



REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

21

UPR Working Group
20th Session
Universal Periodic Review of Slovenia

**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
Delivered by H.E. Victor Moraru, Ambassador, Permanent Representative**

(Geneva, 4 November 2014)

Mr. President,

My delegation welcomes the distinguished Slovenian delegation to the UPR Working Group.

The Republic of Moldova commends Slovenia for the actions undertaken since the first review to strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks for the protection of human rights.

We particularly recognize the amendments to the Criminal Code, the provisions of the new Aliens Act and the adoption of strategic documents in the areas of education, children, youth and combating domestic violence. In this context, we invite the Slovenian delegation to elaborate on the effects of applying the upgraded police restraining orders, in accordance with the new *Police Tasks and Powers Act*, on the protection of victims of domestic violence.

We also note with appreciation the numerous steps taken by the Slovenian authorities to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings, including by appointing a National Coordinator, implementing the Action Plans of the thematic Intergovernmental Working Group and conducting a number of prevention events and projects.

While recognizing the progress achieved in this area, we share the view of regional human rights mechanisms that further actions are required to fully integrate a victim-centered approach, by ensuring that access to assistance for victims of trafficking is not made conditional on their participation in criminal proceedings.

Bearing in mind this issue, we recommend Slovenia *to further provide protection to victims of trafficking in human beings, on the basis of a human rights-based approach, and ensure that they are systematically informed on the possibility of a recovery and reflection period.*

I thank you, Mr. President.