

Universal Periodical Review of the Republic of Austria
9 November 2015
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Austria.

Since the last review, Austria has made progress in many human rights areas and implemented most of the recommendations e.g. ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (**OP-CAT**), as well as withdrawal of the reservation to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.

We commend Austrian authorities for the successful implementation of the gender equality policy; the increase in women's participation in the federal civil service and as judges and prosecutors has been significant.

While acknowledging that providing equal opportunities for both genders is ongoing process, Estonia would like to recommend continuing efforts in ensuring gender equality in all the spheres of the society, including making efforts to narrow the gender pay gap.

Finally, Estonia very warmly notes Austria's active participation in the Freedom Online Coalition in global fora.

We would like to wish the delegation of Austria a successful review meeting.

Thank you!