

Human Rights Council

The Council is made of 47 Member States, which are elected by the majority of members of the General Assembly of the United Nations through direct and secret ballot. The General Assembly takes into account the candidate States' contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as their voluntary pledges and commitments in this regard.

The Council's Membership is based on equitable geographical distribution. Seats are distributed as follows:

1. African States: 13 seats
2. Asian States: 13 seats
3. Latin American and Caribbean States: 8 seats
4. Western European and other States: 7 seats
5. Eastern European States: 6 seats

[Members of the Council](#) serve for a period of three years and are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

COUNTRY	TERM EXPIRES ON
Angola	2013
Austria	2014
Bangladesh	2012
Belgium	2012
Benin	2014
Botswana	2014
Burkina Faso	2014
Cameroon	2012
Chile	2014
China	2012
Congo	2014
Costa Rica	2014
Cuba	2012
Czech Republic	2014
Djibouti	2012
Ecuador	2013
Guatemala	2013
Hungary	2012
India	2014
Indonesia	2014
Italy	2014

Jordan	2012
Kuwait	2014
Kyrgyzstan	2012
Libya *	2013
Malaysia	2013
Maldives	2013
Mauritania	2013
Mauritius	2012
Mexico	2012
Nigeria	2012
Norway	2012
Peru	2014
Philippines	2014
Poland	2013
Qatar	2013
Republic of Moldova	2013
Romania	2014
Russian Federation	2012
Saudi Arabia	2012
Senegal	2012
Spain	2013
Switzerland	2013
Thailand	2013
Uganda	2013
United States of America	2012
Uruguay	2012

** The rights of membership to the Human Rights Council of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya were suspended by the General Assembly on 1 March 2011 and restored on 18 November 2011.*

The [Bureau of the Council](#) consists of five people - one [President](#) and four Vice-presidents – representing the five regional groups. They serve for a year, in accordance with the Council’s annual cycle.

Officers of the Human Rights Council's Sixth Cycle (20 June 2011 - 31 December 2012)

H. E. Ms. Laura Dupuy LASSERRE, President of the Human Rights Council, Sixth Cycle (2011 - 2012)

H.E. Mr. Anatole Fabien Marie NKOU (Cameroon), Vice-President

H.E. Mr. András DÉKÁNY (Hungary), Vice-President

H.E. Ms. Gulnara ISKAKOVA (Kyrgyzstan), Vice-President and Rapporteur

H.E. Mr. Christian STROHAL (Austria), Vice-President