

NORWAY under UPR/UPR 19th Session
(Geneva, 28.04-09.05.14)

Eugenia Beniatoglou
1st Secretary
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Questions-Recommendations by Greece

Thank you M. President,

Greece would like to welcome the delegation of Norway to the 19th session of the UPR Working Group headed by H.E. We express our deep appreciation for the country's efforts to implement most of the recommendations of the first cycle and welcome the many positive and significant developments in the country.

We have the following questions and recommendations:

1. We recognize Norway's role in the promotion and protection of human rights. However, according to the Human Rights Committee, there is a persistence of hate speech against the Sami people, and xenophobic, anti-Semitic and Islamophobic statements. We would like to receive more information from the delegation regarding action to fight hate speech. **We recommend** that Norway intensify efforts in the fight against hate speech and train law enforcement officials in this respect.
2. We would like to express concern regarding the fact that Norway's NHRI was downgraded. **We recommend** that Norway re-establish the NHRI as a vital, clearly independent institution with a strong mandate and sufficient capacity and resources to strengthen implementation of human rights in the country.
3. Finally, **we recommend** that Norway intensify efforts to prevent discrimination against ethnic groups and combat discrimination against persons from immigrant backgrounds.

Thank you M. President