

The Database

The **ISI Database on Statelessness and Human Rights** consolidates **recommendations** made on statelessness under the auspices of different **UN human rights bodies** (e.g. the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review) in an accessible and user-friendly way to allow the user to research, compare and analyse the data.

Navigating the Database

To make the database easily navigable we used filters to categorize the recommendations. These filters are:

a) **Country** or **Region** under review

b) **UN Body** issuing the recommendations



Important Note: Under UN Body and for the UPR specifically you can also filter the recommendations based on the **UPR Reporting Cycle** (e.g. 2nd), the **Recommending State** (e.g. Nigeria) and whether the Recommendation was **Accepted** or **Noted** (denied) by the State under review.

c) **Theme** the recommendation relates to



Important Note: We **filter** the recommendations based on **pre-selected themes**. The themes are divided to **General Themes** and **Specific Themes**. There are 5 General Themes and under each General Theme there are **multiple Specific Themes**. To review the General Themes and Specific Themes and what their meaning is please see the [Annex](#).

d) **Year of Publication** of the recommendation

e) **Reference to Statelessness** through the recommendation



Important Note: **Reference to statelessness** relates to recommendations that refer to the issue of statelessness in a **clear way** by using the words or phrases like "statelessness", "stateless", "without a nationality" or referencing a stateless community like the Bidoon or Rohingya.

f) **Communities:** Stateless Communities or Communities at Risk of Statelessness the recommendation refers to

Search Keywords: You can also utilize the free text search option which allows you to search for recommendations by using keywords e.g. Rohingya, citizenship deprivation.

Examples of queries

You can choose to apply one or more filters to categorize the recommendations you would like to review by simply clicking on the filters you would like to apply for your search. You can also conduct cross country, body, year, or theme search by choosing e.g. more than one country.

Examples:

1. You can research recommendations issued on **gender discrimination** and statelessness to **Pakistan** by CEDAW (the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women).

Filters used: Country (Pakistan),
UN Body (CEDAW),
Specific Themes (Gender Discrimination)

2. You can research recommendations issued on **children** and statelessness in **Europe** and **the Americas** during the last **five years**.

Filters used: Region (Europe, the Americas),
General Themes (Children),
Publication Date (2015-2020)

3. You can research recommendations issued on **birth registration** to Angola by **countries of Africa** and were **accepted** by Angola during the **2nd Cycle** of the UPR.

Filters used: Country (Angola),
UN Body (UPR),
Reporting Cycle (2nd),
Recommending States (Africa),
Recommendation (Accepted),
Specific Themes (Birth Registration)

Annex

Themes

The **General Themes** appear at the top of each recommendation as bookmarks and are:



Stateless Persons (the treatment of stateless persons)

This refers to recommendations that concern the treatment / protection / status of stateless persons (cf. the 1954 Convention).



Nationality* (the right to a nationality)

This refers to recommendations aimed at ensuring everyone's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness through the lens of nationality.



Children (the child's right to a nationality)

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing every child's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness through the lens of children.



Discrimination (discrimination in access to nationality)

This refers to recommendations aimed at preventing discrimination in access to nationality and at preventing statelessness caused by discrimination.



Implementing measures (IM) (IM in matters of statelessness and nationality)

This refers to any recommendations that concern implementing measures regarding the right to a nationality, preventing statelessness or protecting stateless persons that States need to take or facilitate.

* The terms citizenship and nationality are used interchangeably by the UN bodies and are considered synonyms under this theme. However, a free text search for citizenship or nationality can only bring up references to the specific term, not both together.

The Specific Themes are:



Stateless Persons – Protection/Enjoyment of rights.

This refers to recommendations that concern the protection of stateless persons (e.g. from deportation) and the enjoyment of their human rights (e.g. access to education).

Stateless Persons – Detention

This refers to recommendations that concern the arbitrary detention of stateless persons due to their status and the further violation of their rights in detention.

Stateless Persons – Lack of documents/Access to documentation

This refers to recommendations that concern the provision or lack of documentation for stateless persons.

Stateless Persons – Identification and determination procedures

This refers to recommendations that concern the provision or lack of a procedure to identify and determine the status of stateless people.

Stateless Persons – Remedy/Reparation

This refers to recommendations on providing redress to stateless people (e.g. access to naturalization / recognition of nationality)

Stateless Persons – Other



Nationality - Loss/Deprivation

This refers to recommendations aimed at ensuring everyone's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness addressing cases of loss or deprivation of nationality (e.g. as a counter-terrorism measure for national security purposes).

Nationality - (Forced) migration context

This refers to recommendations aimed at ensuring everyone's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness in a (forced) migration context. (e.g. Syrian refugees)

Nationality - Access to nationality/Naturalization

This refers to recommendations aimed at ensuring everyone's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness by facilitating access to nationality /naturalization process.

Nationality – Nationality/Identity documentation

This refers to recommendations aimed at ensuring everyone's right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness by providing nationality/identity documentation.

Nationality – Other



Children - Born on territory

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing the right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness of children born in the State's territory.

Children - Born abroad

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing the right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness of children born outside the State's territory but still under its responsibility.

Children - Foundlings/Unaccompanied/Orphaned/Abandoned/Separated children

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing the right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness of children in a risky situation.

Children - Adoption/Surrogacy

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing the right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness of children in the context of adoption or surrogacy.

Children - Birth registration

This refers to recommendations aimed at realizing the right to a nationality and at preventing statelessness of children by ensuring the formal registration of children at birth (e.g. birth certificates).

Children – Other



Discrimination – Gender

This refers to recommendations aimed at preventing gender discrimination in accessing nationality and at preventing statelessness caused by gender discrimination.

Discrimination - Race/Ethnicity

This refers to recommendations aimed at preventing racial/ethnic discrimination in accessing nationality and at preventing statelessness caused by racial/ethnic discrimination.


Discrimination – Religion

This refers to recommendations aimed at preventing religious discrimination in accessing nationality and at preventing statelessness caused by religious discrimination.

Discrimination – Disability

This refers to recommendations aimed at preventing disability discrimination in accessing nationality and at preventing statelessness caused by disability discrimination.

Discrimination – Other



Implementing measures - International instruments

This refers to recommendations that urge the State to ratify or withdraw its reservations on international instruments (e.g. treaties) regarding the right to a nationality, preventing statelessness or protecting stateless persons.

Implementing measures - Data collection / monitoring / reporting

This refers to recommendations that urge the State to collect data, engage in monitoring or reporting (e.g. to a local/UN body) regarding the right to a nationality, statelessness prevention or protection of stateless persons.

Implementing measures- Legislative / judicial / administrative action

This refers to recommendations that urge the State to take any form of legislative, judicial or administrative measure (e.g. amend its Nationality Act) at the domestic level regarding the right to a nationality, statelessness prevention or protection of stateless persons.

Implementing measures - Awareness raising / capacity building / training

This refers to recommendations that urge the State to raise awareness or facilitate capacity building / training programs (e.g. for state officials) regarding the right to a nationality, statelessness prevention or protection of stateless persons.

Implementing measures - Other

Please note that for each recommendation one or multiple General and Specific Themes may be relevant.

Regarding the **Specific Theme “Other”** note that the difference between e.g. General Theme ‘Children’ and Specific Theme ‘Children – other’ is that the General Theme refers to recommendations that have anything to do with the child’s right to a nationality, whereas ‘Children – other’ is about a more specific point regarding children being made in the recommendation that does not fit in any of the other Specific Themes. E.g. “States should make every effort to ensure a child’s right to a nationality and a name” would go under the General Theme.

