



COVID-19

How can the misuse of **emergency, security, and counter-terrorism** powers to manage the COVID-19 pandemic **infringe on human rights**?



EMERGENCY POWERS: are they *proportionate, strictly necessary, and non-discriminatory*?



Physical lockdown of millions of people.



Forced displacement of millions from cities to rural communities.



Mandatory labor production and lack of safeguards, especially for vulnerable workers.



Accelerated and increased security & counter-terrorism legislation passed under the pretext of emergency without scrutiny or public oversight.



Disproportionate deaths and limited access to healthcare among racialized minorities or other historically vulnerable groups.



SECURITY & COUNTER-TERRORISM POWERS: are they being *misused* to fight COVID?



Increased data collection on the movement of persons without adequate safeguards.



Biometric health data collection with insufficient (or no) protections on their collection, storage, use, or transfer.



Restrictions on expression that challenges government management of the crisis.



Extensive and increased border controls with disparate impact on migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.



Increased discriminatory & disproportionate use and abuse of police force against communities of colour and ethnic minority communities.

For more information and detailed references, access:

- [Statement of the UN Experts on Human Rights urging against the use of emergency measures to suppress human rights.](#)
- [Remarks of the SR on human rights and countering terrorism at the UNOCT 2020 Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week, 9 July 2020.](#)
- [Special procedures and COVID-19: A human rights response to the pandemic as at 22 January 2021.](#)