

Guidebook on Members of the UN Committee Against Torture (CAT)

Review of the United States of America

53rd Session of the Committee Against Torture,
Geneva

3-28 November 2014



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* U.S. Country Rapporteurs for CAT Review

Introduction

This document is a compilation of information on the UN Committee Against Torture (CAT), which will be reviewing the 3rd-5th Periodic Reports of the United States on November 12 and 13, 2014 in Geneva. The document is comprised of the CVs of each Committee member (taken directly from the CAT Membership webpage with some minor edits for formatting purposes) and photos of the Committee Members.

In addition, each Committee member “profile” includes a table of issue area interests based on questions and topics the Committee members have brought up in previous CAT review sessions (starting from the 47th CAT session in November 2011 to the 52nd CAT session in May 2014). This information is based on summary records provided on the CAT website. Each table is split into two sections indicating special and general interests, respectively. Special interests for Committee members were determined by the number of times an issue is mentioned (in 3 or more country reviews) or in some cases, the depth of interest as indicated by a less frequent but more specific line of questioning in one or two country reviews, while also taking into consideration the level of interest relative to other members.

The sequence of Committee Members presented in this document is determined by alphabetical order of members’ surnames. Note that the U.S. Country Rapporteurs for this review are Mr. Jens Modvig (Denmark) and Mr. Alessio Bruni (Italy). While Mr. Claudio Grossman and Ms. Felice Gaer both retain their positions on the Committee, they will not be part of the review because they reside in the United States, thus their profiles are not as detailed those of their colleagues. In addition, there is unfortunately no information on Ms. Sapana Pradhan-Malla’s participation in any prior CAT Review, as she just began her first CAT term at the start of 2014.

This document does not cover the jurisprudence of the Committee and civil society delegates should consult the website of the Committee www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cat for more information on the Committee’s General Comments, Concluding Observations, and decisions in individual communications. We hope this document will prove useful to you in your advocacy work prior to and during the U.S. CAT Review this November.

Essadia Belmir

Vice-chairperson

Term Period: 2005-2017

Country of Origin: Morocco

Working Languages: Arabic, French



Current position/function

- Chamber president in the Supreme Court
- Attaché in the Cabinet of the Minister of Justice

Main professional activities

- 1967: Magistrate in the Supreme Court
- 1975: Magistrate in the court of first instance in Rabat
- 1978: Member of the advisory mission in the Rabat Court of Appeal
- 1979: Attaché in the central administration of the Ministry of Justice
- 1992: First-class magistrate in the Ministry of Justice
- 1994: Adviser in the Supreme Court
- 1998: Chamber President in the Supreme Court
- 1999: Member of the Constitutional Council

Academic background

- Postgraduate diploma in political science
- Doctorate in public law

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

- Member of the Constitutional Council
- The candidate has represented the Ministry of Justice in many international meetings and congresses.
- She has also participated in the drafting of bilateral conventions.
- The candidate has also received certificates and diplomas in human rights:
 1. At the United Nations Office at Geneva (1981; summer 1990)
 2. At the International Human Rights Institute in Strasbourg (1981, 1990, 1991, 1997, 2002)
 3. At the International Humanitarian Law Institute in San Remo, Italy (summer 1990);
 4. At Prince Edward Institute, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, Human Rights Institute of Canada (summer 1992).

Publications

N/A

Ms. Essadia Belmir Vice-chairperson Term Period: 2005-2017
Special Interests
Issues Affecting Youth
Access to justice for juvenile offenders (Belarus, Bulgaria, Djibouti, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Albania, Armenia, Rwanda, Greece, Qatar, Lithuania, Montenegro); treatment of minors in prison (Belarus, Bulgaria, Djibouti, Sri Lanka); trafficking and exploitation of children (Guatemala, Qatar, Estonia, Albania, Belgium, Montenegro); protection of children (Senegal, Sierra Leone)
General Prison Conditions
Ill-treatment of prisoners (Bulgaria, Madagascar, Czech Republic, Qatar, Estonia); conditions for prisoners with life sentences (Bulgaria); mental disability and detention (Estonia, Netherlands); use of electrical discharge weapons against prisoners (Andorra)
Police Crimes
Torture of demonstrators/dissenters (Madagascar); human rights violations after arrests (Paraguay); use of tasers (Canada, UK); security forces participating in torture (Gabon)
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals
Violence against women and girls (Paraguay, Albania, Qatar, Senegal, Belgium, Bolivia, Holy See, Sierra Leone)
Death Penalty
Abolition of death penalty (Paraguay, Gabon, Sierra Leone)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Detention of asylum-seekers (Belgium, Latvia); child asylum-seekers (Germany, Latvia, Greece); forced returns and deportations (Belgium, Latvia, Cyprus); detention of UACs (Greece, Netherlands, Cyprus); repatriation of refugees (Gabon, Sierra Leone)
Access to Justice/Remedy
Right to fair trial and transparency/professionalism in criminal proceedings (UK, Rwanda, Peru, Guinea, Estonia, Netherlands, Poland); independence of the judiciary (Belarus, Bulgaria, Djibouti, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Greece, Gabon, Peru, Russian Federation, Senegal, Guatemala, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Uzbekistan, Guinea, Uruguay); preventive detention (Mexico, Russian Federation); statute of limitations on torture (Latvia, Montenegro)
General Interests
Non-refoulement
Need to address refoulement in national torture law (Madagascar); concerns about claims of people facing extradition who were at risk of torture (Czech Republic); measures taken to ensure observance of non-refoulement (Gabon, Sierra Leone)

