



UNIVERSITÀ DI PADOVA
Centro di Ateneo
per i Diritti umani
“Antonio Papisca”

Spogi

PADOVA
MODEL UPR



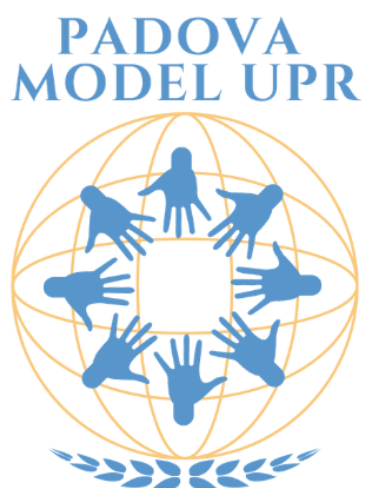
PADOVA
MODEL UPR
2026

HANDBOOK

**General Information
& Procedure Guidelines**



Model UPR Handbook



General Information and Procedure Guidelines



UNIVERSITÀ DI PADOVA

Centro di Ateneo
per i Diritti Umani
"Antonio Papisca"



UNIVERSITÀ DI PADOVA

Dipartimento
di Scienze politiche, giuridiche
e Studi internazionali

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On the day before the Pre-Session, participants are invited to join an on-site Welcome Session with the aim of familiarising with other participants. It is highly recommended to be there on-site, but for those who will not be able to attend, there will be the possibility to attend the Welcome Session online.	
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CSO	Civil Society Organization
GA	General Assembly
HRC	Human Rights Council
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
NHRI	National Human Rights Institution
RS	Recommending State
SuR	State under Review
UN	United Nations
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WG	Working Group
WGR	Working Group Report

CHAPTER 1: OBJECTIVES AND TERMINOLOGY

The purpose of this General Information and Guidelines handbook is to define the rules and guidelines for the Model UPR - an academic simulation of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a unique United Nations (UN) mechanism which reviews the human rights records of all UN Member States. The Secretariat of the Model UPR hopes that this handbook will successfully guide you through your Model UPR experience!

1.1 UPR mechanism

The UPR, or Universal Periodic Review, is a unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council (HRC). It was established on 15 March 2006, in accordance with the Resolution of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly No: 60/251 (A/RES/60/251). The UPR aims at improving the human rights situation in all UN Member States and it is designed to support and expand the promotion and protection of human rights on the ground, by assessing States' human rights records, providing them with technical assistance in order to enhance their capacity to deal effectively with human rights challenges, and sharing human rights best practices among States and other stakeholders.

The UPR involves a periodic review of the human rights records of all UN Member States and provides an opportunity for all States to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situation in their countries and to overcome related challenges. It is a unique, State-driven peer review mechanism whereby the human rights record of all States is reviewed every four and a half years on equal footing by fellow States during an inter-governmental Human Rights Council Working Group

session in Geneva. All States, without exception, are engaged actively in reviewing the human rights record of their peers and in making recommendations to them. Currently, no other mechanism of this kind exists. 42 Member States are reviewed annually during three UPR Working Group Sessions (UPR WG sessions), which are dedicated to 14 Member States each. Furthermore, local and international Non-Governmental Organizations ((I)NGOs), National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and independent experts are involved in the reviewing process by providing reports on the respective human rights situations and lobbying for human rights.

The reviewing process is divided into three stages: pre-review, review and post-review. The first stage is a preparation for the general review process, which includes the submission of necessary documents, such as country reports and submissions from relevant stakeholders (the list of necessary documents required for the Model UPR is discussed in detail below). The second stage is the review itself and the adoption of the working group report after an interactive dialogue by the UPR WG and the adoption of the UPR Outcome by the HRC in its Plenary Session. The third phase, the post-review, consists of the implementation of the UPR recommendations, which were accepted during the review process.

1st Stage	2nd Stage	3rd Stage
Before the Review (Pre-review)	At the Review (Review)	After the Review (Post-review)
• Submission of documents • Advocacy efforts	• Interactive dialogue • Adoption of the Working Group Report • UPR Outcome adoptions by the HRC (UPR as Item 6)	• Implementation and follow up

1.2 About the Model UPR

The Model UPR is a simulation of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN.¹ The aim of the Model UPR is to provide educational activities on human rights mechanisms;

¹ The Model UPR has first been conducted by the Human Rights Centre of the University of Padova in 2018, and has since been organized annually by an international team of students and former delegates, with the coordination of professors from the Human Rights Centre "Antonio Papisca" and the MA Degree Programme in Human Rights and Multi-level Governance (HRG), supported by the Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies (SPGI) and the Archive "Peace Human Rights" of the University of Padova, as well as UN and NGO officers.

to increase students' knowledge on human rights; to improve their diplomatic negotiation skills; to bring together experts and students from different universities and academic fields; and to combine theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

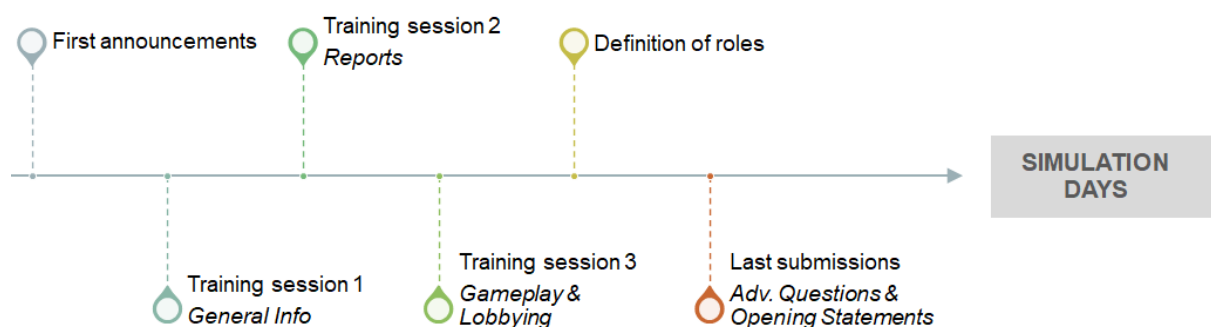
The process of the Model UPR simulation is designed to reflect the real UPR processes, to keep students involved in a human rights review on a deeper and more detailed level, and to encourage academic negotiations. In particular, the Padova Model UPR covers the first and second stage, respectively the Pre-review and the Review, of the UPR mechanism.

