



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

**United Nations Human Rights Council
18th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 29 January 2014

Review of Uruguay

German Statement

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of Uruguay to the UPR and commends Uruguay for its progress achieved since the last review.

Germany notes with satisfaction Uruguay's efforts in cooperating with human rights treaty bodies, as well as its willingness to engage in a dialogue with civil society organizations. We particularly welcome the appointment by Congress of the Board of Directors of the National Human Rights Institution and encourage Uruguay to use this institution to further enhance its human rights efforts.

Germany remains particularly concerned about trafficking in women and girls as well as about deficiencies within the penal system and therefore wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. With reference to Germany's prior recommendation to Uruguay in its first Review, we recommend that the Government of Uruguay continues to implement adequate measures to fight trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation as well as adequate measures to fight violence against women, including providing assistance and redress for victims of both crimes.
2. Germany recommends to the Government of Uruguay to strengthen its efforts to reform its penal system, including seeking alternatives to pre-trial detention and ensuring that its system of juvenile detention is in line with its human rights obligations.
3. Finally, Germany recommends that the Government of Uruguay strengthens its efforts to reform its criminal procedure law in order to guarantee a fair and timely legal process.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Germany has submitted the following advance questions:

1. According to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights domestic violence continues to be a matter of concern in Uruguay. What steps is the Government of Uruguay taking to implement the Committee's recommendation, such as enforcing existing legislation and ensuring psychosocial support and access to shelters for victims?
2. Germany recognizes the progress achieved in improving access to education, particularly nursery education. Nevertheless, according to UNESCO and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, further steps could be taken in order to improve social inclusion within the national education system and in improving the quality of primary and secondary education. Therefore: What steps is the Government of Uruguay taking to improve access to and the quality of education and to reduce school drop-out rates, particularly in secondary education?