

CAT Shadow Report Submission Template

The following is a suggested template for NGO shadow reports to the Committee on the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Committee). This submission should be a short summary of an issue that you recommend the Committee address during its review of the U.S. Government's compliance with the CAT in November 2014.

In the interest of making the submission accessible to Committee members, we recommend that Organization or individual reports are a maximum of 5 pages. While multiple organization reports are a recommended maximum of 10 pages. These page limits are not inclusive of title page or foot/end notes.

The submission should include links to existing websites, reports, and other resources that further elaborate on the topic. The language used should be concise. This will ensure that the Committee's focus remains on the key issues you intend to highlight. Study the UNCAT, general comments and any reservations/declarations made by your country carefully to understand its treaty obligations. The information in the shadow report should be relevant and based on your findings.

Reports submitted through USHRN are due **September 17, 2014** to cat@ushrnetwork.org.

I. Title/Date

II. Reporting Organization(s)

- *List and briefly describe the organization or coalition of organizations and advocates authoring and/or endorsing this submission, including the geographic scope of the organization(s), focus issues, location and mission. If the coalition is large, include the full list of organizations and individual signatories as a footnote.*

III. Issue Summary

- *Briefly summarize (1-2 paragraphs) the human rights issue your submission addresses. In particular, highlight the following aspects: roles played by federal, state and local government in your issue; legislation that could remedy the human rights situation; relevant data; charts; and stories from victims and survivors.*
- *Collating and submitting reliable and up-to-date statistical and factual data of human rights violations/abuses will substantiate your findings and add credibility to your shadow report.*

IV. Concluding Observations

- *Briefly note any prior recommendations by the Committee related to the issue, as well as – if applicable – the U.S. Government response to those recommendations. The original recommendations of the Committee are available here:
<http://www.ushrnetwork.org/sites/ushrnetwork.org/files/catrecommendations2006.pdf>.*
- *The U.S. Government Response, due within one year of the review (2006), is available here:
http://www.ushrnetwork.org/sites/ushrnetwork.org/files/us_response_to_cat_conclusions_and_observations_2006.pdf.*

V. U.S. Government Report

- *If applicable, briefly summarize how the U.S. Government addressed the issue in its report submitted in August 2013, making note of the paragraphs where these issues are addressed in the report (available at http://www.ushrnetwork.org/sites/ushrnetwork.org/files/u.s._periodic_report_on_cat.pdf).*

VI. Legal Framework

- *List the relevant article(s) of the CAT that relate to the issue.*

VII. The CAT Committee General Comments & List of Issues

- *Note and link to any General Comments that the Committee has issued on this topic (available at http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx?Lang=en&TreatyID=1&DocTypeID=18&DocTypeID=25&DocTypeCategoryID=1)*
- *Note and link to the List of Issues Submitted by the Committee (available at <http://www.ushrnetwork.org/sites/default/files/catlistofissues2010.pdf>)*

VIII. Other UN Body Recommendations

- *If applicable, include links to the views, concluding observations, and/or final recommendations or reports issued by the other treaty bodies, Special Rapporteurs, or other UN mechanisms (including the UPR) that have examined the issue.*

IX. Recommended Questions

- *List, in order of priority, 2-3 questions you recommend the Committee ask the U.S. Government during the review.*

X. Suggested Recommendations

- *List, in order of priority, 2-3 recommendations you suggest the Committee provide to the U.S. Government upon its review. Recommendations may include changes to law, policy, or practice at the local, state, or federal level.*