Expression
• Philippine Authorities Go After Media, Online Critics
• Bolivia: Covid-19 Decree Threatens Free Expression
• Myanmar: 3 Charged for Covid-19 Street Art
• Cambodia: Reporter Jailed for Quoting Hun Sen on Covid-19
• Punishing People for Saving Lives in Moscow
• Azerbaijan: Crackdown on Critics Amid Pandemic
• Hong Kong: Crackdown Amid Covid-19
• Philippine Activists Charged with Sedition, “Fake News”
• Amid the Pandemic, the Right to Vote is a Life and Death Issue
• China: Free Covid-19 Activists, “Citizen journalists”
• During Pandemic, Algeria Tightens Vise on Protest Movement
• Cambodia: Covid-19 Spurs Bogus “Fake News” Arrests
• Somalia: Spate of Arrests, Intimidation of Journalists
• Protect Kenya’s Journalists Reporting on Covid-19
• Jordan: Free Speech Threats Under Covid-19 Response
• Ethiopia: Free Speech at Risk Amid Covid-19
• Attack on Tajik Journalist Reporting on Covid-19
• Thai Activist Arrested on Covid-19 Pretext
• Sri Lankan Officials Stoke Covid-19 Communal Hate
• Police Beat and Injure Ecuador’s Covid-19 Protesters
• Thailand: State of Emergency Extension Unjustified
Conflict and Humanitarian Crises

- Venezuela’s Health Care Crisis Now Poses a Global Threat
- Covid-19 Threatens South Sudan’s At-Risk Populations
- Congo's Ebola Fight Has Lessons for Covid-19
- Ukraine: Dozens Stranded in a War Zone
- DR Congo: Respecting Rights Key Amid Covid-19
- Cameroon: Allow Aid Access Amid Pandemic
- Armed Groups in Colombia Threaten Civilians Over Covid-19 Measures
- Covid-19 in Yemen – A Perfect Storm
- Waiting in the Ruins of Idlib for Covid-19
- Syria: Aid Restrictions Hinder Covid-19 Response
- Bangladesh: Covid-19 Aid Limits Imperil Rohingya
- WHO Should Stand By Appeal for Cross-Border Aid to Syria
- Despite Covid-19, Libya War Rages, with Civilians at Risk
- Yemen: Displaced at Heightened Covid-19 Risk
- Venezuela: Urgent Aid Needed to Combat Covid-19

Covid-19 Relief

- IMF: Make Covid-19 Funds Transparent, Accountable
- US: Focus Relief Effort on Those Most in Need
- Letter to IMF Executive Board Re: Urgent Need for Anti-Corruption Measures in IMF Response to Covid-19 Crisis
- Lebanon: Direct Covid-19 Assistance to Hardest Hit
- Don’t Let Nepal’s Covid-19 Relief be Squandered
- IMF is Playing “Catch Me if You Can” on Emergency Assistance
- The Forgotten, Suffering Without Aid
- European Commission Promises to Champion Corporate Accountability
- IMF: Empower Civic Groups Against Covid-19 Corruption
- Development Finance for Covid-19 Crisis Should Uphold Human Rights

