



**UPR October 30, 2014
Recommendations by Canada for Kazakhstan's UPR**

Question

In 2010, the Republic of Kazakhstan accepted Canada's recommendation to discontinue the use of judicial action against journalists and media outlets, including the filing of civil and criminal libel suits. Could the Delegation of Kazakhstan inform us about the steps and measures undertaken to implement this recommendation?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that the Republic of Kazakhstan:

1. Take steps to further strengthen the impartiality and independence of the judiciary by implementing existing judicial procedures, and by promptly and thoroughly investigating any allegations or complaints of corruption in its courts.
2. Review legislation which impacts on the exercise of the right to freedom of religion and belief, and review the implementation of this legislation, in order to ensure consistency with Kazakhstan's international human rights obligations.
3. Enact specific legislation that prohibits discrimination against women and on the basis of sexual orientation, and develop a system through which all individuals can safely report cases of discrimination and access avenues of redress.

Observations (if time allows):

Canada welcomes the progress made by the Republic of Kazakhstan in combatting the trafficking of women for the purpose of sexual exploitation, and in combatting trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, including measures taken by Kazakhstan to strengthen existing legislation pertaining to victims of human trafficking, and the successful conviction of perpetrators of such offences.

We stress the importance of the Government of Kazakhstan's continuing efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including preventive strategies, the successful prosecution of offenders, and the protection and rehabilitation of victims.