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ICELAND

Statement by Mr. Martin Eyjólfsson



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Iceland warmly welcomes the Austrian delegation and appreciates their constructive engagement and effective measures taken since the 2011 UPR cycle.

In particular we take positive note of the work done by Austria concerning the establishment of a comprehensive system of data collection on criminal acts motivated by racism. However, my Delegation believes that further steps should be taken to ensure independent investigation and monitoring on the use of excessive force by law enforcement officials.

On the rights of LGBT persons we are pleased to note the decision of the Austrian Constitutional Court to allow joint adoption by same-sex partners. At the same time, however, we regret the vote of the National Assembly of Austria against same sex marriages earlier this year.

Iceland recommends to Austria the following:

1. Ensure that police investigations are carried out in an impartial and non-discriminatory manner and not based on ethnic profiling.
2. Establish a comprehensive system for recording and monitoring racist crimes committed in Austria



3. Ensure the equal rights of people by legally recognizing same-sex marriage.