



UPR 25th session

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**Statement by Sweden in the interactive dialogue on Hungary**

*Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Veronika Bard  
Geneva, May 4, 2016 (speaking time 1 min 20 sec)*

Mr President,

Sweden wishes to welcome the delegation of Hungary.

Sweden welcomes that the Government of Hungary has cooperated, and pursued a dialogue with international bodies that have examined its human rights performance.

**Sweden recommends the Government of Hungary:**

- 1) To take concrete measures to ensure the independence of the Constitutional Court and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and that political pressure is not being applied to judicial decision-making.
- 2) To take all steps necessary to ensure that the right to seek asylum is guaranteed for asylum seekers coming to Hungary and that the principle of non-refoulement is respected.
- 3) To remedy the shortcomings in the media law as expressed by the Venice Commission.

Since 2010, the ruling party has made major changes to the country's legal framework that have gradually removed checks on the executive branch, and increased government control over the judiciary, the media, and other spheres of public life, directly or indirectly affecting human rights.

According to the Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner, the current asylum law and practice in Hungary are not in compliance with international and European human rights standards.

I thank you Mr. President