



Pledge submitted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to the Human Rights  
75 Secretariat  
December 2023

**Original language of submission:** English

**Type of pledge:** Single (by one state/actor)

**Pledging entity:** International Telecommunication Union

**PLEDGE NUMBER 1:** In an increasingly polarized world, access to means of communication is critical to ensuring that different voices are heard, respected and understood. As the UN's specialized agency for Information and Communication Technologies, ITU's mission to connect the world is more critical than ever. We firmly believe that multi-stakeholder cooperation and collaboration, in line with core UN values, is the cornerstone of a truly inclusive and empowering global digital space. With this pledge, as the Secretary-General of ITU, I reaffirm our commitment to advancing universal meaningful connectivity through a multi-stakeholder approach that is grounded in human rights. The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition, spearheaded by ITU, exemplifies our commitment to promoting connectivity and digital transformation globally, including the hardest-to-connect communities. With over 840 pledges from over 400 entities, totalling nearly USD 37 billion, contributions span infrastructure, cybersecurity, and digital skills. We pledge to ensure that ITU's work on digital capacity development, technical standards and policy assistance – including on new and emerging technologies such as AI – reflects and responds to the diverse needs and perspectives of different communities.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Sep 30, 2030