

The Egyptian National Human Rights Strategy: Year 3 Implementation

Civil and Political Rights



The National Human Rights Strategy (NHRS) 2021-2026 is the first of its kind in Egypt, it focuses on advancing all human rights in Egypt through enhancing respect for all civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, stipulated for in the Constitution, national laws, and international and regional instruments ratified by Egypt, while protecting vulnerable groups such as women, youth & elderly and promoting raising awareness and spreading a culture of human rights.

Pillar I: Civil and Political Rights in Egypt

In the third year of the implementation of the NHRS, Egypt made considerable progress in guaranteeing and advancing civil and political rights for all Egyptians.

Right to Life and Physical Integrity: The Ministry of Interior expanded training and awareness-raising programs to members of the policy force, including the use of the Nelson Mandela rules regarding the treatment of prisoners. The Court of Cassation issued 26 final rulings in 2023 compensating torture victims, while the Ministry of Interior reported disciplinary actions in 1,217 incidents of ill-treatment (November 2019 to July 2024).

Right to Personal Freedom: Upon a community dialogue, the Egyptian Parliament is considering a new criminal procedures code aimed at modernizing national criminal justice standards, including pre-trial detention, by reducing its time limits, expanding alternative measures, and allowing for indemnification in cases of wrongful detention.

Right to Litigation and Fair Trial: The Ministry of Justice has digitized court operations in over 310 courts, and operation of electronic criminal litigation procedures in misdemeanors courts in the governorates of the first and second phases was completed. Egyptian Court's made additional improvements to have judgments meet ruling implementation rates in 86.4% of civil courts and 96% in family courts.

Treatment of Prisoners and Other Detainees: Egypt intensely focused on the treatment of prisoners and other detainees. 9,513 inmates benefited from presidential pardons for the remainder of their sentences and conditional releases between September 2023 and August 2024. The Public Prosecutor's Office conducted regular and unannounced inspections across multiple facilities. Additionally, healthcare investments for detainees reached 134.1 million Egyptian pounds for medical supplies and services.

“ Egypt’s efforts shall continue towards promoting human rights in their comprehensive sense... it is also necessary to raise awareness of human rights in all state institutions and enhance public awareness. ”

PRESIDENT ABDEL FATTAH EL-SISI

Upon receiving the third executive report of NHRS, December 2024

Freedom of Expression: Egypt conducted its 2024 presidential election with a 66.8% voter turnout, featuring four candidates and resulting in President El-Sisi's re-election under full judicial supervision, open media coverage, and election observers from international, regional, and local NGOs. The national dialogue continued with a focus on addressing economic challenges, with the participation of government officials, representatives of political parties, civil society, and economic experts.

Freedom of Peaceful Assembly: The reporting period saw multiple peaceful demonstrations, including protests related to the war in Gaza, Many other peaceful protest took place with Participants from political parties, journalists, lawyers, civil society representatives, and citizens expressing views on various political and social issues.

Freedom of Association: The government approved 34,756 civil society organizations, including 60 foreign NGOs. Total funding for civil society reached 13.3 billion Egyptian pounds in 2023 (66% local, 34% international). Elections were held in several syndicates, including for lawyers, engineers, dentist and fine artists.

Freedom of Religion and Belief: Egypt implemented multiple initiatives to promote religious tolerance and combat extremism reaching millions of youths. The government regularized 3,453 churches and religious buildings out of 5,415 requests, and several decisions to allocate lands for building new churches were issued.

Right to Privacy: The Ministry of Interior addressed various cybercrime cases, including 1,319 cases of account hacking, 1,642 cases of defamation, and 904 cases of threats and blackmail. The Ministry organized 13 training courses for officers, individuals, and civilians, from which 157 trainees benefited in areas related to combating online crimes.

To learn more, visit the Supreme Standing Committee for Human Rights website:
<https://sschr.gov.eg>



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