

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS UNDER ARREST

The Conference on the Protection of Persons Under Arrest was held in Geneva from 26 September to 1 October 1990. It was convened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in response to a request from the Commission on Human Rights. The Conference was the first of its kind and was attended by representatives of 45 States, 12 international organizations and 12 non-governmental organizations. The Conference adopted the Declaration on the Protection of Persons Under Arrest and the Code of Principles for the Protection of Persons Under Arrest.

The Declaration and the Code of Principles are the first international instruments to deal specifically with the protection of persons under arrest. They set out the basic principles and standards that should be followed by States in the treatment of persons under arrest. The Declaration and the Code of Principles are intended to be complementary to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man. They are also intended to be complementary to the Declaration on the Protection of Women and the Code of Practice for the Protection of Women and the Declaration on the Protection of the Child and the Code of Practice for the Protection of the Child.

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