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Common Core Document Forming Part of the Reports

Fourth Report on the ICCPR and ICESCR

 Republic of China (Taiwan)



ICCPR &
ICESCR

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June 2025

Editor's Introduction

Since the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as the “two covenants”) came into effect in Taiwan, the Taiwan government has been committed to promoting human rights protection and ensuring that domestic laws and administrative measures comply with international human rights standards. The submission of national reports on the two covenants marks an important step taken by Taiwan in protecting human rights. The two covenant national reports pioneered a model of inviting international human rights experts to Taiwan for on-site review, providing concluding observations and recommendations on the current human rights situation in Taiwan. Since then, all national reports have presented our efforts in protecting human rights and the government’s determination to continue making improvements.

The drafting of the fourth national report represents an integral part of Taiwan’s continuous fulfillment of the obligations under the two covenants. This report covers the latest progress in human rights protection of Taiwan from 2020 to 2024, as well as reflects the improvements in response to the 92 concluding observations and recommendations of the third national report. During this period, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was officially established and put into operation on August 1, 2020. In addition to making recommendations or reports to government agencies, it also documents independent evaluation opinions on the national reports of government agencies and monitors the promotion of human rights education, among other activities. The Executive Yuan established the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice on June 27, 2022 as the highest human rights unit in the executive branch, responsible for supervising, integrating, and coordinating cross-convention and inter-agency human rights operations. Meanwhile, the second-level agencies under the Executive Yuan have also proactively established human rights task forces to further institutionalize human rights affairs in various fields and strengthen the human rights protection system in Taiwan.

In the process of drafting the fourth national report, the Taiwanese government maintained a transparent and open attitude. To this end, we held task division meetings and explanatory talks on writing and compiling reports, and invited various sectors of society to participate in the review meetings to gather a variety of opinions. We also invited experts, scholars, representatives

of non-governmental organizations, and human rights advocates to join, as to ensure the comprehensiveness and objectivity of the report. In addition, various government departments and relevant agencies also proactively cooperated to provide the necessary data and information, striving to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the report.

According to Article 40 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Committee, signatories are required to produce an initial national report on implementation within one year from the day the covenant enters into effect, as well as an additional report every four years thereafter. As for Articles 16 and 17 of The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), although the UN Economic and Social Council does not specify a reporting schedule, signatories have adopted the general practice of submitting their initial report within two years after the covenant enters into effect, and every five years thereafter. The International Review Committee recognizes the uniqueness and innovativeness of the procedure for international review of Taiwan's national human rights report. Since Taiwan is not a member state, it can refer to the recommendations of the International Review Committee and follow its own annual reporting period different from that set by the UN based on Taiwan's own national conditions. In addition, based on the Ministry of Justice's experience in preparing three national reports on the two covenants and conducting international reviews, drafting a report on the two covenants in combination and simultaneously conducting international reviews can save manpower and financial costs. Therefore, we plan to submit the fourth national report on the two covenants in combination in 2025.

The fourth national report is mainly divided into the following parts: the Common Core Document outlines Taiwan's demographic, economic, social, and cultural background and describes the government policies and measures on human rights protection; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Convention-specific Document details Taiwan's progress in civil and political rights between 2020 and 2024, including the implementation of legislative, judicial, and administrative measures; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Convention-specific Document explains the latest progress of Taiwan in economic, social, and cultural rights, and introduces the relevant plans and policies implemented by the government; response to the concluding observations and recommendations of the third national report, in particular, specific response to the concluding observations and

recommendations provided by the previous international experts, explains the measures taken by Taiwan and the effectiveness achieved in improving these areas.

Taiwan has gradually incorporated a number of international human rights conventions into its domestic legal system. In addition to the two covenants, it includes the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination as well. Within the framework of these conventions, various government agencies consistently promote human rights protection measures and proactively participate in international human rights reviews, demonstrating Taiwan's emphasis on and commitment to international human rights standards.

In recent years, Taiwan continues to make progress in protecting its people's political, economic, social, and cultural rights. However, with the rapid development of technology, emerging human rights issues, such as privacy protection and cyber security, call for increasing attention and have become new challenges that we need to address. As we submit the fourth national report, we are fully aware that there is still a long way to go in protecting human rights. The government will continue its efforts to strengthen cooperation with international human rights organizations and deepen exchanges and dialogues with all sectors, so as to constantly improve the level of human rights protection in Taiwan. Through this report, we hope to demonstrate to the international community Taiwan's determination and achievements in promoting human rights protection and the positive role Taiwan plays in the international human rights system.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all those who provided invaluable comments and suggestions for the preparation of the fourth national report, helping to push forward the continuous progress of human rights protection in Taiwan. The government will maintain an open and transparent attitude and keep making improvements in order to foster a more comprehensive human rights protection system and create a fairer, more just and freer society for all Taiwanese people.

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Abbreviations in the Fourth National Report on the Two Covenants

Abbreviation	Original Title	Chinese Title
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	公民與政治權利國際公約
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	經濟社會文化權利國際公約
Two covenants	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women	消除對婦女一切形式歧視公約
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	身心障礙者權利公約
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	兒童權利公約
ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	消除一切形式種族歧視國際公約
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	禁止酷刑及其他殘忍不人道或有辱人格之待遇或處罰公約
ICMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	保護所有移徙工人及其家庭成員權利國際公約
EY Human Rights Task Force	EY Task Force on Human Rights Protection	
CPRPD	Committee for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Executive Yuan	
EY Children's Rights Task Force	EY Task Force for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Children and Youths	
EY Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Committee	EY Coordination Committee on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Elimination of Racial Discrimination	
The Nelson Mandela Rules	The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners	聯合國受刑人處遇最低限度標準規則

Notes:

- I. To facilitate reading of this report, all volumes of the fourth national report on the two covenants use abbreviations in this table, in principle.
- II. Abbreviations include: Chinese abbreviation or English abbreviation.

Common Core Document Forming Part of the Reports

I. Profile of the Nation Submitting the Reports

A. Demographic, Economic, Social and Cultural Characteristics

1. Taiwan is a democracy with cultural diversity and economic prosperity, and its people practice freedom of worship in a variety of religions. The country boasts diverse landscapes and rich ecological environments. Many people of different ethnic backgrounds and countries have since been attracted to this land. Taiwan's history and culture are significantly influenced by the Chinese and Austronesian cultures. The colonial regimes of the Netherlands, Spain, and Japan, as well as new immigrants from Asia in recent years, also left their cultural legacies on this island nation. Nowadays, the influence of diverse cultures is evident in Taiwanese cuisine and languages.
2. The Republic of China was founded in 1912, at which time the total area under its jurisdiction was 11,418,174 square kilometers. In December 1949, the R.O.C. government relocated to Taiwan and has since held control over the following territories: Taiwan island, Penghu, Kinmen, Matsu, the Tungsha (Pratas) Islands, the Chungsha (Macclesfield Bank) Islands, the Shisha (Paracel) Island, and the Nansha (Spratly) Islands, the collective of which will hereinafter be referred to simply as "Taiwan." The total area under the country's jurisdiction is 36,197.067 square kilometers.

Demographic Indicators

3. Taiwan's current population composition is dominated by Han Chinese, accounting for 96.6% of the total population; and 2.6% are from indigenous ethnic groups. According to a survey conducted in 2021, the Hakka population (Hakka, as defined by the Hakka Basic Act, are those who have Hakka ancestry or heritage or those who identify themselves as Hakka) totaled approximately 4,669,000, representing 19.8% of the total population. People of Mongolian origin currently total 442 in 205 households in Taiwan, while people of Tibetan origin currently total 684 in 357 households. In addition, immigrants with registered permanent residence account for 1.2%¹ of the total population. Inter-marriage between ethnic groups is common, and different groups have converged gradually over time.
4. As of 2024, there were 1,074,454 foreigners residing in Taiwan with valid Alien Resident Certificates (ARC), 537,829 (50.06%) of whom were male and 536,625 (49.94%) of whom were female. Among these, migrant workers constituted the largest number of 787,059,

¹ Due to numerical rounding when calculating the percentages, there might be slight discrepancies between the sum of the sub-categories and the total. The same applies below.

accounting for 73.25%; followed by students at 84,726 (7.89%). The next largest categories of foreigners consisted of dependent immigrants at 68,685 (6.39%); professionals at 40,726 (3.79%); investors at 403 (0.04%); missionaries at 1,571 (0.15%); permanent residents at 41,084 (3.82%); and others at 50,200 (4.67%).

5. The most common language is still Mandarin. The monolingual policy adopted by the R.O.C. in the past has led to the severe loss of languages of certain groups. To protect and revitalize the languages of different ethnicities in Taiwan and Taiwan Sign Language, the government has established/amended the Indigenous Languages Development Act, Hakka Basic Act, and Development of National Languages Act from 2017 to 2019. These legislations grant equal rights to languages of all ethnicities and Taiwan Sign Language before the law. In 2021, a draft of the Hakka Language Development Act was formulated to strengthen the development of the Hakka language in traditional Hakka regions from a legal and institutional perspective.
6. Affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan's total population showed negative growth between 2020 and 2022. Meanwhile, the population growth in 2023 turned positive, amounting to a 6.7% growth due to the easing of the pandemic. The sex ratio has been decreasing on a yearly basis, and the population density shows a fluctuating downward trend. Table 1 shows Taiwan's total population, population growth, sex ratio, and population density between 2020 and 2024.

Table 1 Population, Population Growth, Sex Ratio and Population Density

Unit: persons; ‰; persons/square kilometer

Item Year	Total population			Population growth	Sex ratio	Population density
	Total	Male	Female			
2020	23,561,236	11,673,765	11,887,471	-1.77	98.20	651
2021	23,375,314	11,578,696	11,796,618	-7.89	98.15	646
2022	23,264,640	11,499,136	11,765,504	-4.73	97.74	643
2023	23,420,442	11,553,267	11,867,175	6.7	97.35	647
2024	23,400,220	11,526,193	11,874,027	-0.09	97.07	646

Source: Ministry of the Interior

7. This shows a gradual decrease in the number of younger people and a gradual increase in the number of older people. Between 2020 and 2024, the population aged 0-14 fell from 2,963,396 to 2,742,386 (representing 11.72% of the total); whereas the population aged 15-64 decreased from 16,810,525 to 16,169,127 (representing 69.10% of the total); and the population aged 65 and above increased from 3,787,315 to 4,488,707 (representing 19.18% of the total).

8. The dependency ratio² amounted to 40.16 in 2020, 41.27 in 2021, 42.21 in 2022, 43.42 in 2023, and 44.72 in 2024, showing a year-on-year upward trend from 2020 to 2024. Demographic statistics for the period 2020-2024 are presented in Table 2.

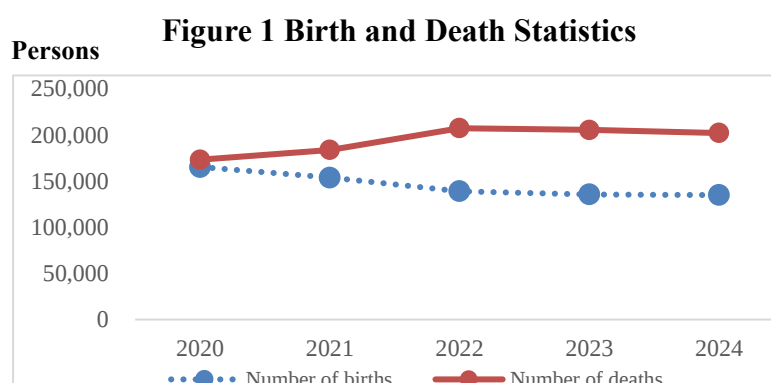
Table 2 Demographic Statistics³

Unit: persons; %; ‰

Item	Age structure						Dependency ratio	Births		Deaths		Marital status of the population aged 15 or over (%)				Total fertility rate	Average no. of people per household	Ratio of women over 15 years of age serving as head of the household (%)
	Age 0-14		Age 15-64		Age 65 and above			Births	Crude birth rate (%)	Deaths	Crude mortality rate (%)	Unmarried	Married	Divorced	Widowed			
	Population	Percentage (%)	Population	Percentage (%)	Population	Percentage (%)												
Year																		
2020	2,963,396	12.58	16,810,525	71.35	3,787,315	16.07	40.16	165,249	7.01	173,156	7.34	34.16	50.11	8.98	6.75	0.99	2.64	43.37
2021	2,889,908	12.36	16,546,373	70.79	3,939,033	16.85	41.27	153,820	6.55	183,732	7.83	34.08	49.93	9.16	6.84	0.98	2.6	43.63
2022	2,819,169	12.12	16,359,678	70.32	4,085,793	17.56	42.21	138,986	5.96	207,230	8.89	33.97	49.79	9.32	6.92	0.87	2.56	44.01
2023	2,793,413	11.93	16,330,044	69.73	4,296,985	18.35	43.42	135,571	5.81	205,368	8.80	34.01	49.55	9.49	6.95	0.87	2.53	44.37
2024	2,742,386	11.72	16,169,127	69.10	4,488,707	19.18	44.72	134,856	5.76	202,107	8.63	33.99	49.33	9.67	7.01	0.89	2.47	44.82

Source: Ministry of the Interior

9. Taiwan is becoming a society with a declining birthrate, with the number of births dropping from 165,249 in 2020 to 134,856 in 2024. The crude birth rate dropped from 7.01‰ in 2020 to 5.76‰ in 2024. Meanwhile, Taiwan is also considered a country with low mortality rates. The number of deaths was 173,156 in 2020, 183,732 in 2021, 207,230 in 2022, 205,368 in 2023, and 202,107 in 2024. The crude death rates in the last four years were 7.34‰, 7.83‰, 8.89‰, and 8.64‰, respectively, as shown in Figure 1.



Source: Ministry of the Interior

² The dependency ratio measures the percentage of the population aged 14 and below plus the population aged 65 and above relative to the population aged 15 to 64 years old, i.e., the number of dependent population supported for every 100 working people.

³ In this table, birth and death statistics are tabulated according to the date of registration, and the total fertility rate is tabulated according to the date of occurrence.

10. Changes in the unmarried, married, divorced, and widowed populations aged 15 and above as percentages of the total population aged 15 and above, as well as the percentage of children born to married couples and out of wedlock between 2020 and 2024 are as follows: The proportion of the unmarried population fell from 34.16% to 33.99%; the proportion of the married population fell from 50.11% to 49.33%; the proportion of the divorced population increased from 8.98% to 9.67%; and the proportion of the widowed population increased from 6.75% to 7.01%. The percentages of children born to married couples from 2020 to 2024 amounted to 96.08%, 96.16%, 95.98%, 96.04% and 96.07%, respectively; while children born out of wedlock (including children without a competent parent or guardian) amounted to 3.92%, 3.84%, 4.02%, 3.96% and 3.93%, respectively.
11. Taiwan is a country with low fertility rates. The fertility rates of women at childbearing age from 2020 to 2024 amounted to 0.99%, 0.975%, 0.87%, 0.865% and 0.885%, respectively.
12. Amid a downward trend, the average number of people per household from 2020 to 2024 amounted to 2.64 persons, 2.60 persons, 2.56 persons, 2.53 persons, and 2.47 persons, respectively.
13. The national and indigenous peoples' life expectancy at birth from 2019 to 2023 is as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 National and Indigenous Peoples' Life Expectancy at Birth⁴

Unit: years

Year \ Item	All nationals			Indigenous peoples		
	Nationwide	Male	Female	All indigenous peoples	Indigenous male	Indigenous female
2019	80.86	77.69	84.23	73.10	68.73	77.45
2020	81.32	78.11	84.75	73.66	69.23	78.06
2021	80.86	77.67	84.25	73.92	69.51	78.29
2022	79.84	76.63	83.28	73.65	69.21	78.05
2023	80.23	76.94	83.74	73.25	68.73	77.75

Source: Ministry of the Interior

⁴ In the previous (third) national report on the two covenants, a corresponding table provides the life expectancy at birth from 2015 to 2018.

14. Regional demographic statistics covering the period 2020-2024 are presented in Table 4.

Table 4 Regional Demographic Statistics⁵

Unit: persons; %

Item Year and region	Total population	Percentage of total population	Sex ratio	Age 0-14	Ratio	Age 15-64	Ratio	Age 65 and above	Ratio	Aging index	Indigenous population	Percentage of total population
2020	23,561,236	100	98.20	2,963,396	12.58	16,810,525	71.35	3,787,315	16.07	127.80	576,792	2.45
2021	23,375,314	100	98.15	2,889,908	12.36	16,546,373	70.79	3,939,033	16.85	136.30	580,758	2.48
2022	23,264,640	100	97.74	2,819,169	12.12	16,359,678	70.32	4,085,793	17.56	144.93	584,125	2.51
2023	23,420,442	100	97.35	2,793,413	11.93	16,330,044	69.73	4,296,985	18.35	153.83	589,038	2.52
2024	23,400,220	100	97.07	2,742,386	11.72	16,169,127	69.1	4,488,707	19.18	163.68	611,674	2.61
Northern region	10,739,054	45.89	94.74	1,307,660	12.18	7,394,036	68.85	2,037,358	18.97	155.8	224,068	2.09
New Taipei City	4,047,001	17.29	94.43	445,094	11	2,833,415	70.01	768,492	18.99	172.66	61,777	1.53
Taipei City	2,490,869	10.64	89.23	303,025	12.17	1,613,386	64.77	574,458	23.06	189.57	18,543	0.74
Taoyuan City	2,338,648	9.99	97.03	314,517	13.45	1,652,656	70.67	371,475	15.88	118.11	86,580	3.7
Keelung City	361,441	1.54	98.46	34,224	9.47	250,373	69.27	76,844	21.26	224.53	10,000	2.77
Hsinchu City	457,242	1.95	97.43	70,773	15.48	316,086	69.13	70,383	15.39	99.45	5,019	1.1
Yilan County	449,212	1.92	100.47	50,059	11.14	309,535	68.91	89,618	19.95	179.02	19,089	4.25
Hsinchu County	594,641	2.54	103.65	89,968	15.13	418,585	70.39	86,088	14.48	95.69	23,060	3.88
Central region	5,749,856	24.57	99.7	693,550	12.06	3,997,357	69.52	1,058,949	18.42	152.69	92,605	1.61
Taichung City	2,860,601	12.22	95.4	372,571	13.02	2,013,782	70.4	474,248	16.58	127.29	40,341	1.41
Miaoli County	532,854	2.28	105.71	60,385	11.33	368,301	69.12	104,168	19.55	172.51	12,144	2.28
Changhua County	1,225,675	5.24	102.81	142,804	11.65	843,947	68.86	238,924	19.49	167.31	6,900	0.56
Nantou County	472,299	2.02	103.5	47,907	10.14	321,712	68.12	102,680	21.74	214.33	29,943	6.34
Yunlin County	658,427	2.81	105.86	69,883	10.61	449,615	68.29	138,929	21.1	198.8	3,277	0.5
Southern region	6,228,166	26.62	98.25	670,869	10.77	4,300,743	69.05	1,256,554	20.18	187.3	120,271	1.93
Tainan City	1,858,651	7.94	98.35	208,629	11.22	1,285,907	69.18	364,115	19.59	174.53	10,186	0.55
Kaohsiung City	2,731,412	11.67	95.91	300,237	10.99	1,886,908	69.08	544,267	19.93	181.28	39,510	1.45
Chiayi City	262,177	1.12	92.05	32,100	12.24	179,976	68.65	50,101	19.11	156.08	1,354	0.52
Chiayi County	478,786	2.05	107.21	40,199	8.4	327,523	68.41	111,064	23.2	276.29	6,201	1.3
Pingtung County	789,239	3.37	102.36	79,350	10.05	544,357	68.97	165,532	20.97	208.61	62,254	7.89
Penghu County	107,901	0.46	104.61	10,354	9.6	76,072	70.5	21,475	19.9	207.41	766	0.71
Eastern region	525,593	2.25	101.91	57,640	10.97	360,557	68.6	107,396	20.43	186.32	173,044	32.92
Taitung County	210,219	0.9	103.83	23,015	10.95	144,920	68.94	42,284	20.11	183.72	78,910	37.54
Hualien County	315,374	1.35	100.64	34,625	10.98	215,637	68.38	65,112	20.65	188.05	94,134	29.85
Kinmen and Matsu	157,551	0.67	101.36	12,667	8.04	116,434	73.9	28,450	18.06	224.6	1,686	1.07
Kinmen County	143,601	0.61	98.49	11,288	7.86	106,107	73.89	26,206	18.25	232.16	1,371	0.95
Lienchiang County	13,950	0.06	136.6	1,379	9.89	10,327	74.03	2,244	16.09	162.73	315	2.26

Source: Ministry of the Interior

⁵ Regions specified in bold fonts are special municipalities.

15. Since the introduction of the Indigenous Peoples Status Act in 2001, there has been an increase in the number of people seeking to reinstate or acquire indigenous identity. Table 5 shows the population distribution of indigenous peoples over the age of 15 in 2024. Table 6 shows demographic statistics of indigenous people by region in 2024.

Table 5 Distribution of the indigenous population over the age of 15

Unit: households; persons; %

Administrative district	Number of households	Population over the age of 15	Population distribution
	2024	2024	2024
Total	227,304	491,042	100
Mountain areas	54,366	140,417	28.60
Lowland cities, towns, and townships with significant indigenous populations	54,157	113,331	23.08
Cities, towns, and townships with small indigenous populations	118,781	237,294	48.32

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Table 6 Population of indigenous people by region⁶

Unit: persons; %

2024																			
Region	Number of persons by tribe																		Not reported
	Total	Ratio	Amis	Atayal	Paiwan	Bunun	Rukai	Puyuma	Tsou	Saisiyat	Yami (Tao)	Thao	Kavalan	Truku	Sakizaya	Seediq	Hla' alua	Kanakanavu	
Total	611,674	100.00	228,052	99,792	110,525	63,727	14,155	15,873	6,906	7,300	4,978	917	1,670	35,522	1,123	11,582	492	455	8,605
New Taipei City	61,777	10.10	35,703	8,694	5,384	4,059	598	1,528	261	629	126	50	316	2,534	80	432	16	1	1,366
Taipei City	18,543	3.03	8,763	3,237	1,954	1,239	276	564	189	217	71	46	52	1053	40	287	3	0	552
Taoyuan City	86,580	14.15	41,053	23,541	7,343	5,546	628	1,457	255	1,320	185	35	213	3,038	150	674	4	10	1,128
Taichung City	40,341	6.60	12,209	10,256	7,663	5,402	473	879	347	272	107	199	67	1000	20	1,073	20	30	324
Tainan City	10,186	1.67	3,345	881	2,999	1,369	268	440	133	57	22	23	22	420	12	89	5	12	89
Kaohsiung City	39,510	6.46	11,288	1,783	10,457	9,623	2,771	965	576	86	54	15	42	809	22	229	382	348	60
Taiwan Province	353,051	57.72	114,920	51,192	74,465	36,309	9,103	10,019	5,121	4,698	4,410	546	955	26,567	799	8,773	62	49	5,063
Yilan County	19,089	3.12	2,805	14,220	412	382	71	155	32	40	10	4	22	667	13	71	1	2	182
Hsinchu County	23,060	3.77	2,393	16,807	745	503	90	160	45	1,614	30	11	17	317	15	95	0	3	215
Miaoli County	12,144	1.99	1,743	6,456	533	472	29	115	29	2,360	24	17	15	180	1	71	3	0	96
Changhua County	6,900	1.13	2,559	648	1,560	1,153	148	245	54	40	14	36	24	201	2	144	2	8	62
Nantou County	29,943	4.90	1,205	5,869	596	14,054	89	85	265	45	7	443	10	182	2	7,059	13	2	17
Yunlin County	3,277	0.54	1,303	401	598	473	65	74	50	27	10	0	5	150	11	60	3	0	47
Chiayi County	6,201	1.01	771	246	404	379	31	88	4,015	43	2	18	3	75	1	43	4	7	71
Pingtung County	62,254	10.18	2,830	592	50,309	967	6,205	270	80	39	18	6	16	271	7	68	30	13	533
Taitung County	78,910	12.90	35,830	623	17,151	8,661	2,149	7,948	55	70	4,242	1	123	260	12	52	2	6	1,725
Hualien County	94,134	15.39	53,080	2,749	1,066	8,486	111	581	32	80	28	0	693	23,722	716	966	4	1	1,819
Penghu County	766	0.13	305	117	176	77	12	24	8	5	1	0	0	20	1	15	0	5	0
Keelung City	10,000	1.63	7,870	795	326	304	21	111	29	20	12	2	16	246	7	45	0	0	196
Hsinchu City	5,019	0.82	1,888	1,552	418	235	53	109	34	309	11	7	3	244	5	62	0	0	89
Chiayi City	1,354	0.22	338	117	171	163	29	54	393	6	1	1	8	32	6	22	0	2	11
Fujian Province	1,686	0.28	771	208	260	180	38	21	24	21	3	3	3	101	0	25	0	5	23
Kinmen County	1,371	0.22	636	166	210	153	31	17	18	17	1	3	3	71	0	18	0	5	22
Lienchiang County	315	0.05	135	42	50	27	7	4	6	4	2	0	0	30	0	7	0	0	1

Source: Ministry of the Interior

⁶ Pursuant to the Local Government Act, local governments in this table are subdivided into provinces and special municipalities, and provinces are subdivided into counties and cities. Provinces comprise the Taiwan Province and Fujian Province, and special municipalities comprise New Taipei City and five others, all of which are marked in bold. In addition, 14 counties and cities, including Yilan County, are under the Taiwan Province, while Kinmen County and Lienchiang County are under the Fujian Province.

