

Saudi Arabia

1 December 2023

Human Rights & Counterterrorism



Recommendations made during UPR III

Supported: 122.91 (Austria)

Suggested recommendation for UPR IV:

Amend the Counter-Terrorism Law to adopt a terrorism definition in line with international human rights standards, so as not to criminalise acts falling under the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.

State Security Apparatus



Recommendations made during UPR III

None

Suggested recommendation for UPR IV:

- Ensure that the SSP is subjected to independent and impartial judicial oversight;
- Ensure procedural legal safeguards to all those falling under the counterterrorism legal framework, including by allowing them to challenge their detention and by establishing maximum periods of detention;
- End the practice of bringing peaceful dissidents before the SCC.

Arbitrary detention

Recommendations made during UPR III

Supported: 122.117 (Australia)

Suggested recommendation for UPR IV:

- Amend the Basic Law and the 2017 Counter-Terrorism Law to ensure that those arrested by the SSP are brought promptly before a judicial authority;
- End the practice of arbitrary detention in accordance with the Basic Law;
- End the practice of incommunicado detention and prevent detention in secret or unknown locations;
- Amend relevant legislation to ensure procedural guarantees are afforded, including access to a lawyer.