



Guinea

Joint Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review: Civil and Political Rights and Gender-Based Violence

Submitted by The Advocates for Human Rights,

a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

and

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The Advocates for Human Rights (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based non-governmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law since its founding in 1983. The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publication. The Advocates is the primary provider of legal services to low-income asylum seekers in the Upper Midwest region of the United States. A growing number of victims fleeing in Guinea have requested legal assistance from The Advocates in applying for asylum in the United States.

First-hand information from asylum-seekers about the human rights violations that they experienced in Guinea has been used in this submission with their permission. Legal aid service providers and volunteers have also described the accounts they have received from Guineans.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report addresses the human rights situation in Guinea since 2020. The government has restricted civic space and press freedom and has suppressed freedom of opinion, expression, and association through violence, arbitrary detentions, and enforced disappearances. The government has failed to protect the rights of women and girls, who experience female genital mutilation, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Some information in this report is from Guineans in the diaspora. Among the people with lived expertise who provided information for this report are clients represented by The Advocates for Human Rights and other human rights defenders.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS

Constitutional & legislative framework; Rule of law & impunity; Right to participate in public affairs & right to vote; Right to life; Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment); Conditions of detention; Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information; Administration of justice & fair trial

Status of Implementation: Partially Accepted, Not Implemented

2. In its Third-Cycle UPR, Guinea received 39 recommendations broadly related to the rule of law and impunity, freedom of opinion and expression, administration of justice and fair trial, and detention conditions.¹ The government supported 34 of these recommendations and noted five.²
3. Guinea severely restricts press freedom and limits freedom of opinion, expression, and association, particularly impacting protesters, human rights defenders, and journalists. As discussed in greater detail below, security forces use disproportionate force during protests. People accused of crimes face prolonged periods in overcrowded pre-trial detention facilities.³ In some cases, authorities lose records, resulting in the incarceration of 16 people for 2-16 years without a trial.⁴

Excessive use of force against protesters

4. In 2018, the government banned street protests, and security forces frequently used excessive force against protesters and bystanders. Since 2019, hundreds of Guineans have been seriously injured in demonstrations, with over 100 deaths, 40% of whom are children and young people.⁵ Protesters are arbitrarily arrested and detained, and most are unable to access medical care.⁶
5. There has been a longstanding pattern of security forces using excessive force against protesters, particularly during elections. During the March 2020 legislative elections and constitutional referendum, security forces allegedly killed 10 protesters in the Nzérékoré Forest region and 8 in Conakry, including 2 minors.⁷ Countless others were injured and arrested.⁸
6. Arrested protesters faced arbitrary detention, assault, inhuman conditions, and denial of basic necessities for three days.⁹ Authorities depicted detained protesters with weapons when they showed them to local journalists as the alleged perpetrators of the Nzérékoré violence.¹⁰ Security forces reportedly disproportionately targeted members of the Guerzé ethnic group

(associated with President Condé's opposition) and leaders of the Front National pour la Défense de la Constitution (FNDC), a coalition of civil society organizations.¹¹

7. Following the October 2020 presidential election, security forces detained opposition candidate Cellou Dalein Diallo for 8 days.¹² Security forces employed excessive force against civilians in several neighborhoods of Conakry, resulting in the death of at least 12 protestors and injuries to 29 others.¹³ Victims included children, such as 13-year-old Thierno Nassirou Sylla, whom police fatally shot in the face, and 14-year-old Mamadou Saidou Diallo, whom authorities shot in the back while he left a demonstration.¹⁴ Security forces also killed human rights defenders, including FNDC coordinator Boubacar Baldé.¹⁵
8. The government has, however, denied allegations that security forces perpetrated the violence and asserts that civilians caused all post-election deaths.¹⁶ Guinea has still not initiated an investigation or held perpetrators accountable.
9. In 2021, security forces repeatedly used lethal force against protesters opposing exploitation by large mining companies in Foulata, Gaoual, and Kouroussa. Forces killed at least two individuals, intentionally pushed two others off a bridge, and set buildings on fire, resulting in multiple casualties.¹⁷
10. Guinea continues to maintain a ban on protests. After the military coup on 5 September 2021, the new authorities initially released political detainees, including people arrested for protesting the elections.¹⁸ On 11 September 2021, however, the new authorities banned protests.¹⁹ In May 2022, the State further banned all protests that posed a threat to public order until after the elections, effectively rendering protests illegal.²⁰ Prime Minister Bah Oury made statements in July 2024 suggesting that this ban is likely to remain in place.²¹
11. Despite the ban, protests persist. Between July 2022 and February 2024, security forces repeatedly used excessive force to suppress protests organized by the FNDC and other groups demanding a return to democracy.²² Security forces resorted to lethal force, killing at least 16 people during that period and subjecting others to arrest and detention.²³ An interviewee described how security forces released tear gas and shot live rounds during a protest, killing a child.²⁴
12. Security forces have also killed bystanders, instilling fear. An interviewee reported that security forces used indiscriminate force during protests, with bystanders frequently subjected to violence simply for being in the vicinity.²⁵ In the February 2023 protests, security agents fatally shot an 18-year-old motorcycle taxi driver in Hamdallaye who was near the protest.²⁶ During the May 2023 protests, police shot a teenager named Boubacar in front of his family home.²⁷
13. Testimonies collected by the Advocates reveal a pattern of excessive force by security forces against protesters. Protesters are frequently subjected to physical violence and are forcibly taken from protest sites by security agents.²⁸ In many cases, their families are not informed of their whereabouts, raising concerns about enforced disappearances and violations of due process.²⁹ Arrested individuals often face prolonged detention without formal charges.
14. Authorities have arbitrarily arrested people believed to be associated with protests, arresting individuals on baseless criteria that "identify" them as possible political dissenters. According to an interviewee, a foreign national was arrested on suspicion of being hired to carry out anti-government activities on behalf of protesters. Authorities arrested him due to his appearance