16. The ratio of persons with disabilities as a proportion of total population amounted to 5.08% in 2020, 5.15% in 2021, 5.14% in 2022, 5.19% in 2023, and 5.27% in 2024. An analysis of the number of persons with disabilities and an analysis of the gender and grade of disability of persons with disabilities from 2020 to 2024 are presented in Table 7 and Table 8, respectively.

Table 7 Number of Persons with Disabilities by Disability Categories⁷

Unit: persons

Category	Total number of people with disabilities	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Motion and balance impairment	Vocal or speech impairment	Moving functional limitation	Intellectual and developmental disability	Internal organ loss function and related disabilities	Facial disfigurements	Persistent vegetative state	Dementia	Autism	Chronic mental health conditions	Multiple disabilities	Intractable epilepsy	Rare diseases	Others	Unclassifiable as the result of changes to the classification system
Year																		
2020	1,197,939	56,036	124,825	3,300	15,462	357,241	102,149	158,172	4,648	2,776	66,268	16,683	131,624	135,166	4,735	1,751	4,251	12,852
	Total number of people with disabilities	Mental functions & structures of the nervous system	Sensory functions & pain; the eye, ear & related structures	Functions & structures of/involved in voice & speech	Functions & structures of/related to the cardiovascular, haematological, immunological & respiratory systems	Functions & structures of/related to the digestive, metabolic & endocrine systems	Functions & structures of/related to the genitourinary & reproductive systems	Neuromusculoskeletal & movement related functions & structures	Functions & related structures of the skin	Involving two or more categories	No corresponding category in the new system for categories in the old system							
2021	1,203,756	358,579	186,570	12,506	64,156	12,359	81,072	348,281	4,665	125,605	9,963							
2022	1,196,654	360,161	187,560	12,463	65,347	11,980	80,432	339,374	4,580	124,663	10,094							
2023	1,214,668	370,037	192,565	12,387	68,852	12,124	80,850	335,642	4,541	127,397	10,273							
2024	1,233,509	380,657	196,911	12,341	72,710	12,116	81,157	332,831	4,514	130,057	10,215							

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

⁷ Pursuant to the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act, the new version of disability identification was issued in 2019. Therefore, the 2021 data adopts the new disability categories in this table.

Table 8 Gender and Grade of Disability of Persons with Disabilities

Unit: persons; %

			Total	Profound	Severe	Moderate	Minor
2020	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	665,776	76,207	111,311	214,713	263,545
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.33	6.36	9.29	18.07	22.68
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	532,163	66,356	94,126	170,879	200,802
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.42	5.54	7.86	14.26	16.76
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,197,939	142,563	205,437	385,592	464,347
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.90	17.15	32.19	38.76
2021	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	667,925	76,231	110,529	214,898	266,267
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.33	6.33	9.18	18.07	22.68
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	535,829	65,645	93,958	172,188	204,038
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.51	5.45	7.81	14.30	16.95
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,203,754	141,876	204,487	387,086	470,305
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.79	16.99	32.16	39.07
2022	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	662,250	75,129	108,978	213,086	265,057
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.33	6.28	9.11	18.07	22.68
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	534,404	64,520	93,000	171,602	205,282
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.66	5.39	7.77	14.34	17.15
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,196,654	139,649	201,978	384,688	470,339
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.67	16.88	32.15	39.30
2023	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	669,360	75,420	109,455	214,404	270,081
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	55.11	6.21	9.01	17.65	22.23
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	545,308	64,464	94,148	174,658	212,038
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.89	5.31	7.75	14.38	17.46
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,214,668	139,884	203,603	389,062	482,119
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.52	16.76	32.03	39.69
2024	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	677,110	75,543	110,858	216,850	273,859
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	54.89	6.12	8.99	17.58	22.2
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	556,399	64,072	96,576	178,955	216,796
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	45.11	5.19	7.83	14.51	17.58
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,233,509	139,615	207,434	395,805	490,655
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.31	16.82	32.09	39.78

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Living Standards among People of Varying Social, Economic and Cultural Status

17. In 2023, there were 56,876 persons who exercised rights and obligations for minor children, of which 22,359 (39.31%) were mothers (including foster mothers), followed by fathers at 17,362 (30.53%) (including foster fathers), and the remaining 17,155 (30.16%) were jointly borne by both parties. Compared with 2020, the proportion of rights and obligations jointly borne by both parties increased from 25.80% to 30.16%. In addition, the reasons for the exercise of rights and obligations for minor children from 2020 to 2023 were mostly due to parents' divorce, accounting for nearly 90% of the total, followed by adoption, and the death or disappearance of one of the parents. The statistics of cases related to the exercise of rights and obligations for minor children from 2020 to 2023 by custodial guardians and reasons are shown in Table 9.

Table 9 Cases Involving the Exercise of Rights and Obligations for Minor Children by Custodial Guardians and Reasons

Unit: persons

Item Year	Total	Custodial guardian			Reasons			
		Father/ Foster father	Mother/ Foster mother	Joint custody	Divorce	A deceased or missing parent	Adoption	Others
2020	64,194	21,955	25,680	16,559	56,045	3,221	4,348	580
2021	59,208	19,649	23,648	15,911	51,444	3,037	4,280	447
2022	60,424	19,008	23,903	17,513	52,958	2,742	4,223	501
2023	56,876	17,362	22,359	17,155	50,359	1,930	4,135	452

Source: Ministry of the Interior

18. The economic conditions of the indigenous population remain relatively disadvantaged, averaging an annual income of NT\$762,000 in 2021, a 4.71% increase from 2017 and approximately 0.63% times the nationwide average. In addition, the indigenous population continued to move from their ancestral lands to urban areas, leading to the proportion of the indigenous population owning a residence in urban areas to increase to 76.66%, up 2.31% compared to 2017. Although it was still lower than the national average of 84.50% (as of the end of 2023), relevant housing subsidy policy efforts can be seen to produce results. In terms of the income distribution of indigenous households by five quintiles, the average disposable income of the top 20% of households was 6.15 times that of the bottom 20%, a significant decrease from 7.35 times in 2017, and the

same as 6.15 times for all households. The Gini coefficient for indigenous households was 0.356, slightly higher than the national average of 0.341. The inequality in income distribution was greater than that of all households in Taiwan, but has seen gradual improvement in recent years.

19. The Constitution and the Primary and Junior High School Act require citizens between ages 6 and 15 to receive mandatory education. Furthermore, the Compulsory Education Act was enacted to make enrollment in schools compulsory, prevent dropping out, as well as regulate the tracking and counseling mechanisms for school reentry.
20. Table 10 shows the amount of average annual employment remuneration and current transfer receipts per household between 2019 and 2023. The amount and percentage of current transfer receipts have been increasing on a long-term basis, with government subsidies and social insurance schemes accounting for about 70%.

Table 10 Average Annual Compensation of Employees and Current Transfer Income per Household

Unit: NT\$

Year \ Item	Employment remuneration	Current transfer income
2019	724,607	259,930
2020	725,932	279,122
2021	732,783	293,389
2022	747,733	295,661
2023	758,690	315,252

Source: Survey of Family Income and Expenditure by Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

21. Low-income households are defined as families that earn less than the lowest living index, and have undergone asset review procedures (for liquid assets and real assets). The lowest living index varies depending on the place of residence. In July 2011, changes were made to the Public Assistance Act to extend social assistance to more people. As of September 2019, 300,866 people (1.28% of the total population) were identified as belonging to low-income households, which represented an increase of 24,738 from levels before the amendment (June 2011). Among them, 160,715 were male and 140,151 were female, which represents 1.37% and 1.18% of their respective gender population. These percentages were similar to each other. Compared to the conditions before the amendment (June 2011), the number of male and female belonging to low-income households increased by 19,657 and 5,081, respectively. Table 11 shows the status of

nationwide households and low-income households between 2015 and 2024.

Table 11 Status of Nationwide Households and Low-Income Households⁸

Unit: persons; %

Year	Percentage of household spending on food, accommodation, healthcare, and education	Percentage of population below minimum food expenditure	Gini coefficient of disposable income	Low-income household population	Male	Female	Percentage of nationwide population	Male	Female
2015	68.4	0	0.338	342,490	178,253	164,237	1.46	1.58	1.39
2016	68.5	0	0.336	331,776	173,763	158,013	1.41	1.48	1.34
2017	67.9	0	0.337	317,257	167,287	149,970	1.35	1.43	1.27
2018	68.6	0	0.338	311,526	165,319	146,207	1.32	1.41	1.23
2019	68.5	0	0.339	304,470	162,658	141,812	1.29	1.39	1.19
2020	70.9	0	0.340	300,241	161,390	138,851	1.27	1.38	1.13
2021	71.9	0	0.341	295,901	159,633	136,268	1.27	1.38	1.16
2022	72.1	0	0.342	288,703	155,932	132,771	1.24	1.36	1.13
2023	71.4	0	0.339	277,364	150,565	126,799	1.18	1.30	1.11
2024				263,294	143,816	119,478	1.13	1.25	1.01

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics; Ministry of Health and Welfare

22. As a result of the worldwide financial crisis in 2009, the quintile ratio (i.e., the ratio between the income of the top and bottom quintile) of household disposable income widened to 6.34, and the Gini coefficient increased to 0.345. By 2023, the quintile ratio had fallen to 6.12, while the Gini coefficient was also down to 0.339. Analysis of the spending of the highest and lowest income group households revealed housing as the largest expenditure, representing 21.6% in the high-income group and 31.2% in the lowest income group. Food was the next largest expenditure, representing 24.3% and 27.6% in the respective income groups. With regard to healthcare expenditure, the wide availability of healthcare services has kept expenditures at 17% and 18% for the highest and lowest income groups, respectively. Lastly, education expenditure represented only 0.5% in households of the lowest income group given their smaller family size and higher average age; in households of the highest income group, education expenditure represented 4.0% of total spending. In 2022, national health expenditure (NHE)

⁸ The percentage of the population below minimum food expenditure is calculated based on the minimum food spending of US\$2.15 per person per day. (Approximately NT\$32 when converted using IMF's PPP; the PPP in 2015 to 2023 was 16.02, 15.99, 15.58, 15.57, 15.27, 14.65, 14.40, 13.71, and 13.57, respectively.)

amounted to NT\$1.6951 trillion (or 7.5% of GDP). The NHE per capita was NT\$72,687. Based on detailed analysis of the NHE, personal healthcare comprised the largest share at 82.7%. Meanwhile, the public sector accounted for 63.0% and the private sector accounted for 37.0%, respectively.

23. The net elementary school enrollment rate of children aged 6-11 was 96.69% in 2024—96.79% for boys and 96.58% for girls (a difference of 0.21 percentage points). The net elementary school enrollment rate of children aged 12-14 was 96.9% in 2024—96.87% for boys and 96.94% for girls (a difference of only 0.07 percentage points). Over the last five years, net elementary school and junior high school enrollment rates remained comparable between 96% and 98%, respectively, with no significant difference.
24. In 2024, 99.32% of population aged 15 and above were literate. This was a 0.29 percentage point increase over 2020, and is currently on a rising trend. Literacy rate of population aged 15 to 34 is 100% because of the mandatory 9-year education program. There was no significant difference between literacy rates of the two genders in the population aged 35 to 59. However, a small percentage of people aged 60 and above were still affected by traditional values that attached less importance to education and literacy for women. Nevertheless, this phenomenon is slowly disappearing. In 2024, the literacy rate of the male population aged 15 and above was 99.89%, 1.12 percentage points higher than the literacy rate of the female population (98.77%).
25. Table 12 shows student-teacher ratios at all levels of schools between academic years 2020 and 2024.

Table 12 Student-Teacher Ratio at All Levels of Schools⁹

Unit: persons

Academic year	Total		Primary education		Secondary education		Higher education	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private
2020	12.43	18.24	11.94	19.27	10.60	20.10	18.80	24.02
2021	12.33	17.86	11.98	19.25	10.38	20.00	19.06	24.15
2022	12.20	17.19	12.04	19.27	10.14	19.82	19.24	23.46
2023	12.08	16.48	12.01	19.20	9.96	19.45	19.65	23.09
2024	11.95	16.22	11.81	19.06	10.04	19.97	19.47	23.68

Source: Ministry of Education

⁹ In this table, higher education refers to the student-teacher ratio in universities, colleges, and junior colleges.

26. The labor force participation and employment rates between 2020 and 2024 are shown in Tables 13 and 14, respectively.

Table 13 Labor Force Participation Rate¹⁰

Unit: %

Year	Labor force participation rate			Unemployment rate		
		Male	Female		Male	Female
2020	59.14	67.24	51.41	3.85	3.92	3.76
2021	59.02	66.93	51.49	3.95	3.98	3.92
2022	59.18	67.14	51.61	3.67	3.68	3.64
2023	59.22	67.05	51.82	3.48	3.49	3.47
2024	59.28	67.08	51.95	3.38	3.37	3.40

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

Table 14 Employment Rate¹¹

Unit: %

Year \ Item	Total	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	Age 65 and above
2020	56.86	32.29	87.94	84.44	77.72	47.02	8.74
2021	56.69	32.35	86.91	84.92	77.76	48.02	9.11
2022	57.01	32.34	87.45	85.95	78.82	48.81	9.56
2023	57.16	32.25	87.56	86.52	79.55	49.86	9.85
2024	57.28	33.00	88.03	87.70	79.98	51.00	9.85

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

Table 14 Employment Rate (continued)

Unit: %

Year \ Item														
	Male	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	Age 65 and above	Female	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	Age 65 and above
2020	64.61	33.74	91.52	92.30	87.59	60.62	13.77	49.48	30.75	84.28	76.92	68.29	34.20	4.53
2021	64.26	33.02	90.26	92.73	87.33	61.68	13.70	49.47	31.64	83.46	77.40	68.63	35.14	5.28
2022	64.67	32.78	90.76	93.68	88.86	62.44	13.97	49.73	31.87	84.03	78.46	69.30	36.01	5.90
2023	64.71	33.06	90.55	93.52	89.32	63.43	14.09	50.02	31.41	84.48	79.73	70.30	37.15	6.36

¹⁰ The employed population in this table includes data from the “farming, forestry, fishery, and animal husbandry”, as well as “industrial” and “service” sectors.

¹¹ Employment rate refers to the proportion of the civilian population over the age of 15 who are employed. Civilian population refers to nationals over the age of 15, discounting the armed forces, the incarcerated population, and missing persons. It includes all people who are classified as labor force and not in labor force.

2024	64.82	33.93	91.06	94.31	89.64	64.31	14.18	50.19	32.03	84.91	81.27	70.87	38.55	6.29
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Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

27. There were 357,340 street vendors as of June 2023, a decrease of 118,358 vendors (24.88%) from August 2018. Female vendors accounted for 54.13% (193,437 people), a decrease of more than 67,135 over 5 years. Male vendors accounted for 45.87% (163,903 people) a decrease of approximately 51,223.

28. Table 15 shows the number of registered unions and members between 2020 and 2024.

Table 15 Unions and Members

Unit: organizations; persons; %

Year	Total				Confederated labor unions						Corporate unions		Industrial unions		Professional unions	
	Union count	Number of institutional members	Member count		General	Corporate and industrial		Professional	Union count	Member count	Union count	Member count	Union count	Member count		
			Organization percentage	Number of institutional members		Number of institutional members	Number of institutional members									
2020	5,655	5,094	3,363,998	32.6	118	4,160	43	277	111	657	916	590,089	231	86,424	4,236	2,687,485
2021	5,724	5,051	3,403,454	33.2	118	4,123	43	274	111	654	926	599,316	246	88,914	4,280	2,715,224
2022	5,777	5,016	3,433,218	33.4	119	4,126	43	268	111	622	937	623,421	254	92,867	4,313	2,716,930
2023	5,819	5,057	3,416,602	32.9	120	4,166	43	267	111	624	949	616,980	262	94,174	4,334	2,705,448
2024	5,838	5,066	3,403,857	32.7	122	4,175	45	271	111	620	966	621,268	272	92,361	4,322	2,690,228

Source: Ministry of Labor

29. Table 16 shows the nation's macroeconomic data between 2020 and 2024.

Table 16 Macroeconomic Overview

Unit: NT\$100 million; NT\$; %

Year	Gross national income (GNI) (NT\$100 million)	Gross domestic product (GDP) (NT\$100 million)	Average GDP per capita (NT\$)	Economic growth	Consumer price index (CPI)
2020	206,820	200,238	849,105	3.42	-0.23
2021	223,489	217,733	927,776	6.72	1.97
2022	235,160	228,204	978,579	2.68	2.95
2023	243,848	235,967	1,010,890	1.12	2.49

Year	Gross national income (GNI) (NT\$100 million)	Gross domestic product (GDP) (NT\$100 million)	Average GDP per capita (NT\$)	Economic growth	Consumer price index (CPI)
2024 ¹²	264,551	255,498	1,091,374	4.59	2.18

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

30. Between 2020 and September 2024, the percentage of women among nationwide civil servants increased from 42.31% to 43.37%. The percentage of women among political appointees increased from 22.13% to 25.00%. The percentage of women among indigenous civil servants increased from 37.33% to 40.72%. The percentage of women among indigenous political appointees increased from 31.25% to 53.33%.

Right to Health Indicators

31. In 2023, there were 12 maternal deaths in total. The leading causes of death were postpartum hemorrhage, ectopic pregnancy, and obstetric embolism. The statistics on the number of maternal deaths and mortality rates from 2020 to 2023 are shown in Table 17.

Table 17 Number of Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rates¹³

Unit: persons; per 100,000 live births

Year	Number of deaths	Mortality rate
2020	21	13.0
2021	22	14.0
2022	18	*
2023	12	*

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

32. There were 133,895 births recorded in 2023, with a crude infant death rate of 4.3 per 1,000 live births and a crude neonatal death rate of 2.8 per 1,000 live births. The leading causes of infant mortality were: The main causes of infant mortality were congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities (15.7%); respiratory disorders originating in the perinatal period (15.6%); disorders related to length of gestation and fetal growth (13.3%); accidental injuries (5.7%); and infections specific to the perinatal period (4.2%). The top five causes combined accounted for 54.5% of infant deaths.
33. According to the 2021 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), the contraceptive prevalence rate among women aged 20 to 49 who are married or have a stable cohabiting

¹² The data for 2024 is the initial estimate run as of February 26, 2025.

¹³ Rates based on fewer than 20 deaths are omitted due to reliability concerns. They are denoted by an asterisk (*).

partner and require contraception is 67.7%.

34. The leading causes of death in 2023 were malignant neoplasms, heart diseases, pneumonia, cerebrovascular diseases, mellitus, coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), hypertensive diseases, accidental injury, chronic lower respiratory diseases, nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis. With respect to the top ten causes of death by gender, the number of male deaths in 2023 exceeded female deaths. The top two causes of death for males and females were both malignant neoplasms and heart diseases. Chronic lower respiratory diseases were among the top ten causes of death for men, but not for women. The opposite was true for vascular and unspecified dementia. Table 18 shows the number of deaths and death rates for the top five cancers in 2023.

Table 18 Deaths and Death Rates for the Top 5 Cancers¹⁴

Unit: persons; per 100,000 people

Male				Female			
Type	Deaths	Crude death rate	Age-standardized death rate	Type	Deaths	Crude death rate	Age-standardized death rate
Cancer of the trachea, bronchus, or lung	6,499	56.4	30.0	Cancer of the trachea, bronchus, or lung	3,849	32.6	14.6
Cancer of the liver or intrahepatic bile ducts	5,259	45.6	24.8	Cancer of the breast (female)	2,972	25.2	13.3
Cancer of the colon, rectum, or anus	3,874	33.6	17.9	Cancer of the colon, rectum, or anus	2,917	24.7	11.1
Cancer of the oral cavity	3,301	28.6	16.8	Cancers of the liver or intrahepatic bile ducts	2,465	20.9	8.9
Cancer of the esophagus	1,915	16.6	9.5	Cancer of the pancreas	1,336	11.3	5.2

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

35. The percentage of men aged 18 and above who smoke decreased from 42.9% in 2004 to 14.0% in 2022, the percentage of men aged 18 and above who consume betel nuts also decreased from 15.8% in 2005 to 6.6% in 2021.
36. By 2024, the number of Taiwanese undergoing various cancer screenings remained steady. Although the number of oral cancer screenings decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, the screenings have gradually returned to the 2020 level since 2023. The

¹⁴ The classification of causes of death followed ICD-10. The age-standardized death rate was calculated according to the world's standard population age structure of 2000 set by WHO.

overall standardized incidence rate of oral cancer slowly declined, while the standardized mortality rates showed slight fluctuations.

37. The number of cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 people) of communicable diseases between 2020 and 2023 are shown in Table 19. The incidence rates of diseases such as dengue fever, tuberculosis, syphilis, and gonorrhea differed significantly by gender and exceeded five cases per 100,000 people. In 2023, the gender-specific incidence rates (female/male) were 103.75/125.34 for dengue fever, 17.14/39.55 for tuberculosis, 15.75/70.08 for syphilis, and 7.54/63.90 for gonorrhea. These gender disparities could be attributed to such factors as clinical differences caused by different physiological structures between the sexes, delays in seeking medical care, unsafe sexual behavior, prevalence of chronic diseases, and differences in immune system responses and physiology. The incidence rates of the four aforementioned diseases increased in 2023 compared to 2022.

