



**United Nations Human Rights Council
14th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 22 October 2012

**German questions and recommendations to
the Czech Republic**

Rednerplatz: 7, Redezeit: 1 Minute 58 Sekunden

Madam President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of the Czech Republic to the second cycle of the UPR and commends the Czech Republic for its longstanding commitment to freedom and human rights. We appreciate the Czech Republic's commitment to implement the recommendations of the first cycle of the UPR. We would, nonetheless, like to draw the attention of the Czech government to four issues:

- 1) Germany welcomes the mandate extension of the **Agency against Social Exclusion** and its subject-related strategy for the period of 2011 to 2015 as well as the initiated housing program for emergency cases. Nonetheless, we would like to express our concern regarding the considerable national budget cuts in this field. **We would therefore like to know more about the impact on government actions for the prevention of social exclusion. Which concrete steps are being taken by the government to improve the housing situations of families with low income and the picture of social minorities in general?**

- 2) With regard to the situation of the **Roma population** in Czech Republic, the Government Commissioner for Human Rights, together with several NGOs, expressed concern about the ongoing social as well as racial discrimination and violence against this societal minority. **Germany would like to know what actions have been taken to raise awareness among the Czech population about the situation of the Roma?**

- 3) Also concerned with the integration of **Roma children** into the national education system, **Germany would like to know what government actions have been carried out in order to put the national plan for inclusive education into place and why, despite the exception contained in regulation 147/2011, there is still no lowered rate of Roma children in so-called practical schools?**

- 4) The Government Commissioner moreover addressed the **prison overcrowding** as well as insufficient counselling and reintegration programs for prisoners as key problem in Czech Republic. Germany would therefore like to know **what actions are on the government's agenda to improve the situation of the detainees.**

I thank you Madam President.