

Immediate advocacy			Mid-term advocacy			Long-term advocacy			
Treaty bodies	Individual complaints of the treaty bodies	Applicability	Individual complaints can be used to address cases of violations of human rights of individuals or groups of individuals <u>only for States which have ratified the relevant treaty and accepted its complaints procedure.</u>	Reporting to the treaty bodies	Applicability	The reporting process can address protection challenges in States which have ratified a relevant treaty and are currently scheduled for an upcoming review by the respective treaty body.	Follow-up on past treaty body reviews, preparations for future reporting, and providing thematic inputs.	Applicability	Action can be taken to follow up on existing recommendations and prepare for future reporting processes if a State has ratified a relevant treaty but is not currently scheduled for review. Thematic inputs can be provided unilaterally, or in response to calls for input by treaty bodies.
		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Treaty bodies can request interim measures in urgent cases, pending a decision; States have an obligation to give effect to decisions.</p> <p>Limitations: Complainant must have exhausted domestic remedies; committees may not consider a case that is already before another international or regional mechanism; complaint must relate directly to a human rights issue within the scope of the treaty; the process may take to 2-4 years, on average, to reach a final decision.</p> <p>More info: see OHCHR's page on the Complaints Procedure of the human rights treaty bodies</p>		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Provides a confidential channel for UN agencies to raise sensitive issues; Provides a public but international platform for civil society submissions to raise human rights issues; Committees have a high-level of expertise; States are expected to take steps to implement the Committees' recommendations; Committees follow-up on their past recommendations.</p> <p>Limitations: Not all States comply with their reporting obligations or actively engage in the review process; the review process may have a lower public profile than UPR sessions; concluding observations are not legally binding.</p> <p>More info: see the UN and civil society chapters of OHCHR's Training Package on Reporting</p>		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Can draw on past recommendations and advocate for implementation, without the need for new reports/submissions; allows for engagement to be planned in greater detail so as to maximize impact; may contribute to the development of how human rights standards are applicable to concerned populations.</p> <p>Limitations: Past recommendations may be outdated; future reporting processes may be delayed and/or State engagement may not remain consistent; thematic inputs are not guaranteed to impact the development of standards; results may take several years to achieve.</p>
Special procedures	Individual communications of the Special Procedures	Applicability	Can address cases of violations of the human rights of individuals/groups and general patterns of human rights abuses, provided they fall under the mandate of one or more of the special procedures.	Reporting/ engaging with country visits	Applicability	Any State which is expecting a country visit of one or more of the special procedures.	Providing thematic inputs (i) or advocating for country visits (ii)	Applicability	i) Thematic inputs - can be provided unilaterally, or in response to calls for input issued by the mandate holders; ii) Advocating for visits - Any State which has had a mandate holder visit or wishes to encourage a mandate holder to visit in the future.
		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Special procedures can issue urgent appeals to Governments in urgent cases; exhaustion of domestic remedies is not required; complaints may be brought against any State.</p> <p>Limitations: Communications are not legally binding, leaving compliance to State discretion; the human right in question must within the mandate of a special procedure which has the ability to act on individual cases.</p> <p>More info: see OHCHR's page on the SPMH Communications Procedure</p>		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Can be a confidential channel to raise issues; can visit relevant locations in country for first-hand accounts; can meet directly with Government officials at multiple levels as well as UN agencies and civil society; can elicit high visibility and attention to visits and recommendations, particularly in national media.</p> <p>Limitations: Outcomes are not legally binding; mechanisms for follow-up are limited; States may ultimately cancel visits or fail to cooperate sufficiently with country visits.</p>		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: i) May contribute to the development of soft law on a thematic issue affecting displaced and/or stateless persons, or recommendations which may support advocacy at country level; ii) May encourage a State to invite a visit, or a special procedure to prioritize a particular country for a visit.</p> <p>Limitations: Engagement is not guaranteed to result in valuable thematic reports or to lead to country visits; results may take several years to achieve.</p>
Universal Periodic Review				Reporting to the UPR process	Applicability	All UN member states go through the UPR process. The process for providing submissions and other means of engagement typically begins approximately 1 year before a State's session takes place.	Following up on past UPR sessions and preparations for future reporting	Applicability	All UN member states go through the UPR process. Follow-up and advance preparations can take place in any State which has been reviewed in recent years.
					Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Review mechanism with the highest profile. Can be an opportunity to raise protection issues on visible public platform, while also having channels for confidential advocacy directly with States on sensitive issues. States are expected to report on their implementation of supported recommendations in subsequent cycles.</p> <p>Limitations: Outcomes are not legally binding; recommending States may not raise the issues put forward in UN / civil society submissions and reviewed States may chose not to support relevant recommendations.</p> <p>More info: see OHCHR's UN Guide and NGO Tips</p>		Strengths/ Limitations	<p>Strengths: Can draw on past recommendations for implementation, without the need for new reports/submissions, allows for engagement to be planned in greater detail so as to maximize impact; may contribute to the development of how human rights standards are applicable to the concerned population.</p> <p>Limitations: Past recommendations may not be sufficiently focused on displaced or stateless persons. The State may not have supported relevant recommendations and interest in implementation may vary as it may be several years before the State is reviewed again by the UPR.</p>
Other national regional and international mechanisms	Other complaints processes (international/regional/national)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complaints procedures of regional mechanisms or national mechanisms may be more effective/efficient at achieving protections objectives than international mechanisms - Complaints before regional and/or national mechanisms may affect the admissibility of claims to UN mechanism. - Some additional UN mechanisms exist, but are limited in their ability to respond to imminent protection needs (e.g. the Complaints Procedure of the Human Rights Council) 	Other reporting processes (international/regional/national)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - States may have other relevant reporting obligations under international treaties, i.e. International Labour Standards. - Regional and national review processes may be mutually reinforcing with the reporting processes of the UN human rights mechanisms, in certain cases they cover a broader or more expansive range of rights, and/or have greater enforcement authority than international mechanisms. 	Planning for other reporting opportunities or, thematic inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement with other mechanisms at the national, regional or international level may be useful and/or may be mutually reinforcing with UN / civil society engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms. Useful outcomes from other mechanisms may strengthen new inputs to UN mechanisms, and vice-versa. 			