



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- January to March, 2025

Dear Valued Partners,

The first quarter of 2025 has set the tone for the year to our continuing partnerships and work with governments, national human rights institutions, universities, human rights defenders, and civil society organizations in implementing human rights training, education, knowledge management and documentation activities in the region.

We invite you to explore the activities conducted so far and look forward to sharing with you more of our planned activities over the coming months.

Sincerely,
Abeer Al-Khraisha, Head of the Centre

Human Rights Training Portfolio



Human Rights in the Digital Space and Data Protection in the Framework of Criminal Justice – January 19 – 23, Doha

The UNODC Regional Centre for Combatting Cybercrime in Doha organized a 5 day training course on "Prevention and National Cooperation for Investigating International Cybercrime" for the benefit of 12 participants from Yemen representing Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs and Justice. The Centre supported UNODC with a session on "Human Rights in the Digital Space and Data Protection in the Framework of Criminal Justice". The training course integrated the theoretical and practical aspects with more focus on the practical elements of preventing and combating cybercrime.



Migration and Human Rights – January 26, Doha

The Centre contributed to organizing a one day workshop on "Migration and Human Rights" in collaboration with International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) at the UN House in Qatar. The workshop aimed to familiarize participants with human rights-based approaches to migration, emphasizing the critical role of international human rights law in safeguarding migrants and international conventions and instruments pertaining to migrants' rights. The workshop was attended by 23 participants from Qatar, representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, the National Human Rights Commission, and the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking.



Engaging with United Nations Human Rights Mechanism with the focus on Complaint Mechanisms – February 11-12, Online

The Centre, in partnership with the Human Rights Office at United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), and Oma Organization for Human Rights, organized a two-day online training to enhance the capacity of 17 Iraqi human rights defenders to effectively interact with the international human rights mechanisms. The training provided guidance for effective engagement with special procedures enabling the participants to report on human rights violations to the international human right mechanisms.



Training for Egyptian Journalists – February 18 – 20, Cairo

The OHCHR Egypt Desk/MENA Section, in partnership with the Centre and the National Council for Human Rights delivered a three day training to 22 Egyptian journalists on the human rights-based approach to media and journalistic work. The training enhanced the participants' ability to report on their work particularly regarding Egypt's obligations; and strengthened their understanding of national and international guarantees for the protection and safety of journalists.



Economic Social and Cultural Rights- March 10 – 12, Online

The Centre organized a three-day online regional training course on "Promoting and Protecting Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights," for the benefit of civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and other relevant stakeholders in the Arab region. The objective of the training was to strengthen their capacity to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights in their countries. 42 participants from Algeria, Comoros, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen attended the training.

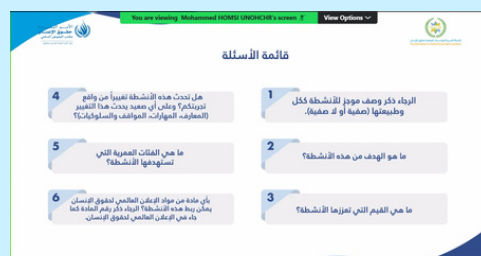


Human Rights Education Portfolio



Webinar on International Women's Day- March 17, Online

The Centre organized a webinar addressed to the youth in the Arab region, titled "Women's Participation in the Economic Sector in the Arab Region." The webinar shed light on the major challenges hindering women's economic empowerment in the Arab region and showcased best practices and successful experiences from a human rights perspective. Speakers included OHCHR Regional Gender Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa and manager of the Ruwwad Al-Tanmeya-Lebanon to review the current state of women's involvement in the economic sector and to highlight key examples of successful youth-led initiatives by young women that promote economic participation. 48 participants from Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia attended the webinar.



Developing a Guide on Human Rights Education activities at school level -March 20, Online

The Centre, in collaboration with the Arab Network for National Human Rights Institutions, organized an online consultation roundtable bringing together representatives from Ministries of Education and National Human Rights Institutions across the Arab region. The consultation aimed to familiarize participants with the objectives of developing a guide on "Best Practices and Experiences in the Arab Region in the Field of Human Rights Education in Primary and Secondary Schools." During the discussion, the results and the analysis of the survey submitted by participating entities ahead of the meeting were presented, followed by the development of a future action plan to foster cooperation in advancing human rights education at primary and secondary school within the participating Arab countries. 32 representatives from Ministries of Education and national human rights institutions in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia participated in the consultation.

Knowledge Management and Documentation Portfolio

The Centre's Knowledge Management and Documentation Unit produces monthly knowledge management products on a series of Human Rights topics and utilizing various formats for internal use by OHCHR and for the public. The Unit also creates campaigns on Human Rights Issues and provides Arabic Publications for the region.



Infographic on the Right to Education

Video on the Right to Education

FAQ on the Right to Education



FAQ on the Right to an Adequate Standard of Living

Infographic on the Right to an Adequate Standard of Living

FAQ on the Right to Water



Video on the Right to Adequate Housing



Infographic on the Right to Water



March 21 Campaign- Infographic on Combatting Racial Discrimination



March 10 Campaign- International Day of Women Judges

Latest Arabic Publication Istanbul Protocol



Film Competition



Film Competition Second Edition- March 20

On March 11 the Centre, in collaboration with the OHCHR Dynamic Knowledge Team in Geneva, hosted a screening of 6 short films by young filmmakers from Palestine, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen as part of the first edition of the film competition "Human Rights Through the Lens of Youth". On March 20, the Centre, in collaboration with Al Jazeera Public Liberties and Human Rights Centre, launched a call for applications for the second edition of the film competition. 110 applications were received from youth from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. The young filmmakers will be attending awareness sessions on youth human rights and filmmaking considerations around human rights issues. The sessions will be delivered by the Centre and Al Jazeera on May 7, after which they will work on their films.

Participation in External Events

Arab Human Rights Day- March 17, Doha

On the occasion of Arab Human Rights Day (March 16), the Centre in partnership with the National Human Rights Committee of the State of Qatar, UNDP and WHO, organized a regional seminar titled "The Right to Food: Threats and Protection Opportunities." The Centre presented a working paper on international standards related to the right to food. 40 participants engaged in discussions addressing key challenges to achieving food security and explored strategies to protect the most vulnerable groups. The seminar concluded with a statement and a set of recommendations calling for enhanced regional and international cooperation.

