**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO UZBEKISTAN**Generated on 07 Nov 2023 14:39

**BELGIUM**

* Is the government of Uzbekistan considering ratifying the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communication procedure as well as the ILO Conventions on Domestic Workers (189) and on Violence and Harassment (190)?
* We welcome the fact that a standing invitation has been issued to the Special Procedures. Is Uzbekistan considering to respond positively to the outstanding requests of Special Rapporteurs to visit the country and facilitate their visits by the end of 2024?
* What measures has the government of Uzbekistan taken to address the concerns of the Committee against Torture regarding the independence of the Judiciary? Will the government take additional measures to ensure full independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the judiciary?
* Will the government take measures to effectively protect the rights of LGBTQI+ persons, including from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence and stigma, and by conducting awareness-raising activities to promote respect for diversity among the general public? Will the government decriminalize consensual same-sex relationships between adult men?
* What concrete measures will the government take to ensure that all victims of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, have access to medical and legal services, including counselling, redress and rehabilitation, as well as to shelters throughout the country? Will the government take appropriate legal and policy measures to address this issue?

**CANADA**

* When will authorities publicly release the findings of the investigation by Uzbekistan’s Ombudswoman into the treatment of demonstrators during the July 2022 events in Karakalpakstan?

**GERMANY**

* Germany welcomes the legislative reforms in terms of human rights, such as women’s rights and freedom of expression and of the press. What measures are envisaged to put these reforms into effect and what measures are taken to monitor the implementation?

• What measures are envisaged to implement the right to freedom of association as enshrined in relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and to implement the ILO “Better Work Programme”?

• What measures are planned with regard to the protection of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment?

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

* What steps has Uzbekistan taken to ratify the Rome Statute in its 2010 version?
* What steps has Uzbekistan taken to ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT)?
* What steps has Uzbekistan taken to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure?
* What steps has Uzbekistan 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 Uzbekistan 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?
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**PANAMA**

* What measures are being implemented by Uzbekistan to ensure the prohibition of all corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment in alternative care settings, day care and schools?
* What steps have been taken by Uzbekistan to address the high dropout rates among girls in secondary education, attributable to early pregnancies and child marriage?
* What initiatives are put in place by Uzbekistan to increase the availability and accessibility of mental health services for all?

**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 of Uzbekistan taking to foster media freedom?
* Which legal measures will the Government of Uzbekistan adopt in order to prevent the discrimination of LGTBI people?
* What initiatives will the Government of Uzbekistan take to investigate alleged human rights violations during the mass protests in the Republic of Karakalpakstan in July 2022?

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

* What steps and measures is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to provide an open and transparent investigation into the protests in Karakalpakstan in July 2022?
* What steps is the Government taking to enhance oversight of detention sites by national, international and civil society bodies to help prevent ill treatment and torture in custody as per Article 26 of the constitution? During Uzbekistan’s previous UPR it committed to signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol on Convention Against Torture. When does the government expect to carry out this commitment?
* Can the Government clarify what steps it is taking to uphold freedom of religious belief in public places?
* How is the Government protecting journalists and the media from undue interference and harassment?
* Will Uzbekistan revise its Criminal Code provisions related to “extremism”, “terrorism” and national security as recommended in the report of Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism?
* What steps is Uzbekistan taking to halt the practice of ‘forced testing’ in order to pursue convictions relating to Article 120 of the Criminal Code? Will the government consider repealing Article 120 of the Criminal Code which criminalises consensual same sex relationships?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* Robust free media is essential to democratic societies. What actions is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to prevent the intimidation and arbitrary arrest or detention of journalists and bloggers by law enforcement on spurious accusations of participating in corrupt activities, or other baseless charges?
* What measures is the government taking to address reports of violence, discrimination, and police harassment toward LGBTQI+ persons in Uzbekistan, including the practices of forced anal exams, compulsory testing for HIV, and government requirements that health-care providers report to law enforcement LGBTQI+ persons who test positive for HIV?
* Article 120 of Uzbekistan’s Penal Code criminalizes homosexuality. What steps is Uzbekistan taking to decriminalize same-sex sexual relations?
* Is Uzbekistan considering narrowing the definition of extremism in its criminal code to violent extremism so as not to infringe on the freedoms of religion or belief, expression, or peaceful assembly and association?
* What steps has the Government of Uzbekistan taken following allegations its law enforcement used excessive force, extrajudicial killings, and torture on civilians in response to the July 2022 unrest in Karakalpakstan? Will the Government of Uzbekistan release a detailed explanation of the unrest and the findings of the subsequent investigation? Does the government anticipate further accountability for any security forces alleged to have used excessive force?