



UNITED NATIONS  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

# The UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre For South-West Asia and the Arab Region in Doha, Qatar



## Newsletter- April to June, 2025

Dear Valued Partners,

It is my pleasure to invite you to explore our newsletter, which offers an overview of the Centre's key activities and initiatives undertaken during this quarter. The diverse engagements featured herein reflect our continued commitment to working with you, our partners, in the promotion of human rights in the region. From strengthening the capacities of national institutions, legal professionals and law enforcement officials to empowering young human rights defenders and advancing human rights education, it is through these strategic partnerships, capacity building initiatives and knowledge sharing efforts that we aim to continue delivering impactful work together.

Sincerely,  
Abeer Al-Khraisha, Head of the Centre



# Human Rights Training Portfolio



## Training on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the application of human rights-based approach- April 15 - 17, Egypt

The Centre supported OHCHR's MENA Section in delivering a training on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the application of human rights-based approach for Egypt as part of developing a national strategy on the rights of persons with disabilities. The training aimed to strengthen participants' understanding of key CRPD principles, including the human rights model of disability, the core elements of a human rights-based approach, and the pillars of disability-inclusive policymaking. It focused on supporting the effective national implementation of the CRPD through the development of a multi-year national strategy and action plan. The training brought together 28 participants representing the National Council for Persons with Disabilities, the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights, and local NGOs. [Read more](#)



## Training for Judges and Prosecutors – April 28,29, Mauritania

The Centre supported a two-day training for the benefit of Mauritanian judges, prosecutors, and representatives of the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). The training was jointly organized by the Arab Network for National Human Rights Institutions and Mauritania's NHRI. The Centre supported the training as part of its new flagship training programme for legal professionals. The training was inaugurated in the presence of the Minister of Justice of Mauritania, the President of the Supreme Court and the president of the National Human Right Institution, underlining the significance of the training to empower the national capacity. The main objective of the training was to strengthen participants' understanding of international human rights standards in the administration of justice, international human rights law and the role of legal professionals. 40 participants attended the training, including judges, prosecutors, and NHRI representatives.

## Young Human Rights Defender Online Program, Phase One- April 28 – 30

The Centre launched the first phase of the regional training programme on "The Role of Young Human Rights Defenders in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights" designed to strengthen the capacities of young human rights defenders to engage with international human rights mechanisms, monitoring, and advocacy. The first phase aimed to enhance the ability of young human rights defenders in the Arab region to engage with United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms. This phase will be followed by two additional phases that focus on developing participants' skills in monitoring and documenting human rights violations, and to build young human rights defenders' capacity to develop advocacy campaign strategies and forge alliances at the regional level. 41 young human rights defenders from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen attended the training. [Read more](#)

برنامج تدريبي إقليمي لفائدة المدافعين/ات الشباب عن حقوق الانسان		
يتكون البرنامج التدريبي من ثلاث مراحل مترابطة كما هو موضح أدناه:		
التاريخ	عنوان المرحلة	المراحل
28 - 29 - 30 أبريل / نيسان	دورة تدريبية لمدة 3 أيام حول دور المدافعين/ات الشباب في التفاعل مع الآليات الدولية لحقوق الانسان	المرحلة الاولى
نهاية يونيو/حزيران	دورة تدريبية لمدة يومين حول مبادئ رصد وتوثيق انتهاكات حقوق الانسان	المرحلة الثانية
نهاية يوليو/تموز	دورة تدريبية لمدة يومين حول الماصرة في مجال حقوق الانسان	المرحلة الثالثة



## Training on "Human Rights in the Context of Law Enforcement"- May 11 – 13, Qatar

The Centre, in cooperation with the Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Interior of Qatar, organized a three-day training course for the benefit of law enforcement officers titled "Human Rights in the Context of Law Enforcement". The training aimed to strengthen officers' understanding of the law enforcement international standards, relevant human rights mechanisms, the Nelson Mandela Rules, protection of vulnerable detainees, and the use of force and firearms by law enforcement. 25 Qatari law enforcement officers participated in the training. [Read more](#)



## Human Rights in the Digital Space and Data Protection in the Framework of Criminal Justice –May 14, Qatar

The Centre supported the UNODC Regional Centre for Combating Cybercrime in Doha by delivering a session on "Human Rights in the Digital Space and Data Protection in the Framework of Criminal Justice." This session was part of a 3-day training course organized by UNODC on "Prevention and National Cooperation for Investigating International Cybercrime." The course focused on practical approaches to preventing and combating cybercrime while strengthening international cooperation. 11 participants attended, representing members from the Armenia judiciary bodies. [Read more](#)



## Training on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting – June 22 – 26, Egypt

As part of OHCHR's Country Programme for Egypt, the MENA Section, in partnership with the Centre, conducted a training on human rights monitoring and reporting for members of the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) in Egypt. 23 participants represented various units and committees within the Council. The training strengthened their capacities in monitoring human rights in line with international standards, OHCHR methodologies and best practices. [Read more](#)

