

Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

Ref.: UA BLR 13/2023

(Please use this reference in your reply)

22 December 2023

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 53/19, 51/8, 54/14, 51/21 and 52/4.

In this connection, we would like to bring the attention of your Excellency's Government to information we have received concerning **the alleged prolonged *incommunicado* detention of Mr. Mikalai Statkevich and Ms. Maria Kalesnikava, which may amount to enforced disappearances, and partial restriction on communication with the family imposed on Mr. [REDACTED]**.

According to the information received:

Mr. Mikalai Statkevich

Mr. Mikalai Statkevich is a prominent figure among Belarusian political opposition. In 2010, he ran as a candidate for presidential elections. On the day of the announcement of the election results, he was arrested, ill-treated and later convicted to six years of imprisonment for having organized a mass riot. Reports about his arbitrary detention and torture, along with that of other presidential candidates, journalists and human rights defenders were denounced by several Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (*BLR 1/2010, 22 December 2010, in A/HRC/18/51*). On 4 May 2011, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions issued an opinion finding that the deprivation of liberty of Mr. Statkevich was arbitrary and in breach of article 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*A/HRC/WGAD/2011/13*). Mr. Statkevich was convicted to an imprisonment of six years, reportedly under article 293 of the Criminal Code related to mass riots, but was released in 2015 on a presidential pardon. The Human Rights Committee found that Belarus had violated Mr. Statkevich's right not to be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, his right to liberty and security of person and his right to fair trial, under articles 7, 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*Human Rights Committee, Views of 26 October 2021, CCPR/C/133/D/2619/2015*).

In the run-up to 2020 presidential elections, Mr. Statkevich was arrested. On 14 December 2021, he was sentenced to 14 years of imprisonment by the

Homiel Regional Court under article 293 of the Criminal Code (organisation of mass riots). On 20 June 2022, he was escorted to the penal colony No. 13 in Hlybokaje, Vitebsk region. In prison, he has been subjected to over 20 disciplinary sanctions, including confinement in a punitive isolation cell in conditions which may amount to torture. He has spent the majority of his time in prison in solitary confinement.

In November 2022, he was transferred to a prison hospital due to a pneumonia. His family has been denied a possibility to pass him personal items, including warm winter clothes. The penitentiary administration refused to accept the clothes brought by the family and sent the clothes back on two occasions when the family attempted transmitting them by post.

The last letter received from Mr. Statkevich from was dated beginning of February 2023. No information has been shared with his family about his fate. His legal counsel has made several attempts to visit him in the penal colony No. 13, but the penitentiary administration denied access claiming that Mr. Statkevich had not applied for legal assistance.

Towards the end of November 2023, multiple sources circulated information that Mr. Statkevich had died in prison and his death was concealed.

Ms. Maria Kalesnikava

Ms. Maria Kalesnikava was one of the leaders of peaceful protests in the aftermath of the contested 9 August 2020 presidential elections. On 7 September 2020 she was abducted by Belarusian authorities and held *incommunicado* until 10 September 2020. On 16 September 2020, several Special Procedures mandate holders expressed concerns about her alleged subjection to enforced disappearance and gender-based violence because of her role in the organization of and participation in peaceful assemblies (*BLR 7/2020*).

Following a trial behind closed doors, she was convicted on 6 September 2021 by the Minsk Regional Court under article 361 (3) of the Criminal Code for “calls for action against national security”, article 357 (1) of the Criminal Code for “conspiracy to seize power in an unconstitutional manner” and article 361-1 (1) of the Criminal Code for “creation and administration of an extremist formation”. She was sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment.

She has been serving her sentence in the Correctional colony № 4 in Homiel since January 2022. In November 2022, Ms. Kalesnikava was taken from detention to the intensive care unit at the hospital in Homiel. Her father was later informed that she underwent emergency surgery due to a perforated ulcer. After a very short stay at the hospital, she was transferred back to the penal colony, where she had no access to adequate medical treatment nor diet needed for her recovery and management of her health condition. Reportedly, prior to her emergency transfer to the hospital, Ms. Kalesnikava was kept in solitary confinement as a punishment measure, which included deprivation of access to lawyer and communication with family.

