

CANDIDATES FOR
THE POST OF UN
SECRETARY-GENERAL:

**Where do they stand on
human rights?**



UNIVERSAL RIGHTS GROUP

July 2016



I. CHOOSING THE NEXT SECRETARY-GENERAL

The role of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) is crucial for the fulfilment of this organisation's objectives and purposes. The Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer of the UN and, as such, holds the responsibility of administering all the UN programmes and agencies, performing all the functions entrusted by the different UN bodies, and bringing to the attention of the Security Council those issues that may represent a threat to international peace and security¹. According to the website of the current Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, 'equal parts diplomat and advocate, civil servant and CEO, the Secretary-General is a symbol of United Nations ideals and a spokesperson for the interests of the world's peoples, in particular the poor and vulnerable among them.'²

The UN Secretary-General is expected to promote the fulfilment of the UN's objectives across *all* of its three main pillars, namely peace and security, development, and human rights. Accordingly, on the last pillar mentioned, the Secretary-General should ensure that the UN fulfils its promise, as per the Charter, to 'promot[e] and encourag[e] respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all'³.

In late July 2016, the Security Council will begin deliberations on the candidates to be the next UN Secretary-General. According to article 97 of the UN Charter, the leading candidate will then be 'appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.'⁴ The Security Council's deliberations are held in private and any decision is subject to veto by the five permanent members.

The appointment procedure of the UN Secretary-General has been the focus of regular criticism due to its lack of transparency and inclusivity, especially in the context of such an important post. Over recent years, dissatisfaction has coalesced around a campaign known as '1 for 7 billion,' which has called for a more open, transparent, and meritocratic selection process. Together with parallel initiatives, such as reports and draft resolutions generated by the UN Ad-Hoc Working Group on 'the revitalisation of the work of the General Assembly,' the '1 for 7 billion' campaign became a 'driving force'⁵ behind moves at the UN to reform the Secretary-General selection process.

Those reforms were eventually set down in General Assembly resolution 69/321 (11 September 2015), through which States 'decided to conduct informal dialogues or meetings with candidates for the position of Secretary-General, without prejudice to any candidate who does not participate.' Later, the President of the 70th session of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr Mogens Lykketoft, 'with a view to facilitating an inspired interaction... invited [candidates] to provide a concise vision statement in a timely manner.'⁶ Mr Lykketoft also took steps to enhance civil society participation in the process, by allowing people from around the world to submit questions to the contenders.

The informal dialogues were held on 13, 14 April and 7 June, 2016, (see Figure 1). During such events, the candidates received a total of 875 questions presented by Member States (individually or jointly), civil society and the press (see Figures 2 and 3). The questions received by the candidates covered a variety of topics related to the three UN pillars, as well as UN administrative and management issues. Regarding human rights, the subjects addressed ranged from gender parity in the UN and refugee rights, to responsibilities borne by non-state actors. Notwithstanding, there was a particular focus on women's rights / gender equality and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). Regarding the 2030 Agenda, it is important to note that while many candidates linked the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with human rights (See Figure 1), questions concerning the 2030 Agenda did not explicitly make that link.

The vision statements, the recordings of the informal dialogues (including the civil society and the media interventions), and the official letters by UN Member States endorsing each candidate are published on the General Assembly's web page.⁷

Responding to these new opportunities for civil society and public engagement, in 2016 six NGOs,⁸ including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, put forward the following priorities for the next Secretary-General⁹:

1. Strengthen the impact of the UN on human rights.
2. Champion the rights of the marginalized people.
3. Seek to prevent and end mass atrocity crimes.
4. Combat impunity.
5. Defend civil society.
6. Ensure gender equality.
7. Deliver a new deal for refugees and migrants.
8. End the death penalty.

Similarly, the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) and around 80 other NGOs submitted to all the candidates a 'human rights defenders' agenda,¹⁰ including the key issues the new Secretary-General should consider in this regard.

Then, on 12 July 2016, candidates took part in a globally televised and webcast 'Town Hall' event at the UN, hosted by the President of the General Assembly and the Al Jazeera news channel. The UN Secretary-General's Global Town Hall meeting consisted of two debates, each with five candidates.¹¹ While there was some expectation, prior to the 'Town Hall' meeting, that it would have a particular focus on human rights because it was held shortly after the High-Level Thematic Debate on Human Rights, which took place in the context of the 50th anniversary of the International Human Rights Covenants and the 30th anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, in reality the debate was wide-ranging and addressed issues including, *inter alia*, management of the UN, peace and security, income and inequality, human rights, and reform of the United Nations and the Security Council.

It is important to note that the informal dialogues, vision statements, and Town Hall meetings, while an important innovation, are not part of the formal inter-governmental decision-making process for the selection of the next Secretary-General. The members of the Security Council are not bound to take the outcome of the interactive dialogues into account when choosing their preferred candidate. Notwithstanding, it is expected that the informal dialogues, together with the candidate's vision statements and their engagement with civil society and the media, will influence members of the Security Council and help inform their decision.

WHAT NEXT?

Since April 2016, members of the Security Council have been holding informal meetings and circulating papers regarding the procedure for selecting the next Secretary-General. At the begging of June, France, as President of the Security Council, distributed a paper setting out its proposals. After reviewing this paper, members agreed to hold a first straw poll on the 21 July 2016. A second straw poll may also be held in July, depending on the results of the first one.

The Security Council is expected to forward its recommendation to the General Assembly sometime between September and November, though it has recognised the importance of doing so early enough 'to allow adequate preparation time for the new Secretary-General before the beginning of his or her term of office on 1 January 2017.'¹²

New Secretary-Generals are normally appointed for a term of five years, renewable once. However, some States and civil society organisations have recently argued that this term limit should be changed to a single non-renewable term of 7 years in order to reduce the political influence of States, especially permanent members of the Security Council, over the incumbent.

II. THE CANDIDATES

As of July 2016, twelve candidates have been nominated for the position of Secretary-General.

At the beginning of the process, there was an unwritten understanding that the new Secretary-General should hail from a country of the UN's Eastern European Group (the only UN regional group to have never been represented in the Office of the Secretary-General). There was also a widely held view, especially among civil society, that the next Secretary-General should be a woman (all previous Office-holders having been men - see Figure 5).

Notwithstanding, as of July 2016, the list of candidates included individuals from the Western European and Others Group and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC), as well as the Eastern European Group; while the gender balance shows six men and six women (See Figure 1 and 5).

FIGURE 1: THE CANDIDATES

	Nominated by	Title of Vision Statement	Informal dialogue
I. Bokova 	Bulgaria 11 February 2016	Peace, sustainability and dignity – the new humanism of the world today	12 April 2016
H. Clark 	New Zealand 4 April 2016	A better, fairer, safer world	14 April 2016
C. Figueres 	Costa Rica 7 July 2016	Restoring hope	—
N. Gherman 	Moldova 19 February 2016	Vision statement	13 April 2016
A. Guterres 	Portugal 29 February 2016	Challenges and opportunities for the UN	12 April 2016
V. Jeremić 	Serbia 12 April 2016	Vision statement	14 April 2016
S. Kerim 	Macedonia 30 December 2016	New horizons manifesto	14 April 2016
M. Lajčák 	Slovakia 27 May 2016	Responsibility, accountability and leadership	7 June 2016
I. Lukšić 	Montenegro 15 January 2016	Ensuring an effective and efficient UN system in addressing existing and emerging challenges by extending partnerships and strengthening coordination: 'Responsibility, inclusiveness and engagement'	12 April 2016
S. Malcorra 	Argentina 23 May 2016	A UN centered on people, planet and prosperity; driven by issues; and focused on delivering impact	7 June 2016
V. Pusić 	Croatia 14 January 2016	UN vision statement	13 April 2016
D. Türk 	Slovenia 9 February 2016	Vision statement	13 April 2016

FIGURE 2: QUESTIONS ASKED TO EACH CANDIDATE, BY MEMBER STATES, THE CIVIL SOCIETY, AND THE MEDIA, DURING THE INFORMAL DIALOGUES

