ge²p² global
governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment/RFIs

06 February 2026 - Issue 38

GE2P2 Global is an integrated non-profit foundation and public benefit corporation formed to advance scientific rigor, ethical resilience, and integrity in research and evidence generation – informing responsible governance, policy, and practice.

In the context of this mission, GE2P2 Global monitors public consultations/calls for input/RFIs and similar opportunities across its focus areas of global health, human rights, humanitarian action, education/literacy, heritage, climate/environment, peace, and sustainable development.

Monitoring this span of sectors yields a broad variety of public comment opportunities, even though this modality is not employed in any uniform way across the UN system, multilateral agencies, INGOs, member states or their ministerial/regulatory bodies. As we are still exploring this monitoring approach and broadening the range of calls included, we stress that this is an indicative and not an exhaustive digest.

In parallel, GE2P2 Global is striving to respond to public consultation opportunities where the experience and expertise of members of our growing community of practice suggest that a meaningful contribution can be developed. The GE2P2 Global Foundation also functions as the secretariat for the Global Forum for Research Ethics and Integrity – a global group of individuals from over 30 countries who collaborate on analysis and action, including response to selected public consultations.

We welcome information about calls for public consultation – at global or country level – to help enrich this digest. Equally, individuals and organizations/institutions interested in collaborating on joint responses to any of the opportunities listed below are welcome to contact us [David R Curry, GE2P2 Global Foundation, david.r.curry@ge2p2global.org].

Acknowledgements: We appreciate the support of Foundation Senior Fellow Gerald Schatz, JD for his continuing support in helping identify calls included in this digest, and Associate Fellow Sedem Adiabu, MPH, for her critical role in the secretariat function which supports development of submissions to selected calls.

Digest content is organized in three sections:

[1] **Title and source of all calls organized by due date** [p.2 ff]
[2] **All calls, listed with more comprehensive information [i.e., objective, scope] organized by due date under thematic areas: Biomedical Research; Environment/Climate; Human Rights+** [p.5 ff]
[3] **Selected Supplementary Content including Final, Published Guidances/Regulations/Laws Employing Calls for Public Consultation** [p.15 ff]

We expect to add thematic areas as our digest evolves and becomes more comprehensive.

Calls for Public Consultation: Title/Source/Sorted by Due Date

Call for input – Special Rapporteur on summary, extrajudicial or arbitrary executions – The death penalty from the perspective of the prohibition against torture and other forms of ill-treatment and the protection of human dignity
UNHCHR - Special Procedures **Deadline: 08 February 2026**

NEW **- Public consultation on the draft revised OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks**
OECD - Public consultation Submission period 13 January - **14 February 2026**

Call for inputs - The use of mercenaries, mercenary-related actors and private military and security companies in organized criminal activities and illicit networks
Issued by Working Group on the use of mercenaries **Deadline: 15 February 2026**

Call for inputs - The use of technology in the operations and activities of mercenaries, mercenary-related actors and private military and security companies
Issued by Special Procedures **Deadline: 15 February 2026**

Request for Information: Accelerating the Adoption and Use of Artificial Intelligence as part of Clinical Care
AGENCY:US Office of the Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy (ASTP) and Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) (collectively, ASTP/ONC), Department of Health and Human Services. **Deadline: Feb 18, 2026**

Call for inputs on the impact of mental health challenges on the enjoyment of human rights by young people
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights **Deadline: 20 February 2026**

NEW **- Call for public consultation – R&D roadmap for coronavirus medical countermeasures**
WHO - Call for consultation 20 January 2026 **Comments by 28 February 2026**

NEW **- Request for Information Regarding Security Considerations for Artificial Intelligence Agents**
A Notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on 01/08/2026
This document has a comment period that **ends in 31 days. (03/09/2026)**

NEW **- Call for input for thematic report on international humanitarian law challenges for internally displaced persons.**
Issued by Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons
Deadline: 09 March 2026

NEW **- Call for input: Human Rights in the Administration of Justice – Neurotechnology and other emerging technologies - Report of the Secretary General**
Issued by OHCHR **Deadline: 09 March 2026**

Call for input – impact of unilateral coercive measures on the right to food
Issued by Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures
UNHCHR Special Procedures **Deadline: 15 March 2026**

NEW **- Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations – CDC's Traveler-Based Genomic Surveillance**
A Notice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on 01/13/2026
This document has a **comment period that ends in 38 days. (03/16/2026)**

Request for Information on Draft NIH Controlled-Access Data Policy and Proposed Revisions to NIH Genomic Data Sharing Policy
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) Notice Number: NOT-OD-26-023
Release Date: December 17, 2025 **Response Date: March 18, 2026**

NEW **- Clinical Trials Regulations – Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 159, Number 51:**
Published on Saturday, December 20, 2025 **90-day consultation (until March 20,** 2026 11:59 pm EST)

NEW **- Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations [Autism]**
A Notice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on 01/27/2026
This document has a **comment period that ends in 52 days. (03/30/2026)**

Concept paper on the guideline revision on good pharmacogenomic practice
EMA Draft: consultation open Consultation dates: 09/12/2025 to **31/03/2026**
Reference Number: EMA/282050/2025 Summary:

Public consultation on the COP30 Special Report on "Social Participation" for the implementation of the Belém Health Action Plan
16 October 2025 14:00 – 15:00 CET **Submit your case by 1 April 2026**

