



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

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UPR of ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Mr. President,

Slovenia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Antigua and Barbuda and thanks them for their presentation. We also appreciate the answers to our advance questions.

We welcome a number of positive developments in the country since its first review; among other the decriminalization of libel, abolishing legal distinctions between children on the basis of their parents' marital status, the adoption of a national action plan to end gender-based violence, and the organization of campaigns to raise awareness about violence against women. We also commend Antigua and Barbuda for having ratified the CRPD, as per our past recommendation.

On the other hand, we note that there is no systemized approach to implementing the country's human rights obligations and commitments, no gender policy, and no policy against child sexual abuse. We also regret that the Sexual Offence Act 1993 criminalizes sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex, but does not acknowledge marital rape.

We offer the following **recommendations** for the consideration of Antigua and Barbuda:

- Decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex;
- Criminalize marital rape;
- Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its full abolition;
- Allow abortion, especially in cases where the pregnancy involves a risk to the life or health of the pregnant women, or is the result of rape or incest;
- Ensure comprehensive sexuality education with a view to preventing teen pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted infections, in particular HIV.

We also reiterate our past **recommendation** no. 69.9<sup>1</sup>.

Finally, we wish the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda every success in the UPR and in their efforts to strengthen human rights protection in the country.

Thank you.

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<sup>1</sup> 69.9. Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings (Slovenia).