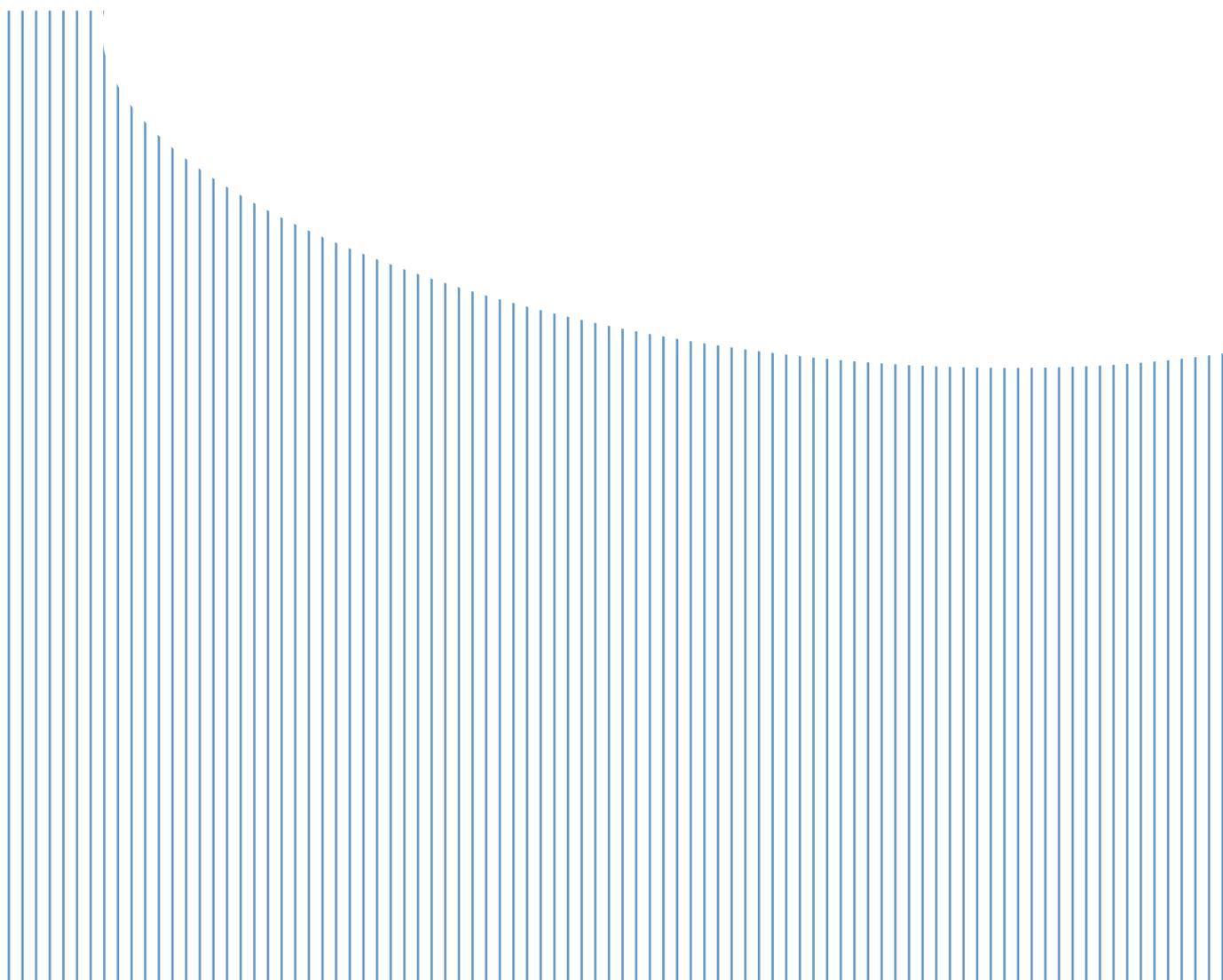
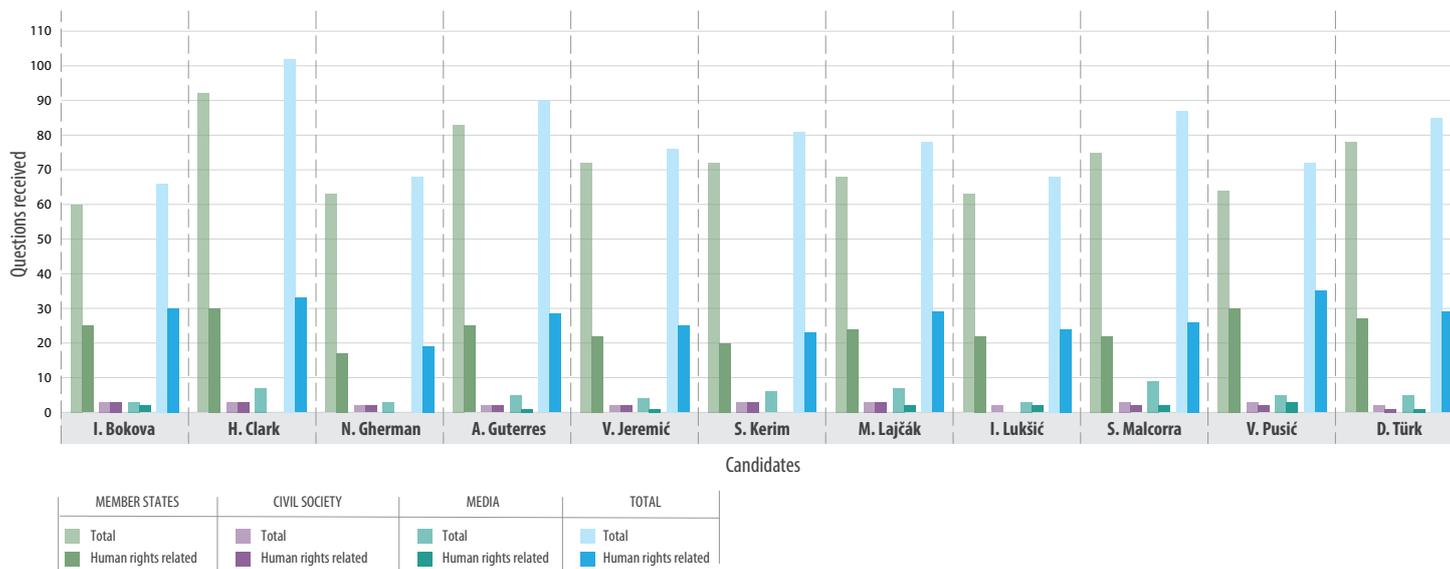


FIGURE 3: MEMBER STATES AND GROUPS OF STATES ASKING QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES TO SECRETARY-GENERAL DURING THE INFORMAL DIALOGUES

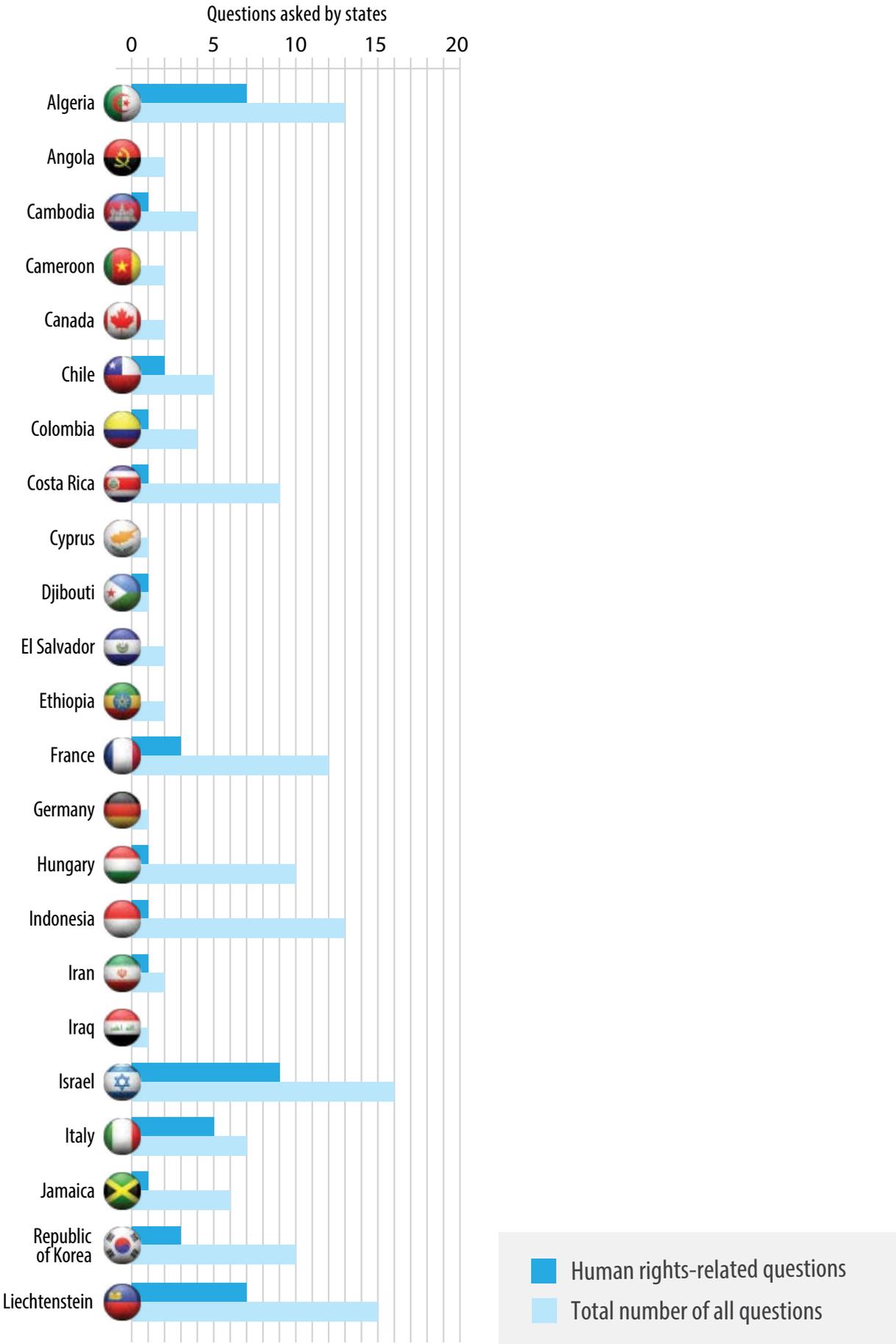


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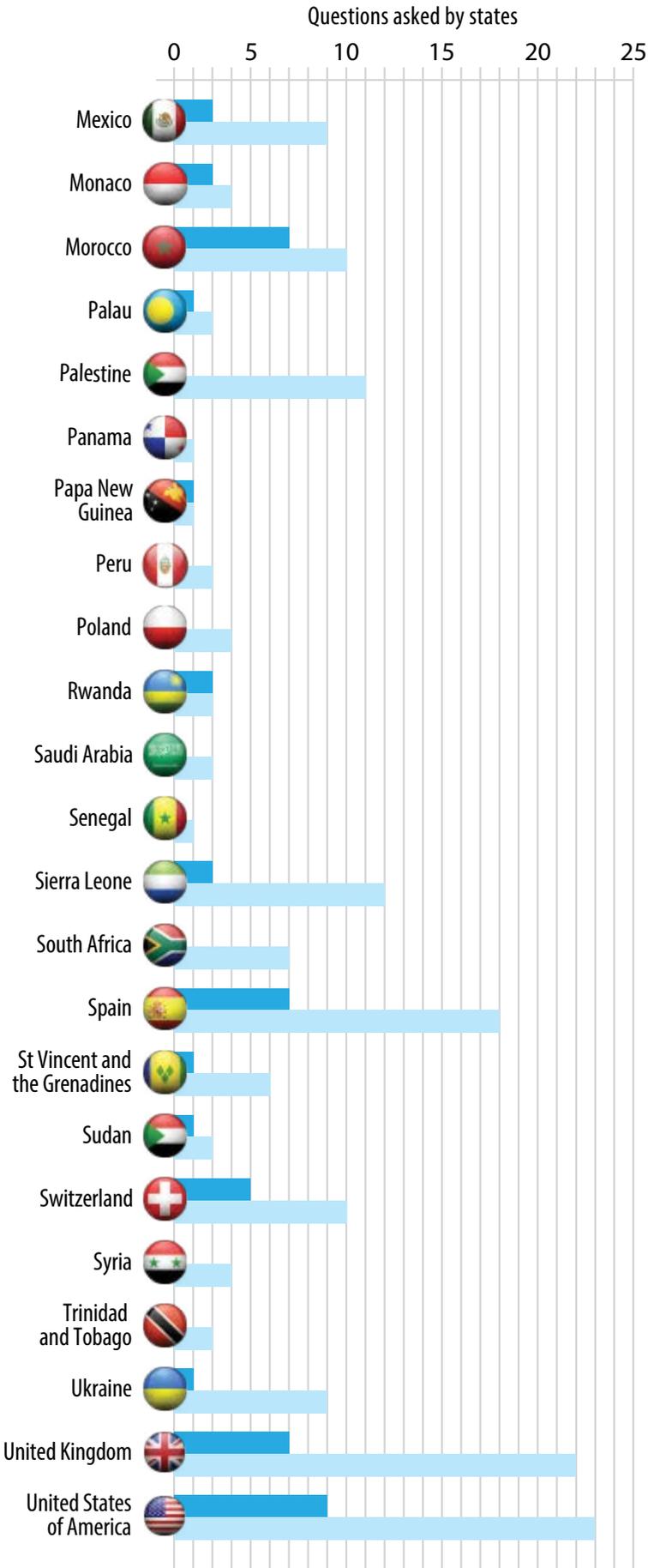