Table 19 Statistics on Communicable Diseases

Unit: number of cases and incidence rate per 100,000 people

Disease	Number of confirmed cases				Incidence rate per 100,000 people			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dengue fever	137	12	88	26,706	0.58	0.05	0.38	114.41
Shigellosis	151	121	92	70	0.64	0.52	0.39	0.30
Malaria - imported	2	2	2	5	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Acute hepatitis A	74	74	122	85	0.31	0.32	0.52	0.36
Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis	74	82	64	66	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.28
Tuberculosis	7,823	7,062	6,576	6,584	33.20	30.10	28.20	28.21
Acute hepatitis B	108	144	104	132	0.46	0.61	0.45	0.57
Acute hepatitis C	602	561	506	501	2.55	2.39	2.17	2.15
Syphilis	8,799	9,412	9,707	9,941	37.31	40.11	41.63	42.59
Gonorrhea	7,082	7,381	8,015	8,257	30.03	31.45	34.37	35.37
HIV infection	1,390	1,246	1,069	940	5.89	5.31	4.58	4.03
AIDS	800	689	657	585	3.39	2.94	2.82	2.51
Enterovirus infection with severe complications	6	0	3	11	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.05
Invasive pneumococcal disease	228	194	200	287	0.97	0.83	0.86	1.23
Severe complicated influenza	444	1	22	1,058	1.88	<0.01	0.09	4.53

Source: Communicable disease statistics and surveillance reports from 2020-2023, Centers for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Welfare

38. Social security expenditures are government expenditures provided to mitigate the risks or expenses of families or individuals in all stages (for old age, disabilities, surviving dependents, illnesses, health, childbirth, family and children, unemployment, occupational injuries, residences, and others), and to provide or implement healthcare and living standard assurances pursuant to laws. In 2023, social security expenditures reached NT\$2.6318 trillion (representing 11.2% of GDP), an increase of 10.6% from 2020.

B. Constitutional, Political and Legal Frameworks of the Reporting Nation

Constitutional, Political and Legal Frameworks

39. The system of government of the Republic of China, according to the Constitution, is led by the President as the nation's Head of State, under whom there are five separate branches of the government with their own functions and responsibilities: the Executive Yuan, Legislative Yuan, Judicial Yuan, Examination Yuan, and Control Yuan.
40. The Executive Yuan is the highest administrative organ of the State. The Executive Yuan has a Premier appointed by the President; and a Vice Premier and seven to nine Ministers without Portfolio which are nominated by the Premier and appointed by the President. The Executive Yuan has an Executive Yuan Council which is chaired by the Premier. It is responsible for determining major policies and proposing statutory or budgetary bills or bills concerning martial law, amnesty, declaration of war, conclusion of peace, or treaties to the Legislative Yuan. The organization of the Executive Yuan includes 14 ministries: the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture, and Ministry of Digital Affairs. It has 10 councils or commissions, including the National Development Council, National Science and Technology Council, Mainland Affairs Council, Financial Supervisory Commission, Ocean Affairs Council, Overseas Chinese Affairs Council, Veterans Affairs Council, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Hakka Affairs Council, and Public Construction Commission. It also encompasses three independent agencies which are equivalent to a second-level central government agency (Central Election Commission, Fair Trade Commission, and National Communications Commission), one bank (the Central Bank of the Republic of China (Taiwan)), one museum (National Palace Museum), and two directorate-generals (Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting, and Statistics and Directorate-General of Personnel Administration).
41. The Legislative Yuan is the country's highest legislature. Members of the Legislative Yuan are legislators elected by the people and they exercise legislative power on behalf of their constituencies. They have the power to resolve proposed bills, budget and audit bills, martial law, amnesty, declaration of war, conclusion of peace, treaties, and other important national matters. Any act, law, statutes, and regulations must be passed by the

Legislative Yuan and promulgated by the President before they become the law of the land. Constitutional amendments and alterations of national territory must first be passed by the Legislative Yuan as resolutions before they are put to national referendums in accordance with the provisions of the Additional Articles of the Constitution of The Republic of China. Therefore, based on the nature and function of its authority, the Legislative Yuan is the equivalent of the unicameral parliament of a democracy.

42. The Judicial Yuan has 15 Justices. One Justice serves as the President of the Judicial Yuan and one Justice serves as the Vice President of the Judicial Yuan. The Justices are nominated by the President and approved by the Legislative Yuan. Each Justice of the Judicial Yuan shall serve a term of eight years, independent of the order of appointment to office, and shall not serve consecutive terms. The Justices serving as President and Vice President of the Judicial Yuan shall not enjoy the guarantee of an eight-year term. The current regulations require Justices to exercise their power through the Constitutional Court.
43. An amendment was introduced to the Constitutional Court Interpretation Act on January 4, 2019, and it was renamed the Constitutional Court Procedure Act, which came into effect on January 4, 2022. The Constitutional Court Procedure Act requires Justices to form the Constitutional Court and review the constitutionality of laws and constitutional complaints, disputes between constitutional organs, impeachment of the President and the Vice President, dissolution of unconstitutional political parties, protection of local self-government, and uniform interpretation of statutes and regulations. Under this Act, cases are to be concluded by judgments or rulings of the Constitutional Court.
44. Pursuant to the provisions of the Court Organization Act, there are three levels of courts including the Supreme Court, the High Courts and their branches, and the District Courts and their branches. The courts engage in civil and criminal trials, as well as other legal proceedings required by law. In addition, the courts have jurisdiction over non-contentious cases. Generally, trials are conducted based on the three-level, three-instance system, with the first and second instances being conducted based on matters of fact, and the third instance being conducted as legal review. Cases under the three-level, two-instance system are the exception. On October 3, 1999, the Supreme Court and the High Courts (and their branches) began hearing military appeal cases with sentences handed down by military courts involving at least imprisonment. Since 2013, active-duty military personnel who commit crimes under the Criminal Code of the

Armed Forces or their special laws during non-wartime will be tried by ordinary courts.

45. The Administrative Court was also established for administrative litigation cases. The Intellectual Property and Commercial Court was established for litigations and trials involving intellectual property rights. The Juvenile and Family Court was established for litigations and trials involving juvenile and family cases or incidents. The Disciplinary Court was established to handle disciplinary cases of judges, prosecutors, and civil servants.
46. According to Article 80 of the Constitution, judges shall be impartial, and they shall try cases independently in accordance with laws and be free from any interference. Article 81 of the Constitution also stipulates that judges shall hold office for life. No judge shall be removed from office unless he or she has been guilty of a criminal offense or subjected to disciplinary action, or declared to be under interdiction. No judge shall, except in accordance with laws, be suspended or transferred, or have their salary reduced. Article 5 of the Judges Act, promulgated on July 6, 2012, outlines the eligibility for personnel such as Supreme Court, Supreme Administrative Court, Disciplinary Court, High Administrative Court, High Court, and branch court judges, and other judges in courts below said levels. Article 5 of the Judges Act, amended and promulgated on July 17, 2019, added provisions allowing Academia Sinica research fellows, associate research fellows, or assistant research fellows to be appointed as judges serving in High Courts and courts at lower levels. The amendment also allowed Academia Sinica research fellows to be appointed as judges serving in the Supreme Court, Supreme Administrative Court, and Disciplinary Court.
47. The Examination Yuan is the nation's highest examination organ. It has one President, one Vice President, and seven to nine Members with a term of four years. They are nominated by the President and approved and appointed by the Legislative Yuan. The Examination Yuan oversees regulatory matters concerning examinations and civil servants' records and qualification review, protection, compensation, retirement, appointment and dismissal, performance, salary, promotion, and reward. Members of the Examination Yuan shall be above partisanship and shall exercise their functions independently in accordance with the law.
48. The Control Yuan (ombudsman institution) is the nation's highest supervisory authority. It has 29 members, including a President and a Vice President, all of whom are nominated by the R.O.C. (Taiwan) President and appointed to six-year terms upon

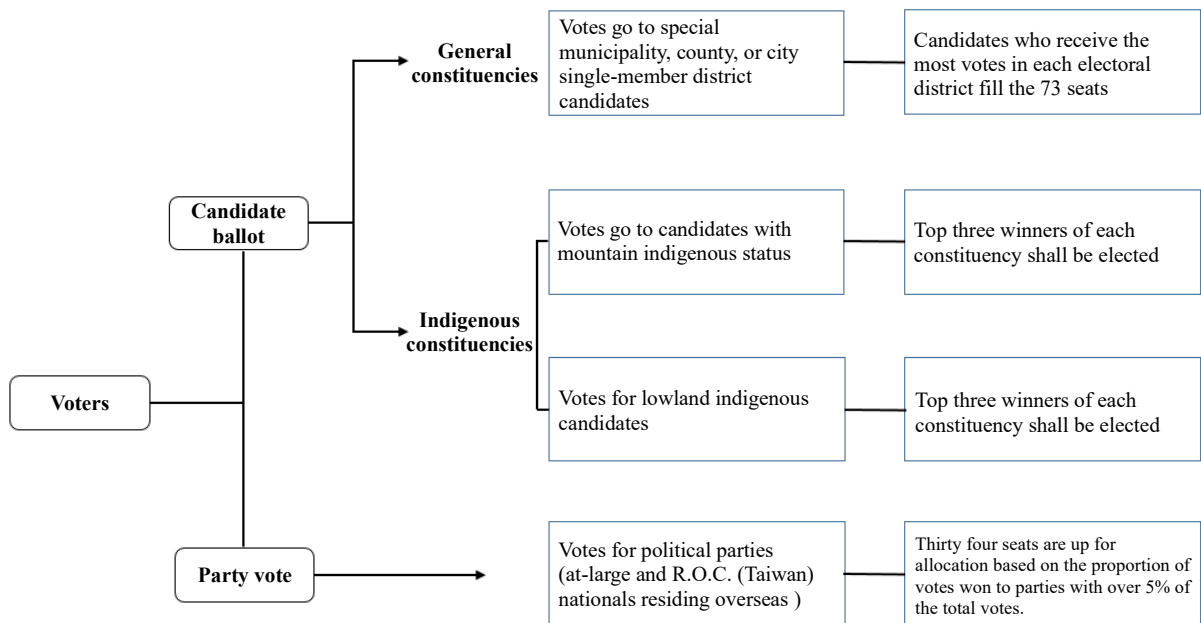
approval from the Legislative Yuan. The Control Yuan possesses the powers of impeachment, censure, and audit. Members of the Control Yuan shall be above partisanship and exercise their duties independently in accordance with the law.

Political System Indicators

49. The Central Election Commission was established as an independent agency with members that transcend party affiliations and exercise their duties independently according to law as an unbiased and neutral party free of improper influence and interference from political parties. Members of the Commission serve a four-year term, and no political party shall have more than one-third of membership in the Commission. The Commission handles 11 types of elections for public officials, namely elections for the President, Vice President, legislators, special municipal councilors, county/city councilors, township/city council representatives, mountain indigenous district council representatives of special municipalities, special municipal mayors, county/city mayors, township/city mayors, and chiefs of indigenous districts in special municipalities and village/borough chiefs.
50. Candidates for presidency and vice presidency may be recommended by political parties that have met the following criteria: the party eligible for recommending a candidate must have received at least 5% of all valid votes by its candidate for the most recent presidential and vice-presidential election or legislative election. A potential candidate who has not been recommended by a political party may secure his or her candidacy by joint endorsement, whereas the number of joint signers must be at least 1.5% of the total number of electors for the most recent Presidential election.
51. The Legislator election in Taiwan comprises concurrent elections of regional constituent legislators, indigenous legislators, and legislative seats allocated to various political parties based on proportion of votes won: Of the 113 seats in the Legislative Yuan, 73 legislators were elected by regional (special municipal, county, and city) constituents, and 6 legislators were elected by indigenous peoples (3 each for lowland and mountain indigenous group), all of which were voted for as candidates. The 34 legislative seats allocated to various political parties are elected based on the proportion of party votes won in the order of the party-list proportional representation. The regional constituent legislator elections are conducted based on a relative majority single-district voting system, where the candidate with the most votes is elected. The election of lowland and mountain indigenous legislators adopts a single non-transferable voting system in

multiple constituencies, and the top three candidates with the most votes are elected. Proportional representation is allocated based on votes won to political parties receiving more than 5% of the total votes, and legislators are elected in the order of the party lists. The number of elected female members on each party's list shall not be less than one half of the total number. To protect the political participation of indigenous peoples, Article 4 of the Additional Articles of the Constitution of the Republic of China prescribes the number of seats that indigenous peoples are entitled to in the election of legislators. Article 16 of the Public Officials Election and Recall Act prescribes that in the election of indigenous public officials, the voters shall be persons of mountain indigenous ancestry who have the right of suffrage and have been living in an electoral district for not less than four consecutive months. According to the above provisions, in the election of indigenous public officials, the voters shall be persons of mountain indigenous ancestry who have the right of suffrage, and can only vote for indigenous legislative candidates. The single-district two-votes system is as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2 Single-District Two-votes System



Source: Central Election Commission

52. The numbers of elected local administrators, chiefs of villages/boroughs, and local elected representatives are shown in Table 20.

Table 20 Elected Chiefs of Local Administrations, Chiefs of Villages/Boroughs, and Local Representatives

Unit: persons

Special municipality				County/City	
Chiefs of local administrations		Elected representatives		Chiefs of local administrations	Elected representatives
Mayors 6		City councilors 377		Magistrates/Mayors of counties/cities 16	County/City councilors 533
District executives (appointed by the mayor)	Mountain indigenous district executives 6	(None)	Mountain indigenous district council representatives 50	Mayors of townships/cities 198	Township/City council representatives 2,089
Chiefs of boroughs 4,168				Chiefs of villages/boroughs 3,580	

Source: Central Election Commission

53. A citizen who meets the criteria of an elector shall be automatically included in the official list of voters based on household registration by the household registration authority, and he or she is not required to register as a voter. All public servants in Taiwan are elected by a relative majority in one round of elections and guaranteed quotas are reserved for women for both central and local representatives in accordance with law. The numbers of eligible voters in national elections from 2012 to 2024 are presented in Table 21.

Table 21 Number of Eligible Voters in National Elections

Unit: persons; %

Year	Election type	Population	No. of eligible voters	Eligible voters as percentage of population
2012	Election of President and Vice President	23,224,912	18,086,455	77.88
2014	Election of local government officials	23,417,116	18,511,356	79.05
2016	Election of President and Vice President	23,483,793	18,782,991	79.98
2018	Election of local government officials	23,580,833	19,102,512	81.01
2020	Election of President and Vice President	23,598,776	19,311,105	81.83
2022	Election of local government officials	23,212,056	19,181,901	82.64
2024	Election of President and Vice President	23,415,008	19,548,531	83.49

Source: Central Election Commission

54. In cases where the electoral affairs bodies violate the law in handling elections or recalls, prosecutors, candidates, persons being recalled, or proposers of the recall motion may file a lawsuit in court to invalidate the election. In the event of a dispute over any illegal acts committed by an elected official, the election committee, prosecutors, or candidates in the same electoral district may file a lawsuit with the court to invalidate the election.
55. The allocation of legislators' seats to various political parties over past elections is as follows: Out of the 113 legislators elected to the 9th Legislative Yuan in 2016, the Democratic Progressive Party won 68 seats (60.18%), Kuomintang 35 seats (30.97%), New Power Party five seats (4.42%), People First Party three seats (2.65%), Non-Partisan Solidarity Union one seat (0.88%), and one seat was won by a candidate with no political affiliation (0.88%). Out of the 113 legislators elected to the 10th Legislative Yuan in 2020, the Democratic Progressive Party won 61 seats (53.98%), Kuomintang 38 seats (33.63%), the New Power Party three seats (2.65%), Taiwan Statebuilding Party one seat (0.88%), the Taiwan People's Party five seats (4.42%), and five seats (4.2%) were won by candidates with no political affiliations. Out of the 113 legislators elected to the 11th Legislative Yuan in 2024, Kuomintang won 52 seats (46.02%), the Democratic Progressive Party 51 seats (45.13%), the Taiwan People's Party eight seats (7.08%), and two seats (1.77%) were won by candidates with no political affiliations.
56. The number and gender of elected legislators from 2012 to 2024 are presented in Table 22.

Table 22 Number and Gender of Elected Members of the Legislative Yuan

Unit: persons; %

Year	Election type	Total	Male	Female	Ratio of women
2012	Total	113	75	38	33.63
	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	34	16	18	52.94
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	54	19	26.03
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	5	1	16.67
2016	Total	113	70	43	38.05
	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	34	16	18	52.94
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	50	23	31.51

Year	Election type	Total	Male	Female	Ratio of women
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	4	2	33.33
2020	Total	113	66	47	41.59
	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	34	15	19	55.88
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	48	25	34.25
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	3	3	50.00
2024	Total	113	66	47	41.59
	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	34	16	18	52.94
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	47	26	35.62
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	3	3	50.00

Source: Central Election Commission

57. The number and gender ratio of local elected officials for 2018 and 2022 are presented in Table 23, and the number of women elected in 2022 local public official elections is presented in Table 24.

Table 23 Number and Gender of Local Elected Officials

Unit: persons; %

Year	Election type	Total	Male	Female	Ratio of women
2018	Special municipal/County/City mayor election	22	15	7	31.82
	Special municipal/County/City councilor election	912	605	307	33.66
2022	Special municipal/County/City mayor election	22	12	10	45.45
	Special municipal/County/City councilor election	910	568	342	37.58

Source: Central Election Commission

Table 24 Women elected in 2022 local public official elections

Unit: District

County/City	Special municipal, county, or city councilors		Mountain indigenous district council representatives of special municipalities and representatives of townships, towns, and citizens		
	Total number of electoral districts	Number of constituencies with no elected female candidate	Total number of electoral districts	Number of constituencies with no elected female candidate	Number of councils without elected female representatives
Taipei City	8	2	0	0	0
New Taipei City	13	1	4	3	0
Taoyuan City	14	4	3	2	0
Taichung City	17	5	3	1	0
Tainan City	13	4	0	0	0
Kaohsiung City	15	5	6	2	0
Hsinchu County	13	7	47	25	0
Miaoli County	8	1	68	35	0
Changhua County	9	0	94	37	0
Nantou County	8	2	49	19	0
Yunlin County	6	0	78	44	0
Chiayi County	7	2	48	13	0
Pingtung County	16	3	108	55	2
Yilan County	13	7	49	30	2
Hualien County	10	1	46	20	0
Taitung County	16	8	48	20	0
Penghu County	6	2	20	11	1
Keelung City	8	2	0	0	0
Hsinchu City	6	1	0	0	0
Chiayi City	2	0	0	0	0
Kinmen County	3	1	6	1	1
Lienchiang County	4	3	4	0	0
Total	215	61	681	318	6

Source: Central Election Commission

58. The average number and gender distribution of voters in national and local elections by administrative units from 2012 to 2024 are presented in Tables 25 to 27.

Table 25 Election of Central Public Officials — Voter Turnout and Gender Ratios in Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections¹⁵

Unit: persons; %

Year	No. of eligible voters	No. of voters	Turnout	Turnout by gender	
				Male	Female
2012	18,086,455	13,452,016	74.38	73.47	75.26
2016	18,782,991	12,448,302	66.27	64.80	67.20
2020	19,311,105	14,464,571	74.90	73.20	76.70
2024	19,548,531	14,048,311	71.86	71.70	72.90

Source: Central Election Commission

Table 26 Election of Central Public Officials—Voter Turnout in Legislative Yuan Elections

Unit: persons; %

Year	Election type	No. of eligible voters	No. of voters	Turnout
2012	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	18,090,295	13,445,992	74.33
	Regional constituent legislator elections	17,625,632	13,170,279	74.72
	Indigenous legislator elections	354,946	220,045	61.99
2016	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	18,786,940	12,447,036	66.25
	Regional constituent legislator elections	18,305,112	12,187,927	66.58
	Indigenous legislator elections	387,105	212,102	54.79
2020	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	19,312,105	14,456,293	74.86
	Regional constituent legislator elections	18,806,913	14,129,999	75.13
	Indigenous legislator elections	414,948	272,076	65.57
2024	At-large and R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas legislator elections	19,566,007	14,044,052	71.78
	Regional constituent legislator elections	19,030,770	13,717,893	72.08
	Indigenous legislator elections	438,200	269,093	61.41

Source: Central Election Commission

¹⁵ Starting from 2016, gender statistics of presidential, vice presidential, and legislative election voters will be processed by sampling statistical analysis based on the official list of voters.

Table 27 Voter Turnout and Gender Ratios in Elections of Local Public Officials¹⁶

Unit: persons; %

Year	Election type	No. of eligible voters	No. of voters	Turnout	Turnout by gender	
					Male	Female
2014	Special municipal/County/City mayor election	18,511,536	12,512,135	67.59	67.70	67.49
	Special municipal/County/City councilor election	18,453,151	12,485,025	67.66		-
2018	Special municipal/County/City mayor election	19,102,502	12,791,031	66.96	65.60	68.00
	Special municipal/County/City councilor election	19,053,128	12,764,191	66.99	65.70	68.10
2022	Special municipal/County/City mayor election	19,181,901	11,695,610	60.97	60.10	62.00
	Special municipal/County/City councilor election	18,710,006	11,445,404	61.17	60.40	62.20

Source: Central Election Commission

59. According to the regulations in the Referendum Act amended on January 3, 2018, to submit a proposal for a referendum, the leading proposer shall submit a written proposal, a statement of reasons, and the original roster and copy of the proposer's details to the competent authority. The number of proposers shall be not less than one-ten thousandth of the total electorate in the most recent election of the President and Vice President. The number of joint signers shall not be less than 1.5%. With regard to the result of voting for a proposal of referendum, if valid ballots of assent are more than ballots of dissent and reach 1/4 of eligible voters, the proposal is adopted.
60. From the promulgation of the Referendum Act on December 31, 2003 to 2023, a total of 20 national referendums have been announced as valid for voting. A total of 6 referendums were conducted before 2018 and they were all vetoed because the results were lower than the threshold. The amendment and promulgation of the Referendum Act on January 3, 2018 significantly reduced the thresholds for the proposal, joint signature, and votes required for a referendum to be valid. The joint signature collection for 10

¹⁶ No voter turnout survey was conducted on the gender of voters in parliamentary elections prior to 2018. Starting from 2018, the statistical analysis of the gender of voters was conducted through sampling analysis based on the official list of voters.

referendums was completed in the same year and 7 referendums were passed in the voting. In 2021, the joint signature collection for 4 referendum cases was completed, but all four failed in the voting.