1.4 Official and Working Language

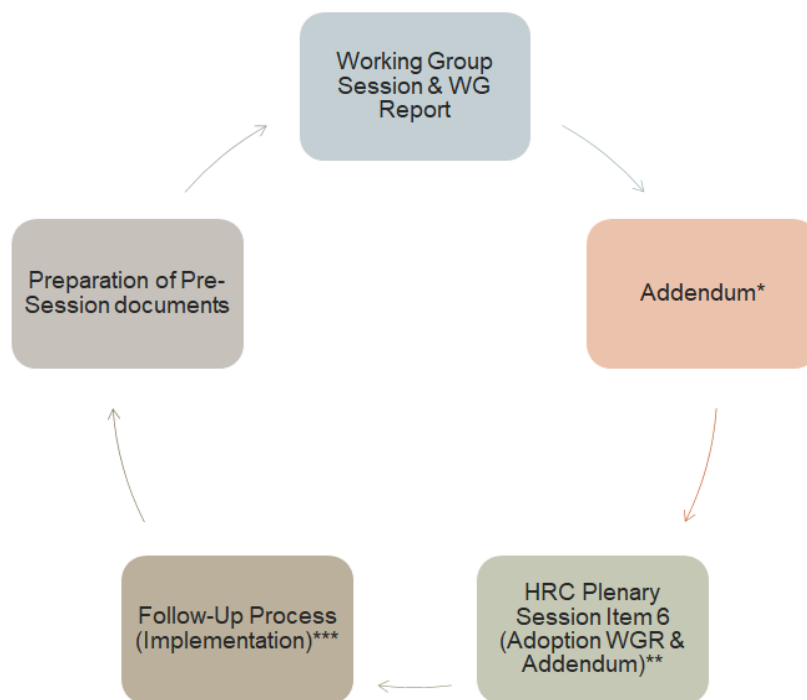
The official and working language of the Model UPR is English.

1.5 Agenda and Timeline Overview

The Model UPR is divided into two periods. The first period is prior to the simulation days, when the participants will initially be introduced to the Secretariat of the Model UPR. Then they will receive material and training regarding the Model UPR and will have the opportunity to interact with each other and develop their assignments. This **first period** is scheduled as follows:



The **second period** is composed of the UPR simulation days, where participants will engage in activities that replicate the real UPR mechanism:



* Addendum: In the real UPR process, States have approximately 6 months to compile their addendum containing responses to the received recommendations.

** In the Model UPR, only one document (called Addendum but comprising the Final Working Group Report) is adopted at the Item 6.

*** Implementation: not (yet) part of the Model UPR.

1.6 Terminology

In the following, essential terms of the UPR procedure are defined briefly. The definitions are retrieved from UPR Info² and should provide an overview of the UPR technicalities. The tasks and specific roles of the participating teams of the Model UPR as well as the simulation procedures are explained in the respective chapters below.

Addendum: The Addendum is a document drafted by the State under Review (SuR) complementing the UPR Working Group Report (UPR WG Report). It exposes the State's clear position on all recommendations received during the UPR WG session (supported or noted). The Addendum is presented at Item 6 of the agenda of the HRC Plenary Session, which is dedicated to the adoption of the UPR Outcome reports. In the Model UPR, the Addendum and the final WG Report are combined into one document.

² UPR-Info (n.d.). Glossary. UPR-Info. <https://www.upr-info.org/en/glossary>.

Note: In reality, the time between the Working Group session, where recommendations are made, and the presentation of the Addendum during Item 6 is approximately six months. Details on the Addendum are provided in Chapter 3.

Advance Written Questions: Advance questions can be raised by Member or Observer States before the review. They are directed at the SuR and enquire about the human rights situation in that country. The SuR will reply to the concerns raised in those advance questions during its review at the UPR Working Group.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs): CSOs, which are also known as the “civil society” of the UPR, include (I)NGOs, NHRIs and other stakeholders such as community groups, labor unions, indigenous groups, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations and foundations.

HRC Plenary Session Item 6 (Item 6): The HRC agenda has 10 items in total. Item 6 is dedicated to the UPR and takes place approximately 6 months after the Working Group Session. Under Item 6, the Working Group report and its Addendum are adopted by the HRC plenary. In addition, it provides a platform for all UN Member States and CSO to present UPR-related concerns and remarks regarding each SuR.

Member State: There are 193 UN Member States. Every UN Member State goes through the UPR process as a SuR and engages as a Recommending State during other countries’ reviews. The specific role distribution for the Model UPR is discussed in Chapter 2 and 3.

(I)NGO: A Non-Governmental Organization is an interest group that has come about through civil society, acts independently from the government of a State and serves social or political goals (e.g. humanitarian causes or environmental protection). An (I)NGO can have a local/national or international scope of work. In the Model UPR, four international NGOs (INGOs) are represented due to their broad scope of action and advocacy, alongside four NHRIs.

National Human Rights Institution (NHRI): An NHRI is an independent State body with a constitutional and/or legislative mandate to protect and promote human rights. NHRIs are ranked according to their independence from the respective government.

National Report (or State Report): The National Report is prepared by the government of the SuR, following a broad national consultation process with relevant stakeholders, to present an up-to-date record of the human rights situation in the country since the last review. It should also include information regarding implementation of recommendations accepted by the State in the previous UPR cycle. Details on the requirements of the National Reports for the Model UPR are explained in Chapter 3.

Pre-Sessions: The Pre-Sessions are informal meetings organized by an independent NGO known as UPR Info to bring together NHRIs, INGOs, and States to discuss the human rights situation in the States coming up for review at the UPR. The Pre-Sessions provide a valuable international platform for civil society to engage with UN Member States and advocate with State delegations ahead of the Review and make their voice heard at the UPR. These sessions also facilitate diplomatic delegations to ascertain information on countries' human rights landscapes. The ultimate aim of the Pre-Sessions is to ensure that the recommendations that will be made at the Review are specific and well-targeted.

Recommendations: Recommendations are suggestions made to the SuR by Recommending States on how to improve the human rights situations in the reviewed country. Recommendations can be diverse in terms of desired actions, issues addressed and possible timelines for action. UPR Info provides a Database of Recommendations,³ which includes each UPR recommendation ever made. In the UPR process, recommendations can be supported or noted by the SuR.

Review: The Review itself takes place at the UPR WG session. It examines UN Member States vis-à-vis their commitments to human rights under International Human Rights Law. In particular, States are reviewed on their human rights obligations deriving from the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international Human Rights and international Humanitarian Law, and any voluntary pledges and commitments made by the State. The Working Group will use the National Report, the Compilation of UN Information and the information provided by stakeholders (INGOs and NHRIs) to conduct the review. During the Review, an interactive dialogue takes place between the SuR and the Recommending States. Here, concerns and questions concerning the SuRs human rights record are addressed and recommendations on how to improve the human rights situation in the country are issued. In the UPR process, recommendations can be supported

³ See: UPR-Info (n.d.). *Database of Recommendations*. UPR-Info. <https://upr-info-database.uwazi.io/>.

or noted by the SuR. At the end of the Review, during the WG Session, the Working Group Report is adopted.

Recommending State: A Recommending State (RS) is a State that takes the floor during the review of a specific SuR to ask questions, make comments, and make recommendations for the improvement of human rights standards in the SuR. In the Model UPR, the RS also acts as Troika for one of the SuR.

State under Review: A SuR is a UN Member State that is having its human rights record reviewed at the UPR WG session.

Troika: The Troika is a group of three states that assist the SuR during its review at the UPR WG session. In the Model UPR, it is composed of two members from one other participating State (RS) that shall support a SuR to draft their WG Report. The members of the Troika and the States, which they shall support, will be announced prior to the simulation days on the Moodle platform. As explained in Chapter 2, Troika members may accumulate further functions inside of their team. In sum, the Troika has three main tasks:

- Record and review the recommendations received by the assigned SuR during the WG Session;
- Support the assigned SuR to draft its WG Report; and
- Present the WG Report during the WG Adoption session, mentioning, inter alia, the number of recommendations received, accepted and noted by the assigned SuR.

