

21st session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group  
(19 -30 January 2015)

Statement by Portugal

**Spain**

Mr. President,

Let me start by welcoming the delegation of Spain and thank for the presentation of the comprehensive national UPR report. This report demonstrates the commitment of Spain to the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the first cycle of the UPR.

Portugal welcomes the improvements introduced by Spain in its institutional framework and recommends Spain also considers establishing an inter-ministerial committee responsible for the implementation of its international human rights obligations, inter alia, for coordinating the drafting of the national reports to the Treaty Bodies and for organizing country visits by the Council's Special Procedures.

Portugal welcomes Spain's determination in combating violence against women, including domestic violence, and in promoting gender equality. The adoption of the National Strategy for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2013-2016 is a clear indication of this commitment.

Portugal further recommends that Spain considers developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by the OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies.

In closing, Portugal recommends Spain accedes to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Thank you, Mr President.