NEW **- E22 General Considerations for Patient Preference Studies; International Council for Harmonisation; Draft Guidance for Industry; [ICH - Availability}**
A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 02/06/2026
This document has a comment period that **ends in 60 days. (04/07/2026)**

NEW **- NIH Pause on New Submissions to the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry and Request for Information on Reducing Reliance on Human Embryonic Stem Cells in NIH-Supported**
NIH Number: NOT-OD-26-031
Release Date: January 23, 2026 **Response Date: April 24, 2026**

Invitation to comment on submissions of new descriptions and modifications to existing descriptions of areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity *Notification 2025-138 2025-11-01* Comments must be submitted by the CBD National Focal Point (with respect to States) or by the head of the organization **by 1 May 2026**

NEW **- FDA Rare Disease Innovation Hub Future Programming; Request for Comments**

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 01/30/2026
This document has a **comment period that ends in 328 days. (12/31/2026)**

ISO/AWI 14155 - Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices

ISO/TC 194 Stage 20.00
Due: Ongoing at national standards bodies level

Contribute a tool - Catalogue of Tools & Metrics for Trustworthy AI

OECD-AI Policy Observatory
Contribute your tools and metrics to our catalogue. No deadline date identified.
This catalogue is a platform where AI practitioners from all over the world can share and compare tools and metrics to help make AI trustworthy, build upon each other's efforts to create global good practices, and speed up the process of implementing the OECD AI Principles. This catalogue can only exist with your contributions and those of AI practitioners from all sectors. You can also share your experience using a tool or metric by submitting a use case.
:: Contribute a tool
:: Share your experience using a tool

A framework for evaluating rapidly developing digital and related technologies: AI, large language models and beyond - International Science Council Discussion Paper: Invitation to Comment

International Science Council [ISC]
No submission deadline date identified.

Public Consultation Calls: Purpose/Objective/Scope/Background Information – Sorted by Thematic Area

Biomedical Research/Regulation/Governance

Request for Information: Accelerating the Adoption and Use of Artificial Intelligence as part of Clinical Care

AGENCY:US Office of the Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy (ASTP) and Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) (collectively, ASTP/ONC), Department of Health and Human Services. **Deadline: Feb 18, 2026**

SUMMARY:

The HHS Office of the Deputy Secretary in collaboration with ASTP/ONC has published this Request for Information (RFI) to seek broad public comment on what HHS can do to accelerate the adoption and use of AI as part of clinical care.

NEW **- Call for public consultation – R&D roadmap for coronavirus medical countermeasures**

WHO - Call for consultation 20 January 2026 **Comments by 28 February 2026**

Summary

It has been six years since the emergence of SARS-CoV-2 and there continues to be sustained ongoing transmission of the virus in the human population. There is also the threat of another coronavirus pandemic with the discovery of novel bat coronaviruses that are capable of infecting human cells. Altogether, suggesting the need to combat the threat by urgently advancing critical coronavirus research priorities.

In response, following its 2024 Pathogens Prioritization Framework, WHO's R&D Blueprint Team launched the Collaborative Open Research Consortiums (CORCs) to promote coordinated global research on priority pathogen families. The Programme for Research in Epidemic Preparedness and Response (PREPARE) in Singapore is leading the coronavirus CORC (CORC-CoV). A six-month thorough consultation was conducted amongst more than 150 members in the CORC-CoV has yielded a comprehensive roadmap that lists out key needs and priorities. The six themes that encompasses the spectrum of coronavirus research are: ecology and transmission, virus biology, immune responses, detection technologies, medical countermeasures, biosafety and biosecurity.

You are invited to review and provide expert input into this draft R&D roadmap.

Please be specific in your inputs so that these are actionable and reference the exact theme (1–6), section (primary challenges, key needs, knowledge gaps, milestones, research priorities), and bullet point.

NEW **- Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations – CDC's Traveler-Based Genomic Surveillance**

A Notice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on 01/13/2026

This document has a **comment period that ends in 38 days. (03/16/2026)**

SUMMARY:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comments on a proposed information collection

project titled Traveler-Based Genomic Surveillance Program (TGS) Traveler Questionnaire. The TGS program monitors for communicable diseases among arriving international travelers at select U.S. airports.

Background and Brief Description

The goal of CDC's Traveler-Based Genomic Surveillance program (TGS) is to monitor for communicable diseases among arriving international travelers at select U.S. airports. Doing so enables the early detection of communicable disease importations of public health concern. The program also fills gaps in global biosurveillance by monitoring trends in global circulation of communicable diseases. Travelers who volunteer to participate in the program at airports and provide written, informed consent complete a short, anonymous questionnaire asking for travel information and general demographics. Two lower nasal swabs are then self-collected from participants. One swab is pooled with other traveler swabs in batches of 5-10 samples. Pooled samples undergo initial testing for pathogens of public health importance (including SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A virus, and RSV [respiratory syncytial virus]) via reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing. If any pool of swabs registers with any positive test, then all secondary swab samples (stored individually) corresponding to those in the pool are tested individually. Pathogen genomic sequencing may be performed on samples to determine the pathogen lineage. Some samples may be sent to CDC for further testing. No human genetic testing will be performed...

Request for Information on Draft NIH Controlled-Access Data Policy and Proposed Revisions to NIH Genomic Data Sharing Policy

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) Notice Number: NOT-OD-26-023

Release Date: December 17, 2025 **Response Date: March 18, 2026**

Purpose

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is requesting public input on its proposal to establish harmonized and transparent policy requirements for protecting human participant research data. Specifically, NIH proposes (1) establishing policy requirements for which data should be controlled-access under NIH data sharing policies, and (2) revising the NIH Genomic Data Sharing Policy to simplify and harmonize requirements.

