

Serbia

Question

In 2008, Serbia agreed to adopt specific anti-discrimination legislation to ensure the equal treatment of minorities. We welcome the fact that the Serbian National Assembly adopted the general *Anti-discrimination Law* in 2009. Could the Delegation of Serbia inform us on the status of the implementation of the adopted legislation and progress achieved so far?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that Serbia:

1. Take steps to protect the right to freedom of assembly and freedom of opinion and expression, by ensuring the effective investigation and prosecution of alleged threats and violence by various non-state actors and extremist groups toward individuals and groups, including civil society organizations and individuals based on their sexual orientation.
2. Take steps to more effectively integrate Roma into Serbian society.
3. Take measures to protect the right to privacy by developing an effective system for monitoring the legality of data collection on citizens by Serbian security services and ensuring that the confidentiality of any collected information is respected.

Observations (if time allows):

We applaud Serbia for the arrest and subsequent transfer of fugitives Ratko Mladic and Goran Hadzic. This is an important demonstration of Serbia's commitment to its international obligations and the process of regional reconciliation.

We are concerned with reports about threats and violent incidents from various extremist elements against individuals, including based on their sexual orientation, and stress the importance of taking measures to protect basic freedoms for all citizen of Serbia.