and the fact that he did not speak the local language. He was detained for over two months without trial.³⁰

15. Another interviewee was arbitrarily arrested and detained the night after a protest associated with FNDC. The Gendarme threatened and beat him, and he sustained serious injuries. He was detained initially for several months without trial or any charges explained to him and then transferred to Conakry Central Prison for five months. Prison authorities did not provide him with any record of his detention, including no records of even the medical care that his family paid for while he was detained.³¹
16. Credible testimonies from interviews conducted by The Advocates indicate that the government may attempt to remove evidence of excessive use of force against protestors.³² An interviewee alleged that security forces returned to protest sites to remove bullet casings from lethal weapons that they had used against protestors.³³ The interviewee further shared that, if a protestor was in close enough proximity to identify a member of security forces during an instance of excessive force, the security forces would target that protestor either with a lethal response to the protest or with an arbitrary arrest at a later date in order to minimize the risk of the protestor being able to identify that particular individual within the security force.³⁴
17. Further, an interviewee who frequently organized protests described that he experienced attacks by actors who appeared to be gangs (non-State actors) but who carried Gendarmerie-grade weapons and likely acted on behalf of State actors. The interviewee described that it is an open secret that security forces release people who are imprisoned at night to attack people who are active against the current government, carrying out the Government's "dirty work" without implicating State actors.³⁵ The Advocates was unable to corroborate these claims with secondary available information but acknowledged the need to investigate such claims further. The Advocates also found additional testimonial evidence of widespread corruption between actors within the prison administration and organized crime. For example, according to credible testimonies prison authorities have been exposed for allowing contraband including drugs and alcohol into prisons and have enlisted other officials to remain complicit in combatting this corruption.³⁶

Targeted threats and attacks to human rights defenders and activists

18. Since the 2021 coup, authorities have increasingly targeted human rights defenders with arbitrary arrests, fabricated charges, ill treatment, enforced disappearances, and killings. The government has dissolved opposition groups and routinely refuses to authorize new organizations that may be perceived as anti-government. Authorities have also retaliated against people and organizations that report to international human rights mechanisms.
19. Under President Condé, police were known to join with pro-government civilians to persecute human rights defenders. For example, on election day in March 2020, police joined with civilians to attack the home of FNDC leader Mamadou Bailo Barry.³⁷
20. Authorities have used trumped-up charges to subject human rights defenders to prolonged pre-trial detention and ill-treatment. Authorities use the judicial process as a tool of harassment. For instance, on 6 March 2020, authorities arrested FNDC leader Ibrahima Diallo and Sékou Koundouno, coordinator of the NGO Le Balai Citoyen, after their press conference denounced similar arrests, and charged them with "contempt of officers, assault with violence and threat to public order and the safety, integrity and dignity of individuals, through the use of electronic

communication.”³⁸ After four months of detention, authorities dismissed the charges.³⁹ Similarly, on 7 May 2020, authorities arrested Saïkou Yaya, FNDC’s legal coordinator, and held him without access to his diabetes medication.⁴⁰ They released him after seven months, following two court orders for his release.⁴¹