61. Between 2020 and 2024, there were a total of 28 officially-registered political parties. As of 2024, there were a total of 75 political parties in existence.
62. In the presidential and vice-presidential and legislative elections in 2024, 70 individuals were convicted for election bribery, four individuals were convicted for crimes of violence, and 159 individuals were convicted in other criminal cases. In the elections of special municipal councilors, county/city mayors, county/city councilors, township mayors, and township councilors in 2022, 775 individuals were convicted for election bribery, 31 individuals were convicted for crimes of violence, and 376 individuals were convicted in other criminal cases.
63. Violations of Electoral Regulation: There were 614 cases in the presidential and vice-presidential and legislative elections in 2020; 86 cases in local public official elections in 2022; 138 cases in the presidential and vice-presidential and legislative elections in 2024.
64. Regarding lawsuits filed by candidates to invalidate election results, a total of 13 public official electees were invalidated by court order in 2022.
65. A local referendum must be filed to the special municipal or county/city government. Related items for referendums are prescribed in the Referendum Act and the autonomous regulations of special municipalities and counties/cities. As of 2023, a total of 6 regional referendums have been approved and the turnout in 2008, 2009, 2012, 2016, 2017 and 2021 were: 5.35%, 42.16%, 40.76%, 39.56%, 24.17%, and 43.39%, respectively. Only two proposals were passed. The passage rate was 33.33%.

Crime and Justice Indicators

66. In order to maintain the independence of the judiciary, the independent allocation of budgetary estimates for the judiciary is guaranteed by the Constitution, beginning in 1999. Over the past four years, judicial spending has accounted for 0.96% to 1.13% of total public expenditure. The budgets for Judicial Yuan and subordinates from 2021 to 2024 were NT\$24,437,491,000, NT\$25,009,889,000, NT\$26,242,516,000, and NT\$27,459,009,000. The legal budget after the Legislative Yuan's review and reduction of aforementioned budgets amounted to NT\$24,193,359,000, NT\$24,770,062,000, NT\$26,015,848,000, and NT\$27,269,273,000. The reduction ratios were 1.00%, 0.96%,

0.86%, and 0.69%.

67. The national crime rate increased from 1,101.31 cases per 100,000 people in 2020 to 1,768.1 cases in 2024. The number of crime suspects rose from 281,811 in 2020 to 300,783 in 2024, and the number of victims increased from 190,198 to 360,556 over the same period. The rate of crimes committed by migrant workers rose from 500.36 cases (per 100,000 people) in 2020 to 986.95 cases in 2024. The number of migrant worker crime suspects rose from 3,462 in 2020 to 5,103 in 2024, and the number of migrant worker victims grew from 1,027 to 2,022 during the same period.
68. The number of homicides occurring between 2020 and 2024 was 238, 212, 174, 123, and 135, respectively. The number of crime suspects decreased from 489 in 2020 to 234 in 2024.
69. From 2020 to 2024, the number of violent crimes or other serious offenses (e.g., homicide, robbery, assault, and smuggling) for which suspects were arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced, and imprisoned per 100,000 people annually was 707, 598, 499, 442, and 378, respectively. The corresponding incidence rates (cases per 100,000 people) annually were 3, 2.55, 2.14, 1.89, and 1.61, respectively, indicating a downward trend. The total number of such crime suspects also declined from 1,195 in 2020 to 600 in 2024.
70. Conviction rates for serious violent crimes: With regard to homicide, robbery, kidnapping, and forced sexual intercourse from 2019 to 2024, conviction rates for homicide (not including death by negligence) were 87.7%, 94.1%, 92.8%, 92.5%, 95%, and 94.4%, respectively; conviction rates for robbery were 90%, 96.2%, 95.1%, 95.2%, 91.3%, and 95.1%, respectively; conviction rates for kidnapping were 75%, 93.8%, 72.7%, 73.3%, 100%, and 71.4%, respectively; and conviction rates for forced sexual intercourse were 82.6%, 80.9%, 84.4%, 86.2%, 85.5%, and 86.8%, respectively.
71. The number of forcible rape cases that occurred between 2020 and 2024 was 165, 81, 67, 83, and 65, respectively.
72. Pursuant to the Crime Victim Rights Protection Act, surviving family members of deceased victims, seriously injured victims of criminal acts, and victims of sexual assault crimes shall be entitled to apply for crime victim compensation. Between 2020 and 2024, the number of compensation cases approved totaled 4,458, and the number of persons compensated was 5,397 (including 1,721 males and 3,676 females). The total compensation amounted to NT\$2,432,970,000 during this period (NT\$891,030,000 for

males and NT\$1,541,940,000 for females). Table 28 shows statistics on applications and decisions for crime victim compensation between 2020 and 2024.

Table 28 Applications and Decisions for Crime Victim Compensation

Unit: cases; %

Year	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Ratio
2020	1,495	663	44.35
2021	1,176	552	46.94
2022	1,375	710	51.64
2023	1,850	1,082	58.49
2024	2,280	1,452	63.68

Source: Ministry of Justice

73. Between 2020 and 2024, the number of police officers per 100,000 people was 250, 249, 250, 246, and 245, respectively. The number of female police officers per 100,000 people during the same period was 31, 31, 32, 33, and 33, respectively. Government spending on law enforcement totaled NT\$27,196,948,961 in 2020, NT\$27,419,920,163 in 2021, NT\$28,264,609,077 in 2022, NT\$29,870,860,892 in 2023, and NT\$32,038,146,406 in 2024.
74. Tables 29 to 32 show the average number of days required for closing a case for judges in courts of different instances between 2020 and 2024.

Table 29 Average District Court Case Completion Time¹⁷

Unit: days

Year	District court					
	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	Juvenile criminal case	Juvenile protection case	Administrative litigation
2020	102.63	172.56	85.39	131.24	49.99	80.21
2021	111.33	184.59	100.29	137.61	60.74	84.89
2022	110.80	191.73	99.64	175.87	62.43	79.17
2023	113.17	192.23	100.82	176.37	61.02	92.57

¹⁷ The average number of days to conclude administrative suits is calculated based on the number of days between case assignment and case completion, while the rest are calculated based on the number of days from the date of case receipt to the date of conclusion. On August 15, 2023, a new system of administrative suits was implemented to strengthen the first instance, abolish the Administrative Litigation Division in district courts, and establish the District Administrative Litigation Division and High Administrative Litigation Division in High Administrative Courts. Cases handled by High Administrative Courts before the implementation of the new system are listed under the High Administrative Litigation Division.

Year	District court					
	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	Juvenile criminal case	Juvenile protection case	Administrative litigation
2024	118.24	197.12	106.80	158.04	58.85	--

Source: Judicial Yuan

Table 30 Average High (Administrative) Court Case Completion Time¹⁸

Unit: days

Year	High (Administrative) Court					
	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	Juvenile	Administrative litigation	
					High division	District division
2020	185.16	190.05	87.85	33.43	176.91	--
2021	198.25	188.98	84.73	39.08	140.00	--
2022	205.05	214.49	87.89	38.99	172.98	--
2023	213.12	203.86	87.61	36.42	204.78	123.27
2024	230.06	240.59	83.95	31.31	198.53	110.29

Source: Judicial Yuan

Table 31 Average Supreme (Administrative) Court Case Completion Time¹⁹

Unit: days

Year	Supreme (Administrative) Court				
	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	Juvenile	Administrative litigation
2020	38.48	27.35	28.57	47.40	52.90
2021	46.42	28.69	47.54	54.67	117.12
2022	55.94	38.66	33.01	30.28	89.33
2023	77.69	51.16	35.60	49.48	79.82
2024	82.28	43.77	35.07	33.04	105.49

Source: Judicial Yuan

¹⁸ The average number of days to conclude administrative suits is calculated based on the number of days between case assignment and case completion, while the rest are calculated based on the number of days from the date of case receipt to the date of conclusion. On August 15, 2023, a new system of administrative suits was implemented to strengthen the first instance, abolish the Administrative Litigation Division in district courts, and establish the District Administrative Litigation Division and High Administrative Litigation Division in High Administrative Courts. Cases handled by High Administrative Courts before the implementation of the new system are listed under the High Administrative Litigation Division.

¹⁹ The average closing time for each type of case in this table is calculated based on the number of days between case assignment and case completion.

Table 32 Average Intellectual Property and Commercial Court Case Completion Time²⁰

Unit: days

Year	Civil first instance	Civil second instance	Criminal	Administrative litigation	Commercial
2020	186.62	208.85	134.19	192.78	--
2021	202.98	263.97	198.01	198.84	--
2022	212.68	231.29	235.13	210.13	112.00
2023	251.94	303.99	209.64	228.08	201.56
2024	273.15	280.37	225.77	205.67	319.03

Source: Judicial Yuan

75. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of a district prosecutors office to investigate and complete a case from 2015 to 2024 was 50.62 days, 52.54 days, 52.69 days, 52.14 days, 54.95 days, 53.49 days, 63.95 days, 61.99 days, 61.54 days, and 64.09 days, respectively. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of the High Prosecutors Office and its branches to complete a case was 1.65 days, 1.66 days, 1.69 days, 1.97 days, 1.90 days, 1.91 days, 2.07 days, 2.10 days, 2.22 days, and 2.24 days, respectively. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of the Supreme Prosecutors Office to complete a case was 2.91 days, 2.17 days, 1.60 days, 1.76 days, 1.88 days, 1.64 days, 2.02 days, 1.89 days, 1.65 days and 1.89 days, respectively.
76. The gender distribution of Judicial Yuan justices, superintendents, division-chief judges, and general judges for 2024 is as follows: The Judicial Yuan justices are 50% male and 50% female; superintendents, 55.56% male and 44.44% female; division-chief judges, 52.57% male and 47.43% female; and general judges, 46.72% are male and 53.28% are female.
77. Number of prosecutors per 100,000 people: The number of prosecutors was 1,389 (5.9 per 100,000 people) in 2015. The number of prosecutors was 1,385 (5.9 per 100,000 people) in 2016. The number of prosecutors was 1,366 (5.8 per 100,000 people) in 2017. The number of prosecutors was 1,352, (5.7 per 100,000 people) in 2018. The number of prosecutors was 1,357 (5.7 per 100,000 people) in 2019. The number of prosecutors was 1,395 (5.92 per 100,000 people) in 2020. The number of prosecutors was 1,396 (5.97 per 100,000 people) in 2021. The number of prosecutors was 1,413 (6.07 per 100,000 people) in 2022. The number of prosecutors was 1,420 (6.06 per 100,000 people) in 2023. The number of prosecutors was 1,437 (6.14 per 100,000 people) in 2024. Number

²⁰ Commercial cases are newly added since July 2021.

of judges per 100,000 people: The number of judges was 2,130, or 9.0 per 100,000 people in 2020. The number of judges was 2,125, or 9.1 per 100,000 people in 2021. The number of judges was 2,125, or 9.1 per 100,000 people in 2022. The number of judges was 2,180, or 9.3 per 100,000 people in 2023. The number of judges was 2,191, or 9.4 per 100,000 people in 2024.

78. The percentage of defendants, inmates, and detainees granted free legal aid relative to total number of applicants from 2020 to 2024 is shown in Table 33.

Table 33 Percentage of Granted Applications from Criminal Defendants, Inmates, and Detainees for Legal Aid Relative to Total Number of Applications²¹

Unit: cases; %

Year	No. of applications filed in criminal cases (A)	No. of advocacy and defense cases approved for criminal cases (B)	Percentage of cases for which advocacy and defense are approved to total applications (C)=(B)/(A)	No. of applications for legal aid filed by prisoners or detainees of criminal cases (D)	No. of approved cases of legal aid for prisoners and detainees of criminal cases (E)	Percentage of granted applications from prisoners and detainees for legal aid to total no. of applications (%) (F)=(E)/(D)
2020	42,694	27,995	65.57	9,914	5,442	54.89
2021	38,994	24,524	62.89	7,638	4,247	55.60
2022	43,807	26,625	60.78	7,568	4,081	53.92
2023	42,296	24,454	57.82	7,903	3,942	49.88
2024	41,922	24,307	57.98	8,302	4,212	50.73

Source: Legal Aid Foundation's work report and Board of Directors business data

79. Average detention period of different levels of courts between 2020 and 2024: The average detention period was 2.57 months for district courts and branches, 3.3 months for High Court and Branches, and 1.24 months for the Supreme Court.
80. Table 34 shows the mortality rate of inmates between 2020 and 2024. The main causes of death were cardiogenic shock, hypertrophy of the heart, cardiopulmonary failure, and septic shock accompanied by respiratory failure.

²¹ The types of aid provided for criminal cases in (E) are different from those provided in (B); aid in (E) is not restricted to advocacy and defense.

Table 34 Death Rates in Custody

Unit: %

Year	Total	Death rate before arrival at the hospital	Death rate after arrival at the hospital	Death rate under guarded inpatient treatment	National mortality rate
2020	0.2179	0.0338	0.0220	0.1622	0.734
2021	0.1903	0.0439	0.0146	0.1317	0.783
2022	0.2699	0.0606	0.0275	0.1818	0.889
2023	0.2750	0.0507	0.0217	0.2026	0.880
2024	0.2488	0.0727	0.0406	0.1354	0.900

Source: Ministry of Justice

81. No capital punishment was carried out between 2006 and 2009, whereas four people were executed in 2010, five in 2011, six in 2012, six in 2013, five in 2014, six in 2015, one in 2016, zero in 2017, one in 2018, zero in 2019, one in 2020, and zero from 2021 to 2024.

Media Coverage

82. Given that radio frequencies are a resource shared by all citizens, the government plans and manages the use of frequency resources for digital communications based on the principles of necessity and of ensuring harmonious and effective use to facilitate convenience and serve public interests. Regarding the frequencies required by radio or television stations, the Ministry of Digital Affairs and the National Communications Commission jointly evaluate matters such as radio or TV station licensing and frequency usage.
83. On April 16, 2015, the Enforcement Rules of the Radio and Television Act were amended to remove Article 29, which prescribed the need to obtain a certificate of approval before prior to airing a program. The Radio and Television Act was further amended on January 6, 2016, removing several outdated restrictions such as Article 21 pertaining to the prohibition of content that undermines the dignity of the nation, and Article 33, which required advertisements to be reviewed prior to broadcasting.
84. To ensure people's access to basic telecommunications services at reasonable and affordable prices, Taiwan has established a mechanism to make telecommunications broadband infrastructure available in remote areas. Through the operation mechanism of the Telecommunications Universal Service Fund, we ensure that people in remote areas can access indispensable basic telecommunications services of good quality to promote

digital equity.

Nongovernmental Organizations

85. The organization and activities of the R.O.C.'s civil associations are governed by the Civil Associations Act. Each civil association is classified, based on its attributes, as a social association, occupational association, or political association (including political party). Due to the nature of the three types of organizations, three laws, including the Political Parties Act, Social Associations Act, and Occupational Associations Act were envisioned as the basis for supporting the development of civil associations. Before the promulgation of the Political Parties Act on December 6, 2017, political parties were established through a registration-based system while political associations were established through a permission-based system. After the promulgation, all associations created in accordance with Article 3 of the Act are referred to as political parties and are established through a registration-based system. According to the current Civil Associations Act, an approval system is adopted for the establishment of civil associations. The establishment procedures are mainly as follows: (1) To apply for the establishment of a civil association, the initiators shall prepare the required documents for the application process. (2) An initiators and preparatory meeting shall be convened, and an establishment conference shall be held. (3) Upon approval of registration, the association will be issued an accreditation certificate by the regulating authority. (4) To apply for the status of a civil association through registration (the association may apply directly to a district court as required). Except as otherwise provided by other laws and regulations, foreigners holding a valid alien residence certificate may serve as the initiator of a civil association. As for membership qualifications, no restrictions are imposed in the relevant regulations of civil associations. Civil associations shall follow the principle of autonomy as prescribed in their constitutions. As of 2024, the R.O.C. had 68,576 various social associations (24,985 were national and 43,591 were local); 5,344 commercial and freelancers associations (of which, based on regional classification, 383 were national and 4,961 were local; based on organizational type, 184 were industrial associations, 2,427 were commercial associations, and 2,733 were freelancers associations). International non-governmental organizations (INGO) are required to apply for registration in Taiwan by submitting the necessary documents in accordance with the Directions for Application for Establishment of International Non-governmental Organizations, or the Directions for Foreign Civil Institutions and Organizations to Apply

to Set up and Register Offices in the Republic of China (Taiwan). By 2024, a total of 123 INGOs were approved for registration (including 37 international civil organizations and 86 international offices). Prior to the promulgation and implementation of the Political Parties Act, there were a total of 59 political associations operating at the national level. Please refer to Note 61 of this report for the number of political parties.

86. Out of respect for people's freedom of association, the government has been constantly revising the civil association laws to allow greater freedom of association. Under the latest regulations, the government no longer intervenes but instead provides counsel to civil associations. The requirement of a permit in the draft Social Associations Act has since been removed, and those who wish to associate may simply register with a government authority. Before the amendment of the laws, matters that were originally required to be reported to the competent authority for approval, such as changes in the office address, the use of the official seal, the method of electing member representatives, the budget report and financial statement, changes in elected personnel, and the method of electing directors and supervisors by postal voting, were changed to filing for record. In addition, current regulations require initiators of civil associations to be adults without related negative qualifications. The legislative intent is to ensure that the person in charge, elected staff, and members bear responsibilities for legal actions in association (business) affairs. However, to expand people's rights to diverse participation and protect the freedom of association, the draft of the Social Associations Act was delivered to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation in 2017. As the term of the legislators expired and due to the non-carryover principle for unpassed bills, the draft was re-forwarded to the Executive Yuan for deliberation. Related regulations on whether members, directors, and supervisors of associations have the capacity to carry out juridical acts have been rescinded and the government fully respects the self-governance of associations and results of related elections. These measures will prove to be more favorable for people's freedom of association and the development of civil associations.

II. General Framework for Protecting and Promoting Human Rights

C. Acceptance of International Human Rights Standards

Approval of Major International Documents on Human Rights

87. Table 35 (page 65) shows a list of core UN international human rights conventions ratified, acceded to, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 36 (page 66) shows a list of other UN-related international human rights conventions that have been signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 37 (page 67) shows the International Labor Organization conventions signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 38 (page 68) shows the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) conventions signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 39 (page 68) shows the Hague Conventions on Private International Law signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan.

Table 35 UN Human Rights Conventions and Covenants Ratified, Adopted, or Incorporated into Domestic Law by Taiwan

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan			Schedule and outcome of incorporation into domestic law
				Date of signing	Date of ratification/ acceptance or accession	Date of deposition ratification/ acceptance/ accession	
1	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1965/12/21 New York	1969/01/04	1966/03/31	1970/11/14	1970/12/10	The ICERD became effective in Taiwan as a part of domestic legislation on January 9, 1971. It was not processed based on laws for the implementation of other conventions. A draft of the implementation plan for the approval of the convention was submitted to the Executive Yuan in 2019.
2	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1966/12/19 New York	1976/03/23	1967/10/5	2009/5/14		The covenant and its enforcement act were deliberated and approved by the Legislative Yuan on March 31, 2009. The enforcement act was promulgated by the President on April 22, and the covenant was ratified by the President on May 14, with the enforcement act taking effect on December 10 of the same year.

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan			Schedule and outcome of incorporation into domestic law
				Date of signing	Date of ratification/ acceptance or accession	Date of deposition ratification/ acceptance/ accession	
2-1	First Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (individual complaints)	1966/12/16 New York	1976/03/23	1967/10/5			
3	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1966/12/19 New York	1976/01/03	1967/10/5	2009/5/14		The covenant and its enforcement act were deliberated and approved by the Legislative Yuan on March 31, 2009. The enforcement act was promulgated by the President on April 22, and the covenant was ratified by the President on May 14, with the enforcement act taking effect on December 10 of the same year.
4	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1979/12/18 New York	1981/09/03		2007/02/09		The convention was reviewed and approved by the Legislative Yuan on January 5, 2007, and the letter of accession to the convention was signed off by the President on February 9 of the same year. The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on May 20, 2011, promulgated on June 8 of the same year, and enforced on January 1 of the following year.

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan			Schedule and outcome of incorporation into domestic law
				Date of signing	Date of ratification/ acceptance or accession	Date of deposition ratification/ acceptance/ accession	
5	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Treatment)	1984/12/10 New York	1987/6/26				Refer to Note 1 of the Response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations by international experts on the third national reports on the two covenants.
5-1	Optional Protocol on the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2002/12/18 New York	2006/06/22				
6	Convention on the Rights of the Child	1989/11/20 New York	1990/09/02				The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on May 20, 2014, promulgated on June 4, and enforced on November 20 of the same year.
7	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	1990/12/18 New York	2003/07/01				Refer to Note 2 of the Response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations Adopted by the International Group of Independent Experts on the third national reports on the two covenants.
8	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2006/12/20 Paris	2010/12/23				Refer to Note 3 of the Response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations Adopted by the International Group of Independent Experts on the third national reports on the two covenants.
9	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2006/12/13 New York	2008/05/03				The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on August 1, 2014, promulgated on August 20, and enforced on December 3 of the same year.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Table 36 Other UN-related international human rights conventions ratified, adopted, or incorporated into domestic legislation in Taiwan

No.	Other relevant international human rights conventions of the United Nations	Signed	Ratified	Schedule and outcome of incorporation into domestic law
1	Slavery Convention revised in the protocol of December 7, 1953	1953/12/07	1955/12/14	
2	Slavery, Servitude, Forced Labor and Similar Institutions and Practices Convention	1957/05/23	1959/05/28	

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Table 37 International Labour Organization Conventions Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan

International Labour Organization Convention	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Employment at Sea (No. 7)	Signing not required	1936/10/10	
Convention Concerning Seamen's Articles of Agreement (No. 22)	1936/10/10	1936/12/02	
Convention Concerning the Repatriation of Seamen (No. 26)	1936/10/10	1936/12/02	
Convention Concerning the Minimum Requirement of Professional Capacity for Masters and Officers on Board Merchant Ships (No. 53)	Signing not required	1964/08/25	
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for the Admission of Children to Employment at Sea (Amended) (No. 58)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Industrial Employment (No. 59)		1940/02/21 Approval of the International Labour Organization's registration of the R.O.C.	1940/02/21
Convention Concerning the Medical Examination of Seafarers (No. 73)	Signing not required	1964/08/25	
Convention Concerning Labor Inspection in Industry and Commerce, 1947 (No. 81)	Signing not required	1961/09/26	1962/02/13
Convention Concerning Crew Accommodation on Board Ship (Amended) (No. 92)	Signing not required	1970/12/23	1971/02/03
Convention Concerning the Protection of Wages (No. 95)	Signing not required	1962/10/22	1962/11/16
Convention Concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively, 1949 (No. 98)	Signing not required	1962/09/10	1962/10/11

International Labour Organization Convention	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)	Signing not required	1958/03/01	1958/05/01
Convention Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labor, 1957 (No. 105)	Signing not required	1959/01/23	
Convention Concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-Tribal Populations in Independent Countries (No. 107)	Signing not required	1962/09/10	1962/10/11
Convention Concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, 1958 (No. 111)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Convention Concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment as Fishermen (No. 112)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Convention Concerning the Medical Examination of Fishermen (No. 113)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Fishermen's Articles of Agreement Convention (No. 114)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Final Articles Revision Convention, 1961 (No. 116)		1962/01/22	1962/11/16
Convention Concerning Basic Aims and Standards of Social Policy (No. 117)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Concerning Equality of Treatment of Nationals and Non-Nationals in Social Security (No. 118)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Concerning the Maximum Permissible Weight to Be Carried by One Worker (No. 127)	Signing not required	1969/12/23	1970/02/02

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Table 38 Relevant UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization Conventions Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan

Relevant UNESCO conventions	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention Against Discrimination in Education	Signing not	1964/11/16	1965/02/12

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Table 39 Hague Conventions on Private International Law Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan

Hague Conventions on Private International Law	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance (with Final Act)	1956/12/04	1957/05/16	1957/06/25
Final Act of the United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligation/Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance	1957/05/16	1957/06/25	
Convention on the Nationality of Married Women, 1957	1957/02/20	1958/08/12	1958/09/22

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

D. Legal Framework to Protect Human Rights Protection at National Level

The Constitution²²

88. Chapter 2 of the Constitution prescribes the rights and duties of the people. Articles 7 to 24 specify the fundamental human rights such as equality; personal freedom; freedom of residence and change of residence; freedom of speech, teaching, writing, and publication; freedom of privacy of correspondence; freedom of religious belief; freedom of assembly and association; the right to existence; the right to work; the right to property; the right to present petitions, lodge complaints, and institute legal proceedings; the rights to election, recall, initiative, and referendum; the right to take public examinations and hold public offices; the right to and the duty of receiving compulsory education; other freedoms and rights; and the right to claim damages from the State.
89. In Chapter 13 (Fundamental National Policies of the Constitution) of the Constitution, Articles 142 to 151 outline fundamental economic principles that concern human rights, such as land policies, operation of monopolistic state-owned enterprises, control and support of private capital, agricultural development, balance in local economic development, trade in goods, management of financial institutions, financial institutions for the masses, and economic development involving overseas compatriots. Articles 152 to 157 outline fundamental human rights such as employment, protection of laborers and farmers, employer-employee relations, social insurance and social aid, women's and children's welfare policies, and promotion of sanitation and health protection services. Articles 158 to 167 outline fundamental human rights with regards to education and cultural development, equal education opportunities, primary and supplemental education, establishment of scholarships, supervision of educational/cultural authorities, promotion of educational/cultural businesses, assurance of educational/cultural budgets and funding, assurance for educational/cultural workers, incentives for scientific inventions and creations, protection of cultural heritage, and subsidization of educational/cultural businesses. Articles 168 to 169 outline fundamental human rights for frontier tribes and support to frontier businesses.
90. According to the Act to Implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

²² Considering the differences between Taiwan's constitutional system and the separation of powers, placing the Control Yuan under the executive branch of the administration would be prone to cause confusion. Therefore, the compilation order was adjusted with reference to the provisions of Article 42 of the Harmonized Guidelines on Reporting Under the International Human Rights Treaties.

government agencies at all levels have the responsibility to protect and fulfill human rights within their respective powers. The Executive Yuan and its subordinate ministries and commissions are responsible for promoting national policies and human rights protection. The Ministry of Justice is the competent authority for promoting the two covenants and is responsible for criminal investigation and prosecution, promoting clean government, and safeguarding human rights. The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for citizen participation in politics, freedom of assembly and association, religious freedom, human rights of new immigrants, housing justice, and freedom of movement, as well as the competent authority for promoting ICERD. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for foreign affairs and promoting international cooperation. The Ministry of Education is responsible for people's right to education. The Ministry of Culture is responsible for promoting cultural rights. The Ministry of Health and Welfare is responsible for promoting national health, social welfare, and assistance, as well as serving as the competent authority for promoting the CRPD and the CRC. The Ministry of Labor is responsible for promoting labor human rights. The Ministry of Environment is responsible for promoting environmental rights.