Special Procedures mandate-holders have repeatedly raised concerns about her ill-treatment in prison, including denial of access to proper medical treatment despite life-threatening health deterioration, as well as about her incommunicado detention (*BLR 8/2022 and BLR 3/2023*). In addition, several mandate holders had previously expressed concerns about Ms. Kalesnikava's enforced disappearance and attempted forced expulsion from Belarus in connection to her activity as part of the opposition associated with the Coordination Council (*AL BLR 7/2020*).

Ms. Kalesnikava has been held *incommunicado* since 2 February 2023, when she was allowed to meet her lawyer for the last time. Since then, her legal counsel has not been allowed into the prison on the grounds that she had not requested meetings with them, as required by article 83 of the Penal Enforcement Code of Belarus. Moreover, after the detention in March 2023 and disbarment of attorneys who defended Ms. Kalesnikava and other prominent political figures, Ms. Kalesnikava's family have not been able to find a lawyer who would accept to visit her in prison.

Ms. Kalesnikava has not made any phone calls since November 2022 and has not met her family since 5 December 2022, when her father visited her in the medical unit of the Correctional colony No. 4. The last letter from Ms. Kalesnikava was dated 12 February 2023. In March-July 2023, Ms. Kalesnikava's family and legal counsel submitted complaints about her *incommunicado* detention to the Correctional colony No. 4, the Public Prosecutor of Homiel and the Interior Ministry's Penal Enforcement Department in Homiel region. The complaints were dismissed, in particular, on the grounds that Ms. Kalesnikava's family had received information about her state of health (letter of the Department of the Penal Enforcement Department of 19 June 2023), missing substance and information about the victim (letter of the Public Prosecutor of Homiel of 25 July 2023) and absence of new circumstances (letter of the Penal Enforcement Department of 27 July 2023)

Mr. [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED] is a human rights defender, member of the Human Rights Center Viasna Board and vice-president of the International Federation for Human Rights. On 3 March 2023, he was convicted by the Lieninski District Court of Minsk under article 228 (4) of the Criminal Code (smuggling) and article 342 (2) of the Criminal Code (funding group actions that grossly violate public order) and sentenced to 9 years in prison. Several Special Procedures mandate holders denounced his arrest, prosecution and imminent sentencing, which "seem[ed] to form part of a pattern and unfolding policy to silence human rights defenders and eradicate civil society and their activities in Belarus" (*BLR 1/2023*). On 21 April 2023, the Minsk City Court rejected Mr. [REDACTED] appeal against this sentence.

On 2 May 2023, it became known that Mr. [REDACTED] had been transferred from remand prison No.1 in Minsk to the Penal colony No 15 in Mahiliou. In July 2023, he was permitted to call his wife for the first time in two years since his detention in 2021. From July 2023 to September 2023, he had four phone calls with his family. The last call lasted only 6 minutes. Under article 86 (1)

of the Penal Enforcement Code, prisoners have the right to telephone calls, including using video communication systems, with close relatives of up to fifteen minutes.

Since September 2023, Mr. [REDACTED] has not been allowed to have telephone calls with his wife and children, who have left Belarus. He can only call his mother and sister. Mr. [REDACTED] was told that phone calls with his wife were not possible because she had a foreign phone number, even though video calls can be made via Skype. Yet, even after Mr. [REDACTED] wife changed her phone number to a Belarussian one, the phone calls have not been allowed.

While we do not wish to prejudge the accuracy of the information made available to us, we would like to express our utmost concern about the alleged long-term *incommunicado* detention and ill-treatment in prison of Mr. Mikalai Statkevich and Ms. Maria Kalesnikava and the information circulating about Mr. Statkevich's possible death in detention. These alarming reports come against the background of several recently confirmed deaths of prisoners in Belarus (*see, for example, BLR 6/2023*).

We would like to stress that it appears from the alleged facts that the deprivation of liberty of Ms. Statkevich and Ms. Kalesnikava, followed by denial of communication with the outside world since February 2023, reportedly without any possibility for their families and legal counsel to obtain clear information about their fate and whereabouts, may amount to enforced disappearances. In addition, their prolonged *incommunicado* detention creates a risk for them to be submitted to grave human rights violations, including torture and arbitrary deprivation of life. We would also like to underline that the severe anguish caused to family members of victims of enforced disappearances due to the absence of information about the fate and whereabouts of their loved ones amounts in itself to a form of cruel and inhuman treatment.

In addition, we wish to express concerns about the reported denial of the detainees' right to communicate with their family members, including the possibility for Mr. [REDACTED] to communicate with family members outside of Belarus.