21. Authorities have repeatedly detained Oumar Sylla (AKA Foniké Menguè), FNDC mobilization coordinator and deputy national coordinator of Tournons La Page-Guinée (TLP), on false charges.⁴² In 2020, after he had publicly denounced the arbitrary detention of FNDC members and called for demonstrations, authorities arrested Sylla and held him for over 4 months before dismissing the charges.⁴³ A month later, authorities arrested him again at a demonstration in Matoto and charged him with “participation in a mob that may disturb public order.”⁴⁴ Sylla was hospitalized several times while detained.⁴⁵ In June 2021, a court sentenced him to three years in prison, but authorities released him after the September 2021 coup.⁴⁶ In July 2022, authorities violently arrested Sylla during a press conference and denied him access to medical care for his injuries.⁴⁷ Authorities released him three days later, but rearrested him at 1:40 AM on 30 July, in violation of a law prohibiting home arrests between 9 PM and 6 AM.⁴⁸ Authorities failed to notify his family of his arrest or location until 3 PM.⁴⁹ A prosecutor charged Sylla with “criminal participation in an assembly, complicity in the destruction of public and private buildings, intentional assault and battery, arson and looting.”⁵⁰ He was imprisoned until May 2023 and acquitted the following month.⁵¹
22. On 9 July 2024, someone abducted Sylla and his colleague Mamadou Billo Bah from Sylla’s home.⁵² The government denied involvement, but a witness confirmed that members of the gendarmes and the national special forces carried out the abduction.⁵³ The FNDC alleges that gendarmes abducted and beat Sylla and Bah, and that authorities are now holding them *incommunicado* on the island of Kassa.⁵⁴ Sylla and Bah’s attorneys have called on the International Criminal Court to intervene.⁵⁵ The government continues to deny any involvement, asserting that the lawsuit threatens national sovereignty and suggesting that the men may have left home voluntarily.⁵⁶ Authorities reportedly subjected Mamadou Saïdou Tall, communications manager for the Citizen Parliament for Civic Engagement, to enforced disappearance on 8 June 2024.⁵⁷
23. Guinea has engaged in reprisals against human rights defenders reporting to the international community. For example, authorities prosecuted the FNDC and one of its leaders, Sekou Koundouno, on charges of “defamation” and “disclosure of false information,” after the FNDC submitted its August 2022 report to the International Criminal Court regarding the government response to protests.⁵⁸
24. Human rights defenders and others experience ill-treatment in prolonged pretrial detention, in violation of the Nelson Mandela Rules. Guinea’s Minister of Justice and Human Rights in a June 2023 memorandum confirmed cases of severe malnutrition and untreated mental illnesses in detention, describing people in detention as “skeletal, paralyzed or even dying.”⁵⁹ Chronic overcrowding remains a significant issue, with the Central Prison, designed to hold 300 detainees, housing nearly 1,500 prisoners in 2020.⁶⁰

Detention conditions

25. Authorities subject people in detention to inhumane conditions, including deprivation of adequate food, medical care, and sanitation, as well as physical abuse, during their detention. One interviewee was fed “water and raw or undercooked rice with salt” during his detention.⁶¹

Another interviewee was threatened and beaten by the Gendarme, and he sustained serious injuries after being arbitrarily arrested and detained. He did not receive medical care or water for a full day, and authorities required him to pay for the medical care he eventually received. There were no beds or bathrooms in the prison, and people relieved themselves on the floor, continually exposing detained people to disease.⁶²

26. Several human rights defenders have died in detention, raising serious concerns about violations of the right to life and the prohibitions against torture and ill-treatment. In 2021, three political opponents died in detention, and another died after his release due to detention-related health complications.⁶³ Authorities attributed these deaths to illness or natural causes, but relatives contend that the deaths resulted from torture and ill-treatment, noting that the deceased persons had sustained severe injuries shortly before death.⁶⁴ The families also reported receiving threats for publicizing detention conditions.⁶⁵
27. According to credible reports by service providers, sexual violence has been used as a form of torture against individuals detained for expressing political dissent. Interviewees explained that these acts of sexual assault are typically carried out by female members of the military, most often targeting male detainees.⁶⁶
28. Testimonies from interviews conducted by The Advocates reveal that individuals who express political dissent or criticize the new government are frequently perceived as supporters of the former President Alpha Condé regime, making them prime targets for government repression. Security forces frequently target these individuals, a notable tactic involving the public circulation of photographs, which are posted and shared in neighborhoods to stigmatize them. In instances where the targeted individual could not be located, security forces have detained family members or friends in their place, subjecting them to torture during interrogations.⁶⁷
29. An interviewee informed the Advocates that even when human rights defenders, previously active in Conakry and Nzérékoré, relocate to smaller rural areas in an effort to escape persecution, security agents continue to track and harass them, ultimately forcing them to flee to neighboring countries.⁶⁸
30. In September 2022, authorities imprisoned human rights defender Étienne Soropogui following remarks made on the popular radio program *Fim FM*, in which he condemned the government's "authoritarian excesses."⁶⁹ On August 6, 2022, the government unilaterally dissolved the FNDC, Guinea's most active opposition group, citing allegations of violence and the promotion of hate, including during demonstrations.⁷⁰
31. Prosecutors have also targeted people attempting to organize new anti-government movements. In January 2023, prosecutors sought an 18-month sentence for former FNDC activist Abdourahmane Sano for participating in undeclared meetings while attempting to establish a new movement.⁷¹ A court ordered Sano's release, concluding that there was no legal penalty for failure to comply with the reporting requirement.⁷²