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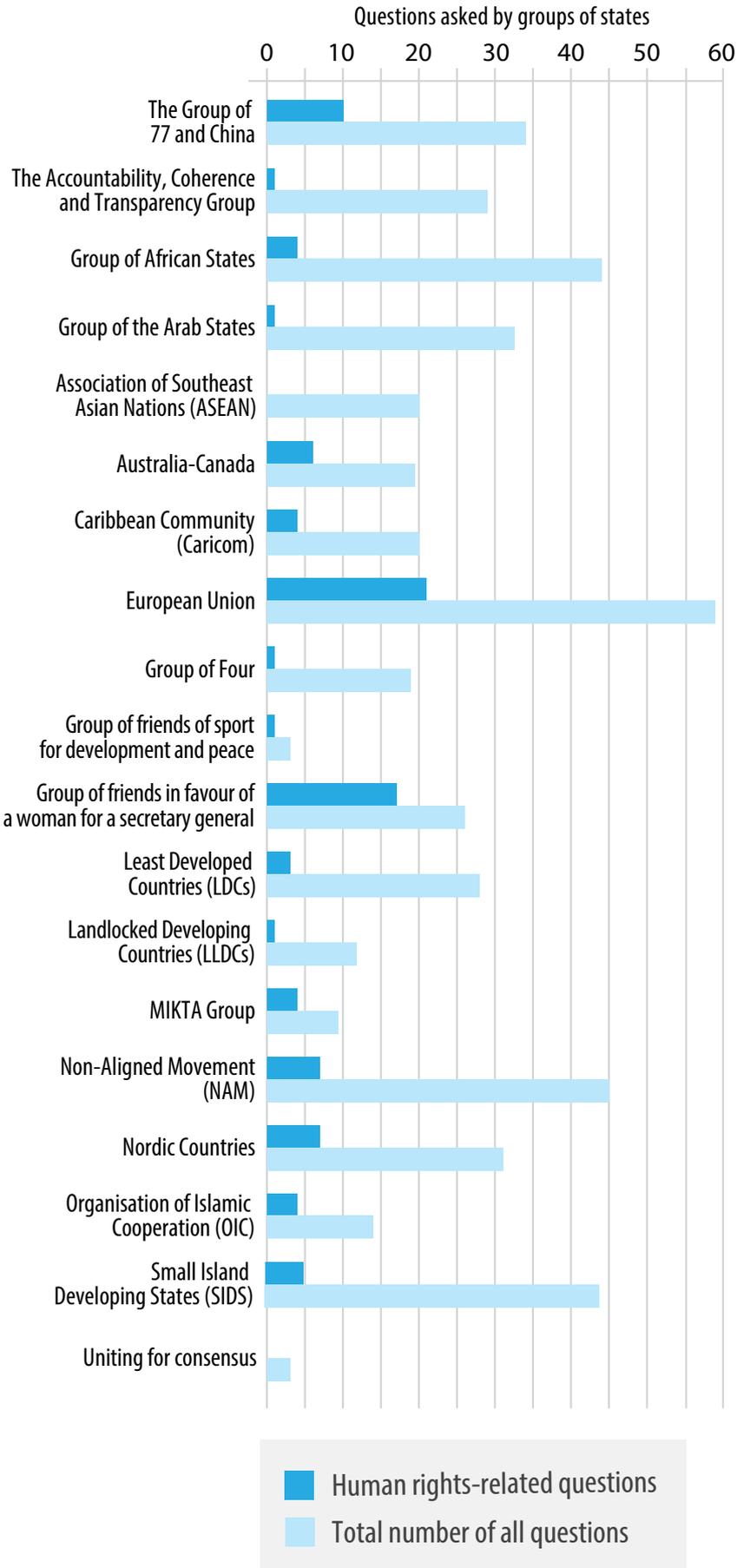


FIGURE 4: MAIN TOPICS COVERED IN THE INFORMAL DIALOGUES

CATEGORIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS-RELATED QUESTIONS (ASKED BY MEMBER STATES DURING THE INFORMAL DIALOGUES)

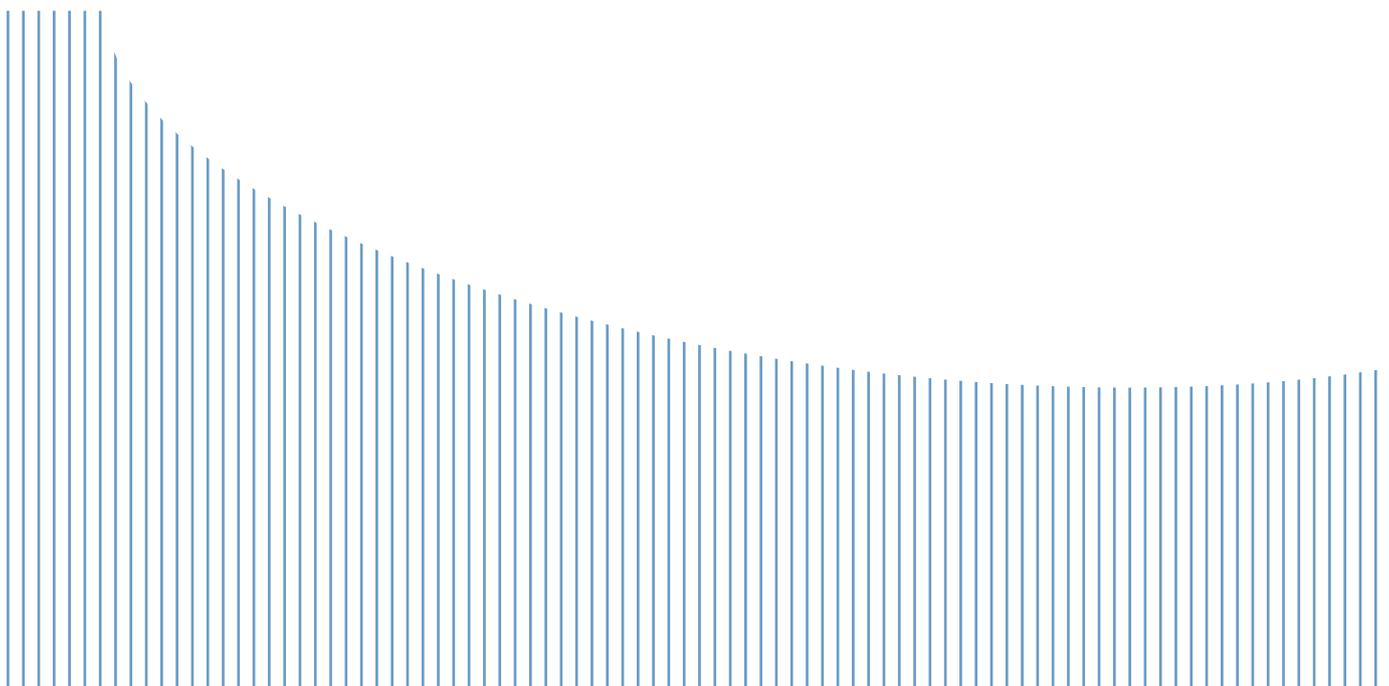
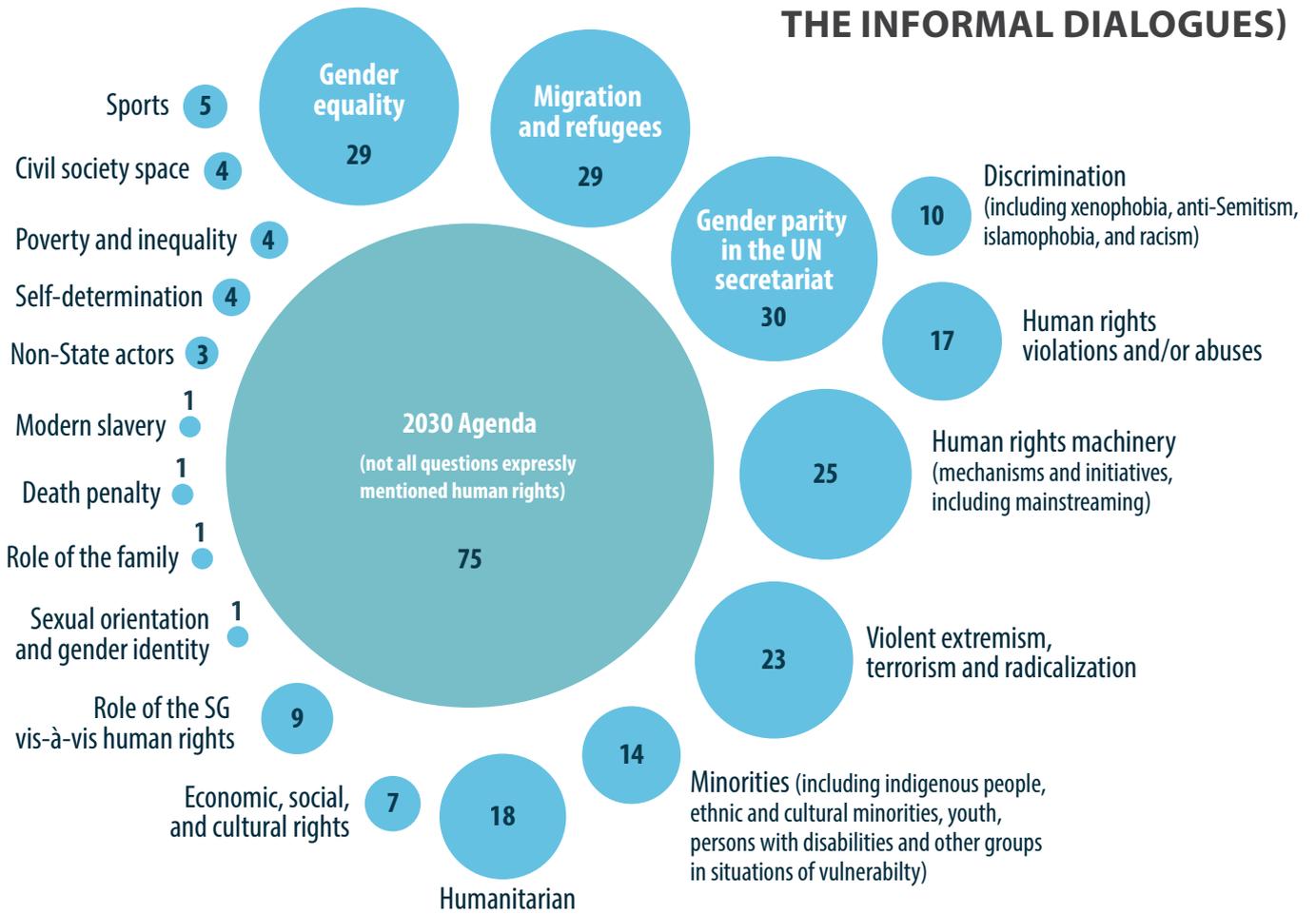