91. The Legislative Yuan is responsible for the deliberation, acceptance, and approval of international treaties and conventions when states act as the parties. It may deliberate on related proposed human rights acts, supervise applicable implementation by administrative departments, and accept petitions or lobbying from the general public to fulfill its functions. It may also hold public hearings, question government administrative officials, and retrieve related documents in order to assist with the aforementioned functions. Executive decrees issued or established by any government agency according to its legislative power must be submitted to the Legislative Yuan for record and reference. Should the Legislative Yuan determine that a decree contravenes, alters, or violates any law, or that a decree has regulated certain matters that should have been stipulated by law, it may, upon the resolution of the legislature, request the initiating government agency to revise or revoke the decree within two months. Should the government agency fail to do so, the decree shall be voided.
92. Human rights protected by the Constitution and various laws are consolidated through all kinds of courts. The Judicial Yuan funded the establishment of the Legal Aid Foundation pursuant to the Legal Aid Act. Refer to Note 141 of this report for the implementation status.
93. The Examination Yuan shall take charge of matters concerning examinations, as well as

the qualification screening, security of tenure, pecuniary aid in case of death, retirement, employment and discharge, service rating, scale of salaries, promotion and transfer, and commendation and award of civil servants.

94. The Control Yuan may, after investigation, file an impeachment or censure against central and local government officials for serious violations of law or dereliction of duty, or file corrective measures for improvements to the Executive Yuan and its ministries and agencies if there are deficiencies in their work or facilities. Therefore, if the actions or inactions of government agencies at all levels and by civil servants involve human rights violations, the Control Yuan may correct them through the exercise of its powers and follow up on the investigation cases. The Control Yuan is the constitutional institution that protects human rights by exercising its supervisory powers.

Human Rights Conventions Incorporated into Domestic Legislation

95. Of the nine core United Nations human rights conventions, the ICERD remains binding on the R.O.C., as the country completed the procedures for depositing the instrument of ratification before it withdrew from the United Nations. Five others, including ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, CRC, and CRPD, have been incorporated into domestic law through the enactment of implementation acts. The aforementioned conventions that have entered into force do not contain reservation clauses. In addition to the enactment of implementation acts, the incorporation of conventions into domestic law can also be completed through Article 11 of the Conclusion of Treaties Act. The validity and practice of these two measures are the same and the method of adoption is determined by the competent authorities for each human rights convention. Although use of the Conclusion of Treaties Act can reduce the administrative cost to the government, civil society groups generally hope that the government can enact implementation acts. To meet the expectations of civil society groups, Taiwan enacted the General Operating Regulations for the Drafting of the National Human Rights Report and Organization of International Review Meetings for Core Human Rights Conventions. It specifies that national reports, international reviews, and implementation of Concluding Observations and Recommendations must be completed for the human rights conventions incorporated into domestic law in accordance with the requirements therein and the procedural requirements of the General Operating Regulations. Progress on the other three human rights conventions that have not yet been incorporated into domestic law is as follows:

- (1) International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced

Disappearance (ICPPED): The Ministry of Justice submitted a proposal for the ICPPED to the Executive Yuan on October 31, 2023, and forwarded it to the Legislative Yuan for review. On December 11, 2023, and January 10, 2024, the Ministry of Justice invited scholars, experts, and various agencies to jointly discuss and verify the traditional Chinese version of the convention and whether there are any reservation clauses. The Executive Yuan held two review meetings on November 27, 2023, and January 29, 2024, and the proposal was passed at the 3,893rd session on February 22, 2024, and sent to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation on the same day. On March 1, 2024, the Legislative Yuan forwarded the proposal to the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee and the Judiciary and Organic Laws and Statutes Committee for review.

- (2) CAT: The Act to Implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment drafted by the Ministry of the Interior was reviewed by the Executive Yuan at a meeting held in February 2024, and will be submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation.
- (3) ICMW: A proposal to join the convention was submitted to the Executive Yuan on July 5, 2021. On August 11, 2021, the Executive Yuan held a pre-meeting discussion on reservation clauses and the declaration of interpretation to clarify disputed points. The Ministry of Labor continued to review the relevant laws and administrative measures in conjunction with relevant ministries and commissions and subsequently sent a written request to the Executive Yuan on June 27, 2022, for the accession process to the Convention to be reviewed. The Executive Yuan held meetings to discuss the issue on August 22, 2022, and February 22, 2024. As the convention covers a broad scope and needs to be comprehensively considered in response to social changes and industry needs, the Ministry of Labor proposed to withdraw it on May 29, 2024, and the Executive Yuan agreed to the withdrawal on June 17, 2024. The Ministry of Labor will compile opinions of relevant ministries and commissions and submit a second report. In addition, regarding the drafting of implementation acts of this convention proposed by legislators, the Ministry of Labor will adopt the provisions of the Conclusion of Treaties Act, taking into consideration the process for incorporating conventions into domestic law and following the instructions of the Meeting to Study the Schedule for Incorporating the Nine Core United Nations Human Rights Conventions in Domestic Law held by

the Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee on December 23, 2016. Furthermore, taking into consideration the reservation clauses in this convention regarding the issue of migrant workers being able to freely change jobs, the Ministry of Labor has commissioned experts and scholars to conduct research on related international practices, as well as their feasibility and impact. Going forward, the Ministry of Labor will further discuss the bill with the Legislative Yuan, provide reports in a timely manner on the progress of incorporating this convention in domestic law, and submit this convention to the Executive Yuan for review as soon as possible.

96. After the incorporation of international conventions into domestic law, they become law, carrying the same validity as all other laws of the R.O.C. (Taiwan). The applicability of a particular law in a specific case shall be decided by the judge, who shall consider the regulatory purpose, object, historical background, and appropriateness for achieving justice in determining whether legislation should be applied to a specific case. Refer to Note 104 of this report for the number of cases in which the two covenants were cited.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

97. To ensure citizens' rights under the ICCPR, Taiwan has enacted the following laws:

- (1) Taiwan has enacted the Forestry Act, the Act on Wildlife Conservation, the Mining Act, the Referendum Act, the Indigenous Peoples Education Act, and the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law to protect the right to self-determination of peoples.
- (2) Taiwan has enacted the National Defense Act, the Military Trial, the Servicemember Relief Act, the Armed Forces Punishment Act, the Compensation Act for Wrongful Trials on Charges of Sedition and Espionage during the Martial Law Period, the Act on Promoting Transitional Justice, the Civil Service Promotion and Transfer Act, the Prison Act, the Detention Act, the Teachers' Act, the Administrative Litigation Act, the State Compensation Law, the Crime Victim Rights Protection Act, the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, the February 28 Incident Disposition and Compensation Act, the Act to Restore Victim's Rights Infringed by Illegal Acts of the State During the Period of Authoritarian Rule, and the Act Governing the Recovery of Damage of Individual Rights during the Period of Martial Law to ensure peoples' access to remedy.
- (3) Taiwan has enacted the Armed Forces Punishment Act, the Household Registration

Act, the Name Act, the Nationality Act, the Act for Ancestor Worship Guild, the Immigration Act, the New Immigrants Basic Act, the Act of Preferential Treatment for Military Personnel and Their Dependents, the Civil Code, the Prison Act, the Detention Act, the Gender Equity Education Act, the Fundamental Act of Education, the Primary and Junior High School Act, the Social Welfare Fundamental Act, the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act, the Mental Health Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, the HIV Infection Control and Rights Protection for People Living with HIV Act, the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act, the Long-Term Care Services Act, the Gender Equality in Employment Act, the Employment Services Act, and the Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act to ensure people's rights to equality and non-discrimination.

- (4) Taiwan has enacted the Criminal Code of the Armed Forces, the Military Trial, the Martial Law Act, the Regulations Governing Casualty Mines, the Act Governing the Use of Police Weapons, the Prison Act, the Reproductive Health Act, the Criminal Code, and the Criminal Compensation Act to protect the right to life.
- (5) Taiwan has enacted the Criminal Code of the Armed Forces, the Armed Forces Punishment Act, the Police Power Exercise Act, the Act Governing the Use of Police Weapons, the Prison Act, the Detention Act, the Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act, the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act, the Mental Health Act, the Long-Term Care Services Act, the Medical Care Act, the Human Subjects Research Act, and the Fundamental Act of Education to prohibit torture or inhumane punishment.
- (6) Taiwan has enacted the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, the Employment Services Act, and the Labor Standards Act to protect people from slavery and forced labor.
- (7) Taiwan has enacted the Military Trial, the Social Order Maintenance Act, the Immigration Act, the Mental Health Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Criminal Compensation Act, the Habeas Corpus Act, the Administrative Litigation Act, the Juvenile Justice Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to safeguard personal freedom and establish proper arrest procedures.

- (8) Taiwan has enacted the Armed Forces Punishment Act, the Prison Act, the Statute of Progressive Execution of Penalty, the Statute of Open Prisons, the Detention Act, the Rehabilitative Disposition Execution Act, the Act of Execution of Rehabilitation Treatment, the Act of Execution of Drug Abuser Treatment, the Act of the Establishment of Juvenile Reformatory Schools, the Statute on the Establishment of Juvenile Detention Houses, the Mental Health Act, the National Health Insurance Act, the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the Long-Term Care Services Act, the Juvenile Justice Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to protect persons deprived of their liberty and defendants.
- (9) Taiwan has enacted the Punishment Act for Violation to Military Service System, the Household Registration Act, and the Immigration Act to protect peoples' freedom of movement and freedom to choose residence.
- (10) Taiwan has enacted the Legal Aid Act, the Employment Service Act, the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, and the Immigration Act to protect the rights of deported foreigners.
- (11) Taiwan has enacted the Military Trial, the Martial Law Act, The Servicemember Relief Act, the Code of Civil Procedure, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Detention Act, the Criminal Speedy Trial Act, the Criminal Compensation Act, the Administrative Litigation Act, the Family Act, the Judges Act, the Court Organization Act, the Legal Aid Act, and the Criminal Code of the Armed Forces to protect people's right to a fair trial and prohibit retroactive criminal punishment.
- (12) Taiwan has enacted the Immigration Act and the Civil Code to safeguard peoples' personality rights before the law.
- (13) Taiwan has enacted the Personal Data Protection Act, the National Intelligence Service Act, the Police Power Exercise Act, the Civil Code, the Postal Act, the Medical Care Act, the Human Biobank Management Act, the Mental Health Act, the National Health Insurance Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, the HIV Infection Control and Rights Protection for People Living with HIV Act, the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Long-Term Care Services Act, and the Code of Criminal Procedure to protect the peoples' reputation and privacy.
- (14) Taiwan has enacted the Enforcement Statute for Substitute Services and the Fundamental Act of Education to protect peoples' freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

- (15) Taiwan has enacted the Social Order Maintenance Act, the Public Television Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, and the Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation to protect peoples' freedom of expression.
- (16) Taiwan has enacted the Political Parties Act, the Civil Associations Act, the Assembly and Parade Act, the Civil Servant Association Act, the Labor Union Act, and the Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes to protect people's right to assembly and the freedom of association.
- (17) Taiwan has enacted the Act of Military Service for Officers and Non-commissioned Officers of the Armed Forces, the Household Registration Act, the Immigration Act, the Civil Code, the Act for Implementation of J.Y. Interpretation No. 748, the Act Governing the Choice of Law in Civil Matters Involving Foreign Elements, the Family Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to protect families.
- (18) Taiwan has enacted the Ionizing Radiation Protection Act, the Household Registration Act, the Name Act, the Nationality Act, the Immigration Act, the Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act, the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, the Juvenile Justice Act, the Labor Standards Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to protect the rights of children.
- (19) Taiwan has enacted the Local Government Act, the Public Officials Election and Recall Act, the Presidential and Vice Presidential Election and Recall Act, the Referendum Act, the Civil Service Protection Act, the Administrative Litigation Act, the Public Functionaries Discipline Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to protect people's right to participate in politics.
- (20) Taiwan has enacted the Hakka Basic Act, the Name Act, the Immigration Act, the New Immigrants Basic Act, the Spatial Planning Act, the Mongolian and Tibetan Ethnic Identity Certification Act, the Development of National Languages Act, the Indigenous Peoples Education Act, and The Indigenous Peoples Basic Law to protect the rights of minorities.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)

98. To protect the rights of citizens under the ICESCR, the following laws have been enacted in Taiwan:

- (1) Taiwan has enacted The Forestry Act, the Act on Wildlife Conservation, the Mining Act, the Referendum Act, the Indigenous Peoples Education Act, and The Indigenous Peoples Basic Law to protect the right to self-determination of peoples.
- (2) Taiwan has enacted the Armed Forces Punishment Act, the Rehabilitation Protection Act, the Stalking and Harassment Prevention Act, the Immigration Act, the New Immigrants Basic Act, the Housing Act, the Prison Act, the Detention Act, the Social Welfare Fundamental Act, the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act, the Mental Health Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, the HIV Infection Control and Rights Protection for People Living with HIV Act, the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act, the Long-Term Care Services Act, the Primary and Junior High School Act, The Act of the Cooperative Education Implementation in Senior High Schools and the Protection of Student Participants' Rights, the Special Education Act, the Gender Equity Education Act, the Fundamental Act of Education, the Gender Equality in Employment Act, the Employment Service Act, the Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act, the Labor Standards Act, and the Act for Worker Protection of Mass Redundancy to ensure that all peoples are not discriminated against and have equal rights.
- (3) Taiwan has enacted the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Gender Equity Education Act, and the Gender Equality in Employment Act to ensure gender equality.
- (4) Taiwan has enacted the Act of Commission for Officers and Noncommissioned Officers of the Armed Forces, the Fisheries Act, the Act for Distant Water Fisheries, the Veterinarian Act, the Plant Doctor Act, the Factory Management and Counseling Act, the Preschool Educators' Act, the Labor Incident Act, the Labor Standards Act, the Gender Equality in Employment Act, the Employment Service Act, the Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to protect people's right to work.
- (5) Taiwan has enacted the Nuclear Reactor Facilities Regulation Act, the Ionizing Radiation Protection Act, the Nuclear Materials and Radioactive Waste

Management Act, the Pay Act of the Armed Forces, the Act of Military Service for Officers and Non-commissioned Officers of the Armed Forces, the Act of Assignment for Officers and Noncommissioned Officers of the Armed Force, the Act on Pension Contributions for Persons during Rendering to Conscripted Military Service, the Police Power Exercise Act, the Act Governing the Use of Police Weapons, the Construction Industry Act, the Act for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises, the Company Act, the Medical Care Act, the Preschool Educators' Act, the Legal Aid Act, the Labor Standards Act, the Minimum Wage Act, the Gender Equality in Employment Act, the Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes, the Collective Agreement Act, and the Employment Service Act to protect peoples' working conditions.

- (6) Taiwan has enacted the Civil Servant Association Act, the Preschool Educators' Act, and the Labor Union Act to protect peoples' basic right to work.
- (7) Taiwan has enacted the Act of Insurance for Military Personnel, the Crime Victim Rights Protection Act; the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance Act; the Civil Service Retirement, Severance, and Survivor Relief Act; the Civil Servants' Individual Pension Account of Retirement, Severance and Survivor Relief Act; the Farmer Health Insurance Act; the Provisional Act Governing the Welfare Allowance for Elderly Farmers; the Veterans Assistance Act; the National Pension Act; the National Health Insurance Act; the Senior Citizens Welfare Act; the Public Assistance Act; the Act of Assistance for Family in Hardship; the Long-Term Care Services Act; the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act; the Labor Insurance Act; the Labor Occupational Accident Insurance and Protection Act; and the Employment Insurance Act to safeguard people's right to social security.
- (8) Taiwan has enacted the Act of Insurance for Military Personnel, the Act of Assignment for Officers and Noncommissioned Officers of the Armed Force, the Act of Military Service for Volunteer Enlisted Soldiers, the Immigration Act, the New Immigrants Basic Act, the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance Act, the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, and the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area to ensure protection for families.
- (9) Taiwan has enacted the Income Tax Act, the Vehicle License Tax Act, the Land Tax Act, the House Tax Act, the Taxpayer Rights Protection Act, the Commodity Tax

Act, the Ionizing Radiation Protection Act, the Act for Rebuilding Old Quarters for Military Dependents, the Land Expropriation Act, The Equalization of Land Rights Act, the Rental Housing Market Development and Regulation Act, the Housing Act, the Condominium Administration Act Building Administration Division, the Building Act, the Urban Renewal Act, the Act for the Establishment of the National Housing and Urban Regeneration Center, the Sewerage Act, the Spatial Planning Act, the Regional Plan Act, the Urban Planning Act, the New Town Development Act, the Food Administration Act, the Factory Management and Counseling Act, the Water Act, the Water Supply Act, the Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation, the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act, the Basic Environment Act, the Water Pollution Control Act, the Drinking Water Management Act, the Air Pollution Control Act, the Indoor Air Quality Management Act, the Noise Control Act, the Environmental Impact Assessment Act, the Waste Disposal Act, the Resource Recycling Act, the Climate Change Response Act, the Toxic and Concerned Chemical Substances Control Act, and the Environmental Agents Control Act, and the Soil and Groundwater Pollution Remediation Act to ensure people's right to an adequate standard of living. For more information on the relevant provisions on responding to climate change, please refer to Note 56 of the fourth national report on the ICCPR and Notes 202 and 203 of the fourth national report on the ICESCR.

- (10) Taiwan has enacted the Atomic Energy Act, the Nuclear Damage Compensation Act, the Nuclear Reactor Facilities Regulation Act, the Ionizing Radiation Protection Act, the Nuclear Emergency Response Act, the Nuclear Materials and Radioactive Waste Management Act, the Act on Sites for Establishment of Low Level Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Facility, the Act Governing Preferential Treatment for Recalled Reservists, the Sewerage Act, the Pedestrian Traffic Safety Facilities Act, the National Health Insurance Act, the Medical Care Act, the Indigenous Peoples Health Act, the Oral Health Act, the Mental Health Act, the Suicide Prevention Act, the Tobacco Hazards Act, the Prevention of Rare Diseases and Orphan Drug Act, the Nutrition and Healthy Diet Promotion Act, the Communicable Disease Control Act, the HIV Infection Control and Rights Protection for People Living with HIV Act, the Drug Injury Relief Act, the Childbirth Accident Emergency Relief Act, the School Health Act, and the Occupational Safety and Health Act to protect people's right to physical and

mental health.

- (11) Taiwan has enacted the Hakka Basic Act, the Act of Military Education, the Primary and Junior High School Act, the Fundamental Act of Education, the Compulsory Education Act, the Early Childhood Education and Care Act, the Special Education Act, the Gender Equity Education Act, the Indigenous Peoples Education Act, the Supplementary and Continuing Education Act, the Open University Establishment Act, the Lifelong Learning Act, the Community College Development Act, the Family Education Act, the Library Act, and the Student Guidance and Counseling Act to protect people's right to education.
- (12) Taiwan has enacted the Hakka Basic Act, the Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, the Underwater Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, The Museum Act, the Public Television Act, the Development of National Languages Act, the Culture and the Arts Reward and Promotion Act, the Development of the Cultural and Creative Industries Act, the Organizational Act of the Taiwan Creative Content Agency, The Organizational Act of the National Human Rights Museum, the Cultural Fundamental Act, The Forestry Act, the Act on Wildlife Conservation, the Patent Act, the Trademark Act, the Copyright Act, the Trade Secrets Act, the Library Act, and the Intellectual Property Case Adjudication Act to protect people's right to enjoy science, economy, society and culture. For other related regulations regarding the protection of the people's cultural rights, see Note 298 of the third national report on the ICESCR.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child

99. The Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act, the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, and the Juvenile Justice Act are enacted to protect the rights of children and teenagers.
100. In order to prevent children and minors from being exposed to internet content that is harmful to their physical or psychological development, the National Communications Commission, in accordance with Article 46 of the Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act, and in conjunction with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Digital Affairs, and the Ministry of Health and Welfare, commissioned civil society groups to establish the Institute of Watch Internet Network (iWIN). One of iWIN's primary duties is to handle complaints

involving violations of the Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act and other instances of harmful online content. Complaints are then forwarded to the competent authorities for further processing.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

101. The People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act and the Mental Health Act protect the physical and mental health of people with disabilities and people suffering from mental illnesses.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

102. The Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act and the Domestic Violence Prevention Act protect the rights of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Furthermore, the Stalking and Harassment Prevention Act has served to protect victims' rights with respect to stalking and harassment. In addition, the Gender Equity Education Act and Gender Equality in Employment Act protect gender equality rights.

