



**Universal Periodical Review of the United States of America
11 May 2015
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia very warmly welcomes the high level delegation of the United States of America to the UPR's 22nd session. We thank USA for their work in preparing the report presented earlier and also for the additional information given in the opening speech. We are glad to note that as a result of the extensive dialogue with representatives of civil society and various other stakeholders, the authorities have prepared a detailed national report, which objectively and truthfully reflects the human rights situation in the country.

Estonia encourages USA to continue with incorporating of all the main international human rights instruments, including by issuing the standing invitation.

We welcome the USA's efforts in assisting human trafficking victims by developing the first-ever Government-wide strategic action plan to strengthen services for traffic victims.

Estonia commends the USA's domestic initiatives to increase health coverage options and welcomes further efforts to expand access to health care to all citizens. We would like to commend the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, under which unaccompanied children were provided with a temporary permit to remain in the United States.

Estonia notes with appreciation that the USA's government agencies are moving ahead with the implementation of the USA's National Action Plan of the UNSCR 1325.

Estonia would like to **recommend** to the Government of the United States of America:

- To ratify and implement into domestic law the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (**CRC**), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (**CRPD**)
- To ratify the Optional Protocol to CAT (**OP-CAT**) and take swift measures to ensure the human rights of convicts and persons in custody
- To impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide, and that prosecutors in all jurisdictions cease pursuing death sentences

Finally, Estonia very warmly notes the USA's active participation in the Freedom Online Coalition in global fora. We commend the leadership of the USA in promotion and protection of the right to freedom of expression online and offline.

Thank you!