

Table 5: International human rights law landscape¹

Topic	Instrument	HRC and GA Resolutions	General comment	UNSR and OHCHR reports
Human rights	Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)	X	X	X
Digital rights		Protection of human rights online A/HRC/RES/20/8 A/HRC/ 32/L.2016 A/HRC/38/L.10./Rev.1 A/HRC/20/L.13 FoAA Online A/HRC/RES/21/16 , A/HRC/RES/24/5 Protecting HRDs online A/HRC/RES/22/6 UNGA Resolution - Right to privacy in a digital age A/RES/68/167		
Access to internet and ICTs	ICESCR (Article 15)	A/HRC/32/L.20 A/HRC/47/L.22		UNSR on FoE Report - Access to internet & FoE A/HRC/35/22

¹ Table of relevant international human rights law instruments for human rights online

				UNSR on FoE Report - Access to internet during pandemics A/HRC/44/49
Internet shutdowns		A/HRC/32/L.20 A/HRC/RES/38/7 A/HRC/RES/20/8 Restriction to internet during peaceful protests A/HRC/RES/38/11 UNGA Resolution on FoAA and internet shutdowns A/RES/73/173		UNSR on FoE Reports A/HRC/35/22 A/HRC/32/38 A/71/373 (p. 21, 22) A/HRC/44/49 (p. 26-29) A/HRC/35/22 (p. 8-16) A/HRC/17/27 (p. 30, 31) UNSR on FoAA Reports A/HRC/41/41 UNSR on FoAA & UNSR on extrajudicial executions A/HRC/31/66 (p. 75), Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and Responses to Conflict Situations
Privacy	ICCPR	UNGA Resolutions ICTs for development UNGA Res. 68/198 Right to privacy in digital age UNGA Res. 69/166 A/RES/68/167 A/RES/71/199 HRC resolutions on privacy A/HRC/DEC/25/117 Res. 37/2 (2018) HRC Res. 28/16 A/HRC/RES/34/7 , Restrictions on privacy - UNGA: A/69/397	Article 17 - Right to Privacy General Comment No. 16 (1988) General Comment No. 31 (2004) [using privacy under Art. 17 of the ICCPR as an example)	OHCHR and privacy in the digital age Annual reports from UNSR on privacy Reports from UNSR on right to privacy A/HRC/40/63 A/HRC/43/52 A/HRC/37/62 A/HRC/34/60 A/HRC/31/64 (data protection) A/75/147 A/74/277 UNSR on FoE report on privacy and expression A/HRC/23/40 A/HRC/29/32

				Report of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on privacy A/HRC/39/29
Data protection		Developments in the field of information and communications in the context of international security UNGA Res. 68/243		
Surveillance		HRC Panel on right to privacy in digital age Decision 25/117 (March, 2014) UNGA Resolutions on surveillance GA Res. 68/167 GA Res. 71/199 GA Res. 73/179		Report of UN entity on gender equality A/HRC/41/3 Report of UNSR on FoE on surveillance A/HRC/23/40 A/HRC/38/35/Add.2 (surveillance of journalists) A/HRC/23/40 A/HRC/35/22 OHCHR Report A/HRC/27/37
Content moderation				Report of UNSR on FoE on online content moderation A/HRC/38/35 A/HRC/35/22 A/HRC/32/38 Research on online content moderation by UNSR on FoE
Freedom of expression	ICCPR	UNGA Resolutions A/RES/68/163 (safety of journalists) A/RES/68/198 (ICTs for development) A/RES/68/243 (ICTs and international	General Comment No. 34 (2011) General Comment No. 22 (1993)	Reports from UNSR on FoE A/HRC/44/49, A/HRC/44/49/Add.2 A/71/373, A/HRC/29/32, A/69/335, A/HRC/26/30, A/HRC/20/17, A/66/290, A/HRC/14/23,

		security) UNGA Res. 70/184 (ICTs for development) GA Res. A/66/290 (W SIS outcomes) HRC Resolutions A/HRC/RES/24/21 (civil society) HRC Res. 26/13 (protection of human rights online) HRC Res. 12/16 HRC Res. 20/8 (protection of human rights online)		E/CN.4/1995/32, E/CN.4/1998/40, E/CN.4/1999/64 OHCHR Report on incitement to hatred A/HRC/22/17/Add.4 Report on independent fact-finding mission to Myanmar A/HRC/42/50
Access to Information				Report from UNSR on FoE on access to information A/72/350 A/70/361 (protection of whistleblowers) A/68/362 A/HRC/17/27 (access to information online) E/CN.4/2000/63
Hate speech	The Rabat Plan of Action Guiding principles on Business and Human Rights	HRC Resolution on combating religious intolerance and incitement to violence HRC Res. 16/18		Report of UN High Commission for Human Rights on incitement to national, racial or religious hatred A/HRC/22/17/Add.4 Reports from UNSR on FoE on hate speech A/HRC/38/35 A/73/348 A/74/486 A/67/357 Report on fact-finding mission to Myanmar A/HRC/39/64 Report from UNSR on

				countering terrorism A/HRC/40/52
Assembly and association		HRC Resolutions A/HRC/RES/21/16 Res. 24/5	Freedom of movement General Comment No. 27 (1999)	Reports from UNSR on FoAA
Gender	ICCPR Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	UNGA Resolution UNGA Res. 68/191 (gender related killings) A/RES/68/181 (protecting WHRDs) HRC Resolutions A/HRC/RES/23/2 (FoE and women empowerment) A/HRC/38/L.6 (violence against women in digital contexts) HRC Res. 31/7 (rights of child)	In 2017 the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women adopted General Recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women. This updated General Recommendation No. 19 included a reference to contemporary forms of violence against women occurring on the internet and in digital spaces. General Comment No. 18 (1989) (Non-discrimination)	SR VAW / WG Discrimination / Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on ways to bridge the gender digital divide from a human rights perspective Report of UNSR on FoE on gender and expression E/CN.4/2001/64 Women's Human Rights and Gender Equality Report from UNSR on violence against women A/HRC/38/47
Caste				UNSR on minority issues report A/HRC/31/56
Other topics		UNGA Resolution on safety of journalists A/RES/72/175 HRC Resolution on journalists A/HRC/RES/45/18 Role of civil society A/HRC/47/L.1		UNSR on FoE report on AI A/73/348

		New and emerging digital technologies and human rights A/HRC/47/L.12/Rev.1		
Counter terrorism	Counter terrorism: Human rights and preventing and countering violent extremism Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate	UNSC Resolutions: Res. 1373 (2001) Res. 1456 (2003) Res. 1624 (2005) Res. 2129 (2013) Res. 2178 (2014) S/2004/124 S/2005/800 S/2006/989		Reports to HRC A/HRC/15/15, A/HRC/43/46, A/HRC/40/52, A/HRC/37/52, A/HRC/34/61, A/HRC/31/65, A/HRC/29/51, A/HRC/25/59, A/HRC/22/52, A/HRC/20/14, A/HRC/16/51, A/HRC/16/51/Add.1, A/HRC/14/46, A/HRC/13/37, A/HRC/13/37/Add.1, A/HRC/10/3, A/HRC/10/3/Add.1, A/HRC/6/17, A/HRC/6/17/Add.1, A/HRC/4/26, A/HRC/4/26/Add.1, E/CN.4/2006/98, E/CN.4/2006/98/Add.1 Reports to GA A/75/337, A/74/335, A/73/361, A/72/495, A/71/384, A/70/371, A/69/397, A/68/389, A/67/396, A/66/310, A/65/258, A/64/211, A/63/223, A/62/263, A/61/267, A/60/370