Domestic Laws that Protect Rights Enshrined in The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

103. The Genocide Act and the Immigration Act protect the human rights of victims of racial discrimination.

Citation of the Two Covenants and Remedies for Rights Violations

104. With the enactment of the enforcement rules, the two covenants have now been adopted into the judicial system, which makes every human rights protection rule legally enforceable under the laws of the R.O.C. Before the enactment of the aforementioned enforcement rules, Judicial Yuan Interpretations Nos. 392 and 582 cited Article 9, Paragraph 3 and Article 14, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 5 of the ICCPR to explore the restrictions on the freedom of criminal suspects and provide all those charged with a crime with minimum guarantees such as to examine, or have examined, the witnesses against them. The Judicial Yuan Interpretation No. 710 cited Article 12 of the ICCPR and Point 6 in General Comment No. 15 when concluding that liberty of movement of mainland Chinese residents should also be protected by the Constitution as long as they have been formally granted legal entry into Taiwan. Judicial Yuan Interpretation No. 775 cited the *non bis in idem* principle in Article 14, Paragraph 7 of the ICCPR so that after a judgment is rendered, repeated prosecution, trial, or punishment may not be conducted

for the same act except to protect critical public interest. This principle prevents people from the hazards of repeated trials and punishments for the same act and ensures the finality of a judgment. The Judicial Yuan Interpretation No. 803 cited Article 27 of the ICCPR, which states that the rights of ethnic minorities to enjoy their inherent culture, religion, or language shall not be deprived; and Article 15, Paragraph 1 of the ICESCR, which prescribes that everyone has the right to take part in cultural life. The Constitutional Court cited Article 14, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 4 of the ICCPR in TCC Judgment 111-Hsien-Pan-3 (2022), acknowledging that the right of criminal defendants to receive effective legal assistance from their counsel in litigation is a fundamental human right universally recognized in modern rule-of-law countries. The Constitutional Court's TCC Judgment 112-Hsien-Pan-7 (2023) cited the provisions of Article 22, Paragraph 1 of the ICCPR and Article 8, Paragraph 1 of the ICESCR, explaining that workers in various occupations may form trade unions to exercise workers' rights, such as collective consultation and dispute resolution, so as to improve working conditions and enhance their social and economic status. This is a fundamental labor right universally recognized in modern rule-of-law countries, and is also the purpose of workers protection as prescribed in Article 153, Paragraph 1 of the Constitution. The Constitutional Court's TCC Judgment 112-Hsien-Pan-15 (2023) states that the legislative reasons for the amendment to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, promulgated on July 3, 2013, referred to the spirit of Article 7, Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 2 of the ICESCR in ensuring the right of everyone to "safe and healthy working conditions." In addition to "employed laborers," the Occupational Safety and Health Act also extends its protection scope to "self-employed workers," students of vocational training institutions, and other workers. The occupational safety protection of civil servants in the performance of their duties is part of the national protection of the safety and health of all workers. The Constitutional Court's TCC Judgment 113-Hsien-Pan-8 (2024) cited the provisions of Article 6, Paragraph 2 of the ICCPR and referenced the General Comment No. 36 on Article 6 of the ICCPR published by the Human Rights Committee of the Covenant in 2018, explaining that with regard to the interpretation of the Constitution, although the Constitutional Court is not bound by the ICCPR or its General Comment, it may still refer to their implications and render interpretations and judgments that are more conducive to the protection of human rights. The two covenants were cited in 11 cases, including seven Judicial Yuan Interpretations and four judgments made by the

Justices of the Constitutional Court. Since the enactment of the Act to Implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Judicial Yuan has been gathering a list of court judgments, interpretations, and judgments of the Constitutional Court in which the two covenants were cited, and posting them onto the human rights section of the Judicial Yuan's website along with a link to the Ministry of Justice's human rights section. This information is intended to provide useful references for judges when making decisions, and has been made accessible to academia and the general public. By July 2014, the Judicial Yuan had completed a database that houses a collection of judgments from criminal, civil, juvenile, family, and administrative courts and interpretations made by the Justices of the Constitutional Court in which the two covenants were cited as reference. Currently, the database continues to gather cases and data on judgments made in reference to the two covenants, and its contents made accessible to the public. The information is provided on public sources and the number of citations of the two covenants in the judgments of courts can be found under "Judgments Citing the two covenants" on the human rights section of the Judicial Yuan's website. Number of judgments citing the two covenants from 2020 to 2024: 78 civil cases, 506 criminal cases, 1,264 juvenile cases, 80 family cases, and 94 administrative cases.

105. After the incorporation of international conventions into domestic regulations, they become laws and their validity shall be the same as other laws of the R.O.C. The rights enshrined in the covenants are also items protected by the tortious acts in Article 184 to Article 198 of the Civil Code. Where such rights are damaged by illegal acts, the individual may file for remedies in accordance with the aforementioned regulations.
106. Every human rights protection rule in the two covenants has the force of domestic law. The legal basis for claims over infringements of freedom or rights depends on the application and interpretation of the law. The courts' independent exercise of judgment rights should be respected. The Supreme Court and Supreme Administrative Court established the Grand Chamber system in 2019. The Grand Chamber may accept certain cases in the future or render a unified interpretation for the aforementioned legal disputes.
107. When human rights conventions incorporated into domestic law are applied in a court ruling, yet one or more of the parties believe that the court failed to take the convention into account, the party may appeal to an upper-instance court. Refer to Note 44 of this

report for remedies through appellate review.

E. Legal Framework that Advances Human Rights at National Level

108. To establish a national human rights institution that complies with the provisions of the Paris Principles, the Control Yuan drafted the Organic Act of the Control Yuan National Human Rights Commission, which was promulgated on January 8, 2020 and took effect on May 1 of the same year. On August 1, 2020, the National Human Rights Commission officially began operating. Its functions are to investigate human rights violations, submit suggestions or reports to government agencies, assist in promoting the incorporation of major international human rights instruments into domestic laws, publish thematic reports on major human rights issues or annual reports on the state of human rights in the nation, provide independent opinions for national reports submitted by the government, monitor the effectiveness of government agencies in promoting human rights education, and facilitate cooperation with domestic and international human rights organizations.
109. Once any international human rights convention is incorporated into domestic law, it becomes part of Taiwan's laws, and the Control Yuan can review whether the actions of government agencies comply with the international human rights norms outlined in the convention. In practice, the Control Yuan may investigate individual cases where the public complains about the government violating human rights or systemic/institutional human rights violations. Within its authority, the Control Yuan may handle and follow up on the cases based on the findings of investigations until they are improved. In accordance with the provisions of the enforcement acts of various human rights conventions and based on the needs of the operation of its functions and powers, the Control Yuan continues to conduct seminars and training programs on human rights conventions. When necessary, it may invite scholars, experts, and representatives of government departments and non-governmental organizations to hold seminars or special consultations on human rights issues of public concern.
110. The Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee was set up in 2010 with 15 to 21 members. The members appointed by the President were representatives from government agencies, scholars, experts, and representatives from civil society groups. The budget was appropriated by the Presidential Office and related ministries and councils under the Executive Yuan. Its tasks included to promote and provide consultation on human rights policies, to investigate international human rights systems and legislations, to deliberate on international exchange affairs on human rights, to advise the President on other matters relating to human rights, to produce national human

rights reports in accordance with regulations in human rights conventions of the United Nations, to organize plans for international review meetings, to provide consultative opinions, and to supervise the implementation of Concluding Observations and Recommendations. The Committee, however, is only consultative in nature and does not have the power to accept and handle complaints, investigations, and deliberations associated with human right infringement cases. The Committee completed its intended tasks and ceased operations on May 19, 2020, having held a total of 39 committee meetings.

111. The Executive Yuan established a human rights protection and promotion task force in 2001 that comprises 21 to 27 members. The convener and deputy convener positions are currently held by a Minister without Portfolio and the Deputy Minister of Justice, respectively, with various ministry heads, scholars, and experts as members. The task force's duties include investigating human rights systems in other countries and international human rights regulations; promoting collaboration and exchange with international human rights organizations; prescribing and promoting the establishment of national agencies and organizations on human rights; discussing human rights protection policies, laws, and regulations; negotiating and promoting human rights protective measures; deliberating on human rights education policies; communicating the idea of human rights protection; and setting up a human rights mail box to serve as a platform for the general public to provide advice and file petitions. To consolidate gender equality, protect the rights of indigenous peoples and new immigrants, revive Hakka culture, and organize activities relating to the human rights of children, teenagers, and persons with disabilities, the Executive Yuan has established the Gender Equality Committee, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Coordination Meeting on Immigration Affairs, Hakka Affairs Council, EY Children's Rights Task Force, and Committee for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They are in charge of directing and supervising related operations carried out by government agencies at all levels. To promote the Executive Yuan's gender equality policy program and specific action measures, the Council of Indigenous Peoples has implemented a gender equality policy program implementation plan. It has also established a gender equality task force to incorporate gender perspectives into the formulation of various policies, laws, plans, and programs of the Council so as to facilitate the achievement of substantive gender equality.

112. Pursuant to Article 3 of the Operating Principles of Human Rights Working Groups of the Executive Yuan's Second-level Agencies, 18 ministries and commissions, including the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Ocean Affairs Council, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Digital Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, National Communications Commission, and Financial Supervisory Commission established a human rights task force, respectively, which holds regular meetings to discuss human rights issues. Among these, the task forces of the Ocean Affairs Council, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Digital Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, National Communications Commission, and Financial Supervisory Commission were established between 2020 and 2024. Each agency's website has added a human rights section to ensure open and transparent disclosure of information.
113. The Executive Yuan established the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice on June 27, 2022, which is responsible for supervising, integrating, and coordinating cross-convention and cross-agency human rights affairs. Its purview includes the planning, deliberation, review, research and development, and supervision of human rights protection and transitional justice policies, plans, and laws; research on international human rights and transitional justice regulations; promotion of cooperation and exchanges with relevant domestic and foreign organizations; integrated planning and promotion of human rights indicators, human rights budgets, and human rights impact assessment mechanisms; and integrated planning and supervision of international human rights conventions, national human rights reports, and human rights education. In addition, to address national transitional justice affairs after the dissolution of the Transitional Justice Commission in May 2022, the Executive Yuan established the Transitional Justice Board to take charge of the integration, coordination and supervision of matters and task summary reports stipulated in the Act on Promoting Transitional Justice for continuously promoting transitional justice policies. Furthermore, the Premier of the Executive Yuan serves as the convener of the board.
114. National Human Rights Action Plan Established by Taiwan
- (1) National Human Rights Action Plan: To formulate a comprehensive human rights

policy and improve human rights protection, Taiwan promulgated its first National Human Rights Action Plan on May 5, 2022, incorporating eight priority issues, namely strengthening of human rights protection, human rights education, equality and non-discrimination, strengthening of protections of the right to life, housing justice, climate change and human rights, digital human rights, and refugee rights and protection. A total of 154 actions along with key performance indicators, and timeframes for implementation have since been formulated to ensure that government resources are appropriately allocated and utilized for human rights protection and that related policies are implemented steadily in phases.

- (2) National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights: In 2020, Taiwan promulgated the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), proposing 33 action items to strengthen the protection of human rights in enterprises. It mainly covers three main principles, namely the state duty to protect human rights, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and access to remedy. The plan is updated and reviewed every four years. The version 1.0 expired on December 10, 2024, and the updated National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights version 2.0 will be proposed. A number of workshops and stakeholder communication meetings have been held to incorporate the opinions of various stakeholder groups in formulating actions for version 2.0. After the content is confirmed, it will be submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval and promulgation.
- (3) Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights: To comprehensively improve the rights and benefits of migrant fishers and enhance the image of Taiwan and the industry, the Executive Yuan approved the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights on May 20, 2022. The action plan works to enforce seven major strategies, namely full implementation of agreed labor conditions, improvement on living conditions and social protection, strengthening management of recruitment agents, increasing monitoring and control capacity, strengthening management of FOC-vessels, establishing and strengthening international cooperation, and enhancing collaboration between the public and private sectors. Furthermore, cross-departmental cooperation promotes specific actions to protect the rights and benefits of migrant fishers through comprehensive and systematic measures. In addition, the plan was also amended on July 25, 2023, to further improve

communications and safety onboard and enhance the human rights of migrant fishers

115. To assist agencies in incorporating international human rights conventions into various government policies and to strengthen the substantive participation of stakeholders such as affected groups in the drafting process, a human rights impact assessment mechanism for bills and medium- and long-term individual projects was set to be established by the end of 2024. After the mechanism is implemented on July 1, 2025, all bills and medium- and long-term individual projects drafted by agencies under the Executive Yuan shall be subject to human rights impact assessments before being submitted to the Executive Yuan for review (deliberation).
116. In 2011, the Examination Yuan established a human rights task force to oversee the implementation of human rights policies within the Examination Yuan. The task force consists of between 11 and 15 members, with the vice president of the Examination Yuan serving as the convener. Members of the task force include the Secretary-General of the Examination Yuan, division, office and committee heads, and scholars and experts. Their responsibilities are to supervise the implementation of human rights protections within their respective domains, and report and monitor improvements regularly to the Examination Yuan.
117. As is indicated in Article 7 of the Act to Implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the budget needed for government agencies at all levels to enforce requirements in the two covenants and protect human rights shall be prioritized in accordance with financial conditions and implemented step by step. In order to put the stipulations of the aforementioned laws and regulations into practice, agencies at all levels shall earmark a budget for enforcing the stipulations regarding human rights protected by the two covenants in line with their annual administrative plans and operations. In 2024, budgets across all central government agencies, councils, and commissions for enforcing human rights protections as stated in the two covenants totaled NT\$1.6965 trillion. The budgets were spent on many projects, including: promotion of human rights conventions, human rights education, gender mainstreaming education and training, training for detainees, improvement of social care and facilities, funding for the Legal Aid Foundation, amendment of human rights laws, domestic adoption of the two covenants, compensation for crime victims, training for detainees, improvement of social care and facilities,

funding for the Legal Aid Foundation, protection of the rights of minorities such as Hakka and indigenous peoples, promotion of workplace safety, occupational health services, funding for social insurance and welfare, and employment for people with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

Relevant Training and Advocacy of Human Rights Instruments

118. Due to the international political realities that prevent the R.O.C. from joining the United Nations, related documents on human rights are forwarded to overseas units and handed to local government officials or people friendly to the R.O.C. while approaching them for related matters so that they know the progress of human rights in the R.O.C.
119. In line with international trends, human rights education for diplomatic personnel covers basic human rights knowledge, including the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Gender Equality in Employment Act, and the Gender Equity Education Act (also known as “the three gender equality laws”). Courses also discuss such topics as gender diversity, the prevention of human trafficking, new immigrant policies, and the prevention of sexual harassment while providing professional training on connecting international human rights conventions and diplomatic work, and expanding international participation through human rights initiatives , and promoting cooperation with foreign embassies on addressing gender-based violence. The above training scope covers all stages, from new employees, employees on active duty, expatriates, employees on job rotation, to mid- and senior-level managers. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also compiled case study materials on the two covenants and published them on its official website to promote the two covenants and related content of the Ministry’s operations to the general public.
120. To enhance human rights awareness, human rights education has been included in the Democratic Governance Values course that each civil servant must complete every year since 2017. In addition , human rights courses have been incorporated into the mandatory training programs for civil servants, including pre-service training for newly qualified personnel, training for rank promotion , and medium to long-term development training for senior civil servants . Specially designed teaching materials provide case studies for reference , while interactive teaching methods such as classroom discussions and group Q&A sessions serve to deepen civil servants’ understanding and recognition of human rights issues. For other anti-discrimination education initiatives for civil servants in the executive and judicial systems, please refer to Notes 26 to 35 of the Concluding Observations and Recommendations in the third national report on the two covenants.

121. Human rights concepts have been incorporated into the national examination for judges and prosecutors, as well as the Bar Examination for lawyers. Human rights education has also been listed as a key component of pre-service and in-service training for judges, prosecutors, judicial police and other judicial personnel.

- (1) Formative education: The Central Police University (hereinafter referred to as the “Police University”) and the Taiwan Police College (hereinafter referred to as the “Police College”) have incorporated human rights and the rule of law into their formative education to instill proper law enforcement concepts in students. At the Police University, the four-year undergraduate program has included a dedicated human rights course titled Constitution and Human Rights Protection, which highlights key principles of human rights protection. Courses on the rule of law cover administrative law, the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and so forth. Furthermore, the Human Rights Education Manual was revised annually on a rolling basis from 2020 to 2024 to stay current with evolving standards. The human rights curriculum for the Regular Police Officer Program at the Police College has included courses on the Constitution, gender equality, domestic violence management, human rights conventions, multiculturalism, other related topics. The courses on the rule of law have covered criminal law, police regulations, traffic regulations, and similar topics. In addition, to strengthen human rights awareness, the Police College has regularly organized special lectures and seminars to enhance students’ understanding of human rights and the rule of law .
- (2) In-service education: From 2020 to 2024, the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior mandated that all law enforcement agencies must hold annual training courses that prioritize human rights education for police officers. Some courses covered such topics as law enforcement in the implementation of the two covenants, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; legal education and police officers’ required attitudes and skills; gender issues and gender mainstreaming in law enforcement; guidelines for police officers handling foreigner-related cases and the use of interpreters; understanding the Stalking and Harassment Prevention Act; conducting thorough investigations and protecting human rights—police interviews and the rights of persons with disabilities; case studies of police raids and stops-and-checks under the Police Power Exercise Act; and amendments to the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Gender Equality in

Employment Act, and the Gender Equity Education Act (also known as “the three gender equality laws”).

122. Out of respect for humanity and human rights, related courses on the two covenants and human rights protection for judges have been enhanced. Online courses have also been organized for training for judges and courts have been requested to organize their own training programs. Budgets have been allocated to finance the promotion of the two covenants and on-the-job training each year.
123. The Ministry of Justice created the Human Rights in Taiwan website in June 2009. The website contains information on the Human Rights in Taiwan project, Chinese and English versions of the two covenants and the general comments, implementation status of the two covenants, related self-produced training handouts and human rights materials, government agency reviews of laws and regulations in violation of the covenants, research reports and official recommendations on incorporating international conventions into the domestic legal system, Concluding Observations and Recommendations Adopted by the International Group of Independent Experts, and progress updates issued by various government agencies. The information has been made available online to serve as reference. Central and local authorities have also been requested to provide links to the Human Rights in Taiwan website on their respective official websites.
124. Human rights courses are now included as part of basic training for lawyers, including lawyers’ public participation, constitutional awareness and human rights conventions, family affairs and protection of the rights of the disadvantaged, and practical work on gender equality issues.
125. The human rights education material “Two Covenants Human Rights Stories for the R.O.C. Army” was completed in 2018 to help officers and enlisted men understand the contents of the two covenants and learn to use the two covenants in their work, train seed instructors for human rights training in accordance with the two covenants, and promote human rights education in the R.O.C. Armed Forces. From 2020 to 2024, 10 human rights issues and cases in the military were collected and compiled, and the second edition of the “Two Covenants Human Rights Stories for the R.O.C. Army” is set to be published.
126. To align with international mechanisms and trends for the protection of human trafficking victims, Taiwan has made substantial revisions to the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, which was promulgated by the President on June 14, 2023, and took

effect on January 1, 2024. The Act aims to expand human rights protection for victims of human trafficking. Meanwhile, to enhance the human rights awareness in law enforcement, the Ministry of the Interior compiled an anti-human trafficking manual, containing relevant laws and regulations and a multilingual version of the Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking Rights Notification (in Chinese, English, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Thai, and Filipino) for use by judicial, law enforcement, and prosecutorial personnel. These measures enhance human rights awareness of police officers and relevant law enforcement personnel and protect the human rights of suspected victims of human trafficking.

127. Courses on domestic violence prevention, sexual assault prevention, child and youth protection, elderly protection, and the protection of people with disabilities have been provided to enhance the human rights awareness of protective services social workers. Human rights education has also been incorporated into professional medical ethics and core clinical competencies for recently graduated doctors.
128. To enhance the professional knowledge and skills of pre-service teachers and in-service teachers with respect to human rights, the Ministry of Education has established the Republic of China Directions Regarding Teachers' Professionalism: Stages of Pre-service Teacher Education and Criteria Governing Pre-service Teacher Education Programs. It has also requested that universities with teacher education programs include human rights issues in pre-service teacher education courses (such as topic-based courses, specialized courses, and professional courses). In addition, human rights education is listed as a key subsidy item for in-service training of kindergarten teachers. At the primary and secondary school level, human rights education is promoted through a teacher training mechanism overseen by human rights subgroups of central and local advisory bodies for national education. At senior high schools, teacher empowerment training related to the development of human rights education is organized through a curriculum development workgroup. Relevant lesson plans are developed, then placed on the workgroup's resource platform for teachers to reference and use.
129. Development of human rights education in all schools:
 - (1) Overview of human rights education in elementary and junior high schools: The nine-year elementary and junior high school curriculum outline, which was implemented in 2001, lists human rights education as a major topic. The Curriculum Guidelines of 12-Year Basic Education implemented in 2019 also listed human

rights education as one of the 19 topics, setting related basic concepts, learning objectives, learning themes, and substantive content. Central and local governments have formed counseling groups that offer seminars, workshops, lectures, and other activities related to human rights at elementary and junior high schools throughout the country, thereby instilling in teachers key concepts regarding human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

- (2) Overview of human rights education in higher secondary education: In the curriculum outline for regular senior high schools implemented in 2010, content on the topic of people and human rights has been added to the citizen and society syllabus. The High School Human Rights Education Resource Center was established in 2018 to take charge of the training of seed teachers for human rights education, teacher empowerment training, materials and pedagogy development, and the establishment of related cell phone app and social media groups for teachers. Human rights education continues to be listed as an important topic in the Curriculum Guidelines of 12-Year Basic Education implemented in 2019.
- (3) Overview of human rights education in higher education: To help policy implementation, at the annual National Conference for University Presidents and the National Conference for Academic Affairs Supervisors of Public and Private Universities, the Ministry of Education has encouraged all schools to offer courses related to human rights and the rule of law. In the 2023 academic year, a total of 4,166 courses related to human rights and the rule of law were offered by 458 departments in 65 universities to a total of 225,244 attendees. In the first semester of the 2024 academic year, a total of 2,060 courses related to human rights and the rule of law were offered by 337 departments in 63 universities to a total of 115,344 attendees. Moreover, in the 2023 academic year, a total of 2,102 courses related to human rights and the rule of law were offered by 404 departments in 78 schools technical colleges to a total of 92,978 attendees. And in the first semester of the 2024 academic year, a total of 1,051 courses related to human rights, citizenship, and rule of law issues were offered by 261 departments in 73 technical colleges to a total of 46,732 attendees. The Ministry of Education also continued to promote the courses and encouraged universities to offer more courses related to human rights.
- (4) Overview of human rights education in social education: The Ministry of Education provides subsidies to adult education programs each year to offer courses related to

civic literacy, human rights, and the rule of law.

