



Human Rights in Mauritius

The right to life, some aspects

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*“From the politics of taking life
to the politics of affirming it”*



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THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION

70th anniversary



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL 37/26 (19.3.2018):
Reiterates the responsibility of each individual State to protect its population from genocide, which entails the prevention of such a crime, including incitement to it, through appropriate and necessary means;

No. 1021. CONVENTION¹ ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE. ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON 9 DECEMBER 1948

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES,

HAVING CONSIDERED the declaration made by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 96 (I) dated 11 December 1946² that genocide is a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations and condemned by the civilized world;

RECOGNIZING that at all periods of history genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity; and

BEING CONVINCED that, in order to liberate mankind from such an odious scourge, international co-operation is required,

Article VIII

Any Contracting Party may call upon the competent organs of the United Nations to take such action under the Charter of the United Nations as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in article III.

List of the 46 countries still in need of ratifying
the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide

Angola

Bhutan

Botswana

Brunei

Cameroon

Central African Rep.

Chad

Cook Islands

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican republic

East Timor

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Grenada

Guyana

Holy See

Indonesia

Japan

Kenya

Kiribati

Kosovo

Madagascar

Marshall Islands

Mauritania

Mauritius

Micronesia, Fed.

Nauru

Niger

Niue

Oman

Palau

Qatar

Saint Kitts & Nevis

Saint Lucia

Samoa

Sierra Leone

Solomon Islands

Somalia

Surinam

Swaziland

Thailand

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

Vanuatu

Zambia



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Constitutional protection of the right to life

Mauritius can do better than that:

CONSTITUTION OF MAURITIUS

4. PROTECTION OF RIGHT TO LIFE

1. No person shall be deprived of his life intentionally save **in execution of the sentence of a court** in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been convicted.
2. A person shall, not *be regarded as having been deprived of his life in contravention of this section*, if he dies as the result of the use, to such extent and in such circumstances as are permitted by law, of such force as is reasonably justifiable
 - a. For the defence of any person from violence or for the defence of property;
 - b. In order to effect a **lawful arrest or to prevent the escape** of a person lawfully detained;
 - c. for the purpose of suppressing a riot, insurrection or mutiny; or
 - d. in order to prevent the commission by that person of a criminal offence, or if he dies as the result of a lawful act of war.



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The right to life

The right to life in Mauritius				
	Mauritius	World average or reference	SDG reference	Local prevention program
Reproductive rights	Yes		3.7	Yes
Prenatal and genetic engineering	No info	<i>To be adressed</i>	N/A	
Abortion	Yes, conditionnally	<i>No world data</i>	3.7	Could be better
Birth registration	Data missing UNICEF		16.9	
Child Mortality	12.2 /1000	40.8 / 1000	3.2	(25 / 1000)
Maternal mortality	53 / 100,000	213 / 100,000	3.1	(70 / 100,00)
Traffic related deaths	12.3 / 100,000	17.4 / 100,000	3.6	SDG 3.6: halve by 2020
Suicides	9.3 / 100,000	10.7 / 100,000	3.4	Yes (more male victims)
Assisted suicide	Moderate		N/A	
Violence prevention	No info	WHO 2014 violence prevention report	16.1	Local Report Missing
Homicide	2.6 / 100,000	5.7 /100,000	16.1	
Life expectancy	74.6 (F 77.8, M 71.4)	70.5 (F. 72.8, M. 68.4)	N/A	



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16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere



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Right to peace I

- **Mauritius has no army!**
- **Mauritius has approved the Right to Peace resolution (A/res/71/189). It is time implement it.**
- **Mauritius is a multi-ethnic and diverse society.**
- **Introduce comprehensive peace policies and violence prevention programs.**
- **Some treaties still to be ratified :**
 - **Nuclear weapons ban treaty**
 - **Geneva convention, protocol 3.**
 - **Convention on conventional weapons, some protocols**
 - **Hague convention on cultural property, protocols.**
- **Child soldiers, initial report is overdue since 2009**



Right to peace II

- Support and enhance peaceful settlement of disputes internally, mediation and others peaceful means.
- Establish a peace fund
- Establish a peace ministry (or public service).
- Regularly report on the progress of peace in Mauritius



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Welcome to Switzerland

*The best way to protect life?
Fulfil its value and its worth with happiness!*

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