

Universal Periodic Review 15 – Montenegro

Intervention by the Netherlands

Mr. President,

The Netherlands would like to thank the government of Montenegro for its national report and the extensive explanation of the national human rights situation in Montenegro by mr/mrs..... today.

The Netherlands commends the government of Montenegro on its efforts to combat discrimination since the last UPR session in 2008. We are pleased with the legislative framework that has been adopted for the protection against discrimination, and the Ombudsman, established as an institutional mechanism for protection against discrimination. Good progress has been made in improving the legal and administrative framework for civil and political rights. However, discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation or gender identity is still present throughout society.

Recently, an attacker of a representative of the LGBT community in Montenegro has been convicted. We encourage the government to further promote and defend the rights of LGBT and continue to convict perpetrators. We recommend the government of Montenegro to take measures necessary to protect the rights of LGBT effectively and investigate and prosecute alleged cases of violence and discrimination against LGBT.

Secondly, the government of the Netherlands recommends the government of Montenegro to step up its efforts to investigate and prosecute old cases of violence against journalists in order to establish a better environment for press freedom on a national level.

Thank you, Mr. President.