



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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**UPR of LATVIA**

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Latvia for their presentation. We acknowledge the high level of respect for human rights upheld by Latvia and welcome information on positive developments since its first review. We welcome in particular the training of the police in non-discrimination and in combatting hate crime, temporary protection measures against domestic violence, and progress regarding women's participation in decision-making.

Nonetheless, gender pay gap remains an issue that needs to be tackled. We also regret reports that detention of asylum seekers may have become the norm. We note with concern that even children are not exempted from detention, except for unaccompanied minors, and that Latvia's interpretation of grounds for detention may not be in line with international standards.

With regard to these issues, we offer the following two **recommendations**:

- Develop a national action plan with concrete goals to tackle the gender pay gap;
- Develop an adequate identification mechanism for vulnerable persons and grant free legal aid from the beginning of the asylum procedure.

Thank you.