Oversight Mechanisms
OPCAT (Paraguay, Qatar, Belgium), national human rights body (Belgium, Madagascar, Gabon)
Definition of Torture
Incorporating the definition of torture from the Convention into domestic law (Gabon, Andorra, Uruguay)
Education and Training of Convention
Commendation for education initiatives regarding the prohibition against torture (Madagascar); training of police, prosecutors, and judiciary (Canada, Greece, Netherlands, Latvia, Montenegro); lack of effective awareness-raising courses on domestic violence (Qatar)
Criminalization of Torture
Prohibition of torture under Constitution and Criminal Code (Madagascar, Gabon)
Right to Rehabilitation for Survivors of Torture
Alternatives to detention after experiencing trauma/torture (Gabon)

Alessio Bruni*

U.S. Country Rapporteur for CAT Review

Term Period: 2009-2017

Country of Origin: Italy

Working Languages: Italian, English, French, Spanish

Current position/function

Former United Nations Senior Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



Main professional activities

- 1975-1987: Acquired professional experience in numerous areas of the United Nations Human Rights Programme, including the servicing of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights.
- 1987-2000: Mainly responsible for the implementation and development of the treaty based mechanisms to prevent and combat torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment within the United Nations Human Rights Programme. As such, he acted as Secretary of:
 1. All the sessions of the Committee against Torture
 2. All the Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 3. The inquiries and relevant field missions decided by the Committee against Torture under Article 20 of the Convention
 4. Two sessions of the Working Group for the elaboration of the Optional Protocol to the Convention
- 2000-2007: Treaty Implementation Team Leader supervising the Secretariat works relating to four Treaty Bodies serviced by OHCHR, including the Human Rights Committee, and a Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights
- 2006-2007: Chief ad interim of the Treaties and Human Rights Council Branch of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. As such, he supervised the Secretariat work relating to:
 1. All the treaty bodies serviced by OHCHR
 2. The Human Rights Council

Academic background

- Advanced University Degree in Political Science (Summa cum Laude) with specialization in International Relations and International Law, University of Florence, 1973.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

- In his capacity as Secretary of the Committee against Torture since its creation in 1987, he developed measures of interaction and cooperation between the Committee and (a) the relevant Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights (later the Human

Rights Council); (b) the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and (c) the United Nations Fund for the Victims of Torture;

- In his capacity as Treaty Implementation Team Leader, he contributed to the development of an increased cooperation between treaty bodies, Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions to harmonize their working methods and to improve the reporting system under the various treaties;
- He served as Secretary of three sessions of the Meeting of Chairpersons of Human Rights Treaty Bodies and many sessions of United Nations bodies for the elaboration of human rights treaties.

Publications

“The Functioning of the Committee against Torture”- A contribution to a book on the United Nations Convention Against Torture, coordinated by Professor Walter Kälin of the University of Bern.

Mr. Alessio Bruni Term Period: 2009-2017
Special Interests
Police Crimes
Torture by police and public officials (Djibouti, Sri Lanka, Rwanda, Syrian Arab Republic, Mexico, Senegal, Togo, Guatemala, Kenya, U.K., Andorra, Belgium)
Issues Affecting Youth
Placing minors in disciplinary cells for 10 days (Albania, Armenia); children held in detention with their mothers (Rwanda); sexual violence against minors in prison (Russian Federation); corporal punishment against minors in juvenile detention (Netherlands, U.K.)
General Prison Conditions (Adult)
Poor prison conditions and overcrowding (Belarus, Bulgaria, Djibouti, Germany, Morocco, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Canada, Czech Republic, Greece, Rwanda, Gabon, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Tajikistan, Togo, Bolivia, Japan, Netherlands, U.K., Belgium, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Poland); accommodations for prisoners with mental disabilities (Canada, Russian Federation); reports of abuses by prison guards (Czech Republic, Uzbekistan); constraints on prisoners with life sentences (Uzbekistan)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Immigrant detention (Canada, Czech Republic, Netherlands); independent national asylum service (Greece); failing to process asylum applications and asylum detention (Kenya, Netherlands)
Death Penalty
Abolition of the death penalty (Belarus, Rwanda, Burkina Faso); informing persons on death row and their families of time and date of execution (Japan)
Non-Refoulement
Asylum-seekers at risk of being tortured in country of origin (Bulgaria, Djibouti, Canada, Czech Republic, Rwanda, Russian Federation, Togo, Netherlands, U.K., Andorra); ineffectiveness of diplomatic assurances (Canada, Belgium)
Definition of Torture
Incorporating the full definition of torture from the Convention into domestic law (Belarus, Djibouti, Armenia, Rwanda, Gabon, Togo, Estonia, Kyrgyzstan)
Solitary Confinement
Prolonged and excessive solitary confinement as a form of punishment constitutes CIDT (Bulgaria, Madagascar, Paraguay, Canada, Rwanda, Peru, Qatar, Senegal, Bolivia, Estonia, Japan, Latvia)
Oversight Mechanisms
National human rights bodies (Djibouti, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Albania, Togo, Bolivia, Kenya, Andorra, Burkina Faso); ratification of OPCAT (Morocco, Canada, Rwanda, Peru, Kenya, Andorra, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Uzbekistan)
Access to Justice/Remedy
Compensation and remedy for torture victims (Djibouti, Armenia, Senegal, U.K.); length of preventive and pretrial detention (Germany, Rwanda, Togo); statute of limitations on acts of