FIGURE 5: MAP SHOWING FORMER SECRETARIES-GENERAL AND CURRENT CANDIDATES TO SECRETARY-GENERAL

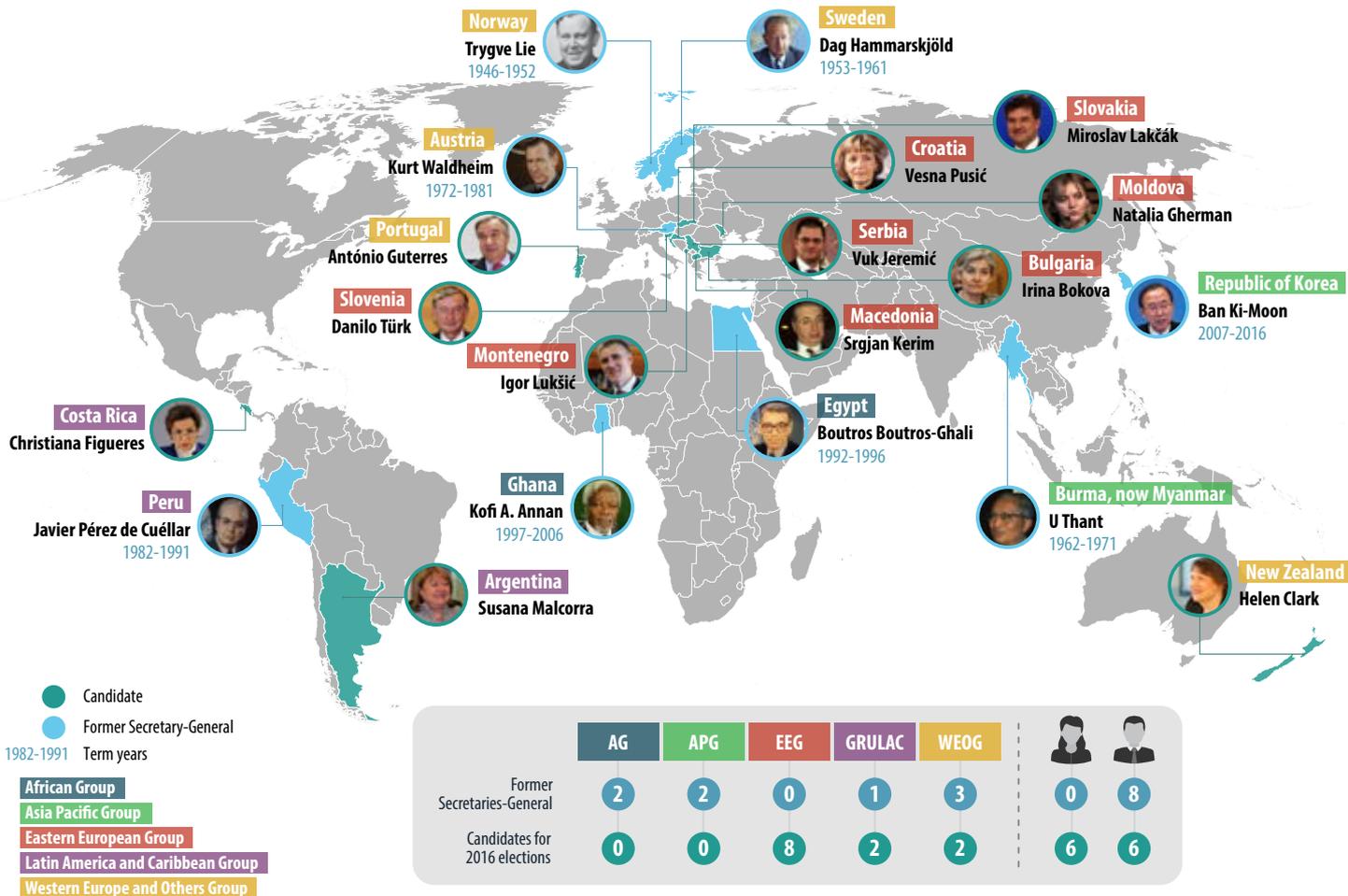
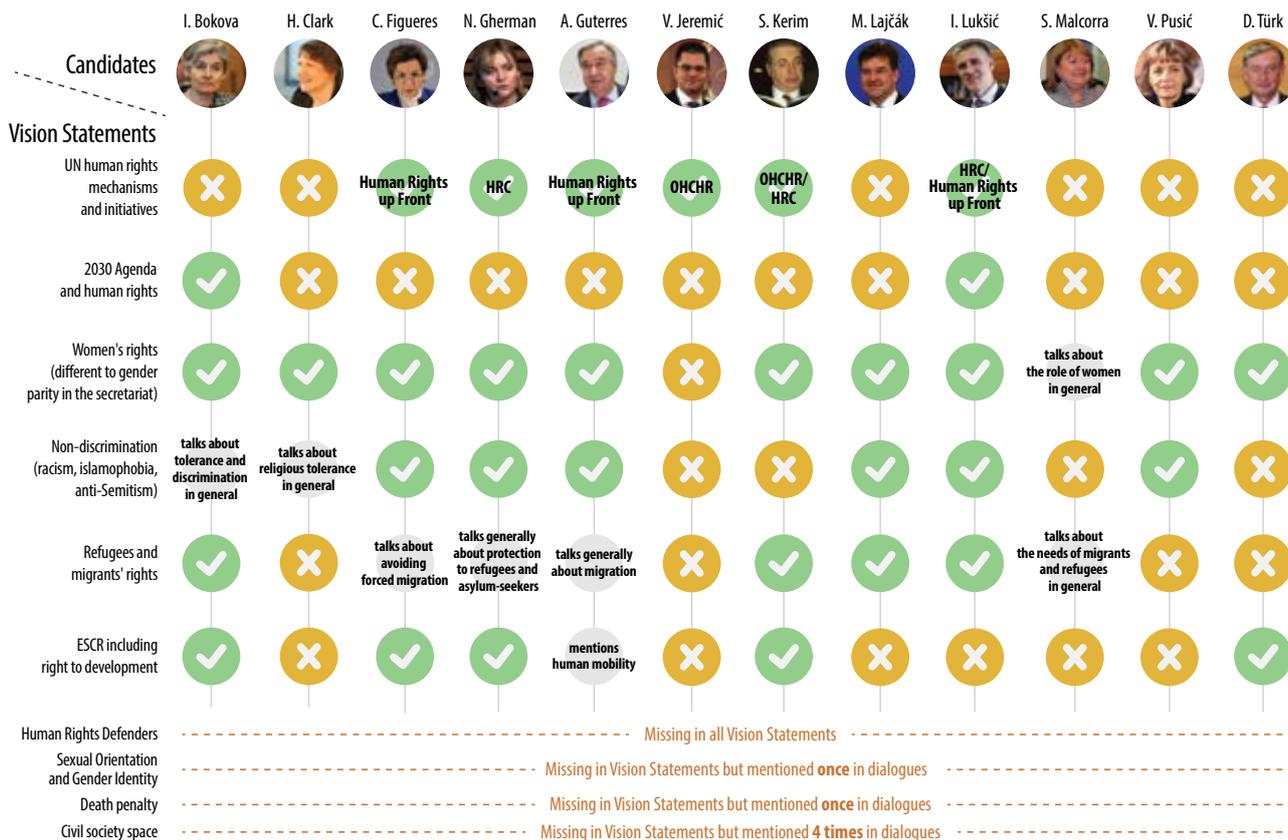


FIGURE 6: CHECKLIST



III. WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS?

Because the promotion and protection of human rights is one of the three overarching priorities of the post of UN Secretary-General, and must necessarily constitute a key part of the new Secretary-General's work, the Universal Rights Group (URG) has undertaken an analysis of where each of the candidates stands on the issue.

Using the candidates' vision statements, performance in the informal dialogues and 'media stakeouts,' and contributions during the July 'Town Hall' event, this analysis seeks to identify, understand and present a summary of each candidate's commitment to, and views on, human rights. The analysis covers their views and statements on civil and political rights; economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development; the rights of people in vulnerable situations; human rights institutions and mechanisms; and human rights or human rights-related initiatives or programmes (e.g. Human Rights Up Front, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, gender parity, and the role of women in peace and security, amongst others).

MS IRINA BOKOVA

Nominated by: Bulgaria
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 2009-2016).
- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Bulgaria to France and Monaco (2005-2009).
- Member of the Bulgarian Parliament (2001-2005).
- The Moscow State Institute of International Relations, M.A. in International Relations (1976).

VISION STATEMENT

In her vision statement, Ms Bokova calls for a 'new humanism' that will allow the international community to achieve 'a common and peaceful future, a future that leaves no one behind, a future of dignity for all.'

Among key challenges facing the world today, she draws particular attention to displacement, pandemics, loss of biodiversity, hunger, persecution, discrimination, poverty, and violent extremism. Ms Bokova argues in favour of a preventative approach to these challenges, a perspective that emphasises *inter alia* education, the protection of heritage, respect for human rights, and gender equality. For example, she argues that the rise of violent extremism calls for a global response premised on education, social inclusion, tolerance and respect for human rights.

The vision statement also affirms the importance of the 2030 Agenda, which, according to Ms Bokova, 'embodies a global, comprehensive, and transformative vision to advance human rights and dignity and to empower societies.' She believes that the starting point of this Agenda must be the advancement of human rights and dignity. As one aspect of this, she notes the importance of guaranteeing 'equal participation for both men and women in the social, political and economic life,' and of 'empowering women and girls and ending violations of their rights, including all types of violence against them.'

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Ms Bokova introduced her candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 12 April.

During the dialogue, she made reference to her human rights experience, both nationally and internationally, and consistently placed human rights at the centre of her vision and pledges for the future. For example, at a domestic level, she described her contribution to the drafting of the Bulgarian Constitution's chapter on human rights, while internationally she stated that she had consistently placed human rights at the heart of her work as Director-General of UNESCO.

In terms of her future commitments and priorities, Ms Bokova expressed her support for the current Secretary-General's 'Human Rights Up Front' initiative (which she called 'a significant step in advancing and mainstreaming the safeguarding of human rights'), and said that, if appointed, she would place human rights at the core of all the tasks performed by her Office. She also expressed her determination to work closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Similarly, Irina Bokova discussed the Human Rights Council, which she said has been a success and drew particular attention to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, which, according to her, had 'given a new dimension to the universality, interdependence, and interconnectivity of all human rights.'

