**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO RUSSIAN FEDERATION**Generated on 10 Nov 2023 15:06

**BELGIUM**

* How will the Russian Federation ensure effective, impartial and transparent investigations of all cases of arbitrary arrest, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, enforced disappearances and unlawful killings by the Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups, and bring those responsible to account?
* What steps will the Russian Federation take to eliminate the arbitrary use of laws that limit civic space, political dissent and the right to freedom of expression and of association? Will the government review these legislations to ensure its clarity and foreseeability?
* What actions will the Russian Federation take to ensure that all children deported from Ukraine return to their parents or guardians? Is the government prepared to ensure unhindered access for international human rights and humanitarian organizations to actively facilitate these returns and to create a commission of inquiry to transparently investigate these deportations?
* What concrete steps is the Russian Federation taking to comply fully with its obligation under international law to respect the judgments adopted by the European Court of Human Rights regarding Russia? Which measures will be taken to execute these judgments? What comprehensive steps will the Russian Federation take to ensure judicial independence in the Russian Federation?
* Will the Russian Federation repeal legislation penalizing LGBTQI+ individuals, such as the "propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations and (or) preferences, sex change," and amend the Criminal Code to ensure that rape and sexual crimes are based on the lack of free consent and take into account coercive circumstances?

**CANADA**

* Since February 24, 2022, how many children transferred from the territory of Ukraine to Russia have been legally adopted by families in Russia?
* Since February 24, 2022, how many children transferred from the territory of Ukraine to Russia have been placed under the guardianship of families in Russia?
* Since February 24, 2022, how many unaccompanied children transferred from the territory of Ukraine to Russia have been granted Russian citizenship?
* Since February 24, 2022, how many children transferred from the territory of Ukraine to Russia have been returned to their legal guardians or the Ukrainian authorities?

**GERMANY**

* Could the Russian Federation clarify the legal definition of the term “foreign influence” as used in the law on foreign agents since 2022, as well as its scope?
* Could the Russian Federation describe and explain the measures it took to investigate allegations of torture and inhuman treatment of people in state custody?
* How does the Russian Federation define the legal terms of “participation” and “activities” as included in its criminal code through Federal Law No. 413-FZ?
* How does the Russian Federation ensure the full legal rights, including physical integrity, of prisoners and people in pre-trial detention, including in Chechnya?
* Does Russia intend to reengage with the Human Rights Committee in order to fulfill its legally binding treaty body obligations?

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to ratify the Rome Statute in its 2010 version?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT)?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken towards the full and legal abolition of the death penalty?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to join the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as elaborated by the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group (ACT)?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to ratify the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to implement the recommendations made in the report 54/54 of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation, Mariana Katzarova?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to comply with the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice on 16 March 2022 regarding the Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention of the Crime of Genocide?
* What steps has the Russian Federation taken to implement the recommendations made in the Report on Russia’s Legal and Administrative Practice in Light of its OSCE Human Dimension Commitments of 22 September 2022 which was mandated under the OSCE Moscow Mechanism?

**PANAMA**

* Is the Russian Federation considering ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness?
* What steps have been taken by the Russian Federation to promote the rights of persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community, as well as to recognize the full legal capacity of all persons with all types of disability, including persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities?
* What measures are being implemented by Russian Federation to increase the participation, representation and leadership of women in political, economic and public life, including in decision-making processes, in order to achieve SDG target 5.5?

**PORTUGAL**

* Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRFs (National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up):

Could the State-under-review describe its national mechanism or process responsible for coordinating the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the monitoring of progress and impact?
* Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRFs (National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up):

Has the State-under-review established a dedicated ‘national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up’ (NMIRF) covering UPR recommendations, but also recommendations/observations generated by the UN human rights Treaty Bodies, the Special Procedures and relevant regional mechanisms, which, inter alia, clusters all the above, manages them in national databases, coordinates implementation actions across government, monitors progress and impact, and then streamline reporting procedures back to the UN? If so, could the State-under-review briefly share its experience on creating such mechanism, including challenges faced and lessons learnt, as well as any plans or needs to strengthen the NMIRF in the future?

**SLOVENIA**

* What measures are in place to combat ageism and eliminate age discrimination in all its forms, and to protect the human rights of older persons?

**SPAIN**

* Which measures is the Government considering to put an end to arbitrary detentions of members of opposition political parties and human rights defenders?
* When is the government planning to abolish death penalty?
* Which measures is the Government considering to prevent torture and other human rights violations in prisons and detention centers?

**SWEDEN**

* How will the Government of the Russian Federation implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Russia?

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

* What steps is the Government of Russia taking to facilitate the reunification of Ukrainian children that they have forcibly transferred or deported to the temporarily Russian-controlled territories of Ukraine or to the Russian Federation, with their parents or legal guardians?
* How does the violence towards and harassment of lawyers and their unjust prosecution comply with the Russian Federation’s international obligations to protect lawyers and their role in the fair administration of justice?
* How will the Government of Russia address the prohibitively hostile legal framework in Russia, which makes it almost impossible for civil society and non-government-controlled media to operate and undermines an essential condition for free and fair elections?
* What steps will the Government of Russia take to end law enforcement harassment, intimidation and violence against women, including those arrested for anti-war activism?
* Will the Government of Russia outline how it will ensure that the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation can effectively exercise her responsibilities?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* Russian authorities are committing a wide range of war-related human rights violations and abuses, including the forcible deportation of Ukrainian civilians, including children, to Russia, and the detention of thousands of Ukrainian civilians without just cause. What action is Russia taking to facilitate the return of Ukrainian civilians, in particular children, who have been forcibly deported from Ukraine by Russia?
* Since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, authorities have increasingly punished the expression of dissenting views, including peaceful anti-war expression, with violent crackdowns, censorship, and politically motivated criminal charges. What steps is the Russian government taking to restore freedom of expression and assembly, as required by Russia’s constitution and international human rights instruments?
* During the same period, authorities have forced the closure or exile of nearly all independent media outlets operating in Russia, state censors have blocked wide swaths of independent information online, and authorities have punished independent reporting and commentary in the press with politically motivated criminal charges. American journalist Evan Gershkovich has been detained since March on fictional charges for providing factual reporting. What steps is the Russian government taking to restore the Russian public’s free access to information and create space for a pluralistic media environment?
* We are troubled by continuing widespread reports of torture and other ill-treatment by Russian law enforcement, particularly in places of detention, as documented by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation. How are these allegations being investigated? What measures have been put in place to address this systemic problem and comply with Russia’s obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
* The United States is concerned by Russia's targeted harassment and spurious prosecution of human rights organizations and individual human rights defenders, including internationally respected nongovernmental organizations. How can authorities remedy these harmful actions and protect human rights defenders?
* We are concerned about reports that the government unjustly imprisons, tortures, and raids the properties of persons because of their religious identity, practice, or affiliation. The government also designates religious minority groups as “extremist,” “terrorist,” or “undesirable” without any credible evidence of violent actions or intentions. What measures is the government taking to limit the definition of “extremism” and “violent extremism” to allow the peaceful free exercise of freedom of religion or belief?