Working Group: The UPR Working Group (WG) is the body that conducts the human rights review of the States. It is composed of the 47 member States of the HRC. However, any of the 193 UN Member States, as well as the Holy See and the State of Palestine, can participate in the review. The WG meets in Geneva, Switzerland, three times per year with a total of fourteen (14) countries reviewed in each WG session. WG Sessions usually take place in January, May and November. During the Model UPR, the six States that are represented during the simulation are part of the WG. Further information is provided in Chapters 3 and 4.

Working Group Report: The interactive dialogue between the SuR and UN member States is summarized in a WG report for each country reviewed. This report documents what was said during the review, including a summary of the intervention of the SuR and of questions and comments made by RS, as well as a complete list of all recommendations made to the SuR. The Troika and the SuR assist the UPR Secretariat in drafting this report.

Note: The WG report is adopted by the Working Group during the UPR session but approximately 6 months later it is also adopted by the HRC at the plenary session, along with the Addendum containing the SuR's responses to recommendations. In the Model UPR, the WG report is drafted by the SuR and the Troika and is adopted after the WG Session and, together with the Addendum, is also adopted during Item 6 of the HRC plenary session.

1.7. Useful Links

All participants are encouraged to check the following websites. They contain crucial information and serve for establishing a common base of knowledge among all participants, which guarantees a smooth conduct of the simulation and a valuable personal learning experience.

General information on the UPR can be found at the following websites:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-home>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/upr/pages/basicfacts.aspx>

<https://www.upr-info.org/en>

<https://upr-info.org/en/upr-process/what-upr/qa-modalities-upr-process>

Information on the Member States with regard to the UPR:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx>

<https://upr-info-database.uwazi.io/>

<https://upr-info.org/en/upr-process/upr-agenda>

General Information for Recommending States:

<https://upr-info.org/en/get-involved/states/take-action>

<https://upr-info.org/en/get-involved/recommending-state-role>

General Information for States under Review:

<https://upr-info.org/en/get-involved/states/take-action-0>

<https://upr-info.org/en/get-involved/states/sur-role>

Information on INGOs and NHRIs with regard to the UPR:

https://upr-info.org/sites/default/files/documents/2013-12/upr_info_fs3_ngo_advocacy_e.pdf

CHAPTER 2: ROLES OF THE TEAMS

2.1. Participating as a team representing a State

In the Model UPR, six States are selected each year as participating States, of which each will act as State under Review (SuR) as well as a Recommending State (RS). The State is assigned by the Secretariat in the selection process. Each team has four members as delegates: 2 members will act as SuR and the remaining 2 as the RS. The specific roles are explained further in Chapter 3.

The specific State that a team will represent is announced after the registration period is over. A team is required to research as much as possible about the State's political and human rights situation. During the simulation, the participants are required to act and engage with other member states similarly to what the state they are representing would do. This offers the participants a unique opportunity to represent the respective State authentically and to practice their advocacy and diplomatic skills.

2.1.1. Performing as a State under Review (SuR)

During the Working Group Session and Item 6 (which, in the real UPR, is an event that occurs six months later, after the WG Session, but it will take place on the last day of the simulation), the human rights situation of each State will be reviewed. This is where each SuR engages with the RS of the other 5 States. Hence, the SuR have to prepare the following:⁴

- a) Prior to the WG Session:
 - Teams are expected to undertake a thorough research on the human rights situation of their assigned States.
 - Teams must write a National Report and submit it within the established deadline.
- b) Pre-Session:
 - Teams are expected to engage in lobbying with INGOs/NHRIs.
- c) Working Group Session:
 - Teams are expected to present an Opening Statement, a summary of the National Report, during the WG Session.
 - Teams may reply to advance questions (if the team received any prior to the WG Session) as well as to recommendations raised during the

⁴ The following bullet points are an overview of the tasks a team representing a SuR has to perform. Further details on the deadlines as well as the written submissions follow in Chapter 3 and in the Appendix.

WG Session according to the real behavior by the State the team is representing.

- Teams are expected to cooperate in the Troika (the Troika will be the RS of another State which will be assigned by the Secretariat) meeting to draft the WG report (in which it is decided which recommendations are accepted or noted).

d) Preparation for the Item 6:

- Teams should draft information for the WG Report Addendum for the HRC Plenary Item 6, comment on the respective human rights scenario and state its position to the recommendations made during the simulation.

e) Item 6 Session:

- Teams should present the outcome of the review (Final Working Group Report & Addendum) and debate its content with other States and INGOs/NHRIs.

2.1.2. Performing as a Recommending State (RS)

Teams will perform as RS during the five WG sessions and during the five Item 6 sessions, in which other States' human rights situations are discussed. As RS, teams have to prepare the following:⁵

a) Prior to the WG session and Pre-Session:

- Teams should consider submitting advance questions within the established deadline (Advance questions are not obligatory; Advance questions should be asked/not asked according to the diplomatic reality. Teams should consider how the State they are representing acts in reality).
- Teams should engage in lobbying with INGOs/NHRIs. This is where INGOs/NHRIs discuss their concerns about the States so they can push each RS to recommend what they think is a serious human rights issue happening in said country.
- Teams have to prepare recommendations, notes, remarks and comments for the other five States, based on their research, INGO/NHRI Reports, lobbying and the National Reports of the other States.

⁵ The following bullet points are an overview of the tasks a team representing a RS has to perform. Further details on the deadlines as well as the written submissions etc. follow in Chapter 3 and in the Appendix.

b) WG Session:

- Teams have to present their recommendations, notes, remarks and comments and engage in an interactive dialogue, after each SuR has presented its national report
- Each team has to perform as the Troika during one of the sessions and prepare itself in advance for the role of Troika.
- Each team has to draft, submit and present the WG Report of the State it was assigned as Troika in the WG Adoption. This report consists of what their assigned SuR decided to do with the given comments (noted, accepted,...).

c) Preparation for Item 6:

- Teams should engage in lobbying with INGOs/NHRIs.
- Teams should prepare observations and comments on the progress of other States during the Model UPR.

d) Item 6 Session:

- Teams have to debate the outcome of the review of the other States with the provided observations and comments. This is where States thank each other for accepting their comments or express their disappointment for not doing so.

2.1.3. Suggested role distribution within State Teams

Box 1: Role distribution within State Teams during the simulation days	
Subgroup SuR 2 team members on location	Subgroup RS 2 team members on location
Role 1: Delegate performs as SuR representative during the WG session for the State their team represents. Delegate supports "SuR Role 2 delegate" during the Item 6 Adoption session referring to the State their team represents.	Role 1: Delegate performs as RS representative during WG sessions of the other participating States. Delegate supports "RS Role 2 delegate" during the Item 6 Adoption session referring to the other participating States.