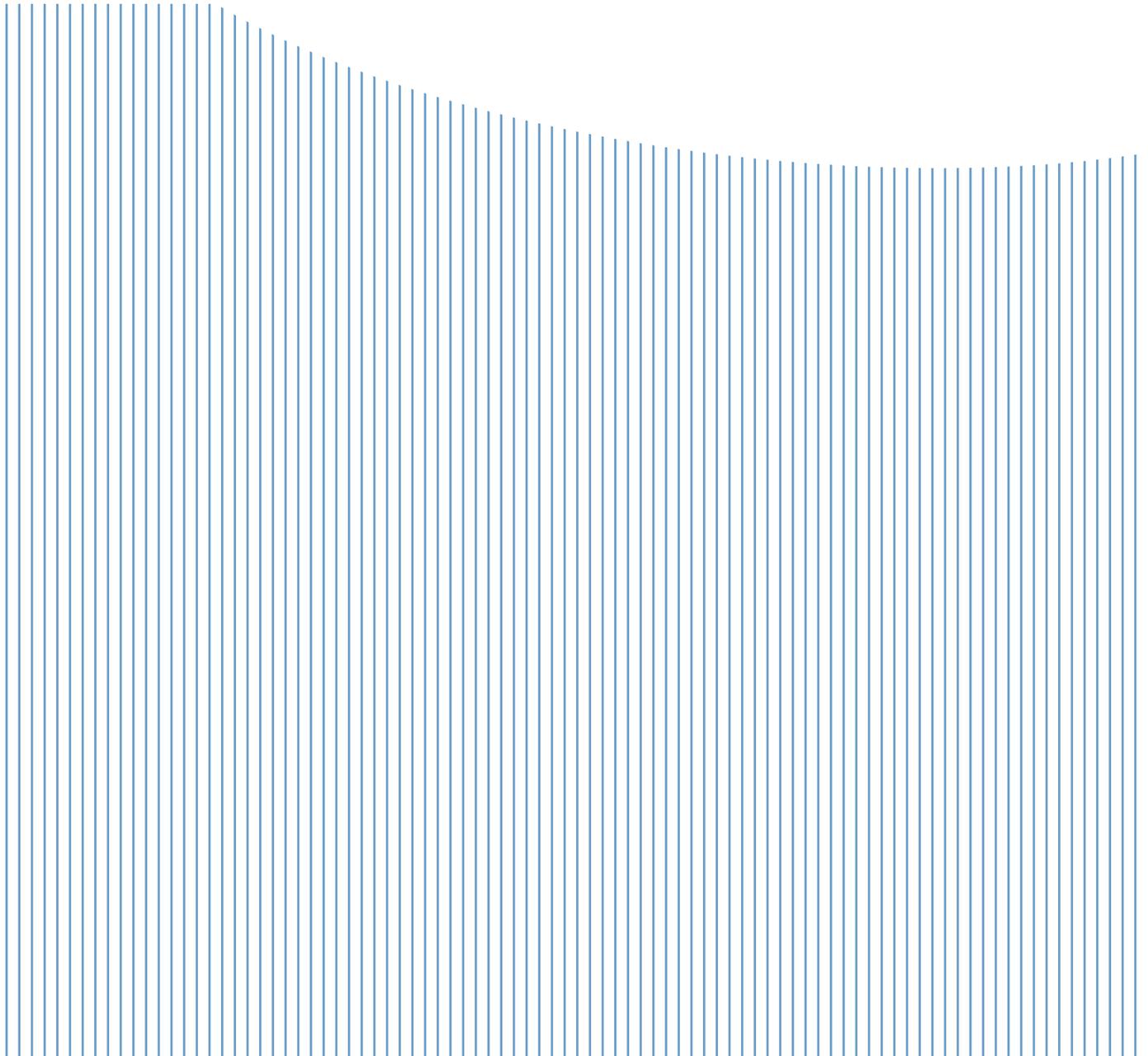
At a thematic level, Ms Bokova said that responding robustly to human rights challenges such as racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia, is part of the core *raison-de-être* of the UN. As Secretary-General, she would seek to help States share experiences and good practices in combating 'these serious violations of human rights.'

Turning to the 2030 Agenda, Ms Bokova underscored the vital importance of human rights to the full realisation of the SDGs. She argued that the development and human rights agendas should not be treated separately, and also highlighted the importance of women's rights for the fulfilment of the SDGs, noting 'it is not possible to achieve peace or sustainable development without gender equality.'

Ms Bokova was the only candidate to receive questions about the death penalty during the interactive dialogues. In reply, she confirmed her support for abolition and expressed her admiration for the work of the current Secretary-General in that regard.

AT THE TOWN HALL

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Ms Bokova argued that the most effective tool to reduce inequality and increase social mobility is education. She affirmed that the face of the 2030 Agenda 'should be a girl going to a safe school, moving away from vulnerability, and being empowered to build a better life.'



MS HELEN CLARK

Nominated by: New Zealand
Regional group: WEOG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2009-present).
- Prime Minister of New Zealand (1999-2008).
- Leader of the Opposition (1993-1999).
- University of Auckland, M.A. in Political Studies (1974).

VISION STATEMENT

Ms Clark places human development at the core of her candidature and her vision of the UN, though within the context of a recognition of the interconnected and mutually reinforcing nature of the three pillars of the UN.

She argues that the most important challenges of the 21st Century, including poverty, violent extremism, displacement, and pandemics, should be addressed from a developmental perspective. Likewise, important human rights concerns, including those relating to social inclusion and religious tolerance, are driven by underlying socio-economic weaknesses such as lack of opportunities and scarce resources.

Her vision statement draws particular attention to the importance of the 2030 Agenda. In that context, although Ms Clark does not refer explicitly to human rights *per se*, she does refer to promoting human dignity through the elimination of poverty, and of fostering women's empowerment and gender equality.

INFORMAL DIALOGUES

Ms Clark introduced her candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 14 April.

Her focus during the dialogue was squarely on human development and prevention. For example, in the context of confronting violent extremism and terrorism, Ms Clark argued that the international community should address key drivers such as the lack of economic opportunities for young people. Similarly, in terms of displacement, she argued that the UN must do more to address the root causes of migration, including poverty and lack of opportunities.

Ms Clark also drew particular attention to gender equality. She said that, if appointed Secretary-General, she would make securing the full participation of women in the political, economic, and social lives of countries one of her main priorities.

During exchanges with States, Ms Clark expressed her support for the independence of OHCHR, and her respect for the role and work of the Human Rights Council. She also said the UPR has been a success story of the UN's human rights pillar. Ms Clark acknowledged the importance of the 'Human Rights Up Front' initiative, but suggested that it could benefit from more 'outreach and engagement with all Member States,' as some 'felt excluded from it.' Her response to this question is important in the context of recent media articles (e.g. Huffington Post,¹³ Foreign Policy Magazine¹⁴) that have suggested that she has, while Administrator of UNDP, opposed or sought to dilute important human rights initiatives, including investigations into the UN's human rights failures in Sri Lanka, and the consequent 'Human Rights Up Front' initiative.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Ms Clark drew attention to the positive contribution made by immigrants in host countries, and reminded the audience that 'people don't flee their home for no reason - they flee because their societies are destroyed.' She called for better understanding of the difficult situation facing refugees and also called for better support for host countries.

MS CHRISTIANA FIGUERES

Nominated by: Costa Rica
Regional group: GRULAC



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2010-2016).
- Member of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism and Vice President of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (2008-2009).
- Founder and Director - Centre for Sustainable Development of the Americas (CSDA) (1995-2003).
- University of Massachusetts, Concordia University, and Georgetown University, Honorary Doctorate Degrees (2014).

VISION STATEMENT

Ms Figueres vision of the UN is an organisation that enables its Member States to address problems, achieve peaceful resolutions to disputes, and build 'strong, prosperous, and just societies.'

Describing her favoured 'holistic approach,' Ms Figueres notes the interconnected and complex nature of the world's major challenges. For example, she mentions the current refugee crisis in connection with issues of security, and women's rights, land ownership, and political participation in association with equitable economic development. She states that 'without respect for human rights, without equal political participation, and without reducing corruption, we cannot build the conditions for sustainable peace.'

Across the vision statement, human rights are present but are mainly included as a crosscutting concern (i.e. human rights mainstreaming). Indeed, she mentions social exclusion, gender equality, and discrimination based on religion, nationality, and ethnicity as threats to peace and security. She affirms that the UN, led by the Security Council, must address these challenges.

As part of one of her main priorities, namely, 'planting the seeds today to achieve sustainable peace tomorrow,' Ms Figueres highlights the need to promote and protect human rights, and to uphold to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She argues that a more stable and prosperous future must be rooted in respect for human rights and ending human rights abuses. Connectedly, she expresses her support for the 'Human Rights up Front' initiative, and promises to work to further strengthen its implementation. She also calls for a focus on freedom of religion, equality, and non-discrimination, and says that NGOs must be allowed to engage with the UN without fear of reprisals.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Ms Figueres' candidacy was not presented in time for her to participate in the informal dialogues.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Ms Figueres affirmed that unless migration is addressed in a comprehensive manner (i.e. with all three pillars of the UN working together), any policy response would be ineffective. She argued that all migrants should be treated with dignity and respect for their human rights. She also underscored the importance of tackling the root causes of migration and focusing on prevention rather than reaction.

MS NATALIA GHERMAN

Nominated by: Republic of Moldova
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (2013 -2016).
- Acting Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova (2015).
- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova (2009-2013).
- King's College, University of London, M.A. in War Studies (1999).

VISION STATEMENT

Ms Gherman's vision statement places human rights as a key pillar of the UN. She writes that there is 'a clear understanding that human rights should be central to all the activities' of this organisation. Similarly, this candidate affirms that 'economic, social and cultural rights should be pursued with the same determination as civil and political rights.'

The vision statement recognises respecting human rights as a responsibility of multiple actors, including the different countries, the private sector, and associations. However, she understands that respect for human rights is primarily a State obligation. She argues that the UN must work in partnership with States to support human rights promotion and protection. Ms Gherman, like other candidates, also highlighted the importance of human rights in the context of addressing the root causes of major contemporary challenges such as violent extremism.

Moreover, Ms Gherman argues that for the UN to be a 'credible proponent of universal human rights,' it must itself abide by those rights, including by promoting non-discrimination and equality in its internal administration and operation.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Ms Gherman introduced her candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 13 April.

Her dialogue was characterised by a marked emphasis on the realisation of human rights and human dignity. Indeed, Ms Gherman identified these considerations as core UN objectives, and as essential tools for achieving peace and security. On this point, for example, she suggested incorporating 'human rights due diligence' into peacekeeping operations and also drew attention to gender equality and the role of women in peace and security.

Similarly, Natalia Gherman argued that human rights should be at the centre of the UN's work to promote sustainable development. She expressed her belief that the 2030 Agenda is 'human rights oriented and people centred.' Relatedly, she said that 'the SDGs have opened up space for the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities and of young people, individuals who, too often in the past, have been left behind.'

Ms Gherman furthermore used the interactive dialogue to discuss the UN's human rights institutions and mechanisms, arguing that their role is essentially monitoring State compliance with the international obligations, and supporting implementation and the realisation of rights.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Ms Gherman affirmed that the best proof that the UN is committed to gender equality would be selecting a woman as Secretary-General because this organisation must lead by example. If elected, she promised to achieve gender parity in the UN secretariat by changing the recruitment policy.

MR ANTONIO GUTERRES

Nominated by: Portugal
Regional group: WEOG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2005-2015).
- Prime Minister of Portugal (1995-2002).
- President of the European Council (2000).
- Instituto Superior Técnico de Portugal, Engineering Degree (1971).

VISION STATEMENT

Mr Guterres' vision statement draws attention to human rights as one of the three pillars of the UN, notes the importance of 'connecting the dots' between the pillars, and affirms 'there can be no peace or sustainable development without respect for human rights.'

In terms of key challenges for today's world, Mr Guterres identifies extreme inequality, social exclusion, competition over dwindling resources, and shortcomings in governance as being particularly important. He believes that these challenges serve to undermine social cohesion, and have consequences for conflict, terrorism, organised crime, trafficking, epidemics, and climate change. He, therefore, argues in favour of addressing underlying root causes, as a way of preventing problems.

Throughout his vision statement, Mr Guterres argues that the UN must deliver, first and foremost, for individual people, their welfare, and their rights. In that regard, he underscores the importance of human rights mainstreaming at national and international levels, and pledges his support for the 'Human Rights Up Front' initiative.

The vision statement also addresses gender equality, arguing that the international community should shift its focus from the protection to the empowerment of women.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Mr Guterres introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 13 April.