torture (Madagascar, Rwanda); basic rights of detainees, including right to being informed of reason for arrest, right to counsel, right to fair trial (Rwanda, Russian Federation, Togo, Netherlands, Andorra)
Education and Training of Convention
Lack of torture prohibition in human rights training (Djibouti, Belgium); effects of human rights trainings on incidents of torture (Morocco, Sri Lanka, Senegal, Poland)
Right to Rehabilitation for Survivors of Torture
Rehabilitation centers being consolidated with detention centers (Sri Lanka); training doctors to recognize signs of torture (Czech Republic); services for victims of psychological and physical torture (Russian Federation)
National Security
Detention and torture of terrorism suspects (Canada, U.K.); extradition process for terrorism suspects (Czech Republic); lack of fair trial for terrorism suspects (Belgium)
General Interests
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals
Violence against women (Gabon); sexual violence of women in prison (Russian Federation)
Political Incarcerations
Allegations of torture and arrest of anti-government protestors (Djibouti)
Criminalization of Torture
Failure to criminalize torture in domestic law (Djibouti); effects of absolute ban on torture (Senegal)
RUDs
Withdrawal of reservations (Peru)
Extraterritoriality
Treatment of persons detained abroad (U.K.)

Satyabhoosun Gupt Domah

Rapporteur

Term Period: 2011-2015

Country of Origin: Mauritius

Working Languages: English, French, Hindi, Creole



Current position/function

- Judge of Appeal of the Republic of Seychelles
- Judge of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Mauritius
- Lecturer at Associate Professor Level in Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Mauritius
- Lecturer at Associate Professor Level in Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Technology, Mauritius

Main professional activities

A major portion of my work on the Bench comprises application of the fundamental freedoms and liberties of the individual in a democratic system of Government. For the purpose, I use legal and judicial materials from national, regional, European and United Nations sources. The hierarchical level of my functions is the highest national legal system of the two jurisdictions, except that for Mauritius it is just one level short of the Privy Council. My daily work consists of, inter alia, determining the legitimacy and legality of State action, whether through police, prisons or otherwise, judged from international human right norms. Likewise, a major portion of the Law Module which I teach at the two Universities concerns the day-to-day application of, and adherence to, the civil and political rights as well as the economic and social rights of the individual in a constitutional democracy with an entrenched Bill of Rights under the Rule of Law. One whole chapter is dedicated to the judicious use as opposed to the arbitrary/despotic use of power of State and State agencies. The supporting materials come from jurisprudence from national courts as seen by Human Rights Committee decisions as propagated by, inter alia, relevant UN agencies.

Academic background

- Doctorate in Comparative Law, University of Aix-Marseilles
- D.E.S. in Comparative Law, University of Aix-Marseilles
- Masters in International Law, University of London
- Bachelor in Laws, University of London
- Bar at Law, Member of Middle Temple
- Fellow of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

I was Parliamentary Counsel in the State Law Office when I actively involved my then Office to formulate and draft the article of our Criminal Code which would specifically criminalize torture in Mauritius. That was prompted by a comment in the report of the UN Committee against Torture. The text was duly passed by our Parliament soon after I was elevated to the Bench.

I lectured on the Human Rights in the BSC Degree Course in Police Studies at the University of Mauritius. This module includes criminal prosecutions against torture and the materials include the UN materials on the subject, including the United Nations Convention against Torture 1984 and the related Optional Protocols.

I am often called upon to give Key-Note Addresses to Conferences and Workshops, at national and international forums, on issues touching Human Rights in society and in the law such as Law of Organized Crime, Mutual Legal Assistance, Terrorism etc. Many of my materials are on Power-Points and are distributed to participants on CD's and hard copies.

Some of the judgments I have given on human rights in Mauritius have made landmarks in our jurisprudence.

Publications

- Constitutionae Africae, University of Antwerp Publications, Germany, 1994
- The Mauritian Constitution and Civil and Political Rights, Encyclopaedia of World Constitutions, USA, 2006
- University Study Materials on Constitutional and Administrative Law (Civil and Political Rights and Social and Economic Rights) (on-going)
- Monograph on Law of Terrorism, International Security Studies (ISS), 2003
- Monograph on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal and Related Matters, International Security Studies, Cape Town, 2004
- Monograph on the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime in the SADC region, (ISS) 2006
- Monograph on Prevention of Corruption in the SADC region, (ISS) 2007