Attacks on journalists and restrictions on news outlets

32. Authorities have threatened the lives and livelihoods of journalists. In the wake of the 2020 crackdown, authorities suspended a major online news outlet, *Guinée Matin*, for 15 days, disrupted internet and telephone networks for 4 days, and limited the ability of journalists to operate.⁷³

33. Since mid-2023, during periods of heightened anti-government sentiment, authorities have frequently blocked news websites and social media platforms and jammed radio waves.⁷⁴ In May 2023, authorities blocked several news websites and Facebook, and in August 2023 they arrested at least 12 journalists protesting the blocking of *Guinée Matin*.⁷⁵ In November, authorities blocked radio stations such as *Fim FM*, *Espace FM*, and *Djoma FM*, and *Djoma TV* off the air.⁷⁶ Authorities lifted internet restrictions in February 2024 but continued to block and jam media outlets.⁷⁷ In May 2024, authorities revoked the licenses of several private media stations, including *Espace FM*, *Espace TV*, *Djoma FM*, *Djoma TV*, *Fim FM*, and *Sweet FM* for allegedly failing to respect the “content of the specifications”.⁷⁸ Authorities asserted that there was no conflict between the State and the media, citing France’s dissolution of media groups as precedent.⁷⁹
34. Authorities have arrested journalists for performing their professional duties. On January 18, 2024, gendarmes arrested 10 journalists covering the repression of media personnel at the *Maison de la Presse*.⁸⁰ On January 19, 2024, authorities arrested Sekou Jamal Pendessa, a journalist and secretary general of the Union of Press Professionals of Guinea (SPPG), for participating in an unauthorized demonstration.⁸¹ Pendessa had previously spoken out against government censorship.⁸² Prosecutors sought a 6-month prison sentence and a fine of 500,000 Guinean Francs.⁸³ After a general strike demanding his release, authorities released him in late February 2024.⁸⁴

Return to democracy

35. It is unclear when Guinea will return to democracy. The government of Colonel Doumbouya has pushed back or rejected several proposed election timelines.⁸⁵ In July 2024, government spokespersons backtracked on an earlier commitment to hold elections by the end of 2024.⁸⁶ Moreover, a draft constitution would allow junta members to contest elections.⁸⁷

Discrimination against women; Violence against women

Status of Implementation: Accepted, Not Implemented

36. Guinea supported 40 third-cycle recommendations related to discrimination against women and violence against women.⁸⁸
37. Women in Guinea face several forms of gender-based violence (GBV), including “rape, childhood marriage, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and harassment.”⁸⁹

GBV in general

38. The Penal Code criminalizes forms of GBV, but authorities do not consistently enforce the law. The Penal Code criminalizes rape,⁹⁰ sexual assault,⁹¹ and battery and assault,⁹² including violence between spouses.⁹³ These provisions, however, do not adequately address violence resulting in low-level injuries, threats of bodily harm, and the use of power and control in the context of domestic violence.
39. Authorities partially implement legal protections for women, but significant barriers limit access to justice and support for victim-survivors. The Office for Gender Protection, Childhood and Morals (OPROGEM) recognizes that GBV is pervasive, despite the office’s awareness-raising campaigns and successful interventions against some child marriages.⁹⁴ In 2023, OPROGEM registered 205 rape cases and 14 cases of harassment.⁹⁵