During the question and answer session with States and civil society, Mr Guterres repeatedly referred to human rights as a key part of his vision for the UN. For example, he highlighted the important role of the UN human rights system in combatting discrimination, intolerance, and exclusion. He also emphasised the importance of treating all human rights, including economic, social, and cultural rights, on an equal basis.

Importantly, he called for a greater focus on measuring the impact of the UN's work in the field of human rights, and for a heightened emphasis on helping States implement their human rights obligations and commitments through improved capacity-building and technical support.

Like many other candidates, Mr Guterres responded to a large number of questions about the refugee crisis. In his replies, he noted the importance of burden-sharing, development cooperation, and creating channels of legal migration.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Mr Guterres restated in determination, if appointed, to use his mandate to address human suffering and focus on the needs of the most vulnerable in society. He also restated the importance of focusing on women's empowerment, and promised, if elected, to implement a roadmap with clear benchmarks and targets to achieve gender parity in the UN secretariat.

MR VUK JEREMIĆ

Nominated by: Republic of Serbia
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Founder and President of the Centre for International Relations and Sustainable Development (2013-present).
- President of the General Assembly of the United Nations (67th session, 2012-2013).
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia (2007-2012).
- University of Harvard, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Master in Public Administration/International Development (2003).

VISION STATEMENT

Mr Jeremić's vision statement refers to human rights in the contexts of peace in Africa; countering terrorism and violent extremism 'whilst respecting human rights and upholding the rule of law;' and the lack of resources available for the UN's human rights pillar.

On the last point, Mr Jeremić argues that the human rights institutions and mechanisms are under-resourced and that there is a 'gap between State obligations under the human rights treaties, and their actual fulfilment of those obligations.' He also noted that the lack of resources available to human rights undermines the UN's ability to prevent crises and mass atrocity crimes.

In light of these issues, Mr Jeremić states that, if appointed Secretary-General he would work to increase the budget of the OHCHR by 50% annually and on a sustainable basis, and would 'strongly advocate for greater human rights protection around the world, as a core UN purpose.'

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Mr Jeremić introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 14 April.

During the dialogue, he stated that advocating for greater human rights protection around the world is a core purpose of the UN and something he would be committed to as Secretary-General. He also called for greater attention and focus on economic, social, and cultural rights, particularly the right to education.

Turning to the UN human rights-machinery and initiatives, Mr Jeremić expressed his support for the 'Human Rights Up Front' strategy, which he proposed to strengthen by allocating more resources to OHCHR. He also said building the 'prevention' capacity of the UN human rights system would be a priority.

Like other candidates, Mr Jeremić highlighted the importance of the 2030 Agenda. For him, the SDGs' promise to 'leave no one behind' means supporting the rights of all minorities. He said that, if selected, he would devote special attention to countering 'Islamophobia' and to engaging and empowering the youth.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Mr Jeremić expressed his hope that the appointment of the new Secretary-General would represent a turning point in women's rights and promised, if elected, to be committed, from day one to achieving gender parity in the UN secretariat.

DR SRGJAN KERIM

Nominated by: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- President, Board of Directors of Media Print Macedonia (2012-present).
- Member, Council of Presidents (2008 – present).
- Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Climate Change (2008-2009).
- University of Belgrade, Ph.D. in Economics (1982).

VISION STATEMENT

Dr Kerim's vision statement calls for a more active and coherent UN, with more engaged Member States and a greater focus on people and their needs.

The vision statement is heavily focused on human security, but does recognise that 'human rights, human security, the responsibility to protect, and sustainable development are all interrelated and cannot be regarded separately.'

Notwithstanding, Dr Kerim recognises that the protection of basic human rights is one of the most important foundations of the UN. Indeed, he sees this pillar as 'integral and indispensable,' and recognises the importance of the OHCHR and the Human Rights Council. Dr Kerim explains that strengthening these mechanisms is essential for monitoring and responding to violations of human rights, and in ensuring freedom and dignity. The vision statement also draws particular attention to the right to education.

Like other candidates, Dr Kerim's vision also focuses on gender equality, and on international responses to the refugee crisis. On the former, he identifies women's empowerment as an essential prerequisite for 'development, peace, security and human rights.' On the issue of migration, Dr Kerim calls for an approach based on 'inclusivity, solidarity and ingenuity,' and one that fully respects the rights of migrants.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Dr Kerim introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 14 April.

During the discussion, Dr Kerim repeatedly highlighted the UN's responsibility to individual people – rather than to States. This theme also permeated his comments on human rights. For example, he argued in favour of the UN adopting a 'bottom up' approach to the promotion of human rights. Moreover, in response to questions about whether human rights initiatives could lead to interference in the internal affairs of States, Dr Kerim said he supports those 'who put the people first.'

Dr Kerim, like many others, also expressed his support for the 'Human Rights Up Front' initiative, and promised to take this strategy forward if appointed.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

Dr Kerim did not attend the 'Town Hall' event but submitted a written statement in which he confirmed that human rights are a key priority for his candidature.

MIROSLAV LAJČÁK

Nominated by: Slovak Republic
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (2016-present).
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic (2016-2012).
- Managing Director for Europe and Central Asia, European External Action Service, Brussels (2010-2012).
- Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Ph.D. in International Relations.

VISION STATEMENT

According to his vision statement, Mr Lajčák's overarching objective is to build a 'reliable UN, capable of heeding all the calls of its peoples.' As a consequence he does not list a specific set of priorities for his candidature, saying that, if appointed, he would listen to and be guided by the concerns of the people.

For Mr Lajčák, human rights, including equality, dignity, and freedom, are absolute and universal values. He affirms his belief that human rights underpin security and development. He also recognises the important early warning and prevention role of the UN human rights system.

The vision statement draws particular attention to women's rights and gender equality. Mr Lajčák writes that the UN must 'lead by example' in securing gender parity.

Regarding the refugee crisis, he calls for an approach that ensures the 'humane treatment' of migrants, and that prioritises the safety, dignity, and human rights of all concerned individuals.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Mr Lajčák introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 7 June.

Human rights issues were a recurring point of discussion during the interactive dialogue. In his responses to questions, Mr Lajčák highlighted the importance of mainstreaming human rights across the UN, including across the UN's work on peace and security, and development.

Mr Lajčák also affirmed the UN's important role in promoting human rights and expressed concern at the lack of adequate funding for the human rights pillar.

Human rights concerns also infused Mr Lajčák's answers to questions about important contemporary topics such as combatting violent extremism, and the realisation of the SDGs. For example, with regard to the SDGs, he said the important thing about the 2030 Agenda is not just 'arriving there,' but also about people's 'right to live their lives with dignity.'

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

Mr Lajčák did not attend the event, but he submitted a video stating his commitment to all three pillars of the UN, including human rights.

DR IGOR LUKŠIĆ

Nominated by: Montenegro
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Prime Minister of Montenegro (2010-2012).
- Minister of Finance of Montenegro (2004-2010).
- Member of the Parliament of Montenegro (2001-2003).
- University of Montenegro, Ph.D. in 'Transition – the Process of Achieving Economic and Political Freedoms' (2005).

VISION STATEMENT

Dr Lukšić's vision statement recognises the importance of human rights as one of the three pillars of the UN. As examples, he draws attention to the importance of human rights in UN peace operations, and the presence of human rights concerns and principles throughout the 2030 Agenda.

He explains that 'the principles of non-discrimination, gender equality and women's empowerment, the promotion and protection of universality, and the indivisibility of all human rights... must be seen as a core part' of the UN's human rights and wider international agenda.

In his vision statement, Dr Lukšić argues that better coordination across different institutions, mechanisms, and instruments is a key challenge for the UN human rights system in 2016. Only by better synchronisation and coordination can the UN deliver improvements in human rights on the ground. In that regard, he particularly highlights the importance of the 'Human Rights Up Front' action plan, and the need to create a new generation of UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) that integrate human rights recommendations.

Dr Lukšić was the only candidate who used the vision statements to raise the issue of whether the Human Rights Council should be a main body of the UN. He promised that, if appointed, he would encourage debate on this question.

He also proposed reforms to the UN Development Group, to transform it 'into a UN Sustainable Development Group, co-chaired by the UNDP Administrator and Human Rights Commissioner.'

In what is one of the strongest vision statements in terms of human rights, Dr Lukšić also made a number of concrete proposals, including to promote the adoption of a binding document to tackle violence against women; to place the rights of migrants at the forefront of the UN's work; to 'strengthen and better coordinate the UN's rule of law activities', and to strengthen inter-linkages between the three pillars to reduce human rights violations.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Dr Lukšić introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 12 April.

During the meeting, he recognised that human rights permeate the whole 2030 Agenda and are also at the heart of peace operations. He also expressed his strong support for the 'Human Rights Up Front' action plan, as a tool for early warning and prevention.

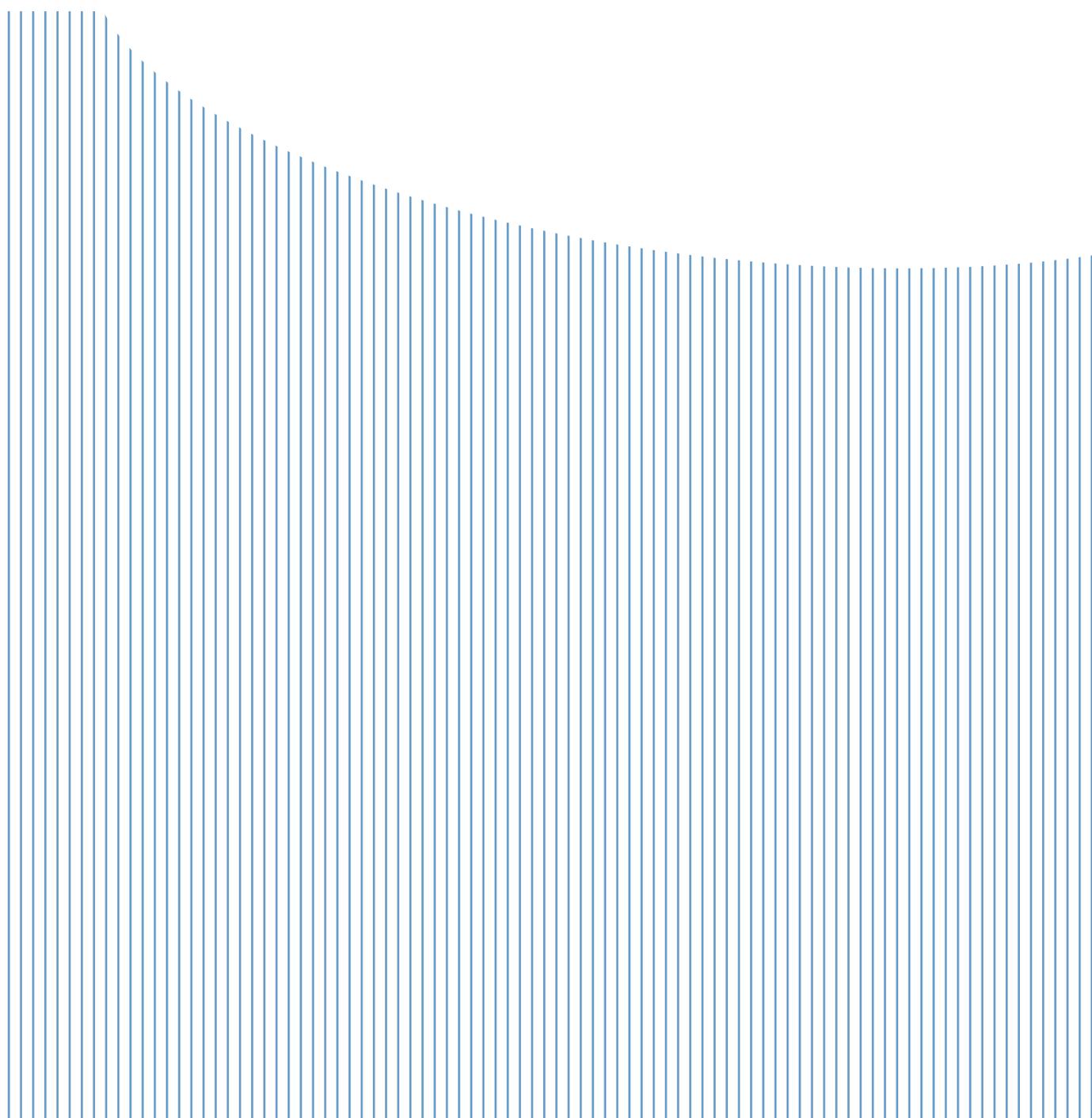
Regarding the Human Rights Council, Dr Lukšić said that it had proved itself to be a useful and effective body. He reaffirmed his pledge to hold a debate, if appointed, on whether said Council should be elevated to become a main body of the UN. Linked with this point, he also called for reform of the UN's regular budget, to increase allocations to the human rights pillar.