	Delegate acts as Troika to another participating State, together with the participant performing Role 2. Delegate engages in lobbying with INGOs and NHRIs prior the simulation days, during the Pre-Sessions and on the day of preparation to Item 6.
➤ <u>Main assignments, Role 1</u> ○ Draft and perform the Opening Statement presenting the State's National Report. ○ Engage in the interactive dialogue with other participating States during its State's review. ○ Draft the WG Report with the Troika indicating which received recommendations will be accepted or noted. ○ Draft and perform WG Report Review and Adoption's Closing Statements.	➤ <u>Main assignments, Role 1</u> ○ Engage in lobbying with INGOs and NHRIs during the Pre-session day. ○ Engage in interactive dialogue with further participating States during their Review expressing remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations about their respective human rights achievements and/or shortcomings. ○ Act as Troika to another participating State, supporting it in the WG Report draft. Draft and present the WG Report outcome speech - from the State of which they were assigned to be the Troika - at its respective Adoption Session. ○ Present remarks, comments, and/or concerns regarding the WG Report of further participating States during their WG Adoption Sessions.
Role 2: Delegate performs as SuR representative during the Item 6 Adoption Session. Delegate supports "SuR Role 1 delegate" during the Working Group Session.	Role 2: Delegate performs as RS representative during the Item 6 Adoption Sessions referring to other participating States. Delegate supports "RS Role 1 delegate" during the WG Sessions

Delegate represents the State during Pre-Session and in the preparation to HRC Item 6.	referring to further participating States. Delegate acts as Troika to another participating State, together with the participant performing Role 1. Delegate delivers the WG Report outcome at the WG adoption session in the role of the Troika. Delegate engages in lobbying with INGOs and NHRIs prior the simulation days, during the Pre-Sessions and on the day of preparation to Item 6.
➤ <u>Main assignments, Role 2</u> ○ Draft and present Opening Statement and State's Final WG Report and Addendum. ○ Engage in interactive dialogue with other participating States, INGOs and NHRI during State's Item 6 Adoption Session. ○ Draft and perform the Closing Statement.	➤ <u>Main assignments, Role 2</u> ○ Engage in lobbying with INGOs and NHRIs during the Pre-Session day. ○ Act as Troika to another participating State, supporting it in the WG Report draft. Present the WG Report outcome from the State of which they were assigned to be the Troika at its respective Adoption Session. ○ Deliver the WG Report outcome at the WG Adoption Session in the role of the Troika (mentioning, inter alia, the number of recommendations received, accepted and noted by the assigned State under Review). ○ Draft and expose remarks, comments or concerns regarding the Final WG Report and Addendum of further participating States during their Item 6 Adoption Sessions.

Detailed information on the State Teams' assignments is provided in Chapter 3.

2.2. Participation in pairs representing NGOs or NHRIs

In the Model UPR, four **international NGOs** (INGOs) will cover the human rights situation in at least 3 of the represented States and may focus on a specific human rights area.

Four **NHRIs** will cover the overall human rights situation of one of the participating States, namely that in which the NHRI is situated.

Both NHRIs and INGOs shall develop alliances among each other and lobby with participating States to have their recommendations included in the WG session, and their arguments considered and discussed in the Item 6 Session.

Overall, 8 teams represent INGOs and NHRIs:

- 4 teams represent International NGOs
 - Each team has 2 members as INGO representatives.
- 4 teams represent NHRIs
 - Each team has 2 members as NHRI representatives.

Tasks are distributed between INGOs and NHRIs as follows:⁶

a) INGOs:

- Each INGO should discuss the human rights situation in *at least 3 of the participating States*.
- Each INGO may focus on a specific human rights area (according to its thematic specialization).
- Each INGO should present its reports.

b) NHRIs:

- Each NHRI should discuss the overall human rights situation in the *specific country in which they are located*.
- Each NHRI should present its reports.

2.2.1. Roles of INGOs and NHRIs

INGOs and NHRIs Teams should participate in an active dialogue with each other before and during the simulation. In addition, the INGOs and NHRIs Teams are expected to engage with the States Teams and lobby for human rights improvements (NHRIs shall focus research efforts and recommendations on the State they are located in). During the lobbying, INGO/NHRI Teams should encourage

⁶ The following bullet points are an overview of the tasks of a team representing an INGO/NHRI/Local NGO. Further details on the deadlines as well as the characteristics of written submissions follow in Chapter 3 and in the Appendix.

participating States to support their recommendations and include them in their agenda.

The INGO/NHRI Teams have to represent the INGO/NHRI as authentically as possible and reflect upon the diplomatic reality.

INGO/NHRI Teams have to do the following:

- Get in touch and keep contact with other INGOs/NHRIs and develop alliances among each other.
- Write an INGO/NHRI Report (1.000 - 1.500 words).
- Present the report during the Pre-Session (10 mins).
- Engage in lobbying and report on the lobbying prior to Item 6.
- Prepare comments and questions for Item 6 (based on the WG Report and its Addendum and further reliable information) and present their final remarks during the dialogue during the Item 6.

All representatives are required to be present on-site.⁷

⁷ Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis in the event of unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances.

CHAPTER 3: ASSIGNMENTS

Data for the assignments shall be collected from official sources, including UPR Info and official United Nations websites (e.g. the compilation of UN Information, summary of stakeholders information (INGO/NHRI submissions) and the National Report), avoiding the usage of speculative sources, such as newspapers and artificial intelligence-generated content.

All participants are encouraged to complete an optional, but strongly recommended, assignment: an online quiz developed by the Secretariat to verify and improve participants' knowledge about the Model UPR and the content of this Handbook. The quiz will be held during the last training session.

3.1 States Teams

3.1.1 Definition of Internal roles

As explained in the previous chapter, (2.1.3. Suggested Role Distribution within State Teams (Box 1)), State Teams are composed of four delegates who assume specific roles during the simulation days. Despite the division into specific roles, all delegates are encouraged to work collaboratively during the research process and the drafting of documents.

State Teams shall provide the following information to the Secretariat regarding the assignment of on-site delegate roles (Roles 1 and 2 in Box 1).

- a. Indicate which delegate will represent the State during its Review in the respective Working Group (WG) Session (**SuR Role 1**). An official title for this delegate must also be specified, e.g. "Attorney General of the Republic of X".
- b. Indicate which delegate will represent the State during the Adoption of its Final WG Report and Addendum in the respective Item 6 Session (**SuR Role 2**). An official title for this delegate must also be specified, e.g. "Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of XXX to the United Nations Office in Geneva".
- c. Indicate which delegate will represent the State during the review of the other participating States in the WG Sessions and will draft the WG Report outcome at the WG Adoption Session in the role of the Troika (**RS Role 1**). An official title for this delegate must also be specified e.g. "Chairperson, the National Gender and Equality Commission".
- d. Indicate which delegate will represent the State during the Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of further participating States in the Item 6 Session, and will draft and deliver the WG Report outcome at the WG Adoption Session in the role of Troika (**RS Role 2**). An official title for this delegate must

also be specified, e.g. “Chairperson, the National Gender and Equality Commission”.

For each of the four State roles above, participants are expected to consult official sources in order to provide titles that are accurately close to the real State’s positions and practices during the UPR process.

3.1.2 Acting as a State under Review: National Report

The National Report must reflect the current human rights situation of each participating State. It shall also include information regarding the steps taken to implement the recommendations received in previous UPR cycles.

The report shall be drafted with a maximum of 5.000 words and it should follow the guidelines provided by the Secretariat. Additionally, the report must be written according to the style and structure typically used by each State in their official UPR submissions.

Each National Report will be read by all participating States and Civil Society Organizations in order to provide solid ground material to draft recommendations, comments, and remarks, as well as to facilitate discussion during the respective WG sessions.

3.1.3 Advance Written Questions

Each participating State (RS) may submit Advance Written Questions (AWQ) to the other five participating States (SuR) regarding their human rights performance. These questions shall be based on the content of the respective States’ National Report and information drawn from reliable sources, such as the UPR Compilation of UN Information and the Summary of Contributions of Stakeholders.

