



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

*Delivered by Dr Jannie Lilja, First Secretary  
Geneva, May 6, 2016 (1 min 40 secs)*

Mr President,

Sweden wishes to welcome the delegation of Tajikistan and express our thanks for the information provided in response to our advance questions.

**Sweden recommends the Government of Tajikistan:**

- 1) To include domestic violence as a specific crime in the criminal code.
- 2) To enforce the prohibition of all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the domestic sphere and in care settings.
- 3) To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OP-CAT) and establish an effective National Preventive Mechanism. In the meantime, unimpeded access to all places of detention should be granted to independent civil society organisation working to prevent torture in Tajikistan.

A new law on the Prevention of Violence in the Family entered into force in March 2013. However, domestic violence is still not included as a crime in the criminal code.

Tajikistan accepted the UPR recommendations in 2011 to prohibit all corporal punishment of children. Yet, more can be done to ensure effective enforcement.

Tajikistan is party to the Convention against Torture since 1995, and has taken positive steps to bring the criminal code's definition of torture in line with international law. However, torture reportedly remains widespread in the criminal justice system.

Thank you Mr. President