

El Salvador

Question

In 2009, El Salvador agreed to develop a coordinated national strategy to ensure the protection of all human rights and civil liberties. Could the Delegation of El Salvador provide an update on the development of this national strategy, including benchmarks and timelines?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that El Salvador:

1. Take measures to further improve enforcement of existing laws criminalizing rape and domestic violence, including by thoroughly investigating and prosecuting all acts of violence against women, and providing targeted training and capacity building to law enforcement officials.
2. Improve detention conditions of minor offenders, including better protection against institutional violence, and promote access to education and rehabilitation programs, to ensure future reintegration in society and full respect of their rights.
3. Bring its legislation into conformity with its commitment to equality and non-discrimination, by prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Observations (if time allows):

Canada welcomes steps taken by El Salvador to address violence against women by establishing a national legal framework to address women's rights and prevent gender-based violence. We also welcome efforts to improve the implementation of national programs aimed at fostering children's rights. However, Canada remains concerned by the existing high level of violence directed at children and stresses the importance for the government to take measures to improve protection of children against violence.