

Check against delivery

**Italian intervention**

**UPR – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia  
(30/01/2014)**

Thank you, Mister President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and thanks it for its report and presentation.

Italy appreciates the progress made by the FYRoM in different areas, such as the rights of the child, the property rights and data protection. We also welcome the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.

~~Nevertheless~~ Italy notes that a number of issues need further actions.

In particular, Italy would like to propose to the FYRoM the following **recommendations**:

- to increase efforts to improve the protection of the rights of children with disabilities and their social inclusion in the education system, also by modernizing centers for social work and providing them with adequate human and financial resources;
- to fully align the national anti-discrimination legislation with the EU standards, in particular in relation to the rights of LGBTI persons;
- to enhance the efforts aimed at monitoring the accomplishment of the human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, particularly with regard to air quality and industrial pollution.

Italy is concerned about the circumstances under which a number of independent media outlets have closed down since the last UPR. In this regard, Italy **recommends** the FYRoM to re-launch the dialogue between government and media representatives, with a view to encouraging pluralism in the media and strengthening the right of everybody to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, without interference by public authority.

I thank you, Mr. President