If AWQ are submitted, the number and format should reflect the real practices and behaviour of the State at the UPR. For example, some States may not submit AWQ to other politically aligned States.

3.1.4 Interaction with INGOs/NHRIs

INGOs and NHRIs can express their views on the human rights situation of the State under Review (SuR) through lobbying with Recommending States (RS). The RS may incorporate this information in their recommendations during the WG sessions.

Each participating State shall engage in the lobbying process according to their political position in reality. Lobbying shall begin prior to the simulation days, through

the Moodle platform, and is important during the Pre-Session and in the preparation day for Item 6.

3.1.5 Acting as a Recommending State: Recommendations, remarks, comments and concerns

Each participating State acting as RS shall draft remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations for each of the other participating States regarding their human rights performance. These shall be based on: the information provided in the States' National Reports, reliable external sources, including the UPR compilation of UN information and the summary of contributions of stakeholders, and insights from lobbying with Civil Society Organizations. The number and format of these contributions shall also reflect the real behavior and submissions of States at the UPR.

Among these tasks, the most important component is the recommendations, which can cover a wide range of human rights issues. They represent the main added value and outcome of the WG session, as they shall be accepted or noted by the SuR and their implementation status will be assessed through the Item 6 and further UPR Reviews.

The remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations shall be presented orally during the review of each respective participating State in the WG sessions. The oral presentation may differ from the written draft, and it is the responsibility of the Troika to oversee the content presented by each Recommending State regarding its assigned State, as the WG Report is based on the recommendations made orally.

Format:

There is no word limit for the remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations. However, there is a strict speaking-time limit of 01:30 minutes (one minute and thirty seconds) for each delegate during the WG session. Any content that is **not** said orally during the delegate's statement in the WG session will not be included in the official outcome report. Therefore, the written remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations should be as concise and precise as possible to allow the delegate to effectively present their content within the short speaking timeframe during the WG session.

The remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations should be written and delivered in a diplomatic language that mirrors the represented States' usual performance in the UPR. The UPR is a collaborative and non-confrontational mechanism. Therefore, recommendations must preserve appropriate manners.

The remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations shall begin with a short introduction and formal address to the President of the HRC and to the State under review, on behalf of the RS. They should include an acknowledgment of the SuR's implementation of previous recommendations, followed by expressions of concern about the human rights situation in the SuR. Finally, the recommendations themselves must be named. The recommendations must provide constructive critique, be precise, action-oriented, and adhere to the **SMART criteria** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound). To ensure clarity, the word "recommend" must be included before each recommendation in order to distinguish them as official recommendations (and not solely comments or remarks). Usually, a State presents 2 to 3 recommendations per statement. Further details can be provided in the respective Training Sessions.

The written remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations shall be uploaded to Moodle in .pdf format by the assigned deadline. The oral presentation of the statement should be performed by the delegate representing the RS during the WG sessions on the other participating States (RS Role 1).

3.1.6 Acting as a State under Review: Opening Statements

Participating States acting as SuRs shall prepare and deliver opening statements in two scenarios at the Model UPR:

- (i) During their respective review during the WG session** - when they, inter alia, present their National Report and respond to the Advanced Written Questions posed by their peers.
- (ii) During Item 6** - when they briefly present and comment their conclusions regarding the final WG Report and Addendum (not forgetting to thank the support provided by the Troika).

Participants shall verify through official sources how their assigned States behave at the UPR in order to fulfill this task properly. This includes determining whether and how they answer the Advanced Written Questions and how they normally present their National Report and conduct themselves during Item 6.

Format and deadline:

- (i) Opening Statement during WG Session: The oral presentation shall be performed during the State's respective review at the WG sessions and should last 10 minutes, following the State's behavior and style applied in reality. The written draft of this opening statement shall be delivered to the Secretariat **before the WG session**, via the Moodle platform in .pdf format.
- (ii) Opening Statement during Item 6: The oral presentation shall be performed during the State's respective Item 6 and should last 4 to 5 minutes, following the

State's behavior and style applied in reality. The written draft of this opening statement shall be delivered to the Secretariat **before the Item 6 Session** via the Moodle platform in .pdf format.

3.1.7 WG Report

The review of each participating State during the WG sessions shall be reflected in these reports. After the presentation of the National Report and the interactive dialogue in which the RS' recommendations are delivered, the respective SuR shall draft this report with the support of the Troika, indicating the recommendations that it accepts or notes.

In order to facilitate this task, the Troika will receive a written draft of the remarks, comments, concerns and recommendations concerning their assigned State, already in a WG Report format (**the Troika is strictly forbidden to reveal the content of this document to their assigned state before or during its review**). During the review, the Troika shall take note on which and how the recommendations were orally presented by the RS and update the received draft accordingly. As discussed above, only the recommendations that are presented orally are considered. During the time given to the Troika and the SuR to draft the WG Report, the SuR shall approve or modify the draft updated by the Troika and indicate which of the mentioned recommendations will be accepted or noted.

The WG Report, emphasizing the number of received, accepted and noted recommendations, will be presented by the Troika at the end of the WG session during the WG Report Adoption of the respective SuR. One of the Troika members (RS Role 2) shall present the outcome in an oral presentation of max. 5 minutes. The SuR then reacts with a concluding statement of max. 5 minutes.

Deadline: The final draft of the WG Report, along with the written draft of the speech provided by the Troika, shall be delivered to the Secretariat via the Moodle platform in .pdf format by the end of each block of reviews (i.e., after the review of three States).

3.1.8 Acting as a State under Review: Final WG Report and Addendum

The final WG Report and Addendum (= one document) shall clearly reflect the position of the SuR on the recommendations received during the WG session as well as the steps taken by the SuR towards the implementation of recommendations received during the WG session. **Normally, the time span represents approximately 6 months counted from the end of the WG sessions.** In the Model UPR, the participants are expected to be creative in devising/figuring out possible positions and actions that the respective States would adopt. The role of the SuR is to provide

information on the progress made towards noted recommendations and present the justification for the decision. It shall reflect the possible behavior of the assigned State in reality. It is a projection developed by participants following States' social and political current circumstances and human rights track.

3.1.9 Acting as a Recommending State: Notes, remarks, concerns or comments to Item 6

Each participating State acting as RS shall draft remarks, comments and concerns to each participating State regarding the final WG Report and Addendum. These remarks, comments and concerns can be enriched through lobbying. Their number and format shall also respect the real behavior of States at the UPR. Participants shall verify through official sources how their assigned States normally behave at the real UPR. The remarks, comments and concerns shall be orally presented during the review of each respective participating State in the Item 6 Session.

3.1.10 Acting as a State under Review: Closing/final Statements

Participating States acting as SuR shall provide closing/final statements in three scenarios at the Model UPR:

(i) At their respective review during the WG session - when they, inter alia, comment on their review process and respond (when adequate) to the recommendations, questions, and remarks posed by their peers.

(ii) At the Adoption of their WG Report during the WG session - when they, inter alia, thank their Troika, their peers, the President of the HRC and provide concluding remarks about their WG Report.