40. Despite progress, GBV remains prevalent.⁹⁶ The National Directorate for the Promotion of Women and Gender reports that approximately 87% of women experience domestic violence, with rates ranging from “87.7% of emotional violence, 75.7% of psychological violence, and 49.6% of sexual violence” within marriage.⁹⁷ An individual with lived experience expertise reported that GBV cases are prevalent in rural areas, where fear of criticism and social exclusion prevent victims from speaking out. Even in cases of child sexual assault, incidents are frequently concealed, as mothers fear the stigma associated with disclosing that their daughters have been assaulted.⁹⁸
41. Stereotypes and harmful practices contribute to underreporting of and lack of accountability for GBV. Afrobarometer reported that “three quarters (76%) of Guineans consider domestic violence” a private matter “to be resolved as a family and not a criminal matter”; 67% believe a man is justified in beating his wife; and 30% find men using violence against women and girls a common occurrence in their community.⁹⁹ Community and family members criticize, harass, and humiliate victim-survivors who speak out.¹⁰⁰ Amnesty International reports that families of GBV victim-survivors face social stigma, harassment, and threats, often leading to isolation or even forced relocation.¹⁰¹ In some cases the perpetrator’s friends or relatives threaten victim-survivors who report GBV.¹⁰²
42. Authorities respond to GBV reports with inaction and revictimization. For example, officials call the perpetrator-husband into the station to respond to the allegations and the couple’s parents orchestrate “an amicable arrangement.”¹⁰³ Authorities do not provide the reporting victim-survivor with relief and protection from the perpetrator. An interviewee recalled the case of a young girl who was forced by her family to marry an older man. She was subjected to domestic abuse and attempted to escape the marriage to return home, but she was beaten by her family and sent back to the man. She later reported the abuse to the police, but authorities failed to take any action. Instead, the police informed her family, who again forced her to return to the man.¹⁰⁴ Another interviewee stated that GBV cases are often not investigated, as officials frequently dismiss them, claiming that they are family matters and beyond their intervention.¹⁰⁵
43. Testimonies collected by the Advocates further indicate that child marriages and forced marriages remain widespread. Service providers reported that economically disadvantaged families often force their daughters to marry much older men, typically 30 to 50 years older than the girl, and who are capable of financially supporting the girl's family. These marriages are arranged without the girl’s consent, with victims ranging in age from as young as 14 to their mid-twenties.¹⁰⁶ Officials accuse women reporting GBV of having brought the violence upon themselves.¹⁰⁷ Amnesty International reports that law enforcement “dissuade[s] [victims] from filing a complaint,” interferes with investigations, and “release[s] the alleged perpetrator before they have been brought to justice.”¹⁰⁸ Moreover, law enforcement imposes additional unofficial requirements, such as forensic certification from the victim, before conducting an investigation and referring the case to a prosecutor.¹⁰⁹ Out-of-court settlements and judicial trivialization of sexual violence bar access to justice for victim-survivors; sentences rarely exceed three years.¹¹⁰
44. There are also credible reports of women being subjected to workplace sexual exploitation. An individual with lived experience expertise stated that women are coerced into unwanted intimate relationships with their employers under threat of losing their employment. This abuse of power forces many women to comply out of fear of unemployment and economic insecurity.¹¹¹

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

45. FGM is “becoming increasingly medicalized and performed” on younger girls.¹¹² Approximately 94.5% of women aged 15-49 have experienced FGM, 75% of whom while under age 10.¹¹³ According to testimonies from service providers, FGM is often performed on young girls multiple times. The first cutting typically occurs when they are about 3 or 4 years old, and the second cutting is carried out during their teenage years or early 20s, forcing them to undergo the practice twice in their lifetime.¹¹⁴
46. Articles 258 to 261 of the Penal Code as well as the Children’s Code¹¹⁵ criminalize FGM but authorities do not fully enforce the law.¹¹⁶ A service provider reported that when cases of FGM are brought to the attention of the police, they are frequently met with inaction. In most instances, the police respond with statements such as, "There is nothing we can do about it. This is our way. It is our culture."¹¹⁷
47. Since 2018 authorities have reportedly made 73 arrests, brought 73 cases to court, and secured 29 convictions and sanctions for FGM.¹¹⁸ FGM prevalence—including medicalized FGM¹¹⁹—remains high in urban and rural areas.¹²⁰ Medical practitioners learn to perform medicalized FGM operations during internships.¹²¹
48. Interviewees reveal that there is a high prevalence of FGM in rural areas. An interviewee informed the Advocates that young girls who are resident in the urban areas are often deceived into traveling to the rural areas under the pretense of a holiday. During that time, they are taken to the ‘bush’ and forced to undergo the cutting. They are often required to remain in the ‘bush’ for months without any access to medical care, and in some cases, the bleeding results in death.¹²²
49. Testimonies by service providers further reveal that individuals or groups who speak out against FGM often face threats and physical violence from community members. An individual reported that some parents become devastated by the trauma caused by FGM and begin to publicly criticize the practice.¹²³ Some join formal advocacy groups, while others engage in more informal forms of resistance, such as speaking with neighbors or strangers on the street.¹²⁴ These individuals and groups are threatened, harassed, and even subjected to violence. Another interviewee confirmed such incidents, stating that group-based beatings are common, with victims being attacked in public, and in some cases, raped and left for dead. An individual narrated that in one instance, a woman awoke naked on the streets of Conakry after being targeted by a group.¹²⁵ Another woman was repeatedly harassed and assaulted by a roaming group of individuals over several months. Despite moving to different parts of Conakry to evade them, her attackers continued to locate her, ultimately forcing her to flee the country for her safety.¹²⁶
50. FGM crosses religious and ethnic lines.¹²⁷ 28 Too Many reports a slight decline in FGM among women aged 15-49 but warns that women aged 15-19 remain at risk, cautioning that the decline is minor and FGM remains prevalent.¹²⁸ 28 Too Many reports that “65.4% of women and 59.6% of men aged 15-49 who have heard of FGM believe that the practice should be continued,” with higher support in rural areas.¹²⁹

