

**Code:** HRC/2/1

**Committee:** Human Rights Council

**Topic:** Promotion and protection of all human, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the Right to Development

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

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3 *Remembering* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which supports democratic principles  
4 of representation,

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6 *Reaffirming* that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment  
7 or punishment,

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9 *Emphasizing* the need to increase transparency between the state government and the people in  
10 regards to political, economic and social arenas and the laws and policies that are passed in  
11 accordance to those topics,

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13 *Reiterating* the rights outlined in Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political  
14 Rights (ICCPR) and in Article 2 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural  
15 Rights (ICESCR) which states that every citizen has the right to participate in public affairs, to  
16 vote and to be elected, and to have access to public service which further protects against  
17 discrimination founded in race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion,  
18 national or social origin, property, birth or other status, cultural, social, or political beliefs,  
19 indigenous or otherwise,

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21 *Citing* the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, and Article 19 & 21 of the ICCPR, which  
22 protect the right to peaceful assembly without infringement from the government unless the  
23 assembly is a public order, safety, or health hazard, and the right to peaceful demonstration in  
24 reaction or opposition to acts of government resulting in human rights violations,

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26 *Viewing with apprehension* the cruel and unjustified treatments of human rights defenders and  
27 political activists outlined in the United Nations Facts Sheet 29 - Human Rights Defenders:  
28 Protecting the Right to Defend Human Rights, who have become targets of executions, torture,  
29 beatings, arbitrary arrest and detention, death threats, harassment and defamation, as well as  
30 restrictions on their freedoms of movement, expression, association and assembly in volatile  
31 states,

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33 *Citing* the Geneva Convention on Torture which further elaborates that torture means any act by  
34 which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person,  
35 along with Article 15 of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that specifies  
36 that state parties have a duty to take legislative, judicial and administrative measures to prevent  
37 persons with disabilities along with every other individual from facing these type of unjust acts,  
38 *Reaffirming* the Council's dedication to the protection of the right to a just trial with due cause  
39 and complete process of law backed by Article 13 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons  
40 with Disabilities, promoting the access to justice by all persons,

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- 42 1. *Advocates* for Member States to adopt legislative policies providing for the access to justice,  
43 including due process of law, legal counsel, the right to a fair and unbiased trial before a judge or  
44 jury, and the protection from unjustified imprisonment which would ensure that existing judicial  
45 systems are run by rule of law or new ones are created to affirm political rights of citizens and  
46 human rights of defenders, preventing issues present in the Indonesian, Bahrain, and Syrian  
47 judicial systems;  
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- 49 2. *Calls upon* each state to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to  
50 prevent acts of torture in any way that violates an individuals basic human rights such as being  
51 degraded to cruel and unjust punishment;  
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- 53 3. *Strongly Recommends* states openly budget, voting, procedural, and substantive records  
54 available for the public in order to promote transparency, accountability and reform;  
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- 56 4. *Affirms* the basis of state power as provided by the people of the state through democratic  
57 processes such as direct voting and indirect representation and as such, it is the duty of the state  
58 to represent the concerns and beliefs of the community to the best of its abilities;  
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- 60 5. *Supports* providing the right and availability of access to participate in political affairs and  
61 provide input to local, regional, and national issues directly or through the process of freely  
62 voting for representatives;  
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- 64 6. *Encourages* states to ensure that when peaceful demonstration are taking place, people are not  
65 subjected to arrest, and are given the freedom to protest without facing any threat or violence  
66 from state officials, representatives or police forces, or otherwise are not subject to violent,  
67 political, or economic repercussions.