Throughout the informal dialogue, Dr Lukšić repeatedly drew attention to the importance of human rights. He especially highlighted the importance of improving the implementation of international human rights obligations, commitments, and recommendations, through enhanced cooperation with governments and civil society. This, he said, was vital in order for the UN human rights system to have greater impact on the ground. He also emphasised the importance of better implementation of human rights commitments as a contribution to the realisation of the SDGs.

Finally, Dr Lukšić emphasised the importance of gender equality, equal participation of women at the UN and across society, and youth empowerment. On the last point, he promised to create an 'office of youth affairs' if appointed Secretary-General.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Dr Lukšić affirmed his commitment to achieving gender parity at the secretariat, and expanding opportunities for participation and social inclusion among young people, allowing them to have a voice in their own future.



MS SUSANA MALCORRA

Nominated by: Argentina
Regional group: GRULAC



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Republic of Argentina (2015 –present).
- Chef de Cabinet to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (2012-2015).
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations for Field Support (2008-2012).
- University of Rosario, Argentina, Degree in Electrical Engineering (1954).

VISION STATEMENT

Ms Malcorra sees the UN as a ‘people, planet, and prosperity’ centred organisation.

She acknowledges that the promotion and protection of human rights is an important obligation of States, and that the UN must work to promote the enjoyment of these rights. She acknowledged that there cannot be peace or development without full respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Ms Malcorra’s vision statement draws particular attention to preventing and sanctioning sexual exploitation and abuse.

INFORMAL DIALOGUES

Ms Malcorra introduced her candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 7 June.

The Argentinian candidate’s dialogue was characterised by an emphasis on adopting an ‘issue-based’ approach to the UN’s activities.

On the matter of human rights, Ms Malcorra argued that their promotion must underpin all UN activities, and that the organisation should use ‘all tools at its disposal to promote human rights in a manner that is holistic, inspirational, up-front and that recognises the responsibility that is incumbent upon sovereign States.’

She also stated that human rights must be a main concern and priority for any UN Secretary-General. The Secretary-General ‘must speak for, advocate and mainstream human rights across the whole organisation’, she affirmed. Similarly, Susana Malcorra also said that ‘New York must work closely with Geneva and support OHCHR with stronger budget.’

In terms of key challenges facing the world today, Ms Malcorra mentioned the realisation of the 2030 Agenda, the importance of countering violent extremism, including by focusing on young people, the protection of refugees and the rights of migrants, and the need to confront discrimination, including Islamophobia.

AT THE ‘TOWN HALL’

During July’s ‘Town Hall’ meeting with candidates, Ms Malcorra promised to achieve, if appointed, a 50-50 balance across senior UN leadership posts, and called on States to present more women candidates.

DR VESNA PUSIĆ

Nominated by: Republic of Croatia
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament (2016 –present).
- Leader of the Croatian People’s Party (2013 – present).
- Member of the Croatian Parliament (2011, 2007, 2003, 2000).
- University of Zagreb, Doctorate in Sociology (1984).

VISION STATEMENT

Dr Pusić’s vision statement focuses, in particular, on the issues of inequality and environmental sustainability.

In terms of human rights, the vision statement highlights the rights of women and religious and ethnic minorities. Ethnic and religious intolerance is, for Dr Pusić, a root cause of many conflicts and societal problems, across both developed and developing States.

In her vision statement, Dr Pusić explains that the promotion of women’s rights and the empowerment of women have been central to her career. She says these issues are important because the ‘economic potential of women may be a society’s most effective development strategy’. For her, appointing a female Secretary-General would send an important signal to the world. Nevertheless, the final decision must also be based on merit, not only on gender.

Dr Pusić’s argues that women’s rights are not only a human rights matter but also a peace and security concern. In that regard, she mentions issues such as education, employment, sexual violence, child marriage, genital mutilation, sexual slavery, human trafficking and poverty.

INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Dr Pusić introduced her candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 13 April.

During the dialogue, Dr Pusić explained that she has been involved with human rights all her life.

As one example of the importance of human rights, she noted that human rights violations are often important early warning indicators of impending crises. This is especially true in the context of minority rights. Linked with this point, Dr Pusić also drew attention to the importance of protecting journalists, the people who are often ‘the first to alert’ the international community about patterns of violations.

Of all candidates participating in the interactive dialogues, Dr Pusić was the only one to speak about sexual orientation and gender identity rights. In response to a question by a State, she argued that no one’s rights should be violated on account of their sexual orientation or gender identify, and that the UN had a duty to address this issue.

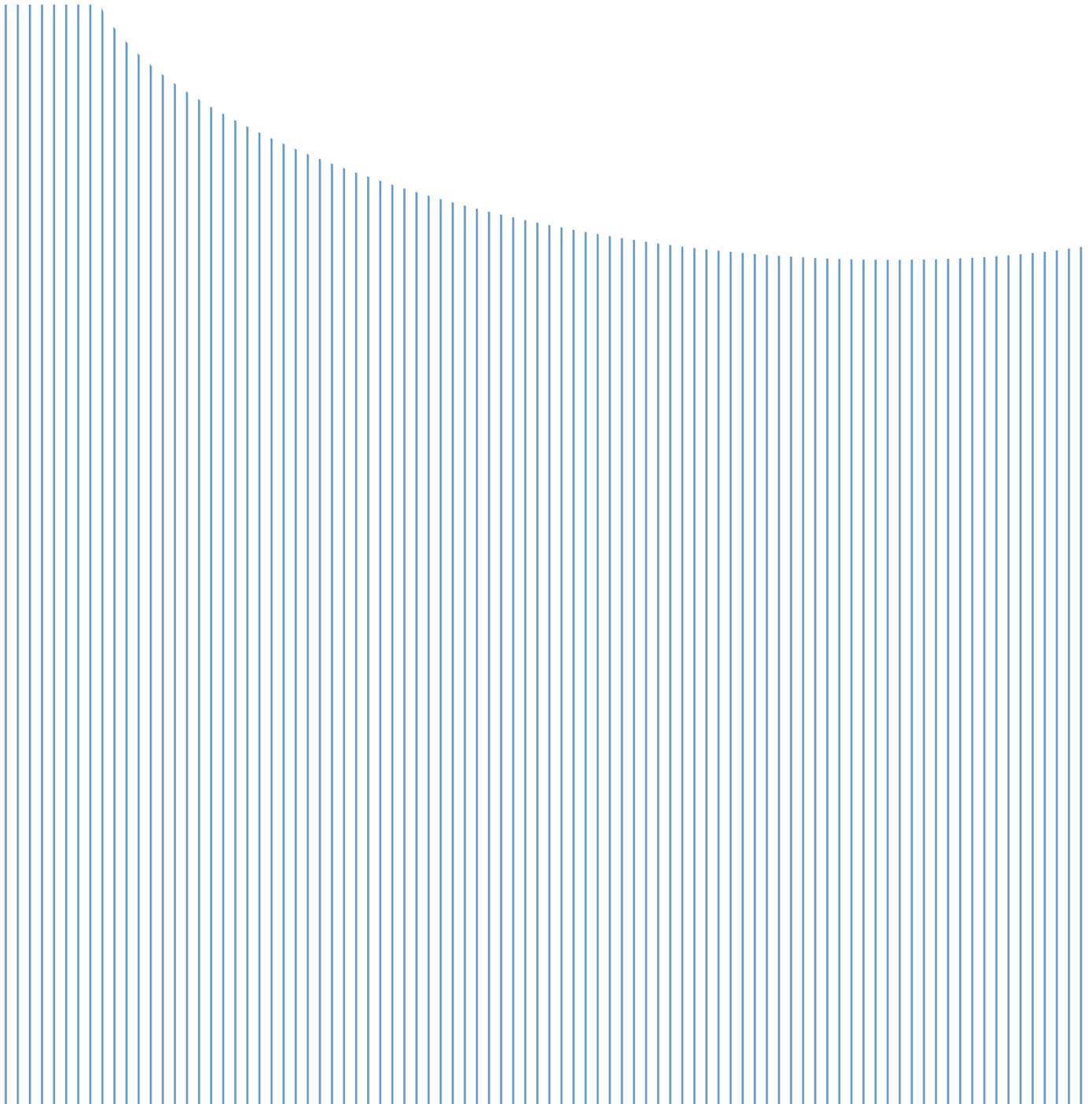
Turning to the human rights mechanisms, Dr Pusić recognised that the Human Rights Council is an extremely important part of the UN system, though she also recognised its limitations. She acknowledged the utility of the UPR, as a mechanism that encourages States to assess their domestic human rights situations. Nonetheless, she argued that UPR should be improved by increasing the involvement and reporting role of civil society. Indeed, Dr Pusić called, more broadly, for a far greater role for civil society in the work of the UN – to expose violations and hold States to account.

Finally, she affirmed that ‘Human Rights Up Front’ strategy is one of the most important initiatives of the current Secretary-General.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Dr Pusić highlighted the issue of climate change, arguing that this is not a future threat, but rather something that is already a very real and tangible concern for people around the world.

Dr Pusić also affirmed that she would work to improve the gender-perspective of the UN, not because she is a woman, but because, as a feminist, she can bring different perspectives and experiences to the role of Secretary-General, thereby complementing the male-vision that has so far dominated the UN.



DR DANILO TÜRK

Nominated by: Slovenia
Regional group: EEG



CURRICULUM-VITAE:

- President of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace (2015 – present).
- President of Slovenia (2007-2012).
- United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs (2005-2005).
- Ljubljana Faculty of Law, Ph.D. in International Relations and International Law (1982).

