



## AL3141 - The Human Rights Watch (HRW) TRC Collection

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Title: The Human Rights Watch (HRW) TRC Collection  
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Use Restrictions: Copyright restrictions may apply. See SAHA copyright statement for Use Restrictions.  
Copyright: Finding Aid: © The South African History Archive (SAHA)  
Abstract: The Human Rights Watch (HRW) is an independent international non-governmental organisation based in the United States that works to bringing perpetrators of human rights abuse to justice, investigating and exposing human rights violations and challenging governments to end the abusive exercise of power. It currently operates in more than 70 countries.

The documents that make up this collection reflect the activities of the HRW with regards to the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

### Introduction

The Human Rights Watch (HRW) is an independent international non-governmental organisation based in the United States that works to bringing perpetrators of human rights abuse to justice, investigating and exposing human rights violations and challenging governments to end the abusive exercise of power. It was established in 1978 as the Helsinki Watch, a watchdog organisation aimed at monitoring human rights abuses in the former Soviet Union sphere of political influence. Ten years later, in 1988, the organisation became known as the Human Rights Watch, recognizing that systemic human rights abuse was universal. It currently operates in more than 70 countries.

The documents that make up this collection reflect the activities of the HRW with regards to the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

### Related Materials

The collection can also be accessed online at <http://truth.wwl.wits.ac.za/>

A guide to archival resources relating to South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission can also be found at: [http://truth.wwl.wits.ac.za/trc\\_directory.pdf](http://truth.wwl.wits.ac.za/trc_directory.pdf)

The following collections resulted from the TRC Archival Audit:

AL3021: Sooka, Yasmin

AL3059: Dealing with the Past (Conference of Protestant Academy of Bad Boll, Germany)

AL3060: The State vs. P.W. Botha and Appeal

AL3061: Auditor General Reports on the Accounts of the TRC.



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AL3062: Office of the Public Protector, Synopsis of Cases regarding Complaints involving the TRC  
AL3063: Documents relating to the TRC Special Hearings on Health  
AL3066: Materials Relating To TRC Faith Hearings  
AL3068: Harris, Verne  
AL3100: Submission to the TRC concerning Relevance of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to the Commissions Mandate  
AL3101: Jamiatul Ulama Transvaal, TRC Submission  
AL3102: Amnesty International TRC Materials  
AL3103: Institute for Healing Memories (IHOM) TRC Materials  
AL3110: Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSVr)  
AL3115: Argall, Jane  
AL3116: Cherry, Janet  
AL3118: Marcus, Gilbert  
AL3119: Sheila Meintjies and Beth Goldblatt  
AL3120: Ross, Fiona  
AL3121: Julian Knight and Rudolph Jansen  
AL3125: The Challenge of Reconciliation: A Response of Church and Lay Persons to the TRC  
AL3126: Confession and Reconciliation: A Challenge to Churches in South Africa  
AL3128: Terreblanche, Christelle  
AL3129: Zapiro TRC Collection  
AL3130: African National Congress (ANC) TRC Materials  
AL3131: Cosatu Submission to the TRC  
AL3132: Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) Submission to the TRC  
AL3134: Iphepha Ndaba Newsletters from the Western Cape  
AL3135: Fester, Gertrude  
AL3136: Villa-Vicencio, Charles  
AL3137: Behr, Mark  
AL3141: Human Rights Watch Materials  
AL3142: NGO Working Committee on Reparations Materials  
AL3143: IDASA Sound Recordings Relating to the TRC

### **Notes**

Documents include recommendations, press releases and papers by the organisation in relation to the TRC. Two documents were jointly prepared with Amnesty International.

Materials collected from TRC Archival Audit.

The TRC Archival Audit

Between 2003 and 2006, SAHA and Historical Papers, University of Witwatersrand embarked on a project to locate, retrieve and make available records relating to the South African Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC). The project entailed conducting an archival audit of all existing TRC records in order to identify and locate documentation in danger of being lost.

In the process of conducting the archival audit, SAHA and HP located many collections from individuals and



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organizations that participated in the TRC process, including this collection. Selections from these materials as well as TRC related material found in the freedom of Information Collection and other pre-existing SAHA and HP collections, were digitized and can be accessed online at <http://truth.wvl.wits.ac.za/>

A guide to archival resources relating to South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission can also be found at [http://www.saha.org.za/pdf/trc\\_directory.pdf](http://www.saha.org.za/pdf/trc_directory.pdf)

### Inventory

A1: Recommendations to the TRC

[January 1998]

A2: Press Release: "HRW welcomes release of South African Truth Report"

[October 1998]

*Press release regarding the release of the Final Report to the TRC.*

A3: Book Review: "Justice: the first casualty of truth?"

[30 April 2001]

*Review of three books on the TRC.*

A4: Joint statement by Amnesty International and HRW

[13 February 2003]

*Press release: "South Africa: compensate victims of the past".*

A5: Briefing paper: "Truth and Justice: unfinished business in South Africa.

[February 2003]

*Amnesty International/HRW briefing paper*