



**Universal Periodic Review of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, 5 February 2014
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to its second UPR.

While acknowledging Vietnam's progress in some aspects compared to the previous UPR cycle, such as the recent signing of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), Estonia notes deficiencies in ensuring the enjoyment of the basic civil and political rights. We further regret to observe that the death penalty is still in use and executions have re-commenced in mid-2013.

Estonia would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Vietnam:

- 1) to establish a moratorium on death penalty with the view of becoming a party to the 2nd Optional Protocol (abolition of the death penalty) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and to continue efforts to uphold all international human rights standards, including civil and political rights;
- 2) to ratify the Rome Statute;
- 3) to undertake measures enabling unrestricted access and use of the Internet to all citizens and to undertake measures to guarantee the freedom of opinion and expression to everyone as well as the freedom of press and media in the country.

We would like to wish the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam a successful review meeting.

Thank you!