# Human Rights Education Portfolio



## Launch of second edition of Youth Film Competition at the event "Human Rights Films and Creation of Change"- May 15, Qatar

The Centre, in partnership with AlJazeera Centre for Public Liberties and Human Rights, officially launched the Second Edition of the Regional Youth Film Competition "Human Rights Through The Lens Of Youth" at an event held at the Qatar National Library. The Centre screened the winning film from the first edition held last year and participated in one of the three panels centered around youth human rights. The event was broadcast live on AlJazeera digital channels (Jazeera Mubasher- 21 million subscribers) shedding visibility on this initiative on a regional scale. Participants of the second edition also received awareness sessions delivered online by the Centre and AlJazeera on youth rights as well as technical advice on producing films on human rights issues. This activity is implemented as part of the Human Rights Education and Knowledge Management portfolios.



## Call for Registration - Regional summer course for youth from Arab countries, third edition, May 8

In cooperation with the Institute of Political Science at Saint Joseph University in Lebanon, the Global Campus (Arab Region) and the Norwegian Institute for Human Rights, the Center launched a call for youth from Arab countries to register for the Regional Summer Course "Introduction to the International Human Rights System" 3rd Edition, which will be held in Beirut, Lebanon from July 21 to 25, 2025 on the campus of Saint Joseph University. Target group: 20– 28 year old male and female students, lawyers, human rights researchers, human rights activists, human rights defenders or those working in civil society organizations and interested in the field of human rights with at least two years of experience in the field. [Read more](#)

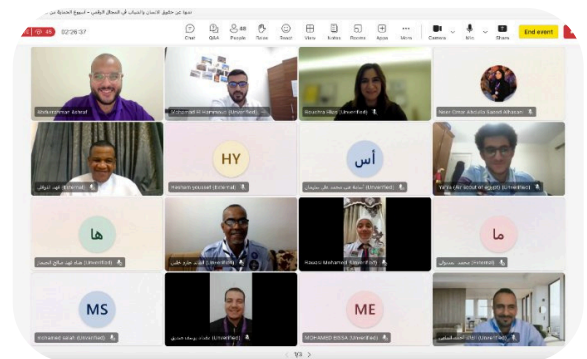


## Developing a Guide on Human Rights Education activities at school level- Second Online Consultation – May 8, Online

The Centre, in collaboration with the Arab Network of National Human Rights Institutions, held the second virtual consultation with representatives from ministries of education and national human rights institutions across various Arab countries. The consultation focused on reviewing the preliminary outline of the manual guide in terms of structure and content and discussing key suggestions and comments submitted by the participating entities. 21 participants from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, and Qatar attended the consultation. [Read more](#)

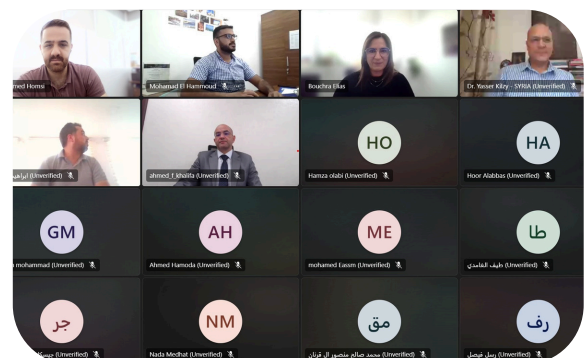
## Regional session: "Human Rights in the Digital Space" – May 14 and 17, Online

The Centre delivered a regional online session titled "Human Rights in the Digital Space" as part of the "Safe from Harm Week 2025", organized by the World Organization of the Scout Movement – Arab Region. The session aimed to strengthen youths understanding of their digital rights and provide practical tools to protect themselves against online harassment, hacking, and data breaches. As a continuation of this support during the Safe from Harm Week 2025, on 17 May, the Centre took part in the public forum "Emerging Trends in Protection and Children's Needs," presenting key principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, international protection standards, regional challenges such as child exploitation. [Read more](#)



## Regional Arab Moot Court Competition of Human Rights (awareness sessions)- June 24,26 and 30, Online

The Centre launched the first edition of its Regional Arab Moot Court Competition of Human Rights. The competition opened with a three-day series of online training sessions, designed to introduce participating university students to international human rights standards and mechanisms of international human rights law. This moot court competition aims to enhance university students' understanding of human rights principles, sources, treaties and engagement with international human rights mechanisms. The Arabic Moot Court offers a practical, interactive platform to develop legal research, analysis, and advocacy skills, encourage dialogue on current human rights issues, and build a regional network of students committed to promoting human rights and the rule of law. The awareness sessions brought together 185 law students from 48 universities across 13 Arab countries namely: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen. [Read more](#)