Background

NIH serves as the steward of a wide range of research data and continuously works to optimize open sharing with appropriate protections throughout the entire data lifecycle. Given its numerous established data policies, NIH is proposing a holistic update to its data policy framework to strengthen data protections, clarify requirements, and reduce duplicative burden.

1. NIH is proposing a new NIH Controlled-Access Data Policy to support the research community in fulfilling NIH data sharing expectations. This proposed policy specifies human participant data types required to be managed via controlled-access and provides criteria for assessing the need for controls for other data types. It also provides a standard set of expectations across NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices to promote maximal responsible human participant data sharing through controlled access while simultaneously responding to emergent privacy and security risks…

2. NIH is proposing to revise the NIH Genomic Data Sharing (GDS) Policy to reduce duplicative policy requirements and improve overall performance. The GDS Policy, issued in 2014, promotes broad, responsible, and timely sharing of genomic research data derived from NIH research. As a landmark policy, it has played a crucial role in facilitating rapid access to valuable genomic data while ensuring participant protection through rigorous informed consent and privacy safeguards. Since 2014, NIH has issued the NIH Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Policy as well as streamlined and strengthened its controlled-access practices…

NEW - Clinical Trials Regulations – Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 159, Number 51:

Published on Saturday, December 20, 2025 **90-day consultation (until March 20,** 2026 11:59 pm EST)

Issues:

The existing primary regulatory framework for clinical trials involving drugs under Part C, Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) facilitates the development and commercialization of important therapeutics, including pharmaceutical and biologic drugs. However, it oversees the conduct of clinical trials indirectly by regulating the importation and sale of drugs for the purpose of testing in humans. The lack of direct oversight over the conduct of trials has limited Health Canada's ability to regulate clinical trials with the flexibility and efficiency needed in today's dynamic research environment. Some of these limitations, including the lack of clear authority to regulate aspects of complex trials and the absence of flexible targeted oversight tools, such as terms and conditions, could delay or hinder clinical trials involving innovative drugs or trial designs. Other constraints, such as the lack of options for how participants provide informed consent, and the restriction on the type of professionals who can conduct trials as investigators, could limit or discourage participation in decentralized trials, which are designed to increase access to clinical trials. The current framework may also, in some cases, place a disproportionate and unnecessary burden on sponsors of certain types of trials, such as lower-risk trials involving authorized drugs. These limitations are making these trials less likely to come to Canada, therefore limiting Canadians' access to these trials. In addition, the current framework does not provide for direct oversight over service providers, and lacks flexibility in tailoring compliance and enforcement actions proportionate to the trials' level of risk.

Description:

The proposed Clinical Trials Regulations (the proposed Regulations) would establish a new, stand-alone regulatory framework under the Food and Drugs Act for clinical trials involving drugs for human use. The proposed framework would replace the existing clinical trial regulatory schemes for drugs in Part C, Division 5 of the FDR and Part 2 of the Clinical Trials for Medical Devices and Drugs Relating to COVID-19 Regulations (COVID-19 CT Regulations). It would regulate both the conduct of clinical trials and the importation and sale of drugs used in these trials. Specifically, it would establish requirements for the application process, issuance, terms and conditions, amendment, suspension, and revocation of clinical trial authorizations. It would also set out requirements for good clinical practices, reporting, and other activities related to clinical trials. Additionally, the proposed Regulations Amending Certain Regulations Relating to Clinical Trials would repeal Part C, Division 5 of the FDR and Part 2 of the COVID-19 CT Regulations, and make several consequential amendments to other provisions of the FDR and related regulations to align these regulations with the new framework.

NEW - Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations [Autism]

A Notice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on 01/27/2026

This document has a **comment period that ends in 52 days. (03/30/2026)**

SUMMARY:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a proposed information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comments on a proposed information collection project titled Survey to Promote Resources and Opportunities for aUtistic Teens and young adults (SPROUT). This follow-up survey will allow CDC to collect longitudinal data on prior participants in the Study to Explore Early Development (SEED) and family members in order to better understand the healthcare utilization, service and support needs, and impact of co-occurring conditions on autistic

adolescents and young adults and their families, as well as the educational, social, and/or vocational needs and experiences of autistic adolescents and young adults.

Concept paper on the guideline revision on good pharmacogenomic practice

EMA Draft: consultation open Consultation dates: 09/12/2025 to **31/03/2026**
Reference Number: EMA/282050/2025 Summary:

The proposed revised guideline will replace the 'Guideline on good pharmacogenomic practice' (EMA/CHMP/718998/2016). Comments should be provided using this EUSurvey form

Problem statement

Scientific advancements in the field of pharmacogenomics necessitate a revision of the existing guideline to ensure its continued relevance and applicability. In addition to incorporating new scientific knowledge, this revision aims to provide greater clarity on topics already covered, facilitating more precise and actionable guidance for regulators and stakeholders. The issues requiring major revisions or inclusion of new guidance are:

1. Pharmacogenomic methodology
    a. Sequencing technologies
    b. Specific analytical issues
        i. Polymorphic genes & substrate specificity
        ii. Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) variants in subpopulation
        iii. Proficiency testing
2. Interpretations and recommendations
    a. Phenotype and genotype correlations
    b. General versus specific medicinal product use recommendations
3. Reporting and nomenclature
4. Pharmacogenomic study design
    a. Interventional studies
    b. Non-interventional studies

NEW - E22 General Considerations for Patient Preference Studies; International Council for Harmonisation; Draft Guidance for Industry; [ICH - Availability}

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 02/06/2026
This document has a comment period that **ends in 60 days. (04/07/2026)**

SUMMARY:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, Agency, or we) is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled “E22 General Considerations for Patient Preference Studies.” The draft guidance was prepared under the auspices of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH). When finalized, this guidance will provide general principles for the use, design, conduct, analysis, and submission of patient preference studies (PPS) aimed at informing drug development, regulatory submission and evaluation, drug approvals, and maintenance of such approvals.