Mr. Satyabhoosun Gupt Domah Rapporteur Term Period: 2011-2015	
Special Interests	
Access to Justice/Remedy	
Commutations of sentences (Greece); right for victims of torture to file complaint with authorities (Gabon, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone); compensation and remedy for torture victims (Gabon, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Lithuania, Sierra Leone); preventing information acquired from torture to be used as evidence (Gabon, Burkina Faso, Montenegro); detention of witnesses (Gabon); preventive and pretrial detention (Mexico, Qatar, Japan, Uzbekistan); independence of the judiciary (Qatar, Mozambique, Uzbekistan); inability to petition the constitutional court (Senegal); basic rights of detainees, habeas corpus (Senegal, Tajikistan, Estonia, Japan, Kenya, Andorra, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Montenegro, Sierra Leone)	
Police Crimes	
Abuses of provisions of interrogation (Andorra); torture and ill-treatment by police (Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Cyprus); limitations on use of coercion (Lithuania)	
Issues Affecting Youth	
Acts of torture against children (Peru, Sierra Leone); establishment of separate juvenile justice system (Togo); sexual abuse of children (Holy See)	
General Prison Conditions (Adult)	
Poor prison conditions and overcrowding (Burkina Faso); accommodations for prisoners with mental disabilities (Cyprus); reports of abuses by prison guards (Cyprus, Sierra Leone); ill-treatment of prisoners with life sentences (Uzbekistan, Lithuania)	
Education and Training of Convention	
Training and professional development of judicial staff, military, medical personnel, public officials, and police (Armenia, Rwanda, Gabon, Peru, Guatemala, Japan, Andorra, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Cyprus, Lithuania, Montenegro, Sierra Leone); training in interrogation rules that respect human rights (Gabon, Cyprus, Lithuania); training on torture prohibition during elections (Kenya)	
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals	
Results of gender-based violence initiatives (Rwanda); violence against women (Norway, Peru, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone); torture of LGBTQ persons (Peru); women's access to justice and age of majority (Burkina Faso); women's right to abortion (Sierra Leone)	
Definition of Torture	
Incorporating the full definition of torture from the Convention into domestic law (Guatemala, Poland, Lithuania, Sierra Leone)	
General Interests	
Death Penalty	
Abolition of the death penalty (Sierra Leone)	
National Security	

Antiterrorism evidence obtained through torture (Canada); detention and torture of terrorism suspects (Lithuania)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Legal counsel for migrants and asylum-seekers (Cyprus)
Solitary Confinement
Prolonged and excessive solitary confinement as a form of punishment constitutes CIDT (Qatar)
Oversight Mechanisms
National human rights bodies (Kenya, Burkina Faso)

Felice Gaer

Vice-Chairperson

Not part of U.S. Review

Term Period: 2000-2015

Country of Origin: U.S.A.

Working Languages: English

Current position/function



Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights American Jewish Committee
Director

Main professional activities

- 1991-1992: United Nations Association of the United States of America, Executive Director, European Programmes
- 1982-1991: International League for Human Rights, Executive Director
- 1974-1981: The Ford Foundation, Programme Officer International Division (1976-1981); Assistant Programme Officer (1974-1976); Member, Public Policy Committee (1976-1981)

Other service:

- International Human Rights Council, the Carter Centre, Emory University 1994-present
- Chair, Steering Committee, National Coalition on the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1997-1999
- Board of Directors, Andrei Sakharov Foundation, 1993-present
- Steering Committee, Human Rights Watch/Helsinki, 1996-present
- Founding member, Washington Working Group on the Human Rights of Women, 1994-present
- Vice-President and Board of Governors, International League for Human Rights, 1991-present
- President, International Friends of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, 1985-1990
- Committee on Human Rights, New York Academy of Sciences, 1982-1992
- Board of Directors, International Dispute Resolution Associates, 1995-present
- Advisory Panel on Ethnic Conflict, Minority and Individual Rights, The Atlantic Council, 1993-1995
- Advisory Board, Early Warning, Minorities and Conflict Resolution Project -Minority Rights
- Group, United States of America, 1994-1997
- Council on Foreign Relations, 1991-present
- Alumnae Achievement Award, Wellesley College, 1995

- Advisory Panel on Housing Rights, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat II), New York, January 1996
- Consultant, The Rockefeller Foundation, 1982-1983

Academic background

- 1975: Columbia University, Master of Philosophy, Political Science
- 1971: Masters of Arts, Political Science
- 1968: Wellesley College, A.B. with Distinction, Political Science (Honors)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

Public member of United States delegation to:

- World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, June 1993
- Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995
- Preparatory Committee, Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), February 1996
- Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 1994-1999

Ms. Felice Gaer Vice-Chairperson Term Period: 2000-2015
Special Interests
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals
General Interests
Access to Justice/Remedy
Issues Affecting Youth
General Prison Conditions (Adult)

Abdoulaye Gaye

Term Period: 2011-2015

Country of Origin: Senegal

Working Languages: French

Current position/function

- Judicial officer
- Prosecutor General of the Court of Cassation



Main professional activities

- March 2006: Public Prosecutor at the Court of Cassation; appointed by order No. 2006/234/PR
- May 2003: Public Prosecutor at the Dakar Court of Appeal; appointed by order No. 2003-266/PR
- August 1993: Public Prosecutor at the Dakar Regional Court; appointed by order No. 93-928
- June 1992: Public Prosecutor at the Dakar Regional Court; appointed by order of 17 Jun; until 1993 on assignment to the Ministry of Justice as Chief of Staff in the Office of the Minister
- 1990-1992: Chief of Staff in the Office of the Minister of Justice
- 1985-1989: Technical Adviser in the Office of the Minister of Justice
- 1984-1985: Senior Deputy Public Prosecutor in Dakar
- 1982-1984: Public Prosecutor in Thiès
- 1979-1982: Public Prosecutor in Diourbel
- 1976-1979: Deputy Public Prosecutor in Dakar