# Engagement in Other Activities



## Briefing and Simulation sessions: "Review of Periodic Reports before the Committee on the Rights of the Child" – April 23 and May 12, Qatar

The Centre, in cooperation with the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, organized two briefing and simulation session on the "Review of Periodic Reports before the Committee on the Rights of the Child". The aim of the sessions, which was held at the Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was to enhance the capacity of the Qatari delegation tasked with presenting the country's fifth and sixth periodic reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child at its upcoming 99th session and to raise its competence on how to present the report and the interactive dialog with the Committee. The session was attended by 38 representatives from relevant Qatari ministries and institutions, including foreign affairs, interior, justice, health, labor, education, social development, family, and public prosecution as well as other members of the delegation. [Read more](#)



## Training on Combating Human Trafficking – May 18, Qatar

The Centre contributed to a training course on "Combating Human Trafficking," organized by Qatar's National Human Rights Committee through highlighting the role of OHCHR in combating human trafficking and emphasizing the importance of adopting a human rights-based approach in combatting trafficking and its associated violations. In addition, the Centre presented key UN instruments, protection mechanisms, and global initiatives coordinated by OHCHR in the scope of combating human trafficking. The training gathered 50 participants from various national entities and ministries. [Read more](#)



## Regional webinar: "The Fundamental Principles of Press Freedom and the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Journalism and Media Work." – May 26, Online

In celebration of World Press Freedom Day, the Centre, in collaboration with the UNESCO regional office for the Gulf States and Yemen, organized an online regional webinar aimed to reaffirm international standards on freedom of expression, underscore the importance of press freedom, and raise awareness about the growing risks faced by journalists, and address the impact of AI on journalistic work and media professionals. 53 participants (journalists, media professionals, and human rights activists) joined from Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen. [Read more](#)



## Regional webinar "Protecting Children Victims of Aggression" – June 23

The Centre, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, organized a regional marking the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression observed annually on June 4th. The webinar addressed key issues related to the protection of children from the impacts of aggression and grave violations of their rights. [Read more](#)



# Knowledge Management and Documentation Portfolio

The Centre's Knowledge Management and Documentation Unit produces knowledge management products on a series of Human Rights topics and utilizing various formats for internal use by OHCHR and for the public.



Infographic on the Right to Health  
([click to view](#))

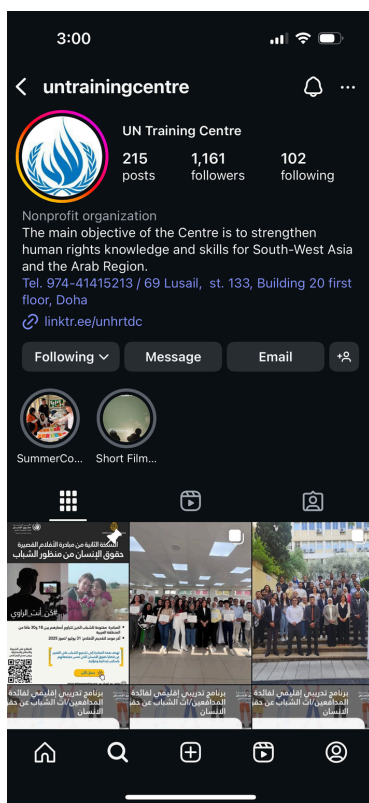


FAQ on the Right to Health  
([click to view](#))



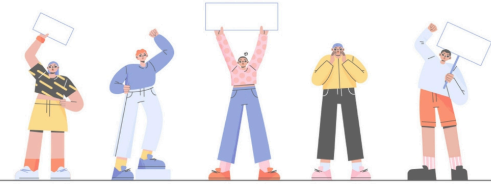
Video on the Right to Health  
([click to view](#))

Join the Centre's Digital Platforms to access regular updates and calls for registration to our activities as well as to view all our knowledge management products to date





# Hear from our partners!



Since the launch of the first phase of the Regional Training Programme on 28 April 2025 with the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre, I have been benefiting from rich content and inspiring discussions on international human rights mechanisms.

This experience is enhancing my capacity as a human rights defender to engage with the international system, and I look forward to further learning and growth in the upcoming phases of the training programme.

**Lana / Palestine – 24 years old**

Participant in the First Phase of the Regional Training Programme for Young Human Rights Defenders



Since joining the first phase of the Regional Training Programme with the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre, the experience has been a significant turning point in my journey as a women's rights defender. The training has deepened my understanding of international human rights mechanisms and opened new horizons for strategic thinking on how to make effective impact within the international system.

Engaging in discussions with participants from various countries and diverse backgrounds has strengthened my belief that change is possible when it is rooted in knowledge and collaboration. I aspire to continue learning, expand the reach of my initiative, and make use of the tools I have gained to advocate for women's issues within the international human rights framework.

**Amira El Shazly/ Egypt – 24 years old**

Participant in the First Phase of the Regional Training Programme for Young Human Rights Defenders



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