NEW - NIH Pause on New Submissions to the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry and Request for Information on Reducing Reliance on Human Embryonic Stem Cells in NIH-Supported

NIH Number: NOT-OD-26-031
Release Date: January 23, 2026 **Response Date: April 24, 2026**

Purpose

NIH is assessing research areas ripe for modernization and is seeking public comment on the robustness of emerging biotechnologies to reduce or potentially replace reliance on human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) for research. During this review, NIH is pausing review and approval of applications for new hESC lines to be added to the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry.

Now is an opportune time to assess the utility of hESCs in biomedical research, specifically, areas of research that could not occur, or areas in which newer, validated models could serve as a replacement. Accordingly, NIH is requesting public input on the following research areas:

1. Research areas in which currently approved hESC lines sufficiently meet the needs of the research community as well as research areas for which new hESC lines are needed;
2. Research areas for which hESCs are the gold standard and could not be pursued if hESCs were unavailable;
3. Research areas in which the robustness of emerging biotechnologies such as induced pluripotent stem cells, adult stem cells, etc., can replace the use of hESCs;
4. Research areas in which additional investments should be made to bolster validated models to replace use of hESCs.

NEW - FDA Rare Disease Innovation Hub Future Programming; Request for Comments

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 01/30/2026

This document has a **comment period that ends in 328 days. (12/31/2026)**

SUMMARY:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) is announcing the following request for comments for a future public workshop series entitled “Rare disease Innovation, Science, and Exploration (RISE) Workshop.” The purpose of the public workshops is to focus on challenges that are common to multiple diseases or a class of diseases, and for which evolving science offers innovative solutions. The workshops will primarily focus on cross-cutting or common issues and will not be focused on any specific product under review by the Agency. The Agency further welcomes comments that highlight general rare disease-related issues of potential interest for the FDA Rare Disease Innovation Hub (Hub) to inform its future activities

ISO/AWI 14155 - Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices

ISO/TC 194 Stage 20.00

Due: Ongoing at level of national standards bodies

Scope

Standardization of the approach to biological and clinical evaluation of medical and dental materials and devices together with standardization of biological test methods applicable to those materials and devices as well as good clinical practice principles to clinical investigations in humans of those devices.

Abstract

This document addresses good clinical practice for the design, conduct, recording and reporting of clinical investigations carried out in human subjects to assess the clinical performance or effectiveness and safety of medical devices.

For post-market clinical investigations, the principles set forth in this document are intended to be followed as far as relevant, considering the nature of the clinical investigation (see Annex I).

This document specifies general requirements intended to

— protect the rights, safety and well-being of human subjects,

— ensure the scientific conduct of the clinical investigation and the credibility of the clinical investigation results,

— define the responsibilities of the sponsor and principal investigator, and

— assist sponsors, investigators, ethics committees, regulatory authorities and other bodies

involved in the conformity assessment of medical devices.

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Human Rights

Call for input – Special Rapporteur on summary, extrajudicial or arbitrary executions – The death penalty from the perspective of the prohibition against torture and other forms of ill-treatment and the protection of human dignity

UNHCHR - Special Procedures **Deadline: 08 February 2026**

Objectives

The objective of the report is to examine the death penalty from the perspective of the prohibition against torture and other forms of ill-treatment under international law and based on medical and legal evidence

Call for inputs - The use of mercenaries, mercenary-related actors and private military and security companies in organized criminal activities and illicit networks

Issued by Working Group on the use of mercenaries **Deadline: 15 February 2026**

Call for inputs - The use of technology in the operations and activities of mercenaries, mercenary-related actors and private military and security companies

Issued by Special Procedures **Deadline: 15 February 2026**

Background

Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 60/5, the United Nations Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the rights of peoples to self-determination (hereinafter the Working Group) is mandated to identify and monitor mercenaries and mercenary-related activities in all their forms and manifestations, across the globe, with a view to assessing their impact on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly on the rights of peoples to self-determination. It is also mandated to ensure that private military and/or security companies in State territories operate under contractual obligations, monitoring and controls that comply with national laws, and relevant international humanitarian and human rights obligations.

The Working Group on the use of mercenaries normally issues a call for input annually to inform its thematic reports to be presented at the Human Rights Council in September and at the UN General Assembly in October/November.

Call for inputs on the impact of mental health challenges on the enjoyment of human rights by young people

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights **Deadline: 20 February 2026**

Purpose:

To inform the Office of the High Commissioner's study on the impact of mental health challenges on the enjoyment of human rights by young people, to be presented at the 63rd session of the Human Rights Council in September 2026

Background

Young people's mental health is essential, influencing their ability to enjoy their human rights fully. It can empower young people to participate actively in society, access education and decent work, and exercise their rights fully. However, mental health challenges can create significant obstacles, affecting

their enjoyment of their human rights and leading to discrimination, exclusion, and limited or no access to essential services. For marginalized youth and those in vulnerable situations, these challenges are often compounded, further restricting their rights and opportunities.