VISION STATEMENT

In his statement, Dr Türk expressed his belief that the UN should place people at the centre of its activities.

Accordingly, Dr Turk argues that human rights, including the right to development, must always be put 'up front,' strengthened, and mainstreamed across all aspects of the UN's work.

He draws particular attention to women's rights, which are, for him, 'fundamental for achieving his UN's vision and goals.' In that regard, he committed to strengthening gender equality across all UN policies, programmes, and decision-making processes.

In the area of humanitarian work, Dr Türk affirms that a high priority must be given to responding to 'the dramatic humanitarian and migration problems' facing the world, but not at the expense of performing the fundamental tasks of social and economic development. Hence, the UN should 'ensure coherence between its humanitarian activities and its work to promote sustainable development, thereby strengthening the resilience of States as well as their social cohesion', he affirmed.

INFORMAL DIALOGUES

Dr Türk introduced his candidature during an informal dialogue with the General Assembly on 13 April.

During the meeting, Dr Türk discussed the establishment of the Human Rights Council, which was part of 'one of the most important UN reform processes.' That reform process placed human rights, and the Human Rights Council, back at the centre of the UN's agenda (where it belongs). He also highlighted the importance of the UPR and welcomed universal participation as well as the peer-to-peer nature of the mechanism.

Dr Türk argued that human rights must be a standard element in all UN policy-making, and that the Secretary-General has to promote that principle. He also said that, if appointed, he would work closely with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Dr Türk also offered thoughts on how to respond to serious human rights abuses in a 'fair' and 'more effective' way, and on the importance of strengthening UN cooperation with the civil society.

AT THE 'TOWN HALL'

During July's 'Town Hall' meeting with candidates, Dr Türk highlighted his experience, commitment and vision in strengthening human rights policies and mechanisms. He also affirmed that the question on how to ensure that 'the most vulnerable are treated in a good manner in their host countries' must be at the centre of all efforts addressing the migration and refugee crisis.

NOTES

- 1 Charter of the United Nations, 1UNTS XVI, 1945, Article 99.
- 2 United Nations. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon. The role of the Secretary-General (website), n.d., http://www.un.org/Secretary-General/Secretary-General_role.shtml (accessed June, 2016).
- 3 Charter of the United Nations, op.cit., Article 1.3.
- 4 Ibid. Article 97.
- 5 UN General Assembly. Selecting a new UN Secretary-General: a job interview in front of the whole world. (website), 8 April 2016, <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=53641#.V3TYsyN962w> (accessed June, 2016).

Mogens Lykketoft, closing statement of the informal dialogues with the candidates for the position of the next UN Secretary-General (webcast), 14 April 2016, <http://webtv.un.org/search/mogens-lykketoft-general-assembly-president-closing-of-the-informal-dialogues-with-the-candidates-for-the-position-of-the-next-un-secretary-general-media-stakeout/4846453394001?term=next%20UN%20Secretary-General> (accessed June, 2016).
- 6 Lykketoft, M. Letter to all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, 25 February, 2016, http://www.un.org/pga/70/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2015/08/25-Feb_Secretary-General-Election-Informal-Dialogues-25-February-2016.pdf (accessed June, 2016).
- 7 General Assembly of the United Nations. Procedure of Selecting and Appointing the next UN Secretary-General (website), n.d., <http://www.un.org/pga/70/sg/> (accessed June, 2016).
- 8 The six organizations are: Amnesty International, CIVICUS, the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, Human Rights Watch, the International Federation for Human Rights and the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy. Human Rights Priorities. A Human Rights Agenda for the next United Nations Secretary-General, n.d., <https://amnesty.app.box.com/s/q5rp4sh2ywp38turmzqxlng7xzx7wtx> (accessed June, 2016)
- 9 Ibid.
- 10 A human rights defenders agenda for the next secretary general. n.d., https://www.ishr.ch/sites/default/files/documents/an_hrd_agenda_for_the_next_un_sg_-_signatories.pdf (accessed June, 2016).
- 11 Dr Srgjan Kerim and Mr Miroslav Lakšák did not attend.
- 12 Security Council and Wider UN Structure. Secretary-General Appointment, (website), 1 July 2016, http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2016-07/secretary-general_appointment.php (accessed June, 2016).
- 13 Sahakyan, A. 'Candidates' Commitment to Human Rights Should Play Crucial Role in UN Secretary-General Election', WordPost, 20 June 2016, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/armine-sahakyan/candidates-commitment-to_b_10569208.html (accessed June, 2016)

14 Lynch, C. 'U.N. Secretary-General Front-Runner Faces Internal Uproar', Foreign Policy, 24 May 2016, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/05/24/aunty-helen-of-turtle-bay/> (accessed June 2016.)

CREDITS

Irina Bokova (map)

Description: 11th meeting of the Broadband Commission at UNESCO headquarters, Paris, 27 February 2015.

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Irina Bokova (candidate page)

Description: Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO addresses during the ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

Photo Credit: UN Photo / Jean-Marc Ferré

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Helen Clark (map and candidate page)

Description: Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP welcomes gender, education and tech experts to the second full meeting of the Broadband Commission Working Group on Broadband & Gender, New York, 20 September 2013.

Photo Credit: ITU Pictures

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Christiana Figueres (map)

Description: Christiana Figueres

Photo Credit: UNclimatechange

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Christiana Figueres (candidate page)

Description: Executive Secretary, Christiana Figueres

Photo Credit: UNFCCC

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Nathalia Gherman (map)

Description: Nathalia Gherman

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[Nathalia Gherman \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: Nathalia Gherman

Lopatka meets Moldovan Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration , Nathalia Gherman , in Vienna / Staatssekretär Lopatka trifft moldauische Vizeministerin für auswärtige Angelegenheiten und europäische Integration, Nathalia Gherman, in Wien
Photo Credit: Mahmoud

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[Antonio Guterres \(map and candidate page\)](#)

Description: Antonio Guterres, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees during UNHCR's 64th Executive Committee Meeting.

Photo Credit: UNHCR/ J.M Ferré/ September 2013

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[Vuk Jeremić \(map\)](#)

Description: 01910282

On 28 February 2013, the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Vuk Jeremic met IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano during his visit to the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

Photo Credit: Dean Calma / IAEA

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[Vuk Jeremic \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: Ketrin Eston and Vuk Jeremic President of the UN General Assembly Vuk Jeremic met in New York with EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy / Catherine Ashton Ketrin Eston i Vuk Jeremic Predsednik Generalne skupštine Ujedinjenih nacija Vuk Jeremić razgovarao je u Njujorku sa visokom predstavnicom Evropske unije za spoljnu politiku i bezbednost Ketrin Ešton.

Photo Credit: FoNet.

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[Srgjan Kerim \(map and candidate page\)](#)

Description: Simona, our C:F Chapters Network VP is handing the book the the President of the 62nd General Assembly of the United Nations, Dr. Srgjan Kerim

Photo Credit: Challenge Future

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[Miroslav Lajčák \(map\)](#)

Description: Arbeitsbesuch in Bratislava

Sebastian trifft in Bratislava den slowakischen Außenminister Miroslav Lajcak. Bratislava, 16.01.2014.

Photo credit: Dragan Tatic

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[Miroslav Lajčák \(candidate page\)](#)

Description:2013-DG Li with Slovakia Deputy PM and FM Miroslav Lajcak

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic Miroslav Lajčák, in Bratislava, 14 October 2013.

Photo Credit: Slovak FM

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[Igor Lukšić \(map\)](#)

Description: IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim receives H.E. Dr. Igor Lukšić, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs & European Integration and Candidate of Montenegro for the position of UN Secretary-General, at IMO Headquarters (2 June 2016).

Photo Credit: International Maritime Organization

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[Igor Lukšić \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: A Conversation with the Next Candidates for the UN Secretary General. Igor Lukšić (L), Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Montenegro; Danilo Türk (R), Former President, Republic of Slovenia.

Photo Credit: New America

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[Susana Malcorra \(map\)](#)

Description: 26 de enero Secretario General, Ernesto Samper Pizano, se reunió con la Canciller de Argentina, Susana Malcorra

Photo Credit: UNASUR SG

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[Susana Malcorra \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: DSC_9988. Susana Malcorra, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina at the OECD. 30 May 2016 - Susana Malcorra, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina and Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD.

Photo Credit: Marco Illuminati/OECD

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[Danilo Turk \(map\)](#)

Description: 2014-DG Li met with Danilo TÜRK, former President of Slovenia

Photo Credit: UNIDO

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[Danilo Turk \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: Danilo Türk

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[Vesna Pusic \(map\)](#)

Description: NATO Summit Wales

Vesna Pusić, Croatia First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs at the NATO Foreign Affairs ministers meeting with International Organisations, 5 September 2014.

Photo Credit: United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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[Vesna Pusic \(candidate page\)](#)

Description: A Conversation with the Next Candidates for the UN Secretary General Vesna Pusić (L), Former Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Croatia; Mark Rice-Oxley (R), Head of Special Projects, The Guardian.

Photo Credit: New America

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[Ban Ki-Moon \(map\)](#)

Description: 130408 Ban Ki-moon bij Timmermans 1990

Photo credit: Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken

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[Kofi A. Annan \(map\)](#)

Description: The Kofi Annan Dialogues

The Kofi Annan Dialogues: Live @ ITU TV STUDIO

Episode Two - Youth Unemployment

Photo credit: ITU/Rowan Farrell

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Kofi A. Annan (cover)

Description: Kofi Annan, Founder and Chairman, Kofi Annan Foundation.
Joint Special Envoy Kofi Annan spoke with the media at the United Nations Office at Geneva following the June 30, 2012 Meeting of the Action Group for Syria.
Photo Credit: Mission in Geneva
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Boutros Boutros-Ghali (map)

Description: Boutros
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Javier Pérez de Cuéllar (map)

Description: 100_0826 Former UN President Javier Perez de Cuellar
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Kurt Waldheim (map)

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U Thant (map)

Description: U Thant U1502752 2 Feb 1966, United Nations, N.Y.: Closeup of U.N. Secretary General, U Thant, taken on the floor of the Security Council, before the afternoon meeting to discuss the Vietnam situation.
Photo credit: Tommy Japan
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Dag Hammarskjöld (map and cover)

Description: Dag Hammarskjöld, secretary-general of the United Nations (1959).
Location: United Nations, New York.
Photo credit: UN/DPI derivative work: Bff - Dag_Hammarskjold.jpg
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Trygve Lie (map and cover)

Description: Trygve Lie, first UN Secretary-General
Photo Credit: Oslo Museum: image no. OB.Ø51/0153 (Byhistorisk samling), via oslobilder.no.
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January 2016 in Pictures

Description: Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Stéphane Dujarric, the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General prepare notes for a briefing by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on his priorities for 2016.
Photo Date: 14 January 2016
Photo # 659867
Photo credit: UN Photo/Manuel Elias
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The first-ever Global Townhall with UN Secretary General candidates.

Photo Credit: Brent Dixon
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Security Council Debates Countering Terrorist Ideologies

Description: Photo Date: 11/05/2016
NICA ID: 676696
United Nations, New York



working together to protect universal human rights



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