Academic background

- After gaining his baccalaureate, Member Gaye followed legal studies at the Faculty of Law of Cheikh Anta Diop University, and earned a degree in private law
- Professional training at the National College of Public Administration and Legal Service in Dakar

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

N/A

Publications

N/A

Mr. Abdoulaye Gaye Term Period: 2011-2015
Special Interests
Police Crimes
Torture by police and public officials (Albania, Gabon, Mexico, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Guatemala, Kenya, Andorra, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Poland, Uzbekistan, Guinea, Sierra Leone); use of force against targeted communities (Albania); violent suppression of demonstrations and harassment of journalists (Burkina Faso)
Issues Affecting Youth
Ill-treatment minors in juvenile detention (Uruguay); child trafficking (Togo, Burkina Faso)
General Prison Conditions (Adult)
Poor prison conditions and overcrowding (Albania, Gabon, Togo, U.K., Guinea, Uruguay); accommodations for prisoners with mental disabilities (Belgium); reports of abuses by prison guards (Canada, Bolivia)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Asylum requests and effectiveness of process (Norway, Togo, Guatemala, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Montenegro); rights of immigrants who committed crimes (Armenia, Canada, Sierra Leone); ability to appeal deportation order (Greece, Norway, Andorra, Mozambique); extradition of persons on death row (Andorra); diplomatic assurances (Belgium)
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals
Violence against women (Albania, Mexico, Togo, Burkina Faso); protection of women and LGBT individuals in detention (Albania); forced sterilization (Czech Republic); alternatives to detention for expecting and recent mothers (Uruguay)
Definition of Torture
Incorporating the full definition of torture from the Convention into domestic law (Andorra, Burkina Faso, Uzbekistan, Holy See, Lithuania)
Oversight Mechanisms
National human rights bodies (Albania, Gabon, Mexico, Togo, Japan, Uruguay); ratification of OPCAT (Gabon)
Access to Justice/Remedy
Compensation and remedy for torture victims (Albania, Armenia, Czech Republic, Mexico, Poland); length of preventive and pretrial detention (Albania, Rwanda, Gabon, Mexico, Togo, Estonia, Guinea); statute of limitations on acts of torture (Czech Republic); basic rights of detainees, including right to being informed of reason for arrest, right to counsel, right to fair trial (Albania, Canada, Greece, Gabon, Estonia, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Poland, Guinea, Lithuania, Montenegro, Thailand, Uruguay); independence of the judiciary (Albania, Armenia, Qatar, Estonia, Mozambique, Uruguay); preventing information acquired from torture to be used as evidence (Albania, Rwanda, Mexico, Montenegro); protection when reporting acts of torture (Greece, Gabon, Togo, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique); alternative measures to detention (Gabon, U.K., Uruguay)

Education and Training of Convention
Training and professional development of judicial staff, military, medical personnel, public officials, and police (Albania, Canada, Mexico, Togo, Mozambique, Lithuania, Uruguay)
Right to Rehabilitation for Survivors of Torture
Services for victims of psychological and physical torture (Armenia, Mexico, Uruguay)
Criminalization of Torture
Criminalization of torture so that it is punishable by specific penalties (Gabon, Russian Federation, Mozambique, Guinea)
General Interests
Extraterritoriality
Treatment of persons detained abroad (U.K.)
Death Penalty
Abolition of the death penalty (Andorra, Belgium)

Claudio Grossman

Chairperson

Not part of U.S. Review

Term Period: 2004-2015

Country of Origin: Chile

Working Languages: Spanish, English

Current position/function

Dean, American University Washington College of Law,
Washington, D.C., U.S.A



Main professional activities

- Consultant: The World Bank
- ILANUD
- The Federation of International Civil Servants Association
- The United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs
- 2002: Executive Board Member, Inter-American Institute on Human Rights, elected August
- 1993-2001: Member, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States
- Delegate
- Legal Advisor
- 1990-present: Mission participant
- 1989-present: Council member
- 1993-1995: General Rapporteur
- 1987: Rapporteur UNDP - First Conference on Consumer Protection for Latin America and the Caribbean held in Uruguay
- 1985-1993: Board member, International Human Rights Law Group

Academic background

- University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands: Doctor of the Science of Law, August 1980
- University of Chile, Law School, Santiago, Chile: Licenciado en Ciencias Juridicas y Sociales, Summa cum laude, March 1971,

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned
N/A

Publications

N/A

Mr. Claudio Grossman Chairperson Term Period: 2004-2015

General Interests

Access to Justice/Remedy
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Issues Affecting Youth

General Prison Conditions (Adult)

Definition of Torture

Solitary Confinement

Death Penalty

Jens Modvig*

U.S. Country Rapporteur for CAT Review



Term Period: 2013-2017

Country of Origin: Denmark

Working Languages: English, Spanish, Danish

Current position/function

- Chief Medical Officer, DIGNITY – Danish Institute against Torture, and Clinical Associate
- Professor, University of Copenhagen