Call for input – impact of unilateral coercive measures on the right to food

Issued by Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures
UNHCHR Special Procedures **Deadline: 15 March 2026**
Background
Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 27/21, 45/5, and 55/7, and General Assembly resolutions 76/161 and 78/202, 79/167 the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures (UCMs) on the enjoyment of human rights is mandated to gather relevant information on the negative impact of such measures; to study trends, developments, and challenges; promote for accountability and reparations for victims of human rights violations caused by the adoption of unilateral coercive measures to make recommendations to prevent, minimize and redress adverse effects; and to draw attention to situations requiring the attention of the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly, and the High Commissioner.

NEW - Call for inputs - Draft General Comment on the Application of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Situations of Armed Conflicts

UNHCHR - Issued by CESCR **Deadline:15 May 2026**
Purpose:
To inform the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' draft general comment on the Application of the International Covenant on Economic
Objectives
The main objective of the General Comment is to provide interpretative clarity and authoritative guidance on the application of the ICESCR in situations of armed conflicts. The General Comment will address the entire conflict cycle: structural risk and prevention, active hostilities, occupation or effective control, stabilisation and post-conflict reconstruction. It will clarify how Covenant obligations continue across all phases, and how ESCR protection contributes to conflict prevention, humanitarian action, transitional justice, peacebuilding and sustainable recovery.

NEW - Call for input for thematic report on international humanitarian law challenges for internally displaced persons.

Issued by Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons
Deadline: 09 March 2026
Purpose:
To inform HRC report to be presented to the 62nd session of the Human Rights Council
Background
Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are among the civilians most affected by contemporary armed conflicts, both international and non-international. Although international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL) prohibit forced displacement, indiscriminate attacks, collective punishment, destruction of civilian infrastructure, and obstruction of humanitarian relief, these protections are often ignored, circumvented, misused or violated. Failures to comply with IHL not only trigger displacement but often lead to repeated or protracted displacement, eroding civilian protection and undermining prospects for durable solutions and peace.
Contemporary conflicts are increasingly fragmented, characterized by the proliferation of non-State armed groups, urban warfare and the instrumentalization of civilian populations. In such settings,

violations of the principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution further expose displaced populations to ongoing insecurity, restricted access to assistance, conflict related starvation, deprivation and cumulative harm. Additionally, lack in classification of violence in urban scenarios with organised crime may increase the number of displacements and humanitarian consequences.

Conversely, respect for IHL—particularly in the conduct of hostilities, protection of civilian objects and facilitation of humanitarian access—can play a critical preventive role by reducing secondary displacement, preserving civilian life and infrastructure, and enabling conditions for voluntary return, local integration or other durable solutions…

NEW - **Call for input: Human Rights in the Administration of Justice – Neurotechnology and other emerging technologies - Report of the Secretary General**

Issued by OHCHR **Deadline: 09 March 2026**

Purpose:

To inform the Secretary General's Report to the General Assembly, pursuant to resolution A/RES/79/172

Background

In resolution 79/172 the General Assembly requested "the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session a report on the latest developments, challenges and good practices in human rights in the administration of justice, including, inter alia, on the latest developments, risks and required safeguards regarding the potential use of neurotechnology and other emerging technologies in the administration of justice, and on the activities undertaken by the United Nations system as a whole..."

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Emerging/Disruptive Technologies

:: Call for Public Consultation

NEW - **Request for Information Regarding Security Considerations for Artificial Intelligence Agents**

A Notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on 01/08/2026

This document has a comment period that **ends in 31 days. (03/09/2026)**

SUMMARY:

The Center for AI Standards and Innovation (CAISI), housed within the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) at the Department of Commerce, is seeking information and insights from stakeholders on practices and methodologies for measuring and improving the secure development and deployment of artificial intelligence (AI) agent systems. AI agent systems are capable of taking autonomous actions that impact real-world systems or environments, and may be susceptible to hijacking, backdoor attacks, and other exploits. If left unchecked, these security risks may impact public safety, undermine consumer confidence, and curb adoption of the latest AI innovations. We encourage respondents to provide concrete examples, best practices, case studies, and actionable recommendations based on their experience developing and deploying AI agent systems and managing and anticipating their attendant risks. Responses may inform CAISI's work evaluating the security risks associated with various AI capabilities, assessing security vulnerabilities of AI systems, developing evaluation and assessment measurements and methods, generating technical guidelines and best practices to measure and improve the security of AI systems, and other activities related to the security of AI agent systems.

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Biodiversity/Environment/Climate/Disaster Mitigation

:: Call for Public Consultation

Public consultation on the COP30 Special Report on "Social Participation" for the implementation of the Belém Health Action Plan

16 October 2025 14:00 – 15:00 CET **Submit your case by 1 April 2026**

In the run up to COP30, WHO in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) Brazil held a public consultation for a preview of a supporting document for the Belém Health Action Plan – the Special Report on "Social Participation" for Implementation.

This consultation continued to collect ideas and examples after COP30 through to Bonn, showcasing diverse forms of social participation by civil society, NGOs, social movements, and other initiatives that advance climate and health action globally.