(iii) At Item 6 - when they briefly respond to concerns presented by further States and Civil Society Organizations and present conclusions. After the other States' considerations, the SuR shall thank their peers and the President of the HRC.

Participants shall verify through official sources how their assigned States normally behave at UPR in order to fulfill this task properly.

Format and deadline:

(i) The statement shall last 90 seconds. The written draft of this closing/final statement shall be delivered to the Secretariat **before the WG session** via the Moodle platform in .pdf format. Its oral presentation shall be performed during the State's respective review at the WG sessions.

(ii) The statement shall last 2 minutes. The written draft of this closing/final statement shall be delivered to the Secretariat **before the WG session** via the Moodle platform in .pdf format. Its oral presentation shall be performed during State's respective WG Report Adoption session.

(iii) The statement shall last 2 minutes. The written draft of this closing/final statement shall be delivered to the Secretariat **before the HRC Item 6 Session** via the Moodle platform, in .pdf format. Its oral presentation shall be performed during State's respective Item 6 Adoption.

3.2 INGOs/NHRIs

3.2.1 Definition of internal roles and human rights areas covered by INGOs

INGOs Teams shall provide the following information to the Secretariat:

1. Which team member will play the role of the researcher and which the role of the representative.
2. A title for both team members, e.g. "Director of field operations in xxx" for the representative and "Rapporteur for (a certain area of human rights) in xxx" for the researcher. Participants are expected to check official sources in order to provide a title that is close to the INGOs behavior at the real UPR.
3. What specific human rights thematic(s) will be covered by the INGO Team.

NHRIs shall provide the following information to the Secretariat:

1. Which team member will play the role of the researcher and which the role of the representative.
2. A title for both team members, e.g. "Reporter on xxx" for the representative and "Investigator for (a certain area of human rights) in xxx" for the researcher. Participants are expected to check official sources in order to provide a title that is close to the NHRIs behavior at the real UPR.

3.2.2 INGOs/NHRIs Report/UPR submission

The report/UPR submission shall be drafted with a maximum of 1.500 words, following the specifications provided by the Secretariat during the training prior to the simulation and according to the style used by each INGO and NHRI in reality.

The report/UPR submissions from **INGOs** shall cover their chosen thematic area, presenting the human rights status quo in this specific thematic area of at least 3 participating States, providing a follow up to the previous UPR States' Review and posing adequate recommendations regarding possible improvements. INGOs that cover similar themes or States may cooperate and present a joint report.

NHRIs' reports should present an accurate account of the human rights situation in their respective State. They shall address all relevant issues, providing follow-up information on the recommendations noted or accepted, and offer new recommendations and remarks to address any gaps or challenges.

3.2.3 Lobbying with States Teams and Lobbying Plan

With regards to lobbying, historical and seasonal alliances among States shall be taken into consideration. For example: China tends to ally with Russia due their similar political agenda. Therefore, it is unlikely that these two States would pose many recommendations to each other. However, both would tend to make recommendations to the USA, maintaining the alignment to their political agenda.

Lobbying shall take place during 3 stages throughout the simulation:

1. After the delivery of the INGO and NHRI Reports as well as National Reports, targeting Advance Written Questions:

- a. **INGOs** shall identify possible States that could support their agenda and extend their recommendations to participating States of interest. For example, if INGO X has gender issues as a thematic area and takes as one of its targets improving the gender situation in State Y, it shall identify if State A, B and C would pose Advance Written Questions to State Y regarding gender issues. INGOs can propose specific recommendations or general ones. INGOs can also partner up with NHRIs in order to present a united front regarding a specific subject – identify similar recommendations from NHRIs.
- b. **NHRIs** shall work in a similar way as INGOs, searching for States that might support their recommendations and that might include the recommendations in their Advance Written Questions. Partnership with International NGOs regarding specific issues are recommended – a united front is more coherent and therefore stronger.

During this stage lobbying can be made using the Moodle platform as well as private online means.

2. During the Pre-Session day, targeting recommendations that will be made in the Working Group Session:

- a. CSOs shall analyze Advance Written Questions submitted by States, identifying States that were supportive to their agenda and seek further support during the WG sessions. Additionally, they shall work on different strategies to approach less supportive States. New partnerships can be developed. The aim is to convince as many States as possible to include certain recommendations to their list of recommendations to target other States during the WG day.

On this stage, lobbying can be made using the Moodle platform, private online means, as well as present/online meetings on the day of the Pre-Session.

3. On the Item 6 preparation day:

- a. CSOs shall analyze States' final WG Reports and Addendums. They shall then convince as many States and other CSOs as possible to inquire about the measures taken by the target States regarding accepted recommendations. In case the measures taken by the respective State are deemed as inadequate or insufficient, CSOs shall ask for further improvements.

At this stage, lobbying can be conducted using the Moodle platform and private present/online meetings.

After analyzing participating States' historical alliances with CSOs as well as their respective National Reports, INGOs and NHRIs shall develop a **Lobbying Plan**. This Lobbying Plan should expose which States they intent to approach, the reasons behind this choice and the strategy that will be applied to convince the respective State to include INGOs/NHRIs recommendations in the form of Advance Written Questions, recommendations or remarks (that will be presented during the WG Session and during Item 6). The report shall be drafted with a maximum of 1.000 words, following the model provided by the Secretariat.

3.2.4 INGOs/NHRIs presentation – Pre-Session

During the Pre-Session day, the INGO/NHRI representatives shall present their organization's report/UPR submission in an up to 10 minutes (20 minutes in case of a Joint Report) presentation. This presentation shall be delivered to the Secretariat accompanied by a PowerPoint to facilitate its projection. The design of each presentation shall follow the team's choice.

3.2.5 Lobbying Report – Notes, remarks, concerns or comments to Item 6

The Lobbying Report shall be drafted with a maximum of 1.000 words, following the guidance provided by the Secretariat. INGOs and NHRIs shall expose the outcomes of their Lobbying Plans elaborating on their achievements and shortcomings in each step of the lobbying process (prior to the simulation, during the Pre-Session day and prior to Item 6).

Furthermore, INGOs shall provide the Secretariat with a written draft of the notes, remarks, concerns or comments that they plan to present during Item 6 on each participating State (max 1 min). NHRIs are required to present notes, remarks, concerns or comments only regarding the State they are located in (max 2 mins).

CHAPTER 4: PROCEDURES DURING THE SIMULATION

4.1 On-site participation

The simulation will take place on-site. The **four** delegates from each participating State and the **two** INGO/NHRI representatives must be able to attend on-site.

Participants who are no longer able to take part are expected to inform the Secretariat as early as possible. The Secretariat may appoint a replacement participant where necessary: the participants are expected to suggest a replacement, who shall be familiar with the Model UPR process and with the role of the team.

Participants who do not attend the required on-site sessions without valid reasons are not eligible to receive a certificate of participation. In cases of internal team-related issues, including disagreements or difficulties in fulfilling assigned responsibilities or tasks, teams are encouraged to resolve matters through internal coordination, while the Secretariat may provide guidance or support when necessary to maintain the effective functioning of the simulation.

