

China reviewed by the UPR

09.02.2009

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- While China was commended for its efforts in implementing rights enshrined in the ICESCR, a number of states encouraged China to take steps to ratify the ICCPR and to harmonise its domestic legislation with objects of this Convention
- Some States welcomed the decline of executions stemming from capital punishment and recommended China work towards abolishing it entirely. They also recommended limiting the crimes punishable by the death penalty, while others called for a moratorium with a view to its early abolition.
- A few States urged China to respect the right to freedom of expression and called for an end to all instances of harassment and unlawful detention of journalists and human rights defenders
- States also raised concern about the treatment of detainees including access to legal representation, visitors and freedom from the abuse of authorities. In addition, the practice of 're-education through labour' was widely condemned. However, some States went a long way seeking to justify the practice as a good sanction
- States commended China's strategy to alleviate poverty, particularly in rural areas; its efforts to provide universal education; the significant decline in the infant mortality rate; the rise in the literacy rate and the marked reduction in poverty. Numerous states asked China to share its knowledge in these areas with other developing countries
- A number of States welcomed the National Plan of Action for Human Rights to be adopted in the coming years and underscored the importance of safeguarding the rights of women and the rights of the child in this strategy

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