**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SLOVAKIA**Generated on 02 May 2024 15:27

**BELGIUM**

* Is the government of Slovakia considering ratifying the ILO Convention on Domestic Workers (189) and on Violence and Harassment (190)?
* Will the government of Slovakia reinitiate the ratification process of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and, in the meantime, align its national legislation and practices with this Convention?
* Will the government of Slovakia review its legislation on abortion to ensure that women have access to legal abortion health services and to remove legislative and non-legislative barriers to access to abortion?
* What actions has the government of Slovakia taken to address the concerns raised by the CERD Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the CEDAW Committee regarding discrimination and hate speech based on race, gender, and sexual orientation? Will Slovakia guarantee the enforcement of legal prohibitions against hate crimes and hate speech, and ensure thorough investigations and prosecutions of all incidents of hate speech and hate crimes?
* Will the government of Slovakia adopt legislative measures aimed at increasing the safety of journalist and media freedom, including by abolishing the crime of defamation?

**CANADA**

* What is the status of implementation of the Slovak Republic’s National Strategy for Equality, Inclusion and Participation of Roma until 2030 and the related action plans, and how are these addressing discrimination against Roma people and their segregation in housing, education and healthcare?
* How is Slovakia supporting the work and implementing the recommendations of its four official bodies for the protection of human rights, namely the Public Defender of Rights, the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights, the Commissioner for Children, and the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities?
* What progress has Slovakia made to address discrimination and targeted violence, including on grounds of gender and ethnicity?

**GERMANY**

* What steps is Slovakia taking in order to facilitate more participation of civil society in human rights matters? Why was there no participatory consultation process in establishing the National Human Rights Report (as opposed to previous occasions)?
* Will the government continue to provide adequate funding to the Office of the Public Defender of Human Rights and the National Centre for Human Rights so they will be able to fulfill their mandates?

**PORTUGAL**

* Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends of the NMIRF: 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 of the NMIRF: 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 specific measures does the government of Slovakia plan to put in place to prevent gender violence?
* Has the government taken any measures in relation to the legal recognition of same-sex marriage?
* In regards to the future legal reform of public broadcasting, what measures does the government of Slovakia plan to enact in order to ensure media freedom, as well as transparency and objectivity of information through public media?

**SWEDEN**

* What measures has the Government of the Slovak Republic taken to ensure that the media law now being debated in parliament will not infringe on the independence of media?
* What measures is Government taking to end discriminatory practices against Roma, especially in education and healthcare?

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

* What measures is Slovakia taking to prevent and deal with threats and harassment of journalists, including physical attacks?
* What steps are being taken to promote freedom of expression, including promoting plurality in the media?
* How does the Government intend to eliminate segregation in education, including the existence of separate schools and classrooms for children of Roma origin?
* What plans does the Government have to adopt a strategic document setting framework measures to improve protection of LGBT+ people, including measures to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity?

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

* The United States is concerned about legislation passed in February that eliminated the Special Prosecutor’s Office and reduced both the penalties and the statute of limitations for corruption. What steps is the government taking to ensure amendments to the criminal code align with Slovakia’s commitment to safeguard the independence of the justice system, increase accountability, and continue to make progress in addressing corruption?
* What steps is the government taking to safeguard the legal protections and wellbeing of LGBTQI+ individuals in response to a recent increase in hostile rhetoric and attacks, including the October 2022 attack in front of LGBTQI+-friendly bar Teplaren as well as attempts to further restrict enjoyment of rights of LGBTQI+ individuals?
* What steps is the government taking to counter hateful rhetoric toward LGBTQI+ individuals, provide legal recognition for same sex couples, end the requirement that individuals seeking legal gender recognition undergo permanent sterilization, and ensure access to specialized health care for transgender persons?
* The United States commends Slovakia on 2023 amendments to the education law that support inclusive education for children from marginalized groups. However, Romani children still face systemic discrimination and segregation in the Slovak education system. What further steps is the government taking to promote and ensure the inclusion and integration of Romani children in mainstream education?

**URUGUAY**

* Uruguay felicita a Eslovaquia por la aprobación de la estrategia para la Equidad de Género e Igualdad de Oportunidades 221- 2027 y su Plan de Acción, y el Plan Nacional de Acción para la Prevención y Eliminación de la Violencia contra la Mujer 2022- 2027.
  Alentados por ello, Uruguay recomienda:
   Redoblar esfuerzos para concientizar sobre los estereotipos discriminatorios relativos a las funciones sociales y familiares de mujeres y hombres en Eslovaquia, a fin de alcanzar una igualdad de género efectiva en la sociedad.
* Valoramos positivamente la elaboración de un Plan de Acción para Proteger los Derechos de las Personas Pertenecientes a Minorías Nacionales y Grupos Étnicos para 2016-2020. En este sentido, Uruguay reitera su recomendación de:
   Continuar adoptando políticas encaminadas a incluir representantes de esas minorías en los distintos niveles del gobierno nacional y local.
   Continuar implementando medidas para realizar un seguimiento a los niños pertenecientes a minorías a fin de asegurarse de que permanezcan en el sistema educativo, valorando altamente las medidas ya adoptadas para proporcionar instrucción en idiomas que no sean el eslovaco.