



Implementing International Covenants

Article 39 (which forms part of Chapter III) provides that the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and international labour conventions as applied to Hong Kong shall remain in force.

In addition to the Basic Law, protection for human rights is also provided in local legislation, including the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance, the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance, the Race Discrimination Ordinance, and the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. The anti-discrimination ordinances are enforced by the Equal Opportunities Commission, while the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, which enforces the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, protects the right to privacy with respect to personal data.

Currently, 15 international human rights treaties are applicable to Hong Kong. Seven of them (the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) require states parties to submit periodic reports to the United Nations (UN) treaty monitoring bodies plus other information requested by them. The HKSAR normally submits these reports as part of corresponding reports submitted by China, with the exception of the ICCPR which China has not yet ratified.

The UN Human Rights Council conducts a Universal Periodic Review of human rights in all UN member states. Hong Kong's report is submitted as part of China's report for the review.

Education, Science and Technology, Culture and Arts, Recreation and Sport, and Health

Chapter VI of the Basic Law covers education, culture, science, technology, sports, religion, labour and social services. This chapter covers all walks of life in Hong Kong and is crucial to the maintenance of social stability and prosperity in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong people have long been concerned about the education of their children and have paid close attention to the educational system. They also attach great importance to the medical system, which is critical to our health, as well as culture, arts, recreation and sports, which provide them with a balanced lifestyle and relief from work stress during their leisure time. The