



INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS, LAWS, PUBLIC POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Updated: December 2025

1. Unfortunately, no progress was recorded during 2024 and 2025 regarding the ratification of the European Social Charter (revised). Also, there was no progress regarding the acceptance of Article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which enables citizens to submit individual complaints to the Committee that monitors its implementation and the protection of their human rights.
2. Croatia has not yet acceded to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which denies citizens the possibility of submitting individual complaints to the UN's independent committee responsible for the protection of social, economic and cultural rights. Croatia has also not expressed its intention to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
3. Although the Human Rights Action Plan for 2025 envisaged strengthening the implementation of international and regional instruments relating to the protection and promotion of human rights (objective 1, measure 1.1), Croatia still does not have a functional system for coordinating and preparing reporting and implementing recommendations from international human rights mechanisms, which leads to several years of delay in reporting on the implementation of conventions and the unsystematic implementation of the recommendations received.¹
4. After 19 years, Croatia submitted a periodic report on the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography after 2023, while the report on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women has still not been submitted.
5. There has been no progress in translating the recommendations and opinions of UN committees that monitor the implementation of human rights conventions into Croatian, which would make them more accessible to the professional and general public.
6. The implementation of the National Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights and Combating Discrimination for the period from 2021 to 2027 is difficult and unsystematic due to delays in the adoption and implementation of action plans.

¹ Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights for 2025, available at: <https://pravamanjina.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Akcijски%20plan%20za%20C5%A1tite%20i%20promicanja%20ljudskih%20prava%20za%202025.%20godinu.pdf#page=5.42>



7. Even in 2025, Croatia has not developed or adopted public policies in the area of creating an enabling environment for the development of civil society since the last one expired at the end of 2016.
8. There is still a possibility of dismissal of special ombudsmen and their deputies if the Croatian Parliament does not accept their annual reports, which are de facto reports on the state of human rights in the thematic areas of children's rights, gender equality and the rights of persons with disabilities. No steps have been taken to ensure the independence of the work of special ombudsmen from politics.



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