This public consultation aimed to:

- Present the outline and framing of the paper on Social Participation and Governance in Health and Climate Change.
- Gather feedback and examples that can strengthen the paper's evidence base and practical relevance.
- Identify and document case studies of participatory health and climate initiatives, particularly those advancing equity, resilience, and justice.

Invitation to comment on submissions of new descriptions and modifications to existing descriptions of areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity *Notification 2025-138 2025-11-01* Comments must be submitted by the CBD National Focal Point (with respect to States) or by the head of the organization **by 1 May 2026**

Overview

The present notification is to inform Parties, other Governments, competent intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders that the Secretariat has received submissions containing descriptions of new areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs), as well as modifications to existing EBSA descriptions. These submissions have been uploaded to the webpage for submissions within national jurisdiction for inclusion in the repository, at https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/ism/submissions/records1. A list of these submissions is provided in annex I to this notification.

In line with the modalities provided in the annex to decision 16/16, Parties, other Governments, competent intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders are hereby invited to submit comments on these submissions. This comment period will be open for six months from the date of the present notification.

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Science Integrity/Evidence to Policy/ Open Science

:: Call for Public Consultation

No new calls identified.

:: Resources, Events

NEW - **Notice of establishment of a Unified Office of Science Federal Advisory Committee and termination of six Office of Science Federal Advisory Committees.**

A Notice by the Energy Department on 11/18/2025

SUMMARY:

The Department of Energy (DOE) is publishing this notice pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1975, Federal Advisory Committee Management regulations, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat of the General Services Administration. Notice is hereby given that a new unified Committee, the Office of Science Advisory Committee (SCAC), will be established for a two-year period. The Committee will provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Director, Office of Science, Department of Energy, on a continuing basis on the SC programs. This unified advisory committee, which will replace the Office of Science six programmatic advisory committees, will better support the cross-disciplinary mission and strategic direction of the office.

DATES:

This also serves as notification that the following Federal Advisory Committees were terminated effective August 8, 2025: Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee, Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee, Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee, Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee, High Energy Physics Advisory Panel, and the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee.

NEW - **NIH Director refines guidance for international research partnerships**

September/October 2025 | Volume 24 Number 5

The National Institutes of Health remains committed to its support of research collaborations with institutions and scientists outside the United States that help advance its mission. Over several months, NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD, has discussed what NIH is doing to improve its oversight of funds going to foreign research institutions. Then in late August, he issued a statement, "Maximizing and Safeguarding NIH's Investment in Foreign Collaborations," to clarify the standards he's set for research partnerships across borders.

In this statement, Bhattacharya references the mission of NIH to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and to apply that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. Given the overlapping drivers of health and safety in different countries, NIH actively conducts and supports international, in addition to domestic, research, he writes. In fact, global collaborations can drive scientific progress to benefit all, including the American public. Yet Bhattacharya also notes that "support of international research should deliver both scientific and taxpayer value." Acknowledging that NIH is "tasked with being good stewards of U.S. taxpayer dollars," he advises the agency to pursue collaborations "judiciously, acknowledging that risks may not always be immediately apparent."

He emphasizes two overarching principles to guide NIH research partnerships abroad.

1. All research supported at international sites should have a clear scientific rationale to be conducted in a foreign country rather than in the United States.
2. All research supported at international sites should have direct potential to generate knowledge applicable to understanding, improving, or protecting the health of Americans.

Bhattacharya also cautions against misuse of NIH funding and resources, suggesting that it is of paramount importance to know exactly where "every dollar is going and to whom."

He concludes, "NIH is not only a catalyst for science and health, but also a driver of U.S. economic growth." International research projects, then, must also aim to benefit the American public.

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Heritage/Cultural Assets

:: Call for Public Consultation

No new calls identified.

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Governance, Peace, Trade, Global Finance

:: Call for Public Consultation

No new calls identified.

NEW - **Public consultation on the draft revised OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks**

OECD - Public consultation Submission period 13 January - **14 February 2026**
Draft: https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/events/public-consultations/2026/1/draft-revised-recommendation-on-the-governance-of-critical-risks.pdf/_jcr_content/renditions/original./draft-revised-recommendation-on-the-governance-of-critical-risks.pdf

Summary

The OECD is inviting comments on the draft revised Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks. The current version of the Recommendation, adopted in 2014, provides guidance to governments on how to anticipate, prepare for, and manage risks that have the most strategically significant consequences for societies and economies (hereafter, "critical risks"). The draft revised version aims to ensure the Recommendation remains relevant in light of lessons learned from recent global shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and emerging challenges including the increasing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, hybrid threats, supply chain vulnerabilities, and the growing role of digital technologies.

Critical risks, whether linked to natural hazards, technological developments, or human action, can disrupt essential services, undermine trust in government, and threaten national security. Effective governance of these risks requires a whole-of-society approach, engaging public authorities, private actors, and civil society in coordinated efforts to build resilience.

In times of crisis, flexible emergency authorities, well-rehearsed and scalable response capabilities, and continuity of essential services are particularly important to buffer adverse impacts and foster rapid recovery. People's experiences of how crises are managed, not only in terms of outcomes but also how decisions are made, communicated and implemented under pressure, can directly impact trust in government.

