



**The Compliance of [Country X] with [Treaty Y]
Alternative Report about [Issues]**

Submitted by The Advocates for Human Rights

a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with ECOSOC since 1996

**[Number] Session of the [Treaty body]
[Start date of session]–[End date of session]**

Submitted [Date]

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. Established 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 publications. [add subject-specific boilerplate as needed]

[Description of other organizations that co-author the report.]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. [Provide a summary of the priority topics and recommendations here, in 1-5 paragraphs.]
2. [Provide a brief description of the methodology used to gather information for the report.]

[Country] fails to uphold its obligations under the [treaty]

3. [In 1-2 paragraphs, summarize the sections of the report and the relevant human rights standards, as interpreted by the relevant treaty body. Recall that your primary audience is the group of treaty-body experts, so you usually do not need to explain the treaty language.]

I. Issue 1: [In one short sentence, describe the human rights violation for the first issue (and add the relevant articles of the treaty in parentheses).]

4. [Give a 1-3 sentence summary of the problem and the recommendations that the treaty-body should make to solve the problem.]
5. [Identify the paragraph in the List of Issues that relates to the problem, and briefly summarize the information the treaty body requested.]
6. [Briefly summarize the response that the government provided in the State Party report and/or response to the List of Issues (if any), citing the relevant paragraphs of the State Party report and response to the List of Issues. If there is no State Party report, or response to the List of Issues, skip this step.]
7. [Explain, in 1-8 paragraphs, what is really happening.¹ If the State Party report/response to the List of Issues is wrong, explain why and how. If the State Party report/response to the List of Issues omits important information, say so and share that information. If there is no State Party report or response to the List of Issues, simply respond to the questions posed and information requested in the List of Issues. Provide one or two examples, case studies, or stories to illustrate what is really happening.²]
 - Suggested topics for this section:
 - i. Relevant laws
 - ii. Gaps between laws and practice
 - iii. Facts
 - iv. Main reasons for lack of progress
 - v. Examples / case studies / stories

¹ Use FOOTNOTES to demonstrate where your information comes from. **Every sentence with substantive information should have a footnote showing the source of the information.** Use FULL CITATIONS for each footnote. Do not use short citations, *ibid.*, or *supra*.

² If you want to keep your sources confidential or anonymous, you can write footnotes like this: Interview with Confidential Source Number 23, 15 May 2018, Lviv, Ukraine (notes on file with author).

8. **Suggested recommendations** relating to [Issue 1]: Offer 1-3 SMART recommendations that would help to reduce or eliminate the human rights violations you discuss:
 - SMART recommendation 1.
 - SMART recommendation 2.
 - SMART recommendation 3.
9. **Suggested questions** for the Government of [Country] relating to [Issue 1]: Offer 1-2 questions that the treaty body should pose to the government to seek information or to point out flaws with the State Party report:
 - Question 1?
 - Question 2?

II. Issue 2: [In one short sentence, describe the human rights violation for the second issue (and add the relevant articles of the treaty in parentheses).]

10. [Give a 1-3 sentence summary of the problem and the recommendations that the treaty-body should make to solve the problem.]
11. [Identify the paragraph in the List of Issues that relates to the problem, and briefly summarize the information the treaty body requested.]
12. [Briefly summarize the response that the government provided in the State Party report and/or response to the List of Issues (if any), citing the relevant paragraphs of the State Party report and response to the List of Issues. If there is no State Party report, or response to the List of Issues, skip this step.]
13. [Explain, in 1-8 paragraphs, what is really happening. If the State Party report/response to the List of Issues is wrong, explain why and how. If the State Party report/response to the List of Issues omits important information, say so and share that information. If there is no State Party report or response to the List of Issues, simply respond to the questions posed and information requested in the List of Issues. Provide one or two examples, case studies, or stories to illustrate what is really happening.]
 - Suggested topics for this section:
 - i. Relevant laws
 - ii. Gaps between laws and practice
 - iii. Facts
 - iv. Main reasons for lack of progress
 - v. Examples / case studies / stories
14. **Suggested recommendations** relating to [Issue 2]: Offer 1-3 SMART recommendations that would help to reduce or eliminate the human rights violations you discuss:
 - SMART recommendation 1.
 - SMART recommendation 2.

- SMART recommendation 3.

15. **Suggested questions** for the Government of [Country] relating to [Issue 2]: Offer 1-2 questions that the treaty body should pose to the government to seek information or to point out flaws with the State Party report:

- Question 1?
- Question 2?

III. Issue 3: [In one short sentence, describe the human rights violation for the third issue (and add the relevant articles of the treaty in parentheses).]

16. Et cetera.