Main professional activities

- 2009: Clinical Associate Professor in Social Medicine and Rehabilitation, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Copenhagen
- 2008: Chief Medical Officer, Inter. Dept. DIGNITY – Danish Institute against Torture
- 2007-2008: Director (D2), United Nations Office in Belgrade (UNOB), Serbia
- 2004-2007: Deputy Head of Mission, OSCE, Mission in Kosovo, Pristina, Kosovo and D/DSRSG for Pillar III in UNMIK
- 2000-2004: Secretary General, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
- 1995-1999: Assistant and Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen
- 1994-1999: Medical consultant (part-time), International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims

Academic background

- 1991: PhD in Public Health Epidemiology, University of Copenhagen
- 1988: Medical Doctor, University of Copenhagen
- 1976: Social Worker University Diploma, University of Roskilde
- 1974: Basic Diploma in Social Sciences, University of Roskilde

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

- 2010: Member of the Independent Forensic Expert Group organised by the IRCT
- 2009: Member of the Advisory Board of Torture – Journal on Rehabilitation of Torture Victims and Prevention of Torture
- 2009: Participant in the build-up and implementation of the Danish National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under OPCAT as coordinator of the health professional NPM component. Carried out around 35 NPM monitoring visits to prisons and pre-trial detentions in Denmark and abroad

- 1994: Carried out around 165 short-term missions to 45 countries to support projects for rehabilitation of torture victims, for prevention of torture or to do advocacy or fundraising for the fight against torture
- 1991-2001: Medical consultant for the Social Welfare Centre in Norrebro, City of Copenhagen, evaluating many cases of tortured refugees

Publications

- Modvig J. Violence, torture and sexual abuse in prisons. In: Health in Prisons. WHO Europe region, 2013 (in press)
- Wang SJ, Rushiti F, Sejdiu X, Pacolli S, Gashi B, Salihu F, Modvig J. Survivors of war in northern Kosovo (III): The role of anger and hatred in pain and PTSD and their interactive effects on career outcome, quality of sleep and suicide ideation. *Confl Health*. 2012 Jul 30;6(1):4
- Modvig J. Torture and Refugees. In: Uma A Segal and Doreen Elliott (eds.) *Refugees Worldwide Volume 3: Mental Health* p. 33–48. Praeger 2012
- International Forensic Expert Group. Statement on hooding. Torture. 2011;21(3):186-9
- Wang SJ, Pacolli S, Rushiti F, Rexhaj B, Modvig J. Survivors of war in the Northern Kosovo (II): baseline clinical and functional assessment and lasting effects on the health of a vulnerable population. *Confl. Health*. 2010 Sep 21; 4:16

Mr. Jens Modvig Term Period: 2013-2017
Special Interests
Right to Rehabilitation for Survivors of Torture
Reintegration services for victims of domestic violence and trafficking (Cyprus); need for doctors providing rehabilitation services to detainees who have been tortured (Cyprus, Thailand, Uruguay)
General Prison Conditions (Adult)
Length of prison sentences (Cyprus); ill-treatment of prisoners (Cyprus); prison overcrowding (Guinea)
General Interests
Solitary Confinement
Abolition of solitary confinement (Sierra Leone)
Police Crimes
Ill-treatment and torture committed by police (Cyprus, Sierra Leone)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Rights of asylum-seekers and migrants (Cyprus)
Issue Affecting Youth
Ill-treatment of minors in prison (Sierra Leone)

Sapana Pradhan-Malla

Term Period: 2013-2017

Country of Origin: Nepal

Working Languages: Nepali, Hindi, English



Current position/function

- Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Nepal
- 2014-2016: Advisor, Gender and Rights Advisory Panel, Reproductive Health and Right Unit, WHO
- 2012-2014: General Secretary, SAARC Law, Nepal Chapter and Member Regional Council of SAARC LAW
- 2010-present: Advisor, Committee on Violence against Women and Women Empowerment, Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

Main professional activities

- Jan-Apr 2013: Member, High Level Committee of Government to Monitor the Violence against Women
- 2008-2012: Former Member of Constituent Assembly (CA and Parliament) Nepal
 1. Played leading role in the Parliament to adopt the Domestic Violence (Control) Act 2008; and in finalizing Human Right Commission Law, and Truth and Reconciliation Bill and Disappearance Commission Bill; Worked as a Lawyer in many human rights cases including violence and torture and almost all of the leading cases related to gender discrimination in Nepal.