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

51. The stakeholders suggest the following recommendations:

- Hold free, fair, and transparent elections.
- Bar law enforcement from arbitrarily arresting and detaining individuals based on political opinion.
- Ensure respect for the due process rights of all people currently detained on account of political expression.
- Commission an independent investigation of alleged police abuse and torture during arrests and in detention centers, especially targeting political dissenters.
- Address prison overcrowding and provide all detained persons with sufficient and clean food, drinking water, and medical attention in accordance with the Nelson Mandela Rules.
- Facilitate independent investigations and reporting regarding detention conditions.
- End reprisals against human rights defenders engaging in international reporting and advocacy.
- Train police officers and members of the security sector regarding the proportionate use of force.
- Establish an independent mechanism to investigate allegations of excessive force by security forces and hold perpetrators accountable.
- Ensure respect for the rights to the freedoms of association, peaceful assembly and expression, and immediately and unconditionally release all human rights defenders currently in detention.
- Permit the Front National pour la Défense de la Constitution, as well as other banned groups, to operate freely.
- Immediately repeal the ban on protests.
- Immediately cease blocking the broadcast of traditional and social media outlets that are not affiliated with the government.
- Stop restricting internet access during times of unrest.
- Allow journalists to operate freely and release any journalists who have been detained for their work.
- Enhance judicial efficiency to reduce pre-trial detention.
- Impartially investigate and prosecute all claims of torture in detention.
- End enforced disappearances and provide information on victims' whereabouts, including Oumar Sylla and Mamadou Billo Bah.
- Conduct timely investigations of all custodial deaths and deaths at the hands of security forces and prevent impunity for such deaths.

- In collaboration with civil society, implement a comprehensive public awareness-raising campaign to reduce stigmatization of women who experience and report gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence.
- In collaboration with civil society, implement mandatory training for judges, prosecutors, and police on the dynamics of violence against women and on conducting victim-centered investigation procedures in cases of gender-based violence.
- Allocate more resources to the Office for Gender Protection, Childhood and Morals to prioritize awareness campaigns and investigations.
- Ensure that authorities investigate and prosecute all claims of gender-based violence in a timely manner.
- Collaborate with civil society to provide specialized assistance and services to meet the specific needs of women victims of violence including:
 - Support for victims to prevent and address violence, including mental health services, long-term counseling, affordable housing, childcare support, more accessible and quality legal assistance, and employment opportunities.
 - Fund stakeholders providing services and immediate protection to victims.
- Bar the practice of involving spouses or parents in the law enforcement response to victim reports of domestic violence.
- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns about FGM, including health consequences.
- In collaboration with civil society, establish mandatory training for doctors and other health care professionals about FGM.
- Ensure that authorities investigate and prosecute all reports of FGM to avoid impunity for practitioners.
- Collaborate with civil society to provide law enforcement with training to investigate allegations of FGM and other gender-based violence.
- Provide medical services and assistance to victim-survivors of FGM.

¹ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Guinea*, (Mar. 24, 2020), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/44/5. ¶113.43 Continue its efforts to strengthen its human rights framework and to promote civil and political rights (Turkey); ¶113.50 Amend the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure to ensure that they are in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France); ¶113.77 End impunity and ensure accountability through prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into cases of human rights violations allegedly committed during the protests of 28 September 2009 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); ¶113.78 Immediately conduct transparent investigations into and hold identified perpetrators accountable for the deaths of individuals killed during a series of demonstrations in October and November 2019 (United States of America); ¶113.79 Publicly announce a timeline to hold trials for those responsible for the 2009 Conakry stadium massacre and rape of more than 100 women and girls (United States of America); ¶113.80 Take all necessary measures to ensure that the trial related to the massacres carried out at the stadium on the 28 September 2009 can take place in June 2020 (Belgium); ¶113.83 Continue efforts to ensure that allegations of human rights violations committed by the security forces be subject to independent and impartial investigations and take measures to strengthen the fight against impunity for perpetrators of violations (France); ¶113.85 Take effective measures to ensure an effective criminal prosecution, especially with

