

Check against delivery

UPR of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Statement by Poland
28 January 2014, Geneva

Mr. President,

Poland would like to thank the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for its informative national report and its engagement into the UPR process.

We would like to commend the Government of Vietnam for ongoing attempts to comply with international obligations including with the 2009 UPR recommendations.

Nonetheless, we **would like to recommend further strengthening the cooperation with human rights mechanisms, improving compliance with treaty body reporting mechanisms, and considering accession to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)**. It would also be important for Vietnam to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as soon as possible.

We remain concerned about the situation of human rights defenders, religious and ethnic minorities in Vietnam. **We encourage the Government of Vietnam to create conditions favorable to the realization of freedom of expression, both online and offline, freedom of association, freedom of religion and of belief.**

Finally, we **recommend** that Vietnam ~~should~~ strengthen the national system of investigating complaints of child abuse and neglect, eliminate violence against children, and establish policies to protect children from all forms violence.

Thank you for your attention.