

Mw. JERZY BAURSKI  
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**UPR of Latvia**  
**Statement by the Republic of Poland**  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2016, Geneva

Mr. President,

Poland would like to thank the delegation of Latvia for comprehensive national report, and ~~its active participation in the second cycle of the UPR process.~~

We welcome efforts of Latvia undertaken to comply with the recommendations accepted during the first cycle of UPR, in particular we acknowledge Latvia's progress in the development of a legal and institutional framework for the protection of national minorities. At this point I would like to thank for ensuring good environment for polish minority in Latvia, including education and cultural opportunities and freedom of association.

However, the Polish delegation would like to present the following recommendations to the Government of the Republic of Latvia:

- **to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT);**
- **to strengthen existing law and practice to counteract trafficking in human beings for sexual and labour exploitation, particularly of young women;**
- **to engage a civil society in the follow-up implementation process of the UPR recommendations.**

Thank you for your attention.