

UN issues record number of human rights recommendations to US

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MOSCOW: The UN has issued a record number of recommendations to the U.S. concerning the observance of human rights or elimination of encroachments on them there, officials at the Russian Foreign Ministry said Wednesday upon completion of the procedure of the Universal Period Review in the U.S.

The UPR is a process that helps assess the situation in the field of human rights in each of the UN's 192 member-states. The U.S. Administration positions itself as a strong supporter of the process, which according to the Department of State “provides a unique avenue for the global community to discuss human rights around the world.”

“On November 9, a workgroup of the UN Human Rights Council in charge of the UPR endorsed the final report for the U.S.,” an official said. “Members of the group and observers issued a record number of recommendations - 228 - regarding compliance with human rights in the U.S. and elimination of encroachments on them inside the country, as well as in the course of military operations abroad.”

“The recommendations especially highlight the importance of abolishing the death penalty, closing down the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, fighting racial discrimination and intolerance, observing the rights of migrant workers, minorities and indigenous peoples, and expanding U.S. participation in international treaties that regulate human and labor rights,” the official indicated.

“The results of the review prove once again that Western countries, which quite often claim the role of leaders in the defense of human rights, have serious problems in that sphere themselves,” he said.

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