OHCHR Database

On practical means to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

This database provides information on measures available worldwide for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Background

Paragraph 191 (d) of the Durban Programme of Action recommends that the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in cooperation with States, international, regional and non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions, create a database containing information on practical means to address racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at the international, regional and national levels.

It also requested that such a database is as accessible as possible to those in authority and the public at large, through its website and by other appropriate means.

To address these objectives, the OHCHR Anti-Discrimination Database was designed by the implementing entity of the project, the Anti-Discrimination Section (ADS) of OHCHR.

Scope

The areas covered by the database include measures to address racism and racial discrimination at the international, regional and national level.

Content

The content of the database illustrates existing measures and practices to combat address racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at the international, regional and national levels but does not seek to provide a comprehensive picture of the situation.

Specifically, the database includes:

- The texts of relevant international and regional instruments
- Information on existing avenues for remedy, recourse, redress and compensation
- Relevant decisions of international, regional and national courts
- The texts of legal measures adopted by States (including anti-discrimination legislation, constitutional law and other type of legal measures)
- Documents containing information on policy measures (including National Action Plans against racial discrimination, National Action Plans on Human Rights containing anti-discrimination provisions, strategies and programmes and national papers)
- Information on institutional measures (including ministries, NHRIs, equality bodies, secretaries, committees, working groups, networks, focal points, others - links to their websites are also included when available)
- Existing measures categorized under different thematic areas. The classification of these thematic areas was based on those identified in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

By middle March 2013, data has been incorporated for 94 States. The number of States represented will steadily increase over time.

English is used throughout the database (apart from official texts in French and Spanish, which appear in the original language).