:: Resources, Events

Strategic Foresight Toolkit for Resilient Public Policy

A Comprehensive Foresight Methodology to Support Sustainable and Future-Ready Public Policy
OECD Report 21 January 2025
PDF: https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/01/foresight-toolkit-for-resilient-public-policy_9ad1cd60/bcdd9304-en.pdf
Abstract

By exploring 25 evidence-based potential disruptions across environmental, technological, economic, social, and geopolitical domains, the Strategic Foresight Toolkit for Resilient Public Policy helps anticipate challenges and opportunities that could reshape the policy landscape between 2030 and 2050. These disruptions are not predictions, but hypothetical future developments identified through extensive research, expert consultations, and workshops.

The Strategic Foresight Toolkit features a five-step foresight process, guiding users to challenge assumptions, create scenarios, stress-test strategies, and develop actionable plans. It includes facilitation guides and case studies to support effective implementation. Each disruption is accompanied by insights on emerging trends, potential future impacts, and both immediate and long-term policy options to ensure resilience and preparedness.

Designed for policymakers, public administrators, and foresight practitioners, this publication is designed to promote holistic, strategic and evidence-informed decision-making. It aims to support countries and organisations in using strategic foresight to design and prepare robust and adaptable public policies for a range of possible futures. With its practical methodology and forward-looking approach, the Strategic Foresight Toolkit is a vital resource for building sustainable, resilient, and effective public policies.

Public Integrity Indicators

OECD - Datasetdata-explorer.oecd.org
14 February 2025
Interactive Graphic: OECD Public Integrity Indicators
Overview

Following the adoption of the OECD Council Recommendation on Public Integrity in 2017, the Public Governance Committee (PGC), via its Working Party of Senior Public Integrity Officials (SPIO) subsidiary body, developed the OECD Public Integrity Indicators (PII) to measure the implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation on Public Integrity. The PII are complementary to the OECD Public Integrity Handbook and the OECD Public Integrity Maturity Models.

The OECD Public Integrity Indicators (PII) measure the quality and effectiveness of public integrity systems across six areas:

- Quality of Strategic Framework (data available)
- Accountability of Public Policymaking – covering conflict-of-interest, political finance, lobbying, public information, open government, and public consultation (data available)
- Effectiveness of Internal Control and Risk Management (data available)
- Integrity and Effectiveness of the Justice System (to be launched in 2024)
- Strength of External Oversight and Control (to be launched in 2024)
- Meritocracy of the Public Sector (to be launched in 2025)

The OECD Public Integrity Indicators provide cross-country comparative data to help policy makers and practitioners strengthen the resilience of public integrity systems towards corruption risks and prevent the mismanagement and waste of public funds. The PIIs measure the strength of standard regulatory safeguards (*de jure*) and implementation of these safeguards in practice (*de facto*). The OECD Secretariat collaborates closely with national administrations to obtain primary data collected directly from a wide range of actors across the executive, legislative and judiciary branches.

Regulatory governance

OECD Datasetdata-explorer.oecd.org
14 February 2025
Overview
The OECD Dataset on the Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance (iREG) presents up-to-date evidence of regulatory policy and governance practices of the OECD member countries, the European Union as well as the five EU Member States that are not OECD member countries. It focuses on practices as described in the 2012 Recommendation of the Council on Regulatory Policy and Governance (Recommendation), the first international instrument to address regulatory policy as a whole-of-government activity. The data covers in detail three principles of the 2012 Recommendation: stakeholder engagement, regulatory impact assessment (RIA) and *ex post* evaluation. For each of these areas, the indicators present information in four categories:

1. Systematic adoption records formal requirements and how often these requirements are conducted in practice;
2. Methodology gathers information on the methods used in each area, e.g. the type of impacts assessed or how frequently different forms of consultation are used;
3. Oversight and quality control records the role of oversight bodies and publically available evaluations; and
4. Transparency records information that relates to the principles of open government, e.g. whether government decisions are made publically available.

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Selected Final, Published Guidances, Frameworks, Regulations, Meetings Employing Calls for Public Consultation

Use of Real-World Evidence To Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Medical Devices; Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 12/18/2025
SUMMARY:
The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, the Agency, or we) is announcing the availability of a final guidance entitled “Use of Real-World Evidence to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Medical Devices.” FDA is issuing this guidance to clarify how FDA evaluates real-world data (RWD) to determine whether they are of sufficient quality for generating real-world evidence (RWE) that can be used in FDA regulatory decision-making for medical devices. This final guidance supersedes the final guidance, “Use of Real-World Evidence to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Medical Devices,” issued August 31, 2017, and provides expanded and updated recommendations.

Sponsor Responsibilities-Safety Reporting Requirements and Safety Assessment for Investigational New Drug Application and Bioavailability/Bioequivalence Studies; Guidance for Industry; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 12/16/2025
SUMMARY:
The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) is announcing the availability of a final guidance for industry entitled “Sponsor Responsibilities—Safety Reporting Requirements and Safety Assessment for Investigational New Drug Application and Bioavailability/Bioequivalence Studies.” The guidance provides recommendations for sponsors and sponsor-investigators to comply with the requirements of

investigational new drug application (IND) safety reporting and safety reporting for bioavailability (BA) and bioequivalence (BE) studies. This guidance finalizes the draft guidance of the same title issued on June 28, 2021.