Detention, Prisons and Jails

- Iran: Free Wrongfully Detained Prisoners
- US: Covid-19 Threatens People Behind Bars
- Syria’s Detainees Left Even More Vulnerable to Coronavirus
- Coronavirus: Egypt’s Prisons Could Spare Disaster with Conditional Releases
• Pakistan: Prisoners at Risk of Covid-19
• UAE: Prisoners with HIV Vulnerable to Coronavirus
• Wider Steps Needed to Protect Prisoners' Health in Italy
• Kyrgyzstan's Coronavirus Response Should Let Activist Go Free
• Turkey Should Protect All Prisoners from Pandemic
• Bahrain's Prison Release Positive but Insufficient
• Cameroon Should Protect Prison Population from Covid-19
• Libya: Detainees at Risk of Coronavirus Spread
• Thailand: Covid-19 Rumors Trigger Prison Riot
• Covid-19 Threatens Indonesia's Overcrowded Prisons
• Latin America: Cut Prison Crowding to Fight Covid-19
• With Covid-19 Threat, Eritrea Should Release Political Detainees
• Turkey: Covid-19 Puts Sick Prisoners at Grave Risk
• Myanmar: Reduce Prison Populations to Limit Covid-19
• Covid-19 Shouldn't Be a Death Sentence for People in US Prisons
• Cambodia: Prisons Potential Covid-19 Epicenters
• Philippines: Reduce Crowded Jails to Stop Covid-19
• Asia: Reduce Prison Populations Facing Covid-19
• Poor Conditions at Pennsylvania Jail Heighten Covid-19 Concerns
• Court Orders Asthmatic Rapper Released from Federal Prison
• Coronavirus is a Ticking Time Bomb for Australia's Prisons
• DR Congo: Prisons Face Covid-19 Catastrophe
• California’s Bail-Rule Changes Could Save Lives in Coronavirus Crisis
• Japan: Protect Prisoners, Staff from Covid-19
• Philippines: Prison Deaths Unreported Amid Pandemic
• El Salvador: Inhumane Prison Lockdown Treatment
• Averting an Imminent Catastrophe: Recommendations to US Local, State and Federal Officials to Covid-19 in Jails and Prisons
• Debate about Prisoners' Release in Argentina
• Angola's Prisons Ill-Equipped to Curb Covid-19 Spread
• Qatar: Reported Covid-19 Outbreak in Central Prison
• How to Prevent Covid-19 Outbreaks in Latin America's Prisons
• Tanzania: Prisoners' Rights Ignored in Covid-19 Response
• Covid-19 Running Rampant in Ohio Prisons
• Covid-19 Prisoner Releases Too Few, Too Slow
• Myanmar: Hundreds Jailed for Covid-19 Violations
• Covid-19: The Risk in Mexican Prisons
• UAE: Reported Covid-19 Prison Outbreaks
• Migrants, Prisoners at High Risk of Covid-19 in Panama
• Greece Again Extends Covid-19 Lockdown at Refugee Camps

Disability Rights
• UK: Covid-19 Law Puts Rights of People with Disabilities at Risk
• Protect Rights of People with Disabilities During Covid-19
• Covid-19 Poses Extreme Threat to People Shackled in Nigeria
• Ghana: 1st Covid-19 Case in Psychiatric Hospital
• People with Disabilities May Need More than Just Intensive Care for Covid-19 Treatment
• Lebanon: People with Disabilities Overlooked in Covid-19
• Locked up long before the coronavirus lockdown
• People in Institutions in Brazil at Risk from Covid-19
• Russia: Publish Data About Covid-19 in Institutional Care
• Mental Health Support Necessary During Covid-19 Pandemic
• Covid-19 Sheds Light on the Flaws of Institutional Care
• School Closures Particularly Hard on Children with Disabilities

Discrimination and Xenophobia
• Hungary Weaponizing Coronavirus to Stoke Xenophobia
• Cambodia: Fight Discrimination Amid Pandemic
• Trump Adds to Asian-Americans’ Fears
• Abused and Shunned – Being of Asian Descent in Sweden During Covid-19
• US Government Should Better Combat Anti-Asian Racism
• India’s Steps to Contain Covid-19 Have Failed to Curb Anti-Muslim Rhetoric
• China: Covid-19 Discrimination Against Africans
• Covid-19 Fueling Anti-Asian Racism and Xenophobia Worldwide
• In Germany, Anti-Semitism Creeps into Covid-19 Protests
• India Cannot Expect to Beat Covid-19 Without Tackling Hate and Corruption
• US: Covid-19 Disparities Reflect Structural Racism, Abuses

Environment
• US Car Emissions Rollback Endangers People’s Health
• How Covid-19 Could Impact the Climate Crisis
• Air Pollution in US Exacerbates Covid-19 Dangers
• This Year's Forest Fire Season Could Be Even Deadlier
• Can Covid-19 Help Ease the Climate Crisis?

Government Responses
• China: Respect Rights in Coronavirus Response
• Iran: Rapid Spread of Virus Further Tests Iranians' Faith in Government
• China’s Neighbors Respect Rights to Combat Coronavirus
• Myanmar Denials Define Covid-19 Response
• Ugandans Trying to Get Home Forced to Pay for Covid-19 Quarantine
• Bangladesh Should Address Vulnerability to Coronavirus
• Mexico: Mexicans Need Accurate Covid-19 Information
• US Congress, China, and Covid-19
• Burundi: Any Covid-19 Cover-Up Will Put Lives at Risk
• Uganda: Respect Rights in Covid-19 Response
• South Africa: Set Rights-Centered Covid-19 Measures
• Governments should deliver effective rights-respecting responses to Covid-19
• Indonesia: Little Transparency in Covid-19 Outbreak
• Nicaragua: Reckless Covid-19 Response
• Nigeria: Protect Most Vulnerable in Covid-19 Response
• Covid-19 Restrictions Offer Window into Palestinian Experience
• Africa’s Covid-19 Response Should Focus on People's Needs, Rights
• Australia Should Prioritize Rights as Asia Battles Covid-19
• Guinea: Respecting Rights Key Amid Covid-19
• Falling for China’s Fake Covid-19 News Was Dangerous and Preventable
• Ecuador's Constitutional Court Upholds Rights During Covid-19
• South Africa: End Bias in Covid-19 Food Aid
• Kenya: Quarantine Conditions Undermine Rights