Academic background

- Mason Fellow, Mid-career MPA in Public Policy and Leadership, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, USA (Commencement 29, May 2014)
- Masters Degree in Comparative Law (MCL), Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, India
- Bachelors Degree in Law, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

- 2004: Coordinated preparation of NGO Shadow Report to CEDAW Committee vis-à-vis the Initial Report of Nepal under the CEDAW in 1999 and the Second and Third Periodic Reports in
- 2002: Undertook consultancy mission through OHCHR to provide technical inputs to the Government of Cambodia for preparation of its Report under the CEDAW
- 1998-1999: Participated in negotiation and drafting of OP to CEDAW through IWRAW AP

Publications

- Study on Protection of Rights of Marginalized group by Constituent Assembly, 2013
- Review of Laws to be amended on Violence Against Women, 2011
- Rule of Law and Policing in Nepal: A collection of Essays, Safer World, September 2007, page 28-33
- Co-author in Abortion in Nepal: Women in Prison, CRLP 2002
- Author, Chapters (Access to Justice and Personal Security and Minimizing Corruption and Government Accountability), Promoting Pro-Poor Governance, DIFID, 2000

George Tugushi

Term Period: 2011-2015

Country of Origin: Georgia

Working Languages: Georgian, English, Russian

Current position/function

- Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia, elected by the Parliament of Georgia for 5-year-term
- Office of the Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia – since 17 September 2009



Main professional activities

- Member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), Council of Europe (Since 2005)
- Re-elected for the second term on 25 March 2009
- Member of the Criminal Justice Reform Inter-Agency Coordinating Council, Tbilisi, Georgia (Since 2008)
- Member of the Interagency Coordination Council working on the issues of the prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, established by the President of Georgia (Since 2007)
- Trainer on the Law of international organizations and Human Rights Law, Training Centre of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Tbilisi (Since 2006)
- Project coordinator, Deputy Team Leader/Key Expert (2008–2009)
- Human Dynamics KG, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and Greek Ombudsman's joint project: Support to the Public Defender's Office, funded by the European Commission
- Human Rights Officer, OSCE Mission to Georgia (2004–2008)
- Head of the International Relations Division, Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia (2004)
- National Project Legal Professional, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Tbilisi, Georgia (2003)
- Member of the Self-Governance Commission, OSGF – Open Society Foundation, Tbilisi, Georgia (2003 March)
- Assistant Professor, Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA) Tbilisi, Georgia (2002)
- Senior Legal Expert, Urban Institute/USAID, Tbilisi, Georgia (2000–2002)
- Leading Specialist on Legal Issues, Parliament of Georgia (2000–2001)
- National Expert, Project on the development of Trans-border Cooperation Policies in Georgia, TACIS, Tbilisi, Georgia (2000–2001)

Academic background

- Doctoral Candidate with a doctoral thesis on the “Status of the crime of torture in international law”, Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Law (2010–present)
- LL.M. – International Human Rights Law, University of Lund, Faculty of Law, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Sweden (2003–2004)
- MPA – Master in Public Administration, Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA), Tbilisi, Georgia (2000–2001)
- Diploma in International Law, Faculty of International Law and Relations Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia (1994–1999)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

- Lecturer on the law of international organizations, Caucasus University, Caucasus School of Law (CSL), Tbilisi, Georgia (Since 2008)
- Chairman of the Directors’ Board of the Association of Local Self-Government Independent Experts of Georgia (Since 2002)
- Trainer in monitoring of the psychiatric hospitals and social care homes, Council of Europe, Program funded by the Danish Government, Promoting culture of human Rights (2009)
- Trainer for the representatives of the Georgian media on human rights issues and the media, Office of the UN High Commissioner on human rights (Tbilisi, 2008)
- Trainer for the staff of the Public Defenders’ (Ombudsman) Office on international monitoring practices of the places for the deprivation of liberty, UNDP (Tbilisi, 2008)
- Vice-President of the International Students Committee of the Faculty of Law of the University of Lund (2003)

List of most recent publications in the field

- Principle of Non-Refoulement – Rule of Customary International Law, Lund University Press 2004
- Principle of Non-Refoulement in International human Rights Law, Tbilisi State University Journal of International Law 2008
- Le CPT: Coopération et Confidentialité, Courrier de l’ACAT 296–297 Juin–Juillet 2009
- Freedom of expression and issues related to the criminalization of Blasphemy, International Human Rights Standards and Georgia 2011

Mr. George Tugushi Term Period: 2011-2015
Special Interests
Access to Justice/Remedy
Compensation and remedy for torture victims (Bolivia, Japan, Holy See, Montenegro); preventing information acquired from torture to be used as evidence (Tajikistan, U.K.); preventive and pretrial detention (Tajikistan, Estonia, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Uzbekistan, Cyprus, Lithuania, Uruguay); basic rights of detainees, including right to being informed of reason for arrest, right to counsel, right to fair trial (Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Kenya, U.K., Kyrgyzstan, Cyprus, Lithuania, Montenegro, Thailand); statute of limitations on acts of torture (Russian Federation, Tajikistan); protection when reporting acts of torture (Sierra Leone, Uruguay)
Police Crimes
Torture and ill-treatment by police and public officials (Bolivia, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Guinea, Montenegro); use of electroshock guns against minors and vulnerable persons (U.K.)
Issues Affecting Youth
Establishment of separate juvenile justice system (Mexico, Togo, Guinea); corporal punishment in schools and homes (Gabon, Lithuania); trafficking of children (Norway, Japan, Lithuania, Montenegro); child labor (Guatemala, Uzbekistan, Sierra Leone); young children imprisoned with their mothers (Kenya); detention of juveniles (U.K., Kyrgyzstan, Uruguay); sexual abuse of children (Holy See)
Immigration Detention and Deportation
Conditions of migrant detention (Greece, Mexico, U.K., Cyprus, Thailand); discrimination against asylum-seekers and refugees (Gabon, Uzbekistan); immigrant and unaccompanied minors (Norway, Japan, Cyprus, Thailand); asylum procedure and refugees (Senegal); diplomatic assurance (Tajikistan); rights of detained immigrants (Japan)
General Prison Conditions (Adult)
Poor prison conditions and overcrowding (Armenia, Gabon, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Togo, Estonia, Japan, Netherlands, U.K., Andorra, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mozambique, Uzbekistan, Cyprus, Guinea, Lithuania, Montenegro, Sierra Leone); privatization of prisons (Netherlands); treatment of foreign nationals in detention (Armenia); accommodations for prisoners with mental disabilities (Peru); reports of abuses by prison guards (Thailand); ill-treatment of prisoners with life sentences (Kyrgyzstan)
Education and Training of Convention
Training and professional development of judicial staff, military, medical personnel, public officials, and police (Japan, Uzbekistan)
Torture and Issues Affecting Women and LGBTQ Individuals
Violence against women (Senegal, Japan); abuses against women in prison (U.K.); women's right to abortion (Holy See); domestic violence (Lithuania, Montenegro); human trafficking (Lithuania, Montenegro)
Definition of Torture