4.2 Rules of Conduct

Teams are expected to:

- Adhere to the schedule and rules of the game of the Model UPR, including full attendance during the simulation week and in the four online training sessions between 19 - 30 October, and meet the deadlines for written submission prior to the simulation;
- Speak English fluently, since it is the official working language of the Model UPR;
- Use formal and diplomatic language in the written reports and oral presentations;
- Raise placards to participate in the discussion and only speak when the floor is given to you;
- Finish all interventions with the phrase "Thank you";
- Stand up when speaking to show respect;
- Avoid using mobile phones during the formal sessions as it is prohibited;
- Refer to the President (moderator/chair) of the session as "Mr./Madam President";
- Refer to other delegates as "Fellow Delegate(s) of (name of the State...)";
- Professional conduct (language, demeanour, and tone) is required throughout the duration of the simulation, including the Lobbying Sessions (online and on-site).

4.2.1 Online participation - Rules of Conduct

The 2026 edition is planned to take place **fully on-site**. However, in training sessions and in case of any changes or circumstances which would warrant a fully or partially online event, the following rules should be applied.

Teams are expected to:

- Adhere to the schedule and rules of the game of the Model UPR;
- Speak English fluently, since it is the official working language of the Model UPR;
- Use formal and diplomatic language in the written reports and oral presentations;
- Press the “wave” emoji if participants intend to speak and wait until they are given the floor;
- Start all interventions with the phrase “Mr./Madam President” or “Fellow Delegate(s) of (the name of the State...)”;
- Finish all interventions with the phrase “Thank you”;
- Mute their microphones when they are not speaking in order to avoid any disturbance;
- Keep their cameras on throughout the whole session;
- Write as their Zoom name the name of the State/NHRI/INGO they are representing and their last name, as in the following example: Austria - Ms. Anderson;
- Speak loudly, clearly and with a steady tempo in order to be understood and to avoid causing confusion;
- Be patient. The quality of the internet connection may vary depending on the peculiarities of each location etc., a fact that could possibly affect the quality of the sound and of the pixel analysis;
- Communicate and collaborate with the fellow team members through the private Zoom chat in order to exchange necessary information;

4.3 Welcome Session

On the day before the Pre-Session, participants are invited to join an on-site Welcome Session with the aim of familiarising with other participants. The Session will be held on-site, but we will accommodate those participants who for exceptional circumstances will not be able to attend the Session in person.

4.4 Pre-Session

During the Pre-session, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) will present their reports and lobby with the RS1 and RS2 of the participating States with whom they wish to

speak to. The aim of the Lobbying session is to influence States into including in their agenda/recommendations the suggestions of the CSOs.

It is recommended that all participants refer to **Chapter 3** to acquire detailed information regarding Pre-Session's mandatory assignments and to the Annex for the specific timeline.

Example of an Agenda

This schedule is not definitive. Participants will be provided with a detailed agenda closer to the commencement of the simulation.

Pre-Session (17th of November) (time zone: CET)	Morning: 9.20 am - 3:00 pm	
	9:20 - 9:40 am	Opening
	9:40 - 9:50 am	Presentation INGO 1
	9:50 - 10:00 am	Presentation INGO 2
	10:00 - 10:10 am	Presentation INGO 3
	10:10 - 10:20 am	Presentation INGO 4
	10:30 - 11:00 am	Coffee-break
	11:05 - 11:15 am	Presentation NHRI 1
	11:15 - 11:25 am	Presentation NHRI 2
	11:25 - 11:35 am	Presentation NHRI 3
	11:35 - 11:45 am	Presentation NHRI 4
	12:00 - 1:10 pm	Lunch break
	1:15 - 14:45 pm	Alliance building and lobbying with States

Participants will be informed of any schedule changes in due time.

4.5 WG Session: UPR States' Review, WG Report by Troika and its Adoption

It is recommended that all participants refer to **Chapter 3** to acquire detailed information regarding WG session's mandatory assignments and to the Annex for the specific timeline.

Example of an agenda:

This schedule is not definitive. Participants will be provided with a detailed agenda closer to the commencement of the simulation.

WG Session (18th of November) (time zone: CET)	Morning: 10.00 am - 12:30 pm	
	10:00 - 10:05 am	Opening
	10:05 - 10:25 am	Review of State 1
	10:25 - 10:45 am	Review of State 2
	10:45 - 11:05 am	Review of State 3
	11:05 - 11:50 am	Draft of WG Report with Troikas
	11:50 - 11:55 am	Opening
	11:55 - 12:05 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 1
	12:05 - 12:15 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 2
	12:15 - 12:25 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 3
	12:25 - 12:30 pm	Closing of morning session <i>(Deadline for the States reviewed in the morning to submit their WG Report, Troika and States' closing speeches)</i>
	12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch break
	1:30 - 1:35 pm	Opening
	1:35 - 1:55 pm	Review of State 4
	1:55 - 2:15 pm	Review of State 5
	2:15 - 2:35 pm	Review of State 6
	2:35 - 3:20 pm	Draft of WG Report with Troikas

	3:20 - 3:25 pm	Opening
	3:25 - 3:35 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 4
	3:35 - 3:45 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 5
	3:45 - 3:55 pm	Adoption of the WG Report of State 6
	3:55 - 4:00 pm	Closing of afternoon session <i>(Deadline for the States reviewed in the afternoon to submit their WG Report, Troika and States' closing speeches)</i>

4.5.1 Structure of WG Review

Duration: Each State Review lasts max. 20 mins.

In order to understand the flow of the simulation, please take into account that during WG sessions, when one State is being reviewed (as a State under Review), the other five States perform as Recommending States. For example, in the second WG round, when State 1 is performing as a SuR, States 2 - 6 are acting as Recommending States.

The process should happen as follows:

1. State under Review - Opening Statement/ National Report presentation (10 mins.);
2. Interactive dialogue: 3 Recommending States - Recommendations, remarks, comments or concerns - 1:30 mins. each;
3. SuR representative comments - 1:30 mins;
4. Interactive dialogue: 2 Recommending States - Recommendations, remarks, comments or concerns - 1:30 mins. each;
5. SuR representative closing remarks - 1:30 mins;
6. Review closes.

4.5.2 Troika - Draft of WG Report

Duration: max. 45 mins.

Each SuR will be matched with one RS, that will be performing as its Troika.

1. All participants have 5 minutes to leave the main room so that State members acting as SuR 1 and 2 can find space to work with their assigned Troika;

2. The Troika will have received the WG Report template with the comments, remarks, concerns and recommendations. The Troika should adapt this template during the WG Review to include or exclude content in case of discrepancies between the written and oral delivery (the oral delivery is the definitive one). The Troika will find the drafted written recommendations of all the RS on the Moodle platform (Chapter 4 - 4.8), which the RS have uploaded in the previous afternoon;
3. The Troika work lasts 45 mins. – States shall decide which recommendations will be noted or accepted. The Troika can support the decision process. The WG Report final draft shall be reviewed and approved by the SuR and then delivered to the Secretariat;
4. The Troika drafts a speech for the Adoption. Members acting as SuR draft their final remarks. Both drafts shall be delivered to the Secretariat by the end of each session's closing (morning/afternoon respectively);
5. All participants have 5 minutes to return to their seats.
6. The Adoption of the 1st round begins.

4.5.3 WG Report Adoption

Duration: Each WG Report Adoption lasts max. 10 mins.

