



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
20th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 30.10.2014

**German recommendations to
Kazakhstan**

German National Statement

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of Kazakhstan and takes note with appreciation of the various efforts made to improve its human rights record. Germany commends the endeavors of an inter-religious dialogue, and the constructive cooperation with international organizations and actors. Nevertheless, Germany remains concerned about a number of issues and would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. Abolish the **death penalty** and ratify the second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR
2. Establish an independent investigation mechanisms to effectively prevent **torture and ill-treatment** in detention, train personnel and guarantee effective legal representation and remedies for detainees
3. Extend the mandate of the **ombudsman for human rights** in accordance with article 2 of the Paris Principles and guarantee its independence
4. Abolish the requirement of **mandatory registrations** and memberships in umbrella associations and trade unions
5. Guarantee **freedom of religion and belief** by abolishing the mandatory registration for religious groups, and ensure that the 2011 religion law is in conformity with international human rights standards
6. Remove the restrictions on **freedom of assembly**, repeal article 10 of the Law on Freedom of Assembly and ensure the laws and regulations on demonstrations are in conformity with Kazakhstan's international human rights obligations on freedom of assembly

Thank you, Mr. President.