



**United Nations Human Rights Council  
13th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 30 May 2012**

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**German questions and recommendations to  
Poland**

**by**

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to the United Nations**

*Rednerplatz: 42; Redezeit: 2:00min*

Madam President,

Germany recognises Poland's longstanding commitment to freedom and human rights, in particular its ongoing active role in promoting human rights both internally and internationally. We would, nonetheless, like to draw the attention of the Polish government to two issues.

**1.) Combatting discrimination on racial grounds and racism** is still a challenge across Europe, including in Germany. Regarding the situation in Poland, both CERD and the HR Committee expressed concerns at the prevalence of racial violence and other acts of racial abuse, as well as manifestations of anti-Semitism. The HR Committee also noted with regret the reportedly low investigation and prosecution rate.

**How does Poland intend to step up the fight against racial discrimination and violence? Does Poland intend to sign Protocol No. 12 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms?**

**2.)** With regard to **women's rights**, CESCR expressed concern about the absence of a legal framework embodying the principle of equal rights of men and women. On the issue of **abortion**, the Special Rapporteur on the right to health noted with regret that the restrictive legislation against abortion and the presence of obstacles in case of legal entitlement to abortion have increased the resort to unsafe and clandestine abortion, causing in some cases women's death.

**Germany would like to know what Poland plans to do in order to address this problem.**

I thank you Madam President.