NIH Policy on Enhancing Security Measures for Human Biospecimens

A Notice by the National Institutes of Health on 12/12/2025

Purpose

NIH is implementing additional policies and standard practices to protect Americans' sensitive and personal health-related data from foreign adversary misuse. This NIH Policy on Enhancing Security Measures for Human Biospecimens (herein referred to as NIH Biospecimens Security Policy) establishes expectations for ensuring the security of human biospecimens whose collection, obtainment, storage, use, or distribution are supported by NIH funds. The policy ensures protections for human participants and vital national security interests, consistent with EO 14117 (see: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-03-01/pdf/2024-04573.pdf) and 28 CFR § 202 "Preventing Access to U.S. Sensitive Personal Data and Government-Related Data by Countries of Concern or Covered Persons" (see: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/08/2024-31486/preventing-access-to-us-sensitive-personal-data-and-government-related-data-by-countries-of-concern).

NIH funds and supports the collection, obtainment, storage, use, or distribution of a wide variety of human biospecimens of U.S. persons and is therefore accountable to those individuals from whom the biospecimens were obtained. NIH takes seriously the privacy and security of these individuals and recognizes that human biospecimens may be used to derive sensitive information, such as an individuals' genome sequence.

On April 8, 2025, the Department of Justice (DoJ) implemented a final rule (28 CFR § 202) to address a national emergency declared by the President in Executive Order 13873 (see: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/17/2019-10538/securing-the-information-and-communications-technology-and-services-supply-chain) of May 15, 2019 to deal with the 'unusual and extraordinary threat…to the national security and foreign policy of the United States' posed by foreign adversaries' access to Americans' "vast amounts of sensitive information."

The final rule exempts specific types of transactions conducted and authorized by United States Government employees, grantees, or contractors, acknowledging the need for Departments and Agencies to implement appropriate security policies tailored to the risks posed by their supported or conducted activities. Additionally, EO 14117 (see: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-03-01/pdf/2024-04573.pdf) directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "consider taking steps…to prohibit the provision of assistance that enables access by countries of concern or covered persons to United States [U.S.] persons' bulk sensitive personal data, including personal health data and human genomic data,…on the recipients of Federal assistance to address this threat."

Recent security directives, including EO 14117 (https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-03-01/pdf/2024-04573.pdf) and 28 CFR § 202 "Preventing Access to U.S. Sensitive Personal Data and Government-Related Data by Countries of Concern or Covered Persons" (see: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/08/2024-31486/preventing-access-to-us-sensitive-personal-data-and-government-related-data-by-countries-of-concern), have increased the need to set expectations for securing human biospecimens to address national security and related concerns.

NIH is enacting the NIH Biospecimens Security Policy in support of these directives to secure Americans' sensitive personal health-related data from exploitation, ensure America's leadership in scientific research and technology development, and protect the privacy and rights of Americans.
Effective Date
This policy became effective as of October 24, 2025.

E6(R3) Good Clinical Practice; International Council for Harmonisation; Guidance for Industry; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 09/09/2025
SUMMARY:
The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a final guidance for industry entitled "E6(R3) Good Clinical Practice." The guidance was prepared under the auspices of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH). The guidance includes a principles document and annex 1 and is the precursory guidance to the draft guidance entitled "E6(R3) Good Clinical Practice: Annex 2." Once complete, the guidance will be composed of a principles document, annex 1, and annex 2. The guidance is intended to outline flexible and modern good clinical practices for conducting clinical trials. Notably, the guidance highlights the importance of quality-by-design, proportionality, and risk-based approaches in conducting clinical trials to ensure safety and reliability of results. The guidance also encourages use of innovative design elements and technology in clinical trials, while avoiding unnecessary complexities. The guidance finalizes the draft guidance of the same title issued on June 7, 2023.

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Selected Peer-reviewed Journal Literature/Gray Lit Integrating Public Consultation

OECD Guidelines for Citizen Participation Processes

Paris: OECD Publishing. 2022
https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/oecd-guidelines-for-citizen-participation-processes_f765caf6-en [Accessed 10 Nov 2023]

The *OECD Guidelines for Citizen Participation Processes* are intended for any public official or public institution interested in carrying out a citizen participation process. The guidelines describe ten steps for designing, planning, implementing and evaluating a citizen participation process, and discuss eight different methods for involving citizens: information and data, open meetings, public consultations, open innovation, citizen science, civic monitoring, participatory budgeting and representative deliberative processes. The guidelines are illustrated with examples as well as practical guidance built on evidence gathered by the OECD. Finally, nine guiding principles are presented to help ensure the quality of these processes.

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Selected Resources for Public Consultation Notices, Calls, Processes

UNHCHR UN High Commissioner for Human Rights – Calls for Input

https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input-listing

UNESCO - Consultations
https://www.unesco.org/en/search?category=UNESCO&text=consultation&category=UNESCO&sort_by=unesco_date#toggle-facets

WHO – Public Consultations
https://www.who.int/home/search?indexCatalogue=genericsearchindex1&searchQuery=public%20consultation&wordsMode=AnyWord

OECD - Consultations and calls for contributions
https://www.oecd.org/about/civil-society/consultations-and-calls-for-contributions.htm

IFAD Public Consultations
https://webapps.ifad.org/members/executive-board-public-consultation

European Medicines Agency's (EMA) open public consultations
https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news-events/open-consultations

U.S. Federal Register – "Public Comment" or RFI
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/search?conditions%5Bpublication_date%5D%5Bgte%5D=09%2F13%2F2023&conditions%5Bterm%5D=%22public+comment%22+or+RFI#

U.S. HHS – Open Requests for Comments
https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/requests-for-comments/index.html

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