The process is the following:

1. The President opens the adoption;
2. Troika delivers the WG Report outcome (max. 5 mins.);
3. The President opens the floor for comments (max. 1 min. per RS);
4. SuR representative answer, when seen fit (2 mins.);
5. The President calls for objections;
6. Adoption of the WG Report;
7. SuR final remarks (2 mins.);
8. The President closes the session.

After the lunch break the 2nd WG Review and Adoption round begins.

4.6 Preparation for Item 6

It is recommended that all participants refer to **Chapter 3** to acquire detailed information regarding this day's mandatory assignments and to the Annex for the specific timeline. During this day, teams shall work on their assignments in private

locations. The work will be based on the WG Reports. The Reports will be made available on Moodle.

Example of an agenda:

This schedule is not definitive. Participants will be provided with a detailed agenda closer to the commencement of the simulation.

Preparation for Item 6 (19th of November) (time zone: CET)	11:00 am	Deadline for Final WG Report and Addendum
	1:00 - 3:00 pm	INGOs and NHRIs shall lobby with States to have their agenda added to the remarks of the RS members (on site)
	4:00 pm	Deadline for notes, remarks, concerns or comments for State members acting as RS
	4:00 pm	Deadline for the opening statement for State members acting as SuR
	4:00 pm	Deadline for the INGOs and NHRIs Lobbying Reports and notes, remarks and comments to Item 6

4.7 Item 6, awards & closing ceremony

It is recommended that all participants refer to **Chapter 3** to acquire detailed information regarding Item 6 mandatory assignments and to the Annex for the specific timeline.

Example of an agenda:

This schedule is not definitive. Participants will be provided with a detailed agenda closer to the commencement of the simulation.

Item 6 (20th of November) (time zone: CET)	Morning: 9:00 am - 2:45 pm	
	9:00 - 9:05 am	Opening
	9:05 - 9:30 am	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 1
	9:35 - 10:00 am	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 2

	10:05 - 10:30 am	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 3
	10:35 - 11:00 am	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 4
	11:05 - 11:30 am	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 5
	11:35 - 12:00 pm	Adoption of the Final WG Report and Addendum of State 6
	12:00 - 12:05 pm	Closing of session
	12:05 - 12:30 pm	Break and internal meeting of the Secretariat for definition of awarded participants
	12:30 - 1:45 pm	Awards and closing ceremony
	1:45- 2:45 pm	Lunch break

4.7.1 On-site participation

All State delegates and INGO/NHRI representatives must attend this event on-site.

4.7.2 Item 6

The HRC Plenary session Item 6 discusses the UPR. The aim is to debate about any subject that the review was not able to address, with States and Civil Society Organizations, and to adopt the UPR outcome report (WG Report and its Addendum). Comments, remarks, concerns and questions may be raised - normally just INGOs pose questions. Following the debate, this outcome is then adopted. The delegates performing as SuR may or may not answer the comments, concerns, or questions. They shall present an opening statement about the outcome and also make final remarks.

Item 6 Adoption sample:

Duration: Each State Review lasts max. 25 mins.

1. Opening (4 mins.);
2. State X's presentation of its State's Addendum, views and conclusions regarding the Final WG Report (4 to 5 mins.);
3. State's NHRI remarks, comments and concerns (max. 2 mins. *per* NHRI);
4. Other participating States' remarks, comments and concerns (max. 1 min. *per* State) - optional;

5. INGOs' remarks, comments and concerns (max. 1 min. *per* INGO) - optional;
6. State X's closing remarks and replies to concerns (2 mins.);
7. Adoption of the outcome.

4.7.3 Awards & Closing Ceremony

During the simulation, the performance of the Model UPR teams will be evaluated according to clearly defined criteria explained in **Chapter 5** and **communicated during the Training Sessions**. Awards are granted to those participants who exhibit exemplary performance during the simulation. Awards will be given to the teams with an outstanding performance in the respective category:

The Best State under Review Award

Will be awarded to one of the SuR Delegations who actively engaged during the simulation. The team should display a profound knowledge of the national human rights issues of the State it represents, exhibit a synchronized team strategy during the simulation and approach the respective States/INGOs and NHRI critically and realistically.

The Best Recommending State Award

Will be awarded to one RS Team for its outstanding performance during the Model UPR and its authentic representation of the assigned State. It will be awarded to a team that shows great potential during the simulation, participates actively in the discussions and shows a systemic assessment of their roles through the strategies they exhibit during the simulation.

The Best INGO Delegation Award

Will be awarded to one INGO Delegation, considering its understanding of the political standpoint and delegation behavior of the assigned INGO. The INGO will be evaluated based on their representation during the lobbying, the Pre-Session and the Item 6. The participants need to demonstrate a sound knowledge of the national human rights issues of the represented States and an exceptional understanding of the human rights advocacies of the INGO they choose to represent.

The Best NHRI Delegation Award

Will be awarded to one NHRI Delegation considering their understanding of the political standpoint and delegation behavior of the assigned NHRI. The NHRI will be evaluated based on their representation during the lobbying, the Pre-Session and the Item 6. The participants need to demonstrate a sound knowledge of the national human rights issues of the represented States and an exceptional understanding of the human rights advocacies of the NHRI they represent.

Best performing team according to the participants

Will be awarded to one team among all participating actors, considering the participants' perceptions of its overall performance. At the end of the WG session, a poll will be made available on Moodle inviting all the participants to vote for the best performing team according to their personal perception. Participants are therefore encouraged to actively follow all sessions and observe the other participants' contributions in order to vote for the most outstanding performance during the award ceremony.

Regardless of the above-mentioned awards, each participant will receive a **certificate of participation and an Open Badge Certification in International Negotiation** for their engagement in the Model UPR. The awards and certificates of participation will be awarded during the official closing ceremony.

CHAPTER 5: EVALUATION

The evaluation of the written and oral contributions by the teams is based on the criteria explained below. For written contributions, the participants will be evaluated based on their submission via Moodle. This evaluation will also be taking place during activities that are parallel to the UPR simulation (e.g. UPR Implementation).

Evaluation criteria

Content (display of knowledge, factual accuracy, and quality of recommendations):

The participants must accurately present the most relevant human rights issues and correctly present the working area of the actor they represent. The recommendations must tackle the most pressing human rights issues and are relevant and realistic. In written contributions, the sources should be primary sources, of a high quality and of a high variety.

Authenticity (role play, interaction with others, diplomatic language):

The participants should use diplomatic language, engage actively with other participants, and establish strategic alliances with other stakeholders, where possible, and stick to historical alliances and a realistic behavior and style adopted by the actors. While authenticity is crucial to both the simulation and the evaluation, we ask all participants to be respectful towards the others.

Public speaking skills (stress resistance, spontaneity and active engagement):

The participants should present their statements in a professional and polite manner.

Structure (clarity, coherence, adequate and convincing arguments)

The participants should structure their contribution in a clearly understandable and coherent way. Arguments should be supported by adequate and convincing facts.

Time/Deadline

If participants speak for more than 15 seconds than their allocated time, one point will be deducted. If participants hand in their written contributions more than 1 hour after the deadline (without justifying reasons as extraordinary circumstances) one point will be deducted.

Plagiarism

If more than 25% of plagiarism is detected, 1 point will be deducted for each 5% (e.g. -1 for above 25%, -2 for above 30%, -3 for above 35%, -4 for above 40%, -5 for above 45%). Reports containing more than 50% of copied text without proper reference and citation will be rejected.