Labor Rights
• Brands Abandon Asia Workers in Pandemic
• Pakistan: Workers Face Health, Economic Risks
• Covid-19 Puts Millions of Global Supply Chain Workers at Risk
• Domestic Workers in Middle East Risk Abuse Amid Covid-19 Crisis
• Protecting Garment Workers During Covid-19 Crisis

LGBT Rights
• Egypt’s Denial of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
• Pakistan Official Supports Transgender Community Amid Covid-19
• Hungary Seeks to Ban Legal Gender Recognition for Transgender People
• Uganda LGBT Shelter Residents Arrested on Covid-19 Pretext
• Panama’s Gender-Based Quarantine Ensnares Trans Woman
• Philippines Uses Humiliation as Covid Curfew Punishment
• In Lebanon’s Covid-19, Aid the Vulnerable, Including LGBT People
• Letter to the President of Panama calling for the protection of transgender people during the quarantine
• Panama: Set Transgender-Sensitive Quarantine Guidelines
• Bangladesh Should Support Hijra, Trans Under Covid-19
• Covid-19 Backlash Targets LGBT People in South Korea
• Panama: Government Takes Step to End Quarantine Gender Discrimination
• LGBT Africans Share Challenges of Life During Pandemic
• LGBTQ Inequality and Vulnerability in the Pandemic

Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers
• HRW and ACLU Letter to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Regarding Prevention and Management of the Coronavirus at the Adelanto Processing Center
• US: Plan to Shut Border Endangers Asylum Seekers
• Greece: Grant Asylum Access to New Arrivals
• Canada’s Immigration Detainees At Higher Risk In Pandemic
• Malaysia: Migrants, Stateless at Extra Risk from Virus
• Europe: Curb Immigration Detention Amid Pandemic
• Migrant Workers in Maldives at Added Risk from Covid-19
• Myanmar: Displacement Camps are Covid-19 Tinderboxes
• Nepal Abandons Migrant Workers in Fight Against Covid-19
• Greece: Nearly 2,000 New Arrivals Detained in Overcrowded, Mainland Camps
• Human Rights Watch Letter to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Department of Homeland Security Regarding Orders Related to Suspending Travel Across US Borders
• Lebanon: Refugees at Risk in Covid-19 Response
• Qatar: Protect Migrant Workers During Pandemic
• Coronavirus Poses Added Risks to Australia’s Immigration Detainees
• Gulf States: Ease Immigration Detention in Pandemic
• Trump Administration Using Pandemic as Excuse to Target Asylum Seekers
• Immigration Detainees in Canada Desperate for Release, Transparency
• EU/Italy: Port Closures Cut Migrant and Refugee Lifeline
• Essential Travel in a Time of Pandemic
• Mexico: Free Detained Migrants Amid Pandemic
• Russia: As Pandemic Grows, Migration Detention Deadlock
• Venezuelans in US Need Urgent Temporary Protection
• Malaysia: Allow Rohingya Refugees Ashore
• Greece: Island Camps Not Prepared for Covid-19
• Tell the Trump Administration to Protect Asylum Seekers
• Bangladesh: Rohingya Refugees in Risky Covid-19 Quarantine
• Colombia Should Protect Displaced People During Covid-19
• Lockdown Should Not Discriminate Against Migrants, Refugees
• Thailand Should Free Detained Migrants Amid Pandemic
• US: Free Detained Asylum Seekers in Pandemic
• Trump Administration Uses Pandemic as Excuse to Expel Migrants
• Pandemic Adds New Threat for Rohingyas in Myanmar
• Second Covid-19 Death in US Immigration Detention
• US: Suspend Deportations During Pandemic

Older Persons’ Rights
• Coronavirus Shows England’s Urgent Need for Social Care Reforms
• Coronavirus Ban Cuts Off US Vets from Families
• US Nursing Home Visitor Ban Isolates Seniors
• Rights Risks to Older People in Covid-19 Response
• Blanket Visitor Ban under Covid-19 Will do More Harm Than Good