130. National Taiwan Normal University conducted the Human Rights Education Self-Assessment Implementation Plan for High Schools or Lower in accordance with the United Nations' indicators. It surveyed school administrative personnel, teachers, students, and parents to gain a comprehensive view of the current state of human rights education in Taiwan and establish regular review mechanisms for future human rights education.
131. The National Communications Commission implemented a new policy to reward TV and radio stations for any contributions made toward advancing disadvantaged groups' interests, cultural diversity, and gender equality and protecting children and youths. In addition, TV and radio stations are regularly informed of the nation's human rights policies and laws.
132. A wide variety of media such as TV, movies, radio, newspapers, the Internet, social media, and other diverse emerging avenues have been adopted to inform the public of the implications of the two covenants, as well as relevant actions taken by the government. The government actively promotes international human rights documents and enhances communication with the people in regard to the government's important policies and regulations for the protection of human rights.

Measures Taken to Enhance Social Involvement in Human Rights Protection

133. To strengthen promotion of the human rights of indigenous peoples, the Council of Indigenous Peoples allocates an annual budget to sponsor events that promote the basic rights of indigenous peoples and cultural, educational, and industrial development-related campaigns organized by civil society groups. It also subsidizes individuals or groups attending international conferences.
134. The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy was founded with sponsorship from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It aims to promote the development of democracy and human rights and maximize the involvement of NGOs in global democracy. The Foundation subsidizes local and foreign academic institutions, think tanks, private-sector organizations, NGOs, and domestic political parties to promote democracy and human rights or attend international conferences related to human rights or international democracy exchange programs. The Foundation regularly publishes the Taiwan Democracy Quarterly and the English journal Taiwan Journal of Democracy.
135. The National Human Rights Museum under the Ministry of Culture has carried out the

restoration of historical scenes in the Human Rights Memorial Park in stages through rigorous historical research and oral interviews: In 2015, restoration of the Ren-Ai Building, a detention center scene, in the Jingmei White Terror Memorial Park was completed. In February 2023, the location of the trials for the Kaohsiung Incident, was completed and the site opened to the public. In April 2024, restoration of Ankang Reception House, an interrogation scene, was also completed. The collection of relevant human rights historical archives grew substantially, including approximately 250,000 pages of digital archives, with a total of 6,595 main case files (main case files plus 14,500 supplementary files). Furthermore, assistance was provided to local governments and non-governmental organizations in promoting human rights historical materials research and education. From 2020 to 2024, subsidies for 30 sessions of local governments' human rights educational activities and 339 NGO cases were approved.

136. The Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development was set up with sponsorship from the Ministry of the Interior in 1997 (re-organized in 2013 in conjunction with the Executive Yuan's organizational change, and reports to the Ministry of Health and Welfare). Since 2008, the Foundation has also been authorized by the Ministry to organize the Taiwan Women's Center, which aims to consolidate the protection of women's rights; organize related studies, communications, and personnel training programs on the promotion and development of women's rights; proactively initiate exchanges between domestic and international women's organizations and exchanges on information relating gender issues; and facilitate dialogue between the government and civil society. Professional books and publications on CEDAW-related issues have been released since 2009. Meetings among public and private sectors and empowerment workshops for NGOs, among other activities, have been proactively organized to work with the government in the joint implementation of CEDAW.
137. The Ministry of Education Human Rights and Civic Education Mid-Range Plan was amended in 2016, with an implementation period from 2017 to 2021. To continue the promotion of human rights education, it was revised to the "Ministry of Education Human Rights and Civic Education Program" in 2022. The principle for the implementation of the program focuses on a systematic, integrative, comprehensive, executive, extensive, and forward-looking approach. It consolidates diverse resources belonging to the government, communities, and private organizations to establish an environment for student-oriented human rights and civic education based on the four

strategies of “building a friendly campus environment that respects human rights and values civic engagement,” “developing and implementing human rights and civic education curricula and course materials,” “enhancing teachers’ professional ethics and knowledge of human rights, civic engagement, and the rule of law,” and “promoting ideals and implementing actions for enhancing human rights and civic education” and 23 work indicators.

138. The Ministry of Health and Welfare is committed to promoting children’s rights and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. It has cooperated with local governments, civic society organizations, and media outlets , as well as children and youths, to raise awareness of the rights of children and persons with disabilities through a diverse range of educational activities.
139. Easy read, braille, sign language, audio book, and child friendly versions of the second report for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) have been produced. These versions have been distributed to local governments, public libraries, special education schools, and national organizations. To protect the rights of persons with disabilities, the competent authority is expected to include the principles of reasonable accommodation and universal design in amendments to regulations. In addition, the Project of Legal Aid for Persons with Disabilities was established to provide necessary legal aid to persons with disabilities.
140. Between 2015 and 2024, the Feedback Fund of the Public Welfare Lottery was used to subsidize governments at all levels and private organizations. Private resources were combined to promote victim protection and gender-based violence prevention, with subsidies totaling NT\$1,985,199,000 being granted for this purpose. In addition, subsidies totaling NT\$1,930,697,167 were allocated from the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Fund from 2016 to 2024 to support government agencies and private organizations engaging in the prevention of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.
141. Since 2005, budget that provides financial support for the Legal Aid Foundation has been allocated by the Judicial Yuan pursuant to the provisions of the Legal Aid Act in order to provide the necessary legal aid to individuals who do not have the financial resources or cannot be protected by the law due to other reasons. Between 2020 and 2024, the Judicial Yuan donated NT\$55 million to the Foundation and subsidized NT\$7,007,335,000 of its

operating budget. At present, the Legal Aid Foundation has established 22 branches in counties and cities across Taiwan. The number of regular case applications and aid approved, and legal consultation from 2020 to 2024 are shown in Table 40. To enable detainees to obtain sufficient legal resources and promote the protection of their rights, the Legal Aid Foundation has stepped up its efforts in prison services through its nationwide branches since 2016, informing inmates that they are eligible to apply via written correspondence for various types of legal aid offered by the Foundation. In 2024, the Foundation's branches conducted 534 legal education and consultation activities for prisoners, and provided case acceptance and legal assistance services in detention centers and prisons.

Table 40 Legal Aid Application and Grant Status for Regular Cases, and Legal Consultation of Legal Aid Foundation

Unit: cases; %

Year	No. of applications for regular cases (A)	Number of regular cases granted legal aid (B)	Percentage of cases for which legal aid is granted to total applications (%) (C)=(B)/(A)	Number of legal consultation cases
2020	85,530	57,304	67.00	105,197
2021	75,722	51,424	67.91	78,761
2022	85,625	56,718	66.24	90,825
2023	87,466	55,890	63.90	114,551
2024	87,678	55,567	63.38	119,547

Source: Legal Aid Foundation's work report and Board of Directors' data

142. The Ministry of Justice founded the Association for Victims Support and supervises its victims rights protection services. Between 2020 and 2024, the Ministry provided the association with subsidies of NT\$70,132,108, NT\$66,120,789, NT\$65,347,000, NT\$127,057,000, and NT\$267,340,000, respectively.
143. The Ministry of Justice oversees the Taiwan After-care Association and the Fuchien After-care Association, which assist former convicts. The Ministry also subsidizes other private-sector organizations assisting the rehabilitated. Between 2020 and 2024, the Ministry provided the association with subsidies of NT\$45,668,000, NT\$55,928,000, NT\$43,322,000, NT\$86,454,000, and NT\$104,920,000, respectively. Subsidies were provided for 76 cases.

International Cooperation, Development and Assistance

144. The International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) is an institution that specializes in providing foreign aid. It organizes various international cooperation projects with partner countries and helps promote government official development assistance (ODA) programs. The budget for the ODA of Taiwan devoted to international collaboration in 2022 totaled around US\$432 million, accounting for 0.055% of the gross national income (GNI) of Taiwan. In 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned the TaiwanICDF to send 20 technical, medical, and investment and trade service missions consisting of 210 technicians, substitute service draftees, and college interns to 19 countries in the Asia Pacific, West Asia, Africa, Caribbean, and Latin America. They engaged in 80 projects covering agriculture, animal husbandry, gardening, aquaculture, technical and vocational education, Chinese language education, ICT, industry, trade and investment, public health, and medical care. Small and medium enterprises, economic and trade experts, and volunteers were also sent to countries with diplomatic ties to Taiwan to conduct short- to mid-term guidance or provide consultancy services. Personnel from friendly developing countries were also invited to Taiwan to receive education and training, and participate in seminars. Scholarship programs were provided to undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students to help partner countries cultivate talents.
145. In 2014, the Ministry of Labor began accepting missions to organize career training programs for young people living in Pacific island allies to help them develop professional skills and capabilities. It has assisted Tuvalu, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, and the Solomon Islands in developing local professionals and human resources for the labor market.
146. Since 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs established the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) with the United States, and has cooperated with Japan, Australia and like-minded countries to organize international training camps to assist countries in building capacity on global issues and strengthen multilateral cooperation. Previous themes included COVID-19 epidemic prevention, women's right to public participation, human rights practices for people with disabilities, and women's empowerment (women's economic autonomy), international humanitarian aid, human rights in the digital age, and the promotion of gender equality and justice, all of which were part and parcel of advancing human rights protection.
147. In 2016, the APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Alliance (ASD-CBA) project

was initiated, and two APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Centers were established in Taiwan to help promote high-quality growth in the Asia-Pacific region and strengthen talent training exchanges in the same region. Since 2020, ASD-CBA has taken on Women's Economic Empowering, New Media Digital Upskilling (WEDU) as the main project, and gradually implemented a continuous multi-stage initiative.

148. Taiwan has been an active participant in international collaborative campaigns for foreign aid and has entered bilateral agreements, memorandums, and cooperation frameworks on agricultural cooperation with many countries to promote various international agricultural cooperation efforts through bilateral agricultural meetings and consultations. The TaiwanICDF, for instance, offers assistance on developing agriculture and fishery industries through technical cooperation and related training. On June 21, 2023, Taiwan signed the Taiwan-Thailand Fisheries Cooperation Implementation Agreement with Thailand.
149. Taiwan, the United States, and Australia jointly funded the "APEC Women and the Economy Sub-Fund" in 2017 to promote economic empowerment for women, improve their employment environment, and promote women rights development. In 2023, Taiwan put forth the "Promote Gender Equality and Inclusion in Digital Health Tech for Caregivers" project, jointly supported by Australia, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, the United States, Vietnam, and Thailand. A hybrid international workshop was held in Taipei on September 10 and 11, 2024. In 2022, Taiwan also signed a cooperation agreement with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and became a founding donor of the bank's newly-established Action for Equality and Gender Multi-donor Cooperation Fund (A4EG). Both parties are joining forces to assist recipient countries in improving gender equality and the economic participation rights of disadvantaged groups.
150. In October 2020, Taiwan and the Kingdom of Eswatini, our African ally, launched a three-year program, the Capacity Building Project for Microfinance Ecosystem Focusing on Grassroots Women in Eswatini, to provide technical assistance and consulting services to women and microfinance institutions in Eswatini. Taiwan also sponsored the establishment of the Women Business Start-up Microfinance Revolving Fund to assist Eswatini women in starting their own businesses. The fund was officially opened to applications from Eswatini citizens in mid-February 2024.
151. To fulfill international social responsibilities, Taiwan is committed to strengthening

medical cooperation with allies and friendly countries and helping them attain third goal of the United Nations' 2030 Sustainable Development Goals: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. From 2020 to 2024, Taiwan engaged in a number of international exchanges and cooperation projects with the United States, the European Union, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, and various Asian countries on the research and development of epidemic prevention technologies, medical supplies, and equipment. Taiwan also cooperated with the Holy See to promote medical humanitarian assistance. In addition, Taiwan International Health Action (TaiwanIHA) continued to organize international medical collaboration and emergency medical aid programs in accordance with diplomatic policies. The North American Taiwanese Medical Association sent a medical team that was led by Dr. Shen Yu-ming and comprised 30 members, including internists, surgeons, gynecologists, dermatologists, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, acupuncturists, and assistants, to Paraguay to provide free medical services.

152. During the global COVID-19 pandemic from 2020 to 2023, Taiwan collaborated closely with like-minded countries through a democratic epidemic prevention model, providing donations of anti-epidemic supplies, and proactively assisting friendly countries and countries in need. At the 2022 Global COVID-19 Summit, Taiwan pledged to donate US\$1.5 million as part of our determination and contribution to work hand in hand with the United States and the international community in the global fight against the epidemic. The relevant funds served to improve the global public health environment.
153. Taiwan organized “A Civil Society Dialogue on Securing Religious Freedom in the Indo-Pacific Region” in March 2019, and 80 religious figures and representatives of human rights groups from more than 10 countries in the Indo-Pacific region attended the event. Sam Brownback, the United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, also visited Taiwan to attend the event. Brownback gave a talk and exchanged views with our government on promoting religious freedom. Since 2019, Taiwan has donated to the US State Department's International Religious Freedom Fund over five years, contributing to global religious freedom through practical actions.
154. Taiwan became an observer to the International Religious Freedom Alliance (IRFBA) in July 2022, and has successively signed nine joint declarations of IRFBA calling on countries to respect religious freedom. Taiwan's Ambassador-at-Large for Religious Freedom Pusin Tali attended the IRFBA Ministerial Conference in Prague, Czech Republic in December 2023 to share our government's efforts in promoting freedom of

religious belief.

155. In 2022, Taiwan co-organized vocational training programs with non-governmental organization Turkish Red Crescent (Kızılay) to help improve the socio-economic status of refugee women. In 2023, Taiwan also cooperated with the Turkish nongovernmental organization SGDD-ASAM to implement a medical service project for earthquake-stricken areas in Turkey. The project set up mobile medical clinics to provide medical services to earthquake victims.
156. Tibetans in exile mostly reside in countries such as India, Nepal, and Bhutan. Tibetan communities often lack medical, sanitary, and education resources. The government has worked with domestic NGOs in the implementation of humanitarian aid programs for Tibetan communities overseas, including training for local medical and nursing personnel as well as volunteer clinic services, health education, information technology education, and disaster prevention training. It has also assisted in holding Tibet Assistance Volunteers Training Camps. As of 2024, 2,101 people had been trained to provide aid to Mongolian and Tibetan communities. This was in line with the trend of providing international humanitarian aid.
157. To help independent public welfare media in low- and middle-income countries survive the COVID-19 crisis, Taiwan donated a total of US\$1 million to the International Fund for Public Interest Media (IFPIM) of the United States between 2022 and 2024, joining forces the United States and other like-minded countries to improve the global media environment.
158. Each of these programs implemented by Taiwan is based on the partner countries' top priorities and national development policies. These programs align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which are based on human rights and focus on human well-being. They undergo detailed assessments of effectiveness and sustainability. Management and supervision are conducted during and after implementation, so that they reflect reality and improvement takes place on a rolling basis. After completion, reviews of the programs' implementation will be carried out and reports generated. These efforts aim to achieve the goal of improving the well-being of recipient countries. To prevent partner countries from misusing the information and communication technologies provided by Taiwan, when commissioning the TaiwanICDF to carry out relevant international cooperation and development projects in the future, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may add a morality clause to contracts and other legal documents. For example, it

may specify that the content and technology of Taiwan's cooperation plans must not be used for purposes that violate such values as freedom, democracy, and human rights in order to safeguard universal human rights values.

F. Reporting Procedures at the National Level

159. Although the United Nations did not accept the instrument of ratification from Taiwan for the two covenants, the Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee of Taiwan compiled and released the first and second reports on the two covenants and the Common Core Document in 2012 and 2016 in accordance with United Nations' guidelines on the form and content of reports to be submitted by state parties to international human rights treaties. The Executive Yuan released the third and fourth national reports on the two covenants in 2020 and 2025. The Ministry of Justice is an advisory agency of the EY Human Rights Task Force. It is responsible for acquainting government officials with the format needed for the national human rights report and instructing these agencies to provide drafts. The agencies are required to take the initiative to provide human rights deficiency reports and rectification plans.
160. Taiwan has established mechanisms for drafting the national reports and all central government agencies are required to take part in the drafting process. Statistical data and implementation status at the national level also include data from local governments. Taiwan also held related domestic review meetings and invited NGOs, scholars, and experts outside the government to participate, debate drafts of the reports, and provide recommendations to ensure the adequacy of the contents. The Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee took charge of reviewing the final draft before the first and second reports were submitted to international human rights experts for review. The Executive Yuan's Human Rights Task Force was given the responsibility of reviewing the final draft before the third and fourth reports were submitted to international human rights experts for review. In addition, as the United Nations cannot review Taiwan's reports, Taiwan designed a review system similar to the United Nations' review mechanisms, inviting international human rights experts to visit Taiwan every four years starting from 2013 to review the reports, as well as publishing Concluding Observations and Recommendations. The compilation of guidelines on the form and content of reports to be submitted by States Parties to the international human rights treaties, general comments released by treaty bodies, other international documents on human rights, and Taiwan's past national reports and their Concluding Observations and Recommendations have been published on the human rights section of the Ministry of Justice website for the public's reference.
161. Related operating procedures for the drafting of the national human rights reports and

organization of international review meetings for core human rights conventions in Taiwan are provided in Figure 3 (page 70) and related assignments structures are provided in Figure 4 (page 71).

162. To integrate and improve the management and evaluation methods of Concluding Observations of various human rights conventions, the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice of the Executive Yuan issued the Operation Directions for the Common Management and Evaluation Planning of Concluding Observations and Recommendations of National Reports on Various Human Rights Conventions in 2022. Using the operation directions as a framework, the Ministry of Justice compiled the 92 Concluding Observations and Recommendations proposed by international human rights experts after reviewing the third national reports on the two covenants based on the themes involved. In conjunction with the existing management and evaluation models of the two covenants, the Ministry formulated the Implementation, Management and Evaluation Planning of the Concluding Observations and Recommendations of the Third National Reports on the Two Covenants, and confirmed the division of responsibilities for each stage. Subsequently, the organizer coordinated and compiled the opinions of the co-organizers. It put forth background/problem analysis for each stage; took actions to solve the problems; used key performance indicators to evaluate whether the goals of the actions were achieved; and observed the timeline to achieve the target values. Throughout this process, the competent authorities are required to invite related private organizations, civil members of the EY Human Rights Task Force, scholars, and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to take part in the review. The plans, measures, and human rights indicators proposed by the competent authorities must be fully communicated in order to improve the human rights deficiencies described in the Concluding Observations and Recommendations. A total of 10 sessions of the review meeting was organized with the participation of the aforementioned private organizations. After considering the opinions collected through the aforementioned civil participation and review mechanism, the competent authorities at each level revised the relevant plans, measures, and human rights indicators and submitted them to the EY Human Rights Task Force for confirmation of action strategies. Furthermore, the status of key performance indicators was reported every six months.

III. Information on Nondiscrimination, Equality, and Access to Remedy

G. Nondiscrimination and Equality

Inequality Caused by Economic and Social Conditions

163. Women's rights: Taiwan enacted the Enforcement Act of CEDAW in 2011, incorporating CEDAW, which was adopted by the United Nations in 1979, into domestic law. The Act aims to eliminate discrimination against women, enhance women's development, protect gender-related human rights, and promote gender equality. Pursuant to the Act, the government submits a national report every four years, inviting relevant experts, scholars and representatives of non-governmental organizations to review it. The fourth national report was completed in 2022.
164. Rights of children and youth: Taiwan established the Implementation Act of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to incorporate the CRC , which was adopted by the United Nations in 1989, into domestic law. This will help ensure that children in need enjoy special care and assistance, facilitate the full and harmonious development of their character, and develop their capabilities to live independently in society.
165. Rights of persons with disabilities: Taiwan enacted the Act to Implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to implement the CRPD, which was adopted by the United Nations in 2006. The CRPD was incorporated into domestic laws to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, ensure equal participation opportunities, and eliminate discrimination and inappropriate treatment in all aspects of life for them.
166. Rights of the elderly: To implement the United Nations' Principles for Older Persons of 1991 aimed at ensuring the independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment, and dignity of senior citizens, the government established the National Pension Insurance program to protect individuals without employment insurance and provide basic economic security for the elderly, as well as an allowance for low- and middle-income senior citizens. In accordance with the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the elderly receive a 50% discount when taking domestic state-run or private marine, land, and air public transportation; accessing recreational places; and visiting cultural and educational facilities. Community service stations have also been set up and other resources made available to senior citizens through public-private sector collaboration.
167. The government works with civil society groups to set up community care stations and put into practice the concepts of elderly and preventive care services for communities. As of 2024, it had created 4,993 stations across the country, which provided home visits on

more than 1,660,000 occasions, telephone greetings on more than 1,910,000 occasions, and meal services on more than 19,650,000 occasions. Health promotion activities were attended by more than 22,630,000 people. In addition, the stations also strengthened caring services for seniors who live alone. As of 2024, they had completed more than 7,480,000 telephone greetings; more than 3,620,000 home care visits; more than 70,000 escorted medical care visits; and more than 5,010,000 living assistance service visits.

168. Workers' rights: To implement the International Labor Organization Convention 111 Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation of 1958, Taiwan enacted the Employment Service Act which specifies 16 prohibitions on employment discrimination based on attributes such as age, place of birth, gender, and sexual orientation. Star signs and blood type were added in 2018 so that all workers are accorded the right to equality in employment.
169. Immigration service personnel visit outlying townships to provide immigrants with relevant information, help submit applications, or refer them to new immigrant service centers. This helps minimize the urban and rural differences in access to services and resources. Taiwan also promotes convenient mobile services that allow new immigrants to enjoy a more convenient life, receive employment information, and attend special family education forums, as well as informative events focusing on health, welfare, and licensing laws and regulations.
170. The Gender Equality in Employment Act, and Article 5, Paragraph 1 of the Employment Service Act prohibit gender discrimination and 18 other types of discrimination in employment. To enhance public awareness of workplace equal rights laws, the Ministry of Labor organizes 25 workplace equal rights seminars each year and continues to strengthen the promotion of relevant regulations through various channels such as websites and Facebook. To facilitate employment for the homeless, new immigrants, and indigenous peoples, various public employment service institutions provide customized employment services, including employment counseling, job matching, employment promotion activities, and more. These measures aim to build their work confidence, develop job vacancies, and use employment promotion measures such as temporary work subsidies, hiring subsidies and awards, and job training and readjustment programs to assist specific groups in finding employment.
171. Taiwan enacted the National Health Insurance Act and related regulations and measures to protect the right of all citizens, including marginalized groups, to receive medical care.

Everyone has access to necessary medical care in the event of illness, injury, or maternity. The provisions of the National Health Insurance Act parallel the topics outlined in the relevant international human rights instruments concerning the right to health.

172. Taiwan enacted the Housing Act and relevant regulations and measures to protect citizens' housing rights, improve the residential market, enhance living standards, and allow all citizens to live in appropriate housing and enjoy a dignified living environment.
173. In order to prevent defendants in detention from being discriminated against due to their detainee status, the government has added a new article to the Detention Act to safeguard defendants' rights. In addition, to enhance the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, and their families, the government has drafted the Refugee Act. Furthermore, prohibition against discrimination in kinship and inheritance is prescribed in the Civil Code. For instance, the Civil Code no longer differentiates patrilineality and matrilineality with respect to the adoption of a spouse's surname. It also notes that the adoption of a spouse's surname is not the norm. In addition, it allows spouses to restore their original name anytime during the marriage. A married couple's place of domicile shall be agreed upon by both the husband and the wife. If no agreement can be made or reached, the parties may apply to the court for a fair ruling so as to protect their equal rights and prevent any discriminatory behavior. For more information on women's equal rights to inherit property, please refer to Note 27 of the fourth national report on the ICCPR.

