

Cooperation mechanisms

This section provides examples of how national human rights structures collaborate to implement EU law. The protection and promotion of human rights within the EU require collective action across various structures and mandates. The mapping offers practical cases of cooperation designed to facilitate peer learning, although it does not claim to be exhaustive. Effective national human rights frameworks depend on both formal and informal collaboration among key stakeholders, including human rights statutory bodies, civil society organisations, government bodies, and parliamentary committees. Such partnerships promote coordinated efforts and the exchange of expertise, enhance rights awareness, help operationalise human rights principles, address gaps in protection, and reduce unnecessary duplication. The Tool includes two examples for each country, with supplementary details and, when available, additional practices under "more information." The Practices section outlines mechanisms that support cooperation among stakeholders, such as formal and informal arrangements. These mechanisms include collaborative working relationships, joint initiatives, memoranda of understanding, protocols, and advisory councils.

MS	Title	Partners	Description	More details
Austria	Austrian League for Human Rights' activities regarding the Universal Periodic Review	• Austrian civil society	The Austrian League for Human Rights organises the coordination of a joint statement by Austrian civil society to the UN Human Rights Council in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The league supports the networking of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and invites umbrella organisations from diverse areas of human rights to participate in the UPR. Over 20 umbrella organisations with well over 250 sub-organisations were involved in the latest UPR process in order to give the widest possible range of NGOs the opportunity to suggest improvements in their fields of expertise, to make demands and to highlight positive developments. The league coordinates with the network of human rights coordinators of the federal ministries in terms of structured dialogue for the country report to the Human Rights Council in the framework of the UPR and regarding the implementation of the recommendations. This is considered a promising practice of cooperation between government administration and civil society for human rights monitoring. For a long time, it has been difficult to track whether the recommendations of the Human Rights Council are being implemented by the Austrian government. For this reason, the league developed the UPR tool. The UPR tool reflects the global recommendations to Austria from the UPR process at the UN Human Rights Council and shows the current implementation status. The UPR tool also details the status of the recommendations (accepted or acknowledged), progress in the implementation of these recommendations, the responsible actors at the federal level and specialised NGOs. Moreover, the league comments on the progress in the implementation of these recommendations. The mandate of the league furthermore encompasses education, training and awareness raising on human rights (also targeting parliamentary bodies and government administration).	View more

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