In connection with the above allegations, we would like to remind your Excellency's Government of the following relevant international human rights standards, which appear to be disregarded in light of the reported allegations.

Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by Belarus on 12 November 1973, guarantees the right to life. Loss of life occurring in custody, in unnatural circumstances, creates a presumption of arbitrary deprivation of life by State authorities, which can only be rebutted on the basis of a proper investigation that establishes the State's compliance with its obligations under article 6 (*Human Rights Committee, General comment No. 36, CCPR/C/GC/36, para. 29*).

Torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment are prohibited under article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 7 of the ICCPR and articles 1, 2 and 16 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, ratified by Belarus on 13 March 1987.

Article 9 of the ICCPR guarantees everyone's right to liberty and security of person. The right to security of person protects individuals against intentional infliction of bodily or mental injury, regardless of whether the victim is detained or non-detained (*Human Rights Committee, General comment No. 35, CCPR/C/GC/35, para. 9*).

Under article 10 of the ICCPR, all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated humanely and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person. Paragraph 1 of the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 45/111, and Rule 1 of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules) provide that all prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings. Articles 7 and 10 of the ICCPR require that "persons deprived of their liberty must not be subjected to any hardship or constraint other than that resulting from the deprivation of liberty". (*Human Rights Committee, Dafnis v. Greece, Views of 19 July 2022, CCPR/C/135/D/3740/2020, para. 8.5*).

Under article 16 of the ICCPR, everyone shall have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

With regard to the alleged enforced disappearances, should the allegations turn out to be true, those could amount, according to the Human Rights Committee (General Comment No. 35, CCPR/C/GC/35, paragraph 17; General Comment No. 36, CCPR/C/GC/36, paragraphs 57-58) and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, to violations of article 6 (right to life), article 7 (prohibition of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment), article 9 (liberty and security of person) and article 16 (right to recognition as a person before the law) of the ICCPR, read alone and in conjunction with its article 2 (3). Equally, the right not to be subjected to an enforced disappearance is of a non-derogable nature and the prohibition of this crime has attained the status of jus cogens.

We would like to recall the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, adopted by the General Assembly Resolution 47/133 on 18 December 1992. Pursuant to article 7 of the Declaration, no circumstances whatsoever, whether a threat of war, a state of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked to justify enforced disappearance. Moreover, articles 9-12 establish the guarantees to be afforded to any person deprived of liberty. In this connection, we stress that a failure to acknowledge deprivation of liberty by state agents and refusal to acknowledge detention constitute an enforced disappearance, even if it is of a short duration. Article 13 of the Declaration sets forth the State's obligation to investigate promptly, thoroughly and impartially any complaints of enforced disappearance. Article 19 of the Declaration requires that victims of acts of enforced disappearance and their family obtain redress and integral reparation for the harm suffered. The Declaration also proclaims that each State shall take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and terminate acts of enforced disappearance in any

territory under its jurisdiction.

Pursuant to the 2019 Guiding Principles for the Search for Disappeared Persons (*CED/C/7*), States are under an obligation to search for the disappeared. In particular, the search for a disappeared person should begin without delay (Principle 6) and is an obligation of continuing nature (Principle 7). Moreover, pursuant to Principle 4, in cases involving women who have disappeared, all stages of the search should be conducted with a gender perspective and staff, including female staff, who have received proper training.

We would like to remind your Excellency's Government that enforced disappearance has different impact depending on whom it targets. For instance, according to the Study on enforced or involuntary disappearances and economic, social and cultural rights by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (*A/HRC/30/38/Add.5*), human rights defenders are also targeted to intimidate and prevent others from claiming and exercising their rights. Due to the collective character of certain economic, social and cultural rights, the disappearance of one person may have a negative effect on the larger community. Similarly, the General comment on women affected by enforced disappearances adopted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (*A/HRC/WGEID/98/2*) stresses, inter alia, the differentiated effects of enforced disappearances in women and girls. In particular, States must acknowledge disappeared women, and recognize the particular types of harm they suffer based on their gender, including instances of sexual violence, and the resulting psychological damage and social stigma as well as the disruption of family structures.

The anguish and distress caused to family members of the disappeared persons due to lack of information about the fate of their loved ones amounts to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, prohibited by article 7 of the ICCPR and article 16 of the Convention against torture (*Human Rights Committee, Quinteros v. Uruguay, CCPR/C/19/D/107/1981, para. 14; CAT, Francisco Dionel Guerrero Larez v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, decision of 15 May 2015, CAT/C/54/D/456/2011, para. 6.10*).