Incorporating the full definition of torture from the Convention into domestic law (Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Lithuania, Montenegro)
Solitary Confinement
Solitary confinement of minors (Tajikistan, Lithuania); prolonged and excessive solitary confinement as a form of punishment constitutes CIDT (Japan, Thailand)
Oversight Mechanisms
National human rights bodies (Armenia); OPCAT (Tajikistan, Togo, Japan, Kenya, Latvia)
General Interests
Criminalization of Torture
Penalizing torture (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan)
National Security
Detention and torture of terrorism suspects (Lithuania)
Extraterritoriality
Treatment of persons detained abroad (U.K.)

Zhang Kening

Term Period: 2013-2017

Country of Origin: China

Working languages: Chinese, English



Current position/function:

- Legal Advisor, Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China
- Adjunct Professor, Law School, Peking University, Beijing, China
- Member of Research, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Peking University, Beijing, China
- Adjunct Professor, Law School, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China
- Adjunct Professor, Law School, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China
- Professor of Law, South China Sea Institute, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China

Main professional activities

- 1977-1979: Lecturer, English Department, Beijing International Studies University
- 1982-1984: Editor, International Department, *People's Daily*, China
- 1987-1993: Deputy Director and Director, Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China
- 1993-1997: First Secretary, Counsellor and Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations
- 1997-2013: Legal Officer, Senior Legal Officer, Principal Legal Officer and Interim Director General of the International Seabed Authority; Secretary to the Assembly, the Council and the Credentials Committee
- 2013-Present: Legal Advisor, Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China

Academic background

- 1984-1987: Obtained degree of Juridical Science Doctor (JSD) in 1987; Doctorate Candidate for International Law, Law School, Peking University
- Sep 1986-Nov 1986: Visiting Lecturer on International Environmental Law, Law Faculty, University of British Columbia, Canada
- Nov 1986- Apr 1987: Visiting Scholar, Law School, New York University, the U.S.A.
- 1980-1982: Visiting Scholar, Law Faculty, Melbourne University, Australia
- 1979-1982: Obtained LL.M in 1982; School of Post Graduate, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Post Graduate of Journalism
- 1973-1977: English Department, Beijing International Studies University

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- 1987-1993: Participated in the negotiations on the conclusion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); Conducted affairs concerning China's ratification of CRC; Drafted China's initial report of the Convention Against Torture (CAT) and participated in consideration on the report; Attended meetings of the Commission on Human Rights.
- 1987-1993: Participated in China's negotiations on bilateral legal assistance agreements in criminal matters with Turkey, Romania, Ukraine, Mongolia and Bulgaria.
- 1990: Headed Central Government fact-finding team to investigate treatment of Tibetan offenders jailed in Lasa Penitentiary, Tibet, to meet the request of the Committee against Torture to submit supplementary report.
- 1990: Attended the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in Havana, Cuba, as legal advisor of the Chinese delegation.
- 1993-1997: Attended meetings and negotiations on various legal subjects conducted in the Sixth Committee (Legal) and the Third Committee (Human Rights) of General Assembly of the United Nations; As Legal Advisor to the Permanent Mission of China to the UN, participated in the negotiations among Legal Advisors to the Permanent Missions to the UN of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council on the establishment of the criminal tribunals of the Former Yugoslav Tribunal and the Rwanda Tribunal; Attended international symposiums on the establishment of the criminal tribunals and punishment of international crimes including genocide and torture, and International Humanitarian Laws including the four Geneva Conventions; Participated in various workshops and training courses conducted by Centre for International Studies of New York University; Lectured at Law School of Peking University on the work of the Committee Against Torture and its consideration of China's reports.

List of most recent publications in the field

- Editor, Board of Editors, *Chinese Journal of International Law*, English version, Oxford University Press

Mr. Zhang Kening Term Period: 2013-2017	
Special Interests	
Police Crimes	
Investigative mechanisms against the police (Cyprus, Lithuania); threats and violence against journalists (Montenegro)	
General Interests	
Access to Justice/Remedy	
Independence of the judiciary (Sierra Leone); ability to bring action to court under State's criminal procedure (Thailand)	