H. Access to Remedy

174. For relevant information on remedies and legal aid for violations of rights, please refer to Notes 44, 105, 107, and 141 of this report.

Protection of Equal Rights of Various Vulnerable Groups

175. Regarding the protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups (including persons with disabilities, new immigrants, and children), which involves judicial protection and the interpreter system, please refer to Notes 199 to 203 of the fourth national report on the ICCPR; for anti-discrimination measures, see Notes 4 to 12 of the fourth national report on the ICESCR.

176. To protect adults should they lose their capacity for judgment, the government has implemented a longstanding system for legal adult guardianship and declaration of assistantship. Taiwan added the guardianship by agreement system to the Civil Code in 2019 to allow an individual to designate his/her future guardian when he/she is still capable of expressing his/her intent, rather than have the court select one should the need arise. This measure, based on the principle of voluntary choice, upholds human dignity and helps promote the interests of the individual.

177. The Primary and Junior High School Act and the Compulsory Education Act protect the right of each individual to compulsory education. To ensure equal right to education, most students are not required to take an exam for admission under the Senior High School Education Act, and tuition is waived under certain criteria. Universities have adopted diversified admission programs and admission by recommendation, which help balance the urban and rural differences in access to education resources. Disadvantaged applicants are entitled to bonus scores or prioritized acceptance for admission application. The number of participating schools increased to 60 in 2024. Meanwhile, colleges and universities are encouraged to recruit disadvantaged students through special talent selection avenues. Disadvantaged students may apply to a university department or program if they meet its set criteria with respect to their professional background, special skills, experiences, expertise, and achievements. In the 2025 academic year, 635 departments of 59 universities provided 1,895 admission slots for disadvantaged students. Universities are required to accept students with different educational qualifications (including overseas Taiwanese students, children of new immigrants, economically disadvantaged students, local students, and experimental education students), and are guided to establish a comprehensive learning counseling

mechanism for disadvantaged students. Considering the impact of diversified admission programs on disadvantaged students, the government reduced or waived registration fees for various exams for students from low-income and medium-to-low income households. In addition, the written review of personal applications has been made electronic to reduce their burdens of taking tests. The government enacted the Special Education Act and the Indigenous Peoples Education Act to provide more extensive protections of the education rights of various disadvantaged groups. Moreover, in order to strengthen the concept of equality between men and women, the Gender Equity Education Act expressly prohibits any form of discrimination based on gender and protects women's right to education.

178. In order to ensure the right to education of students and children with disabilities, Article 25 of The Special Education Act prescribes that preschools and schools at all levels must not reject admission for the reason of disability itself. Taiwan promotes the 12-Year Basic Education program, which includes compulsory education in elementary and junior high school. In addition to exam-free admission and selective recruitment channels that are available to all students, the government also provides adaptive counseling-based placement for senior high school and vocational high school students with physical or mental disabilities pursuing higher education. To safeguard and increase opportunities for higher education for students with disabilities, the Ministry of Education organizes admission interviews for students with disabilities each year to encourage universities and tertiary colleges to organize their own entrance exams for students with disabilities. The Regulations for Handling Complaints Concerning Special Education Students and Young Children were enacted to provide students with disabilities with remedies for inappropriate treatment (e.g., discrimination). Schools are required to appoint at least two external scholars, experts, representatives of parent organizations, or related special education professionals as members of the Student Grievance Evaluation Committee they had previously established (the same mechanisms apply to all students but special members shall be appointed for special education students).
179. Indigenous languages are deemed to be national languages and important cultural assets of Taiwan. The continuation and preservation of indigenous languages carries great importance and urgency. In 2024, the Ministry of Education and the Council of Indigenous Peoples jointly drafted an explanation of the Incentives to Indigenous Students Obtaining Indigenous Language Certification for Further Education, encouraging schools to help promote the current system for indigenous students to obtain

certification for strengthening the inheritance of indigenous languages. This will protect their right to education, while achieving the goal of cultural preservation.

180. The Crime Victim Protection Act was amended and renamed the Crime Victims Rights Protection Act on February 8, 2023. The new law provides that relevant agencies should proactively provide rights information, litigation information, empowerment to participate in litigation, and other assistance services that are consistent with protection of human dignity (e.g., legal assistance, medical care, counseling, and life rehabilitation) to crime victims and their families based on their needs. The new law comprehensively reforms the crime victim compensation system, providing prompt payment and in a way most beneficial to crime victims, and establishing a dual track of crime victim compensation and civil claims. Furthermore, the crime victims protective order system and privacy protection regulations have also been amended; restorative justice promoted; professional knowledge of practitioners strengthened; and victim prevention awareness and other measures to protect the rights and interests of crime victims reinforced. The number of people serviced by the Association for Victims Support is shown in Tables 41 and 42.

Table 41 Number of People Serviced by the Association for Victims Support

Unit: persons; No. of service instances

Year	No. of people serviced	No. of service instances
2020	5,025	96,813
2021	4,841	102,172
2022	4,953	101,709
2023	5,606	109,110
2024	6,967	195,037

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 42 Number of Service Instances Provided by the Association for Victims Support

Unit: No. of service instances

Year	Legal Assistance	Emergency Assistance	Family Rehabilitation	Physical and Mental Care	Other Support Services
2020	38,361	1,608	35,889	8,000	12,955
2021	40,240	3,180	39,529	7,992	11,231
2022	41,948	1,903	34,908	9,570	13,380
2023	42,550	2,659	37,054	11,217	15,630
2024	55,988	7,430	64,332	27,968	39,319

Source: Ministry of Justice

181. Rights of rehabilitated offenders: The Taiwan After-Care Association is a foundation established with government donations. It assists the government in promoting rehabilitation and protection work. The Association cooperates with correctional institutions to provide counseling and skills training on a regular basis. To rehabilitated persons who are willing to accept services, the Association provides protective services including counseling on entering shelters, skills training, guidance on employment, education and medical care, accommodations, emergency assistance, visitation and care, subsidies on travel expenses, escort service to home or other locations, and small business start-up loans. In addition, the Association promotes family support and assistance service programs for rehabilitated offenders, providing shuttle services for returning home, strengthening parental awareness, facilitating family relationship, and enhancing family acceptance. The program also expands the scope of protection services to families, assisting rehabilitated offenders and their family members in adapting to life, tackling financial, employment, and schooling issues, enhancing support, and strengthening their social, health, and labor policy network. All of these serve to assist rehabilitated persons in returning to society. Data on the relevant services of the Taiwan After-Care Association is shown in Tables 43 to 52.

Table 43 Number of People Serviced by the Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: persons; No. of service instances

Year	No. of counseling sessions	No. of persons counseled
2020	85,796	12,427
2021	91,275	12,368
2022	107,124	15,302
2023	120,999	16,352
2024	122,155	17,555

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 44 Number of Technical Training Classes Organized by the Taiwan After-Care Association and Participants

Unit: classes; Persons

Year	Technical training classes	No. of participants	Completion status
2020	14	142	Completed
2021	10	129	Completed
2022	15	123	Completed

2023	12	135	Completed
2024	48	706	Completed

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 45 Number of People and Employment Rate Assisted by the Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: persons; %

Year	No. of employed persons counselled	Employed persons (including self-employment)	Employment rate
2020	1,777	1,455	81.9
2021	1,801	1,435	79.7
2022	1,939	1,501	77.4
2023	1,933	1,483	76.7
2024	1,926	1,559	80.9

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 46 Family Support and Assistance Service Program Provided by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: families

Year	No. of families
2020	398
2021	401
2022	417
2023	449
2024	440

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 47 Emergency Assistance Provided by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: Persons

Year	No. of people receiving emergency assistance
2020	546
2021	1,432
2022	1,563
2023	1,454
2024	1,680

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 48 Travel Expenses Sponsored by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: persons; NT\$

Year	No. of travel funding recipients	Travel expenses sponsored	No. of medical assistance recipients	Medical expenses sponsored
2020	1,635	618,046	124	586,913
2021	1,415	568,145	103	497,290

Year	No. of travel funding recipients	Travel expenses sponsored	No. of medical assistance recipients	Medical expenses sponsored
2022	2,043	842,719	179	928,958
2023	1,939	637,304	150	1,168,513
2024	2,052	660,873	94	745,007

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 49 Business Loan Applications Processed by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: cases

Year	No. of entrepreneur loans
2020	31
2021	19
2022	34
2023	30
2024	33

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 50 Placement and Shelter Processed by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: no. of institutions; No. of service instances

Year	No. of partner institutions	No. of service instances
2020	31	1,865
2021	30	1,959
2022	29	2,172
2023	32	2,525
2024	32	2,210

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 51 Follow-up Counseling Conducted by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: No. of service instances

Year	Follow-up counseling sessions
2020	50,763
2021	58,730
2022	73,613
2023	78,898
2024	71,146

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table 52 Activities (Including Care Activities) Organized by Taiwan After-Care Association

Unit: activities

Year	No. of sessions
2020	414

2021	292
2022	393
2023	463
2024	557

Source: Ministry of Justice

Other Specific Measures for Attaining Equality

182. The Directorate-General of Personnel Administration of the Executive Yuan provides monthly statistics regarding the gender distribution of political appointees in the Executive Yuan, to serve as reference in the recruitment of new officials when vacancies become available. From 2020 to 2024, the proportion of female political heads of government agencies amounted to 8.82%, 8.57%, 8.57%, 17.14% and 25.71%, respectively. The proportion of female political appointees increased from 11.11% to 21.74%. The Executive Yuan has increased the proportion of both the female political heads of government agencies and female political appointees.
183. Article 129 and Article 130 of the Constitution state that elections shall be carried out by universal, equal, and direct suffrage and by secret ballot, and any citizen who has attained the age of 20 shall have the right of election in accordance with the law. Therefore, the right of election is not restricted in any way by financial capability, gender, or educational criteria. Each person is entitled to one vote and all votes are equivalent. In addition, Article 15 of the Constitution states that “the right to live, the right to work, and the right to own property shall be guaranteed to the people.” Article 152 requires that “the State shall provide suitable opportunities for work to those persons who have the ability to work.” Article 4 of the Employment Services Act provides that [every national with working capability is equal in terms of the access to employment services,” and Article 5, Paragraph 1 of the same Act prohibits discrimination against any job applicant or employee on the basis of gender. The Gender Equality in Employment Act covers the prohibition of gender-based discrimination, prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and the measures for promoting equality in employment, thereby providing a set of comprehensive guarantees to protect gender equality in the workplace.
184. For the purposes of protecting the privacy of indigenous voters in urban areas, due to their relatively small numbers, as well as preventing election results from being exposed to the public and the principle of secret ballot from being violated, Article 57 of the Public Officials Election and Recall Act states that in an election of indigenous public

officials, the election commission may, depending on the actual circumstances, adjust the establishment of polling stations in urban areas by adopting centralized voting in order to safeguard the rights of indigenous electors.

185. Taiwan will continue to promote balanced urban and rural development. From 2017 to 2021, it promoted the Heart of Town development initiative, which integrated core areas of promising towns with living area amenities; carried out revitalization projects in old urban areas; and improved the quality of public facilities. These efforts enhanced the living environment. In 2021, Taiwan continued its efforts by launching the Urban and Rural Landscape and Revitalization Environment Construction Plan in conjunction with the Executive Yuan's Project to Accelerate Regional Revitalization. Through system integration, expansion of participation, professional dialogue, and establishment of systems, Taiwan took on the spatial and environmental enhancement of townships, support of value-added development of regional revitalization, and creation of charming towns with local characteristics. The regional revitalization efforts have encouraged young people to return to their hometowns.
186. Education for indigenous people has been a major concern for a long time. The more indigenous communities focus on receiving mainstream education, the faster they lose their own culture. Due to cultural differences, disparities exist between indigenous and non-indigenous students in the learning of math and science. Studies have found that curriculum and teaching materials are crucial to enhancing the education of indigenous peoples. Therefore, since 2009, the Ministry of Science and Technology has been promoting the Indigenous People Science Education Project, integrating the cultures of indigenous peoples into science teaching and development of science courses. In addition, since 2019, the Ministry of Education has been promoting the training of mathematics and science teachers in indigenous regions. The Council of Indigenous Peoples continuously assists the Ministry of Education in this regard through cooperation platforms. The cooperation information is as follows: 91 cases in 2020, 88 cases in 2021, 96 cases in 2022, 87 cases in 2023, 89 cases in 2024.
187. To proactively reduce ethnic discrimination, the government formulated the Guiding Directions for Enhancing Sensitivity and Attention to Indigenous Culture to prevent using the values of the majority or dominant mainstream ethnic group as the sole standard for system establishment, which may result in oppression or injustice to other ethnic groups. Cultural sensitivity charts are also provided to indigenous television

stations and relevant ministries for reference to strengthen cultural exchanges among ethnic groups, and promote understanding and respect for indigenous culture.

188. In terms of education, the government has initiated the Program on Developing Indigenous Education (2021-2025) and expanded the scope of implementation of the Indigenous Culture and Multicultural Education curriculum program, with the goal of extending it to all citizens. Through the Project for Improvement and Integration of Indigenous Education Topics in Curricula approved by the Ministry of Education, four major implementation strategies are adopted to promote indigenous education: develop supplementary teaching materials; train and empower teachers; incorporate relevant courses in syllabi below senior high school level; and strengthen promotion through social education institutions. These strategies will help integrate indigenous education topics into the curriculum, and implement multicultural education.
189. In accordance with the Operation Directions for Granting Subsidy to Spatial Commemoration of Major Indigenous Historic and Cultural Events, we continue to carry out thematic projects on indigenous history and research projects on major historic events of indigenous peoples; publish related books, e.g., book series on major historic events of indigenous peoples, an introduction to indigenous history, an introduction to the indigenous movement, a handbook on the rights of indigenous peoples, and so forth; commission a professional crew to produce documentaries on major historic events of indigenous peoples; and construct a pluralistic historical perspective of indigenous peoples. These efforts enable the people of Taiwan to understand the history of indigenous peoples and the development of their rights, which promotes transitional justice and historical justice for indigenous peoples.

Various Educational Programs Advanced by the Government and Associated Promotional Activities

190. Since 2008, the government has been organizing a series of activities each year around the time of the United Nations-designated International Immigrant Day (December 18) to help citizens gain a deeper understanding of the value of cultural diversity. Coverage of these activities in Chinese and English media have strengthened respect for cultural diversity.
191. For schools below the senior high school level, customized educational plans shall be provided to students with disabilities through teamwork, and parents and guardians of students with disabilities shall be invited to participate in the formulation of these plans.

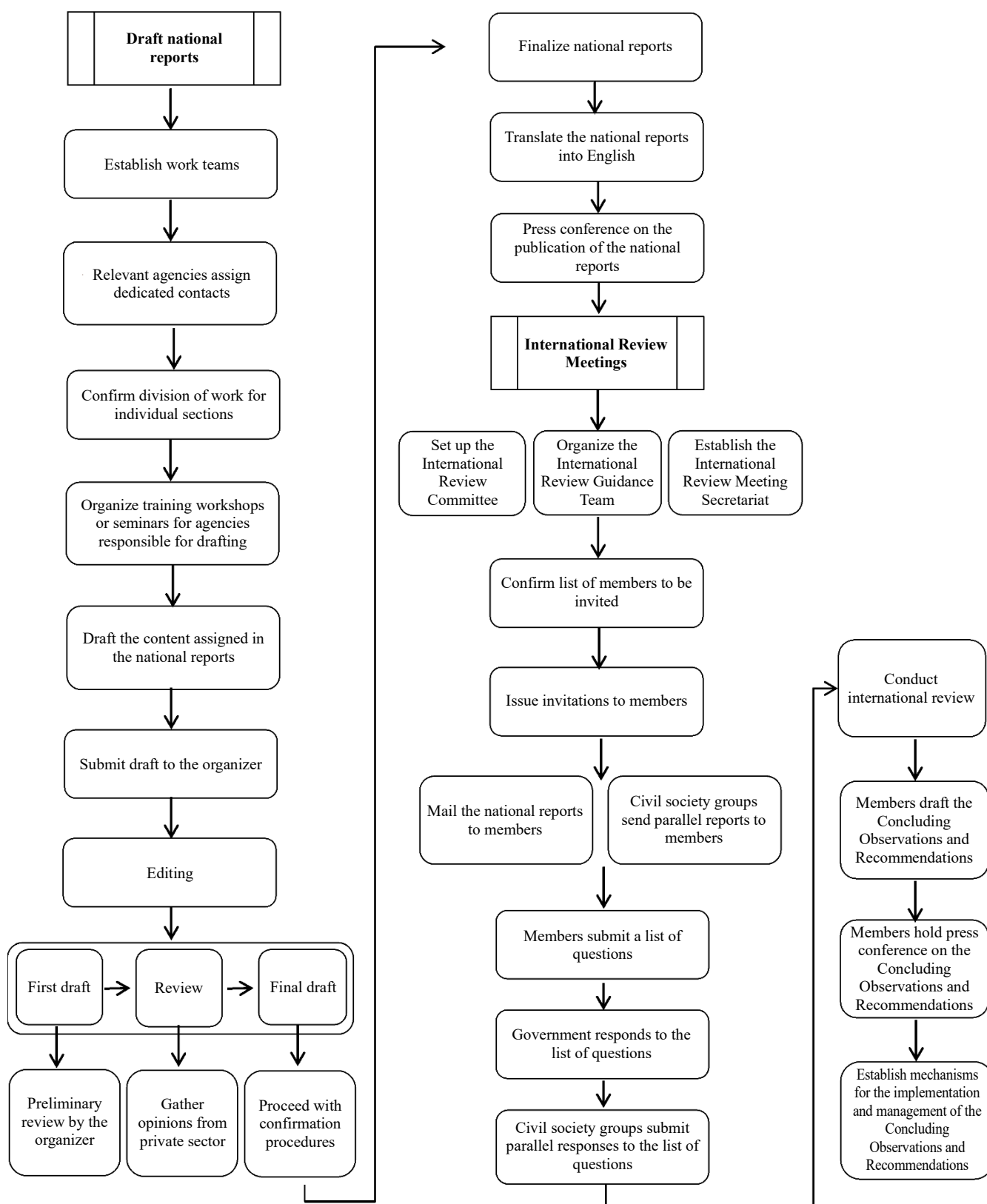
Whenever necessary, parents may also ask relevant individuals to accompany them to these plan development sessions. With respect to special education curricula, teaching materials, teaching approaches, and evaluation methods, flexibility is essential. The suitability and applicability to the physical and mental characteristics as well as the needs of special education students must be taken into consideration.

192. Seminars on gender equality in employment and sexual harassment prevention are organized each year. They are supplemented by media coverage and websites dedicated to gender equality in employment. The purpose is to promote the understanding of the provisions of the Gender Equality in Employment Act by the general public. Furthermore, the items that are included in the scope of labor inspection, as required by the Gender Equality in Employment Act, serve to urge business enterprises to comply with the relevant provisions of the Act via gender equality in employment special inspections.
193. Amendments to the age of marriage (agreement to marriage), spouses, family, and inheritance laws under the Family and Succession chapters of the Civil Code are promoted in a variety of ways, including collaboration with radio stations, production of animations and promotional materials (available on the Ministry of Justice website and YouTube channel for public viewing and download), the Ministry of Justice's Instagram account, and the Public Welfare Service section of the Executive Yuan's official website (LED public service information). We also published the Civil Code Majority Guide (which includes new amendments to lowering the age of majority and the age of marriage/agreement to marriage) and an e-book, i.e., the Handbook on Rights Protection and Legal Issues in Marriage for public reference.
194. For successful rehabilitation cases, the government also presents the experiences and life stories of rehabilitated offenders to the public through various advocacy activities, production of promotional materials, volunteer participation, and media coverage to improve the understanding of the plights of rehabilitated offenders, and their entitled rights by the general public, and foster a friendly and accommodating environment to reduce discrimination and prejudice against them.
195. In response to the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the Ministry of Health and Welfare holds the Golden Eagle Model Persons with Disabilities Awards and awareness activities to celebrate the day every year. Through diverse channels, we promote the outstanding deeds of Golden Eagle Model Persons with Disabilities Award

winners and a series of activities for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities to enhance the people's attention and cultivate their correct understanding of issues related to disabilities, thereby achieving the goal of social inclusion.

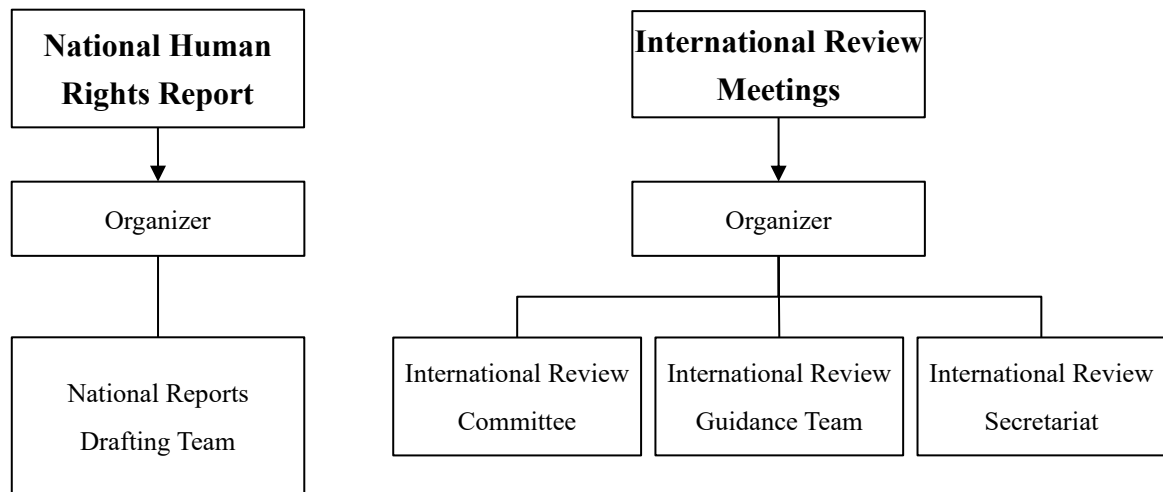
196. To effectively protect the rights of veterans to education, employment, medical services, nursing, and care, the government promotes related education plans and promotional activities each year through a diverse range of media. A total of 1,552 seminars were held from 2020 to 2024 for 33,649 participants. With regard to the effectiveness of improving employment, 52,472 people were employed through the employment assistance program from 2020 to 2024. The number of people employed increased by 15,343 (41%) compared to that from 2015 to 2019.
197. The Ministry of Education organized multiple workshops and training programs to help familiarize educators on the essence and content of the Gender Equity Education Act and applicable laws, human rights education issues, and gender equity education. Subsidies have been provided since 2016 for local governments to foster a friendly campus, as well as undertaking student affairs and counseling, including the promotion of gender equity education, seminars, and workshops.

Figure 3 Operating Flowchart for the Drafting of the National Reports on Core Human Rights Covenants and Organization of International Review Meetings



Source: Ministry of Justice

Figure 4 Task Assignment for the Drafting of the National Reports on Core Human Rights Covenants and Organization of International Review Meetings



Source: Ministry of Justice



行政院
Executive Yuan