

## UPR INFO PRE-SESSIONS 43

UPR Info is organising UPR Pre-sessions 43 during the **week of 3 to 6 April 2022** and will take place in person, in Geneva. These meetings will take place in advance of the 43<sup>rd</sup> UPR Working Group and will include sessions on the following countries: [France](#), [Kingdom of Tonga](#), [Republic of Mali](#), [Romania](#), [Republic of Botswana](#), [Commonwealth of the Bahamas](#), [Grand Duchy of Luxembourg](#), [Republic of Burundi](#), [Barbados](#), [Montenegro](#), [United Arab Emirates](#), [Israel](#), [Principality of Liechtenstein](#) and [Republic of Serbia](#).

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, UPR Info will offer a travel grant to successful applicants from the Republic of Mali and the Republic of Burundi only. The grant includes accommodation, airfare and per diems for up to 5 days in Geneva. To apply for the grant, please fill out one of the following forms: [Republic of Mali](#) or [Republic of Burundi](#). Due to limited financial resources, not all applicants will be selected to receive this grant. For organizations that do not require a grant, please apply via the normal [link](#).

### OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Pre-sessions is to offer Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) an opportunity to brief permanent delegations on the human rights situation in the States under review. They provide space for civil society to engage directly in a dialogue with States, ensuring that their suggestions and recommendations are taken into consideration by recommending States in advance of the Working Group.

### FORMAT

Usually, the Pre-sessions take place one month before the 43<sup>rd</sup> Universal Periodic Review Working Group, which is scheduled to take place from 1 to 12 May 2023. CSOs and NHRIs will be invited to present their assessment of the human rights situation in the country since the previous review **and will participate in a question-and-answer session** with recommending States following the presentation of the statements. With the principles of **transparency and universality** in mind, all Permanent Missions are invited, including the State under review.

### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Pre-sessions will offer an exchange of information on the human rights situation of the forthcoming State under review. States will receive **up-to-date information and recommendations in advance of the 43<sup>rd</sup> UPR Working Group session**. **Recommending States will also have the opportunity to ask questions of NHRI and civil society representatives to gain insight on the situation on the ground from a first-hand perspective**. The information given will reflect the reality of the human rights situation in the country under review and will represent the concerns of all stakeholders on the ground.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

The Pre-sessions are a **forum for collaboration and information sharing**. The meetings fill an expressed need from both State delegations and CSOs to meet prior to the UPR Working Group session to identify, discuss, and further develop recommendations to ensure focused attention to the most relevant human rights issues during the review.

**The application process to speak at the Pre-sessions will be opened on UPR Info's website [www.upr-info.org](http://www.upr-info.org) until 13 January 2023. Applicants are required to fill out the online application form available [here](#), providing information on their engagement in the promotion of human rights.**

For a comprehensive overview of the event, applicants are invited to consult [UPR Info Pre-sessions: Empowering human rights voices from the ground.](#)

For more information on the Pre-sessions and UPR Info, please visit our website at [www.upr-info.org](http://www.upr-info.org).

### UPR INFO

UPR Info is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Geneva, Switzerland. The organisation aims at promoting human rights through the UPR. It raises awareness and provides capacity-building tools to all UPR stakeholders, including UN Member States, CSOs, and NHRIs. UPR Info is the first NGO entirely dedicated to the UPR.

Since the inception of the UPR mechanism in April 2008, the organisation has developed a unique expertise on the process itself. This knowledge is widely recognised by stakeholders, notably by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). UPR Info is regularly invited to participate in conferences and to provide training on the UPR.

UPR Info's [website](#) and [database](#) are the first source of information on the UPR for stakeholders, including Geneva-based permanent missions as well as national and international CSOs, providing them with useful tools for their participation in the UPR mechanism.