regard to the most serious crimes (Germany); ¶ 113.88 Continue ongoing efforts to reform the judicial system (Libya); ¶ 113.89 Accelerate reform of the security sector with an emphasis on its respect for human rights, including the right to assembly (Sierra Leone); ¶ 113.90 Refrain from the disproportionate use of force against protesters and provide its law enforcement agents with adequate training on policing of assemblies in accordance with international standards (Slovakia); ¶ 113.98 Amend the law on maintaining public order and the law on the use of force by the gendarmerie to bring them in to line with the international human rights standards (Canada); ¶ 113.99 Amend article 363 of the 2016 Criminal Code and article 31 of the 2016 cybercrime act to bring them in to full compliance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Denmark); ¶ 113.188 Combat the high prevalence of female genital mutilation, including by increasing and strengthening awareness - raising campaigns about its harm to the victims and by ensuring that perpetrators are held to account (Netherlands); ¶ 113.92 Continue to work to ensure that all preparations for a free, fair, and transparent election, including the registration and verification of all eligible voters, are completed in time for the proposed 16 February 2020 election (United States of America); ¶ 113.97 Guarantee the constitutional right of every citizen to participation in public affairs and in peaceful demonstration by adopting a law in conformity with article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Belgium); ¶ 113.73 Continue its valuable work to guarantee the right to life, liberty and security of its people, to further promote the rule of law, and to guarantee impartial and fair access to the justice system for all its citizens (Turkey); ¶ 113.76 Continue to address incidents of torture, violence and ill-treatment perpetrated by officials of the defence and security forces as well as police officers, especially during public protests (Lesotho); ¶ 113.74 Improve the living conditions and treatment of prisoners (Zambia); ¶ 113.75 Take urgent and meaningful measures to improve prison conditions in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) , especially with regard to overcrowding, access to food, water, sanitation and medical treatment (Germany); ¶ 113.93 Take the necessary measures to guarantee the exercise of the rights to freedoms of expression and association (Uruguay); ¶ 113.94 Ensure that human rights defenders, journalists and students can carry out their activities in an environment free from acts of intimidation or reprisals (Uruguay); ¶ 113.95 Adopt all necessary measures aimed at guaranteeing freedom of expression to journalists and human rights defenders (Argentina); ¶ 113.96 Safeguard the right to freedom of assembly and expression in law and practice (Australia); ¶ 113.100 Ensure security and respect for the freedoms of journalists and human rights defenders (France); ¶ 113.101 Ensure the full realization of civil and political rights for all, including the rights of peaceful assembly, demonstration and free expression (Germany); ¶ 113.102 Continue to enact and fully implement legislation that seeks to promote and protect the rights of freedom of expression, association and information (Ghana); ¶ 113.103 Guarantee the rights to freedom of information and freedom of expression and ensure that human rights defenders and journalists can carry out their legitimate and peaceful activities, including monitoring and documenting human rights violations, without threat to their security and without fear of attack or reprisal (Iceland); ¶ 113.104 Take further steps in ensuring the protection of the freedom of expression and the freedom of assembly (Indonesia); ¶ 113.105 Make every effort to hold free and fair elections, including the respect of citizen's rights to freedom of expression and assembly, as guaranteed under articles 19 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Those responsible for the unlawful use of force against demonstrators should be appropriately investigated and held accountable (Ireland); ¶ 113.106 Ensure that the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association are duly respected and protected during the elections in 2020 and beyond (Japan); ¶ 113.107 Review the legislation that curbed freedom of expression and decriminalize defamation (Maldives); ¶ 113.108 Bring legislation, including the Criminal Code, the 2016 law on cyber security and the 2019 law on the prevention and repression of terrorism, in to line with international and regional human rights standards, and remove any restrictions that hinder civil society organizations and journalists in doing their legitimate work (Netherlands); ¶ 113.109 Adopt an organic law on the promotion and protection of human rights defenders in Guinea (Luxembourg); ¶ 113.110 Ensure that all provisions of Guinean law are brought into conformity with the right to freedom of expression, and in the meantime, ensure that no one is imprisoned for defamation (Luxembourg); ¶ 113.81 Strengthen the judiciary system to combat impunity more effectively (Cabo Verde); ¶ 113.82 Provide support for a credible trial concerning the massacre, rapes and other abuses committed in the Conakry stadium on 28 September 2009 (Canada); ¶ 113.86 Take effective measures to eliminate the remaining barriers to a full judicial investigation of the violations committed on 28 September 2009 (Germany); ¶ 113.87 Carry out prompt and independent investigations into all alleged cases of human rights violations and abuses committed by the security forces (Italy); Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Guinea: Addendum*, (July 28, 2020), U.N. 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⁸⁸ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Guinea*, (Mar. 24, 2020), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/44/5., ¶ 113.84 Ensure that perpetrators of gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, early or forced marriage and rape, are systematically brought to justice in fair trials (France); ¶ 113.137 Step up efforts in addressing the root causes of, and vulnerabilities of women and children to, gender-based violence (Philippines); ¶ 113.139 Strengthen its efforts to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, and sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against

