



No. Sp/Proc/1/2025

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and has the honour to refer to communication AL PAK 1/2025 dated 18 February 2025.

The Permanent Mission has the further honour to attach the response of the Government of Pakistan to the communication under reference.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl: as above



Geneva, 09 February 2026

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais Des Nations
1211 Geneva 10

Government of Pakistan's response to Communication AL PAK 1/2025

With reference to the communication AL PAK 1/2025 dated 18 February 2025, the Government of Pakistan would like to provide the following information:

The Constitution of Pakistan guarantees fundamental rights of all citizens and establishes clear mechanisms for the administration of justice. Article 9 provides that no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty except in accordance with law. Article 10 lays down procedural safeguards against arbitrary arrest and detention, including the right to be informed of the grounds of arrest, the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of one's choice, and the right to be produced before a magistrate within twenty-four hours of arrest. Article 10A enshrines the fundamental right to a fair trial and due process in the determination of civil rights and criminal charges. Article 14 guarantees the inviolability of human dignity and expressly prohibits torture for the purpose of extracting evidence. Article 19 guarantees freedom of speech and expression, including freedom of the press, subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by law.

The province of Balochistan continues to face a sustained campaign of terrorism and violence perpetrated by proscribed militant organizations, including the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and its Majeed Brigade (MB). These groups are designated terrorist organizations under Schedule I of Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, and are also listed by the United States, the United Kingdom, and other States.

The BLA and MB have consistently targeted civilians, public infrastructure, and security personnel, resulting in significant loss of life and disruption of essential services. Over the past year alone, these groups carried out more than 500 attacks against law enforcement agencies, 208 attacks against civilians, and 27 attacks targeting civil administration.

In this context, security operations undertaken by the State are aimed at countering an acute and ongoing terrorist threat and are conducted in accordance with domestic law and Pakistan's international legal obligations. These measures are necessary, proportionate, and directed exclusively against proscribed terrorist entities, with due regard to the protection of civilians and the rule of law.

All counter-terrorism and security measures have been undertaken strictly within the parameters of these constitutional provisions and the relevant statutes, including the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), 1997, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860. These measures remain subject to judicial oversight and review by competent courts.

The Government of Pakistan categorically rejects the allegation of any state-sanctioned policy of enforced disappearances. Pakistan operates under a legal framework where all arrests must comply with constitutional and statutory procedures. To

address grievances, the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances (COIED) was established. Since inception of COIED, a total of 2905 missing persons cases pertaining to Balochistan have been registered, out of which 2748 cases have been resolved. The remaining 157 cases are still under investigation. The Government of Pakistan has approved provision of support package of Rupees five million (5,000,000) each for one-thousand (1000) deserving families of missing persons as part of its broader efforts to provide relief and support.

The allegations of extra-judicial killings and torture are also unfounded. Pakistan's security forces operate under strict rules of engagement. Torture is expressly prohibited under Article 14(2) of the Constitution. The Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention and Punishment) Act, 2022, provides a comprehensive legal framework criminalizing torture and custodial deaths and establishes mechanisms for investigation and prosecution.

The Constitution guarantees every citizen's "right to assemble peacefully and without arms, subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interest of public order." Any dispersal of assemblies is conducted by law enforcement agencies in accordance with the law only when assemblies turn violent, block vital infrastructure, or are infiltrated by armed elements. All such actions are carried out strictly in accordance with the law and remain subject to judicial scrutiny.

The Government of Pakistan categorically rejects assertions regarding the establishment of any unconstitutional or extra-legal "internment centers." It is clarified that detention facilities are established and operated strictly under the Actions in Aid of Civil Power Regulation, 2011, duly enacted by Parliament to address exceptional security situations. The legal framework ensures that detainees are afforded due process protections and that the operation of such centers conforms fully with the Constitution of Pakistan and applicable statutory provisions. These facilities are officially notified, function under civilian administrative control, and are subject to constitutional safeguards, including access to judicial oversight and review by competent courts.

Pakistan is a party to several core international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention against Torture (CAT), and engages constructively with United Nations human rights mechanisms. While the complex security environment in certain parts of the country necessitates law-enforcement action, such measures are implemented in full conformity with domestic law and Pakistan's international human rights obligations. Pakistan's independent judiciary remains the ultimate forum for the redress of any alleged violations of fundamental rights.
