

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of Ukraine, led by, for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia as a westward neighbour of Ukraine pays a very close attention to its human rights situation and recognises country's dedication to advance its record in this area since the first review. In that context, we welcomed the ratification of CRPD and its Optional Protocol in 2010, including amendments adopted to several laws on the rights of persons with disabilities, which provided for further harmonization with CRPD and the approval of the action plan for the establishment of a barrier-free living environment for people with disabilities for 2009-2015. Slovakia takes a positive note of the standing invitation issued to the HRC Special Procedures.

Slovakia would like to present Ukraine the following recommendations:

1. to implement genuine measures ensuring truly independent judiciary, including establishing transparent procedures and criteria regarding the appointment and dismissal of judges and the use of disciplinary measures,
2. to protect and promote effectively the right to a fair trial in accordance to the internationally-established standards,
3. to adopt the National Action Plan for Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,
4. to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Courts and to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including by incorporating the provisions to cooperate fully and promptly with the ICC,
5. to consider an early ratification of the newest international HR instrument – the third OP to CRC on a communication procedure.

I thank you, Mme. President.