Regarding the imposition of disciplinary sanctions on prisoners, we would like to draw your Excellency's Government's attention to Rule 39 (2) of the Nelson Mandela Rules, which requires proportionality between a disciplinary sanction and the offence for which it is established and requires that prison administrations keep a proper record of all disciplinary sanctions imposed. Under Rule 43, in no circumstances may restrictions or disciplinary sanctions amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including prolonged and indefinite solitary confinement. Disciplinary sanctions or restrictive measures shall not include the prohibition of family contact. Under article 45, solitary confinement shall be used only in exceptional cases as a last resort, for as short a time as possible and subject to independent review, and only pursuant to the authorization by a competent authority. It shall not be imposed by virtue of a prisoner's sentence.

As per Rule 41, any allegation of a disciplinary offence by a prisoner shall be reported promptly to the competent authority, which shall investigate it without undue delay. Prisoners shall be informed without delay of the nature of the accusations against them and shall be given adequate time and facilities for the preparation of their defence. Prisoners shall be allowed to defend themselves in person, or through

legal assistance when the interests of justice so require, particularly in cases involving serious disciplinary charges. Prisoners shall have an opportunity to seek judicial review of disciplinary sanctions imposed against them.

We would like to further draw the attention of your Excellency's Government to the fact that prolonged *incommunicado* detention is incompatible with article 2(1) of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which requires States parties to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent acts of torture (*CAT, Djamila Bendib v. Algeria, Decision of 8 November 2013, para. 6.4; CAT, Rached Jaïdane v. Tunisia, Decision of 11 August 2017, CAT/C/61/D/654/2015, para. 7.6*), and with the prohibition of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under article 7 of the ICCPR (*Human Rights Committee, Salah Drif and Khoukha Rafrat v. Algeria, Views of 8 July 2022, CCPR/C/135/D/3321/2019, para. 8.6; Human Rights Committee, general comment no. 20 (1992)*).

We respectfully remind that the General Assembly has repeatedly affirmed that “prolonged *incommunicado* detention or detention in secret places can facilitate the perpetration of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and can in itself constitute a form of such treatment” and urged “all States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person and to ensure that prolonged *incommunicado* detention and secret places of detention and interrogation are abolished” (*GA, Resolutions of 15 December 2022 (A/RES/77/209, para. 18), 18 December 2019 (A/RES/74/143, para. 17), 19 December 2017 (A/RES/72/163, para. 16), 17 December 2015 (A/RES/70/146, para. 13), 18 December 2013 (A/RES/68/156), para. 27), 19 December 2011 (A/RES/66/150, para. 22), 18 December 2009 (A/RES/64/153, para. 20)*).

As per article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, ratified by Belarus on 12 November 1973, States parties recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and take steps to achieve the full realization of this right, including those necessary for the creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness. In particular, States are under the obligation to respect the right to health by refraining from denying or limiting equal access for all persons, including prisoners (*CESCR, General Comment No. 14 (2000), para. 34*).

The Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners, adopted without vote by the General Assembly Resolution 45/111 on 14 December 1990, provide that all prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings (Principle 1). Prisoners shall have access to health services available in the country without discrimination on the grounds of their legal situation (Principle 9).

According to Rule 13 of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules), all accommodation provided for the use of prisoners, in particular all sleeping accommodation, shall meet all requirements of health, due regard being paid to climatic conditions and particularly to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation. Under Rule 24 (f), the provision of health care for prisoners is a State responsibility, free of charge, without discrimination and at the same level as the health care services provided in the community. Rule 27 provides that prisoners requiring specialized

treatment or surgery shall be transferred to specialized institutions or to civil hospitals. Under Rule 42, general living conditions addressed in the Nelson Mandela Rules, including those related to light, ventilation, temperature, sanitation, nutrition, drinking water, access to open air and physical exercise, personal hygiene, health care and adequate personal space, shall apply to all prisoners without exception.