Women (Portugal); ¶ 113.140 Strengthen the implementation of legislation and policies aimed at ending harmful traditional practices, in particular child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (Rwanda); ¶ 113.142 Establish and strengthen domestic legislation to combat and eliminate harmful practices, including female genital mutilation (Slovenia); ¶ 113.143 Create a holistic framework for addressing harmful practices (Slovenia); ¶ 113.145 Redouble efforts aimed at reducing the high incidence of female genital mutilation and other practices that are harmful and that discriminate against women (Solomon Islands); ¶ 113.146 Continue to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, including forced and early marriage, female genital mutilation and marital rape, and investigate and punish these acts with appropriate sanctions for the perpetrators, in addition to awarding appropriate reparation to victims (Mexico); ¶ 113.147 Continue strengthening measures in combating violence against women and girls, in particular measures against the practice of female genital mutilation (South Africa); ¶ 113.148 Establish urgently strategies to eradicate the practice of female genital mutilation (Spain); ¶ 113.150 Continue efforts to combat all forms of violence against women, and step up awareness-raising campaigns to put an end to forced and early marriage and female genital mutilation (Sudan); ¶ 113.151 Continue efforts to eradicate harmful practices, in particular female genital mutilation and forced and early marriage (Ukraine); ¶ 113.152 Apply the law and carry out educational campaigns to end female genital mutilation and underage and forced marriage (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); ¶ 113.153 Ensure the availability and awareness of support services for victims of modern slavery which give due regard to effects of gender-based violence such as forced sexual exploitation, forced marriage and female genital mutilation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); ¶ 113.154 Strengthen the implementation of the national strategy to combat female genital mutilation (Zambia); ¶ 113.156 Fully enforce the bans on female genital mutilation and child marriage, including through education campaigns and by ensuring perpetrators are brought to justice (Australia); ¶ 113.157 Criminalize all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including marital rape (Australia); ¶ 113.158 Strengthen the integration into schooling programmes of modules for training about female genital mutilation and excision (Belgium); ¶ 113.160 Step up the fight against discrimination and violence against women, including marital rape and practices which are harmful to women, such as polygamy, child marriage, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (Brazil); ¶ 113.162 Organize awareness - raising campaigns among the communities about the harmful consequences of female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional practices (Burkina Faso); ¶ 113.163 Redouble its efforts to eradicate the scourge of female genital mutilation (Burundi); ¶ 113.164 Accelerate the implementation of the national plan on the eradication of female genital mutilation (Cabo Verde); ¶ 113.165 Strengthen the laws with respect to female genital mutilation, in particular by criminalizing the failure to report this practice and carry out education campaigns and awareness-raising campaigns within the society (Canada); ¶ 113.166 Strengthen legal and policy measures to combat the practice of female genital mutilation and child marriage, including through awareness-raising campaigns for the population and religious or traditional leaders (Chile); ¶ 113.167 Further strengthen the implementation of the national strategy to combat female genital mutilation (Côte d'Ivoire); ¶ 113.168 Amend article 268 of the 2016 Criminal Code to explicitly criminalize marital rape (Denmark); ¶ 113.173 Amend legislation in order to criminalize marital rape and take meaningful measures to ensure that the perpetrators of enforced marriage, rape and gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, are brought to justice in fair trials (Germany); ¶ 113.174 Amend legislation to criminalize marital rape and remove provisions which discriminate against women, including exceptions to the prohibition of early and enforced marriage in the Criminal Code (Iceland); ¶ 113.175 Continue its efforts to eliminate harmful practices such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation (India); ¶ 113.176 Continue to intensify its efforts on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Indonesia); ¶ 113.178 Strengthen implementation of measures to prevent and combat practices that are harmful to women, including female genital mutilation (Nepal); ¶ 113.179 Take steps to combat and prevent all forms of gender-based violence, including enforcing the ban on child, early and forced marriage and the ban on female genital mutilation, and amending legislation to criminalize marital rape. All existing laws to prevent violence against women should be properly enforced and perpetrators should be held to account under appropriate judicial procedures (Ireland); ¶ 113.180 Make every effort to enforce existing national legislation to combat harmful practices against women and girls, including female genital mutilation and child early and forced marriage, including through effective criminal prosecution and appropriate awareness - raising campaigns (Italy); ¶ 113.181 Amend the legislation to criminalize marital rape and repeal the provisions of the Civil Code, which discriminate against women (Italy); ¶ 113.182 Continue to protect and promote women's rights, by ensuring gender equality and combating violence against women and girls (Japan); ¶ 113.183 Strengthen measures to eradicate high prevalence rates of female genital mutilation, which persist across the country, irrespective of the legal framework

in place (Lesotho); ¶ 113.184 Continuing the ongoing efforts to develop programs to support girls and women in higher education and scientific research (Libya); ¶ 113.187 Strengthen its efforts to conduct awareness-raising campaigns on female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional practices (Myanmar); ¶ 113.189 Strengthen education and awareness-raising campaigns among communities on the harmful consequences of female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional practices (Luxembourg); ¶ 113.199 Continue to take positive measures to better protect the rights of women, children and people with disabilities (China); Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Guinea, Addendum*, (July 28, 2020), A/HRC/44/5/Add. 1, p. 4–7.

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