Poverty and Inequality
• US: Address Impact of Covid-19 on Poor
• US: Ensure Affordable Covid-19 Treatment
• How Can Germans “Stay at Home” If They Are Homeless?
• India: Covid-19 Lockdown Puts Poor at Risk
• US: Economic Relief Package Shortchanges Workers
• Don’t Abandon Indigenous People During the Pandemic
• Business As Usual Isn’t Good Enough for World’s Homeless
• In the Pandemic, Millions of People Could Lose Their Homes
• Uganda: Drop Charges Against 19 Homeless Youth
• Systemic Inequities Increase Covid-19 Risk for Indigenous People in Canada
• Nairobi Evicts 8,000 People Amidst a Pandemic and Curfew

Police and Security Force Abuses
• Nigerian Security Forces to Enforce Social Distancing
• Philippines: Curfew Violators Abused
• Kenya Police Abuses Could Undermine Coronavirus Fight
• El Salvador: Police Abuses in Covid-19 Response
• Kenya: Police Brutality During Curfew
• Covid-19 Curfew Arrests of Thailand’s Homeless
• Rwanda: Lockdown Arrests, Abuses Surge
• Malaysia: Stop jailing Covid-19 Lockdown Violators

Right to Health and Protecting Health Workers
• Access to Water Vital in Covid-19 Response
• Lebanon: Covid-19 Worsens Medical Supply Crisis
• A Deadly Lack of Affordable Covid-19 Treatment in the US
• US: Ease Sanctions on Iran in Covid-19 Crisis
• Zimbabwe Doctors Sue Government over Covid-19
• Papua New Guinea’s Health System Unprepared for Covid-19
• Zimbabwe: Unsafe Water Raises Covid-19 Risks
• Protect Medical Workers in Thailand from Covid-19
• Egypt: Covid-19 Threatens Treatment for HIV Patients
• Hungary Kicks Patients Out of Hospitals to Prepare for Covid-19
• Africa: Covid-19 Exposes Healthcare Shortfalls
• Russia: Health Workers Face Retaliation for Speaking Out
Technology, Surveillance and Internet Freedom

- The Human Toll of China’s Corona Virus Control Efforts
- Millions of Ethiopians Can’t Get Covid-19 News
- Closing the “Digital Divide” Critical in Covid-19 Response
- Moscow Silently Expands Surveillance of Citizens
- Bangladesh: Internet Ban Risks Rohingya Lives
- China: Fighting Covid-19 With Automated Tyranny
- Moscow's Intrusive Proposal on Covid-19 Protection
- Governments Should Respect Rights in Covid-19 Surveillance
- Armenia: Law Restricts Privacy Amid Covid-19 Fight
- Covid-19: Unblock Voice Over IP Platforms in Gulf
- Turkey Seeks Power to Control Social Media
- Big Data Could Undermine the Covid-19 Response
- Protecting Digital Research Even More Crucial During Covid-19
- Covid-19 Apps Pose Serious Human Rights Risks
- Russia: Intrusive Tracking App Wrongly Fines Muscovites
- WHO Should Intervene to End Internet Shutdowns amid Pandemic
- How Digital Contact Tracing for Covid-19 Could Worsen Inequality

Women’s Rights

- Ohio, Texas Use Covid-19 to Stop Abortions
- Banning Companions During Childbirth Strips Women of Support
- England Leads Way in UK after U-Turn on Covid-19 Abortion Access
- Women Risk Domestic Violence During Kyrgyzstan’s Lockdown
- Tackling Kenya’s Domestic Violence Amid Covid-19 Crisis
- Europe: Abortion Curbs Endanger Women, Girls in Pandemic
- Lack of Refuge for Kazakhstan’s Domestic Violence Survivors
- Poland: Reject New Curbs on Abortion, Sex Ed
- Alaska Issues Covid-19 Abortion Ban
- Iraq: Urgent Need for Domestic Violence Law
- Denying Women Abortion Access in Moscow
- For Maternal Health and Covid-19, a Racial Divide
- Sex Workers Struggle to Survive Covid-19 Pandemic
- Hungary Rejects Opportunity to Protect Women from Violence
- Governments Call for Protection of Sexual and Reproductive Rights
- Closing Pakistan's Maternity Wards Puts Women at Risk
- Protecting Women’s Reproductive Health During the Pandemic
- UK Failing Domestic Abuse Victims in Pandemic
- Brazil: Protect Sexual, Reproductive Rights in Pandemic