

We pledge to

- Respect, protect and fulfil the rights of women and girls of all abilities and ages, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, and to achieve gender equality and non-discrimination.
- Respect, protect and fulfil freedom of expression and freedom of assembly, as well as media freedom, both online and offline.
- Respect, protect and fulfil the rights of people belonging to minorities, including national, ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities, and the rights of LGBTI persons.
- Respect, protect and fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Continue to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in the activities of United Nations bodies working on issues that affect them.
- Work toward eliminating racism, xenophobia, hate speech and other forms of intolerance.
- Support the work and promote the rights of human rights defenders, placing particular attention on women and indigenous defenders.
- Work actively towards improving accountability and ending impunity for the most serious crimes under international law.
- Support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in order to secure human rights and prosperity in an environmentally sustainable manner.
- Promote and implement the just transition to a climate-smart, carbon-neutral society.
- Respect, protect and fulfil the right to free, inclusive education of the highest attainable quality for all, with a particular focus on women and girls, persons with disabilities and others in vulnerable positions.
- Advance digital development and new technologies for the benefit of all and bridge digital divides.
- Promote and implement measures to advance the responsibility of businesses for respecting human rights.
- Respect, protect and fulfil the rights to safe and clean drinking water and to sanitation so that we can create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

Finland invites you to support our candidacy for the Human Rights Council in 2022–2024

As a member of the Council, Finland will

1. Work to build a world where women and girls of all abilities and ages can fully enjoy their rights.
2. Ensure that new technologies and digitalisation help to enhance equality and human rights for all, both online and offline.
3. Step up joint efforts to identify and address the impacts of climate change on human rights.
4. Support the equal rights of all people to access inclusive, affordable and quality education.



**A Diverse World,
Universal Human Rights**



Ministry for Foreign

Affairs of Finland

For more information on our commitments and pledges, please visit: um.fi/HRC, #FIforHRC



**Finland for the
UN Human Rights Council
2022–2024**

A diverse world, universal human rights

Finland is a strong advocate of promoting and protecting universal human rights. Our foreign and security policy is based on human rights, and we assess the human rights impacts of all of our foreign and security policy actions.

Multilateral cooperation plays a key role in resolving the diverse challenges facing the world today. Finland is a staunch supporter of the multilateral system, and we work continuously to strengthen the role of the United Nations and its human rights institutions. In our view, mainstreaming human rights across the UN is fundamental, as human rights, peace and security, and development are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. Promoting human rights is a cross-cutting priority in the implementation of UN reforms.

The Human Rights Council is a cornerstone of the multilateral system. It is indispensable in promoting and protecting human rights for all, including the most vulnerable. Finland is committed to working in close cooperation with all stakeholders in the Human Rights Council.

Finland would be honoured to serve as a member of the Human Rights Council during the 2022–2024 term.



Universal human rights, at home and around the world

Finland is a democratic society based on the rule of law. Our Constitution provides strong protection for the human dignity, personal integrity and other fundamental rights of every individual.

Equality and inclusion are the guiding principles of Finland's human rights policy. We are committed to working for the elimination of all forms of discrimination both at home and around the world.

Finland applies a human rights-based approach to both its bilateral and multilateral development cooperation.

Close collaboration between the Government, Parliament, business, civil society and academia is an integral element of our society and the Finnish way of life. We believe in open discussion and dialogue between all stakeholders in order to find the best possible solutions to questions of common concern.

Finland is fully committed to its human rights obligations and to engaging in continuous dialogue with the Treaty Bodies. We highly value the Universal Periodic Review as a unique process.

Finland supports the independence of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the sufficient financing of the OHCHR through the UN regular budget, and we intend to continue our voluntary contributions.

For more information on our commitments and pledges, please visit: um.fi/HRC, #FIforHRC



Sanna Marin,
Prime Minister
of Finland

Our commitment

“If Finland is elected to the Human Rights Council, we are committed to sharing our experiences on building a society based on trust, democracy, the rule of law and the promotion, protection and fulfilment of human rights.

Climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated the challenges faced by women and girls in all countries. People in the most vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and people belonging to various minorities are often disproportionately affected. Now more than ever, we need to work together to make human rights a reality for everyone.

Finland promotes human rights in close partnership with other states and regional groups, human rights defenders, national and international civil society organisations and the private sector.

As a leading nation in gender equality, education and digitalisation, we will combine these strengths in our work on the Human Rights Council.”