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**UPR21/Spain**  
**Statement by Slovakia**  
21 January 2015

Mr President,

Slovakia commends Spain for the efforts undertaken since the first UPR cycle, including the ratification of several international instruments as well as legislative and institutional measures to strengthen human rights protection at national level.

We particularly acknowledge efforts to eliminate gender discrimination and fight against trafficking in human beings. Slovakia encourages Spain to implement the Strategic Plan for Equality of Opportunity 2014-2016 through specific action plans.

Slovakia welcomes the initiatives to strengthen institutional framework to combat discrimination, racism and xenophobia, in particular the creation of Hate Crimes and Discrimination Departments in all provincial prosecution offices. In this connection we would be interested to hear more about trainings of prosecutors who work in the field of fight against racism and racial discrimination.

Slovakia would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Spain:

- 1. Ensure the effective training of the judicial bodies in charge of investigating cases of gender-based violence.**
- 2. Consider the adoption of a comprehensive policy to address forced evictions of owners who can no longer pay their mortgages.**

Thank you.