We would like to remind your Excellency's Government that the Human Rights Committee has recommended that Belarus strengthen its efforts to improve conditions of detention and the provision of adequate and timely medical care, in accordance with the ICCPR and the Nelson Mandela Rules (*Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of Belarus (2018), CCPR/C/BLR/CO/5, para. 36 (b)*). The Committee against Torture has recommended that Belarus "[i]mprove access to and the quality of health care, including psychiatric care, for prisoners in all places of deprivation of liberty" and "increase the number of professional medical staff in all detention facilities and ensure their independence and impartiality" (*CAT, Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of Belarus (2018), CAT/C/BLR/CO/5, para. 22 (f)*).

The United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) complementary to the Nelson Mandela Rules, address specific needs of women in detention. We would like to recall that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has recommended that Belarus improve the conditions of detention for women, in line with the Bangkok Rules.

Under Rule 58 of the Nelson Mandela Rules, prisoners shall be allowed to communicate with their family and friends at regular intervals by corresponding in writing and using, where available telecommunication, electronic, digital and other means, and by receiving visits. Under Rule 61(1), prisoners shall be provided with adequate opportunity, time and facilities to be visited by and to communicate and consult with a legal adviser of their own choice or a legal aid provider, without delay, interception or censorship and in full confidentiality, on any legal matter, in conformity with applicable domestic law.

We would also like to refer to the fundamental principles set forth in the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, also known as the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. In particular, we would like to refer to articles 1 and 2 of the Declaration, which state that everyone has the right to promote and to strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels and that each State has a prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms. We would further wish to stress article 12 (2) of the Declaration, which affirms that the State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or de jure adverse discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in the Declaration.

The full texts of the human rights instruments and standards recalled above are available on www.ohchr.org or can be provided upon request.

In view of the urgency of the matter, we would appreciate a response on the initial steps taken by your Excellency's Government to safeguard the rights of the above-mentioned person(s) in compliance with international instruments.

We are issuing this appeal in order to safeguard the rights of abovementioned individuals from irreparable harm and without prejudicing any eventual legal determination.

As it is our responsibility, under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for your observations on the following matters:

1. Please provide any additional information and any comment you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.
2. Please provide, without delay, information about the fate and whereabouts of Mr. Mikalai Statkevich and Ms. Maria Kalesnikava.
3. Please provide a proof of life and information about the current state of health of Mr. Mikalai Statkevich and Ms. Maria Kalesnikava.
4. Please ensure, without delay, that Mr. Mikalai Statkevich, Ms. Maria Kalesnikava and Mr. [REDACTED] are urgently provided with adequate medical treatment and ongoing access to quality medical care.
5. Please ensure, without delay, that Mr. Mikalai Statkevich, Ms. Maria Kalesnikava and Mr. [REDACTED] can communicate without restriction with all their close family members, without exception, and with legal counsel of their choosing.
6. In the event of death of Mr. Mikalai Statkevich and Ms. Maria Kalesnikava, please return the bodily remains to the families and ensure prompt, efficient and impartial investigation, providing their families and legal representatives access to the available information on the evolution and results of the ongoing investigation.

While awaiting a reply, we urge that all necessary interim measures be taken to prevent any irreparable harm to the life and personal integrity of the persons concerned, halt the alleged violations and prevent their re-occurrence and, in the event that the investigations support or suggest the allegations to be correct, to ensure the accountability of any person responsible of the alleged violations.

We may publicly express our concerns in the near future as, in our view, the information upon which the press release will be based is sufficiently reliable to indicate a matter warranting immediate attention. We also believe that the wider public should be alerted to the potential implications of the above-mentioned allegations. The press release will indicate that we have been in contact with your Excellency's Government's to clarify the issue/s in question.

Further, we would like to inform your Excellency's Government that after having transmitted the information contained in the present communication to the

Government, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention may also transmit the case through its regular procedure in order to render an opinion on whether the deprivation of liberty was arbitrary or not. The present communication in no way prejudices any opinion the Working Group may render. The Government is required to respond separately to the allegation letter and the regular procedure.

Similarly, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances may also transmit the above cases under its humanitarian mandate. We wish to note that the latter shall be considered independently and in addition to the present joint urgent appeal, and that the Government is required to respond to them separately.

We would appreciate receiving a response within 60 days. Past this delay, this communication and any response received from your Excellency's Government will be made public via the communications reporting [website](#). They will also subsequently be made available in the usual report to be presented to the Human Rights Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Anaïs Marin

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus

Matthew Gillett

Vice-Chair on Communications of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Aua Baldé

Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Tlaleng Mofokeng

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

Mary Lawlor

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders