Important note: this guide is not comprehensive, and it should be updated regularly as political-social situations and the funding landscape changes.

**Who are human rights defenders?**

Human rights defender (HRD) is a term used to describe people who, individually or with others, act to promote or protect human rights peacefully. HRDs are people who seek the promotion and protection of civil and political rights as well as the promotion, protection and realization of economic, social and cultural rights. ([OHCHR](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/SRHRDefenders/Pages/Defender.aspx))

Human rights defenders are often **at risk** for their work, and there are many resources to help HRDs who need emergency support, regional and international advocacy, and/orlong-term training and security planning.

**URGENT HELP – For emergencies**

* 24/7 HOTLINE: Call the EU Protection Mechanism/Front Line Defenders’ hotline where you can request to speak with a security expert in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, or Chinese: **+353-1-210-0489**.
* Secure email communication :
  1. <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/secure/comment.php?l=en>
  2. <https://www.protectdefenders.eu/en/index.html#modalajax>
* Emergency Protection Grants:
  1. FRONT LINE DEFENDERS: <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/programme/protection-grants>
  2. THE EU: <https://protectdefenders.eu/en/supporting-defenders.html#temporary-relocation-grants>
  3. FREEDOM HOUSE: [emergency.assistance.inquiries@gmail.com](mailto:emergency.assistance.inquiries@gmail.com)
  4. CIVICUS: CSO Crisis Response Fund: <https://www.civicus.org/index.php/what-we-do/defend/crisis-response-fund>

**REGIONAL REPORTING MECHANISMS**

* **AMERICAS:** 
  + **IACHR/Inter-American Commission on Human Rights**
  + IACHR has a Special Rapporteur on HRDs: Contact: [cidhdefensores@oas.org](mailto:cidhdefensores@oas.org)
  + UN-IACHR launched a joint action plan on the Protection of HRDs in the Americas: Report available in Spanish, soon in English: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/media_center/PReleases/2018/039.asp>
* **ASIA:** 
  + **AICHR** (Asia Forum for Human Rights and Development)and **ACWC** (ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and the Protection of the Rights of Women and Children)
    - **Contact:** [public@asean.org](mailto:public@asean.org) | (+6221) 726 2991
  + **FORUM-ASIA:** Human Rights Defenders Programme(Based in Thailand)
    - **Contact:** [hrd@forum-asia.org](mailto:hrd@forum-asia.org) | +66 (0)2 1082643-45 Ext: 208
* **AFRICA:** 
  + **ACHPR (Special Rapporteur on HRDs)**
    - **Contact via:** [acphr@acphr.org](mailto:acphr@acphr.org) **|** Telephone: (220) 4392962and Front Line Defenders
    - Guidelines on how to submit a complaint <https://www.ifex.org/campaign_toolkit/submitting_complaint_to_achpr/>
  + **East and Horn of Africa: DefendDefenders**
    - **Contact:** Emergency +256-783-027611 | General phone: +256-414-510263 | Secure email: <https://www.defenddefenders.org/get-help/> 🡪 Click on “Complete our secure e-mail form”
  + **Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) – Legal support**
    - **Contact:** [enquiries@salc.org.za](mailto:enquiries@salc.org.za) | <http://www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/>

**INTERNATIONAL REPORTING MECHANISMS – governmental and non-governmental**

* **EUROPEAN UNION:**
  + <https://protectdefenders.eu/en/index.html>
* **UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS:**
  + Use the form available [here](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/SRHRDefenders/Pages/Complaints.aspx) to submit a complaint to this address: [urgent-action@ohchr.org](mailto:urgent-action@ohchr.org)
  + Telephone: +41 22 917 1234. IMPORTANT: This is the number for the United Nations telephone operator in Geneva, Switzerland. Callers should ask to speak with staff at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights dealing with the special procedures of the Human Rights, and specifically with staff supporting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders.
* **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**
  + More information about contacting regional offices here: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/about-us/contact/>

**INTERNATIONAL NON-EMERGENCY FUNDING MECHANISMS**

* **NORWEGIAN FUND FOR HUMAN RIGHTS:**
  + NHRF grants can be given to Human Rights organizations working locally, regionally, nationally and/or internationally. <https://nhrf.no/for-grandseekers/faq-for-grantseekers>
* **THE FUND FOR GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS** - <https://globalhumanrights.org/>
* **AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE (AJWS)** - <https://ajws.org/>
* **GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN:** <https://www.globalfundforwomen.org/apply-for-a-grant/#.W2SnYPZFzIV>
* **CSO Lifeline: Different funds available:** <https://www.csolifeline.org/>
* **NAMATI Resource List:** (Africa only) - This resource guide was compiled by New Field Foundation and updated by Urgent Action Fund Africa for Women’s Human Rights (UAF-Africa). Must be a member (it’s free!) to access: <https://namati.org/resources/funding-resources-for-community-based-groups-in-africa/>
* **Fédération internationale des ligues des droits de l’Homme (FIDH)** : <https://www.fidh.org/en>

**CREATING SHORT AND LONG-TERM SECURITY PLANS:** *How do I...*

* **PROTECT MY OFFICE, HOME, AND MYSELF – EVEN WHILE TRAVELLING?** 
  + Front Line Defenders: <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/resource-publication/workbook-security-practical-steps-human-rights-defenders-risk>
  + Protection International: <https://www.protectioninternational.org/> (English, French, Spanish)
* **PROTECT MY INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATE SECURELY?**
  + Tactical Tech:<https://securityinabox.org/en/>
  + Ononymous: <https://ononymous.org/>

**WHERE TO GO/WHO TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT….**

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES/INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS:**

* Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR): <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/pages/home.aspx>
* ISHR: <http://www.ishr.ch/>
* IFEX: The Global Network Defending and Promoting Free Expression <https://www.ifex.org/>

**SUPPORT FOR WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS**

* AWID: <https://www.awid.org/>
* JASS: <https://justassociates.org/en/>

**LAW**

* Global Legal Empowerment Network (NAMATI): <https://namati.org/network/>
* International Center for Not-for-profit Law (ICNL): <http://www.icnl.org/>

**US SUPPORT FOR HRDs**

* US Department of State: <https://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/fs/2017/266903.htm> (contact individual embassies/consulates in your region for more information)