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**Human Rights Council**

**Fifty-eighth session**

24 February – 4 April 2025

Agenda item 6

**Universal periodic review**

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Albania

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-seventh session from 4 to 15 November 2024. The review of Albania was held at the 2nd meeting, on 4 November 2024. The delegation of Albania was headed by the Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ms. Megi Fino. At its 10th meeting, held on 8 November 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on Albania.

2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Albania: Bulgaria, Ghana and Japan.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Albania:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);[[1]](#footnote-2)

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);[[2]](#footnote-3)

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).[[3]](#footnote-4)

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up’, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America was transmitted to Albania through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 22 November 2024]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 79 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by Albania, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council:**

6.1 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Côte d’Ivoire);**

6.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**

6.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ghana);**

6.4 **Expedite and accomplish the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Montenegro);**

6.5 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and repeal legislation allowing for the deprivation of liberty, forced hospitalisation and forced treatment of persons with disabilities (Spain);**

6.6 **Consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention 2011 (Malawi);**

6.7 **Consider acceding to the International Convention against Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries (Armenia);**

6.8 **Ratify the amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (Liechtenstein);**

6.9 **Fully implement the reform of the judicial system, also in the context of the Albanian accession to the European Union (Italy);**

6.10 **Consider ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on the Avoidance of Statelessness in relation to state succession (Republic of Moldova);**

6.11 **Strengthen human rights commitments and align domestic laws and procedures with international law (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.12 **Refrain from initiating or joining unilateral coercive measures that have a negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights (Belarus);**

6.13 **Appoint a new Ombudsperson and a new Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination as soon as possible, taken into account the end of previous mandates (Chile);**

6.14 **Initiate the corresponding actions for the appointment of the Ombudsperson and the commissioner for protection against discrimination, while guaranteeing the independence of their functions (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.15 **Fill the positions of People’s Advocate and Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination (Luxembourg);**

6.16 **Appoint the head of the National Human Rights Institution without delay and strengthen its oversight role, including by ensuring adequate human and financial resources and the implementation of the NHRI’s recommendations (Liechtenstein);**

6.17 **Provide adequate human and financial resources to strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Institution and ensure effective implementation of its recommendations (Kazakhstan);**

6.18 **Guarantee the independence of the national human rights institution and allocate sufficient human and financial resources to strengthen its capacity and to ensure the effective implementation of its recommendations (Switzerland);**

6.19 **Continue strengthening the NHRI-People’s Advocate- in line with the Paris Principles (Nepal);**

6.20 **Increase the budgetary resources allocated to the Ombudsman to enable it to carry out its mission in good conditions (Morocco);**

6.21 **Empower the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination to promote the full implementation of the anti-discrimination and the anti-hate speech legislation, and ensure effective legal remedies for victims (Gambia);**

6.22 **Establish a permanent National Mechanism for the Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up of Human Rights Recommendations and consider the possibility of receiving cooperation assistance for this purpose (Paraguay);**

6.23 **Fully implement anti-discrimination and anti-hate speech legislation, ensuring that all incidents of hate speech are prosecuted (Brazil);**

6.24 **Continue to fully implement national anti-discrimination and anti-hate speech legislation and ensure that all incidents are investigated and prosecuted (Romania);**

6.25 **Adopt stronger measures to implement the law on protection from discrimination to prevent, deter and punish all forms of racism, including racist hate speech and hate crimes, online and offline (Indonesia);**

6.26 **Develop legal provisions to prosecute hate crimes, both physical and online (Spain);**

6.27 **Strongly combat racism and hate speech, improve and implement relevant legislation and ensure effective remedies and legal aid for victims (China);**

6.28 **Strengthen enforcement mechanisms for the prevention of hate speech (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.29 **Pay additional attention to and take appropriate measures in connection with the persistent problem of racist hate speech, combat manifestations of racism in all its manifestations (Belarus);**

6.30 **Ensure the full enforcement of laws including the new broadcasting code for audiovisual media to combat hate speech and all forms of discrimination affecting minorities, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, especially women and children (Philippines);**

6.31 **Protect media freedom and fully implement anti-discrimination and anti-hate speech legislation (Greece);**

6.32 **Cooperate with the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to ensure that effective investigations are conducted into all incidents involving hate speech and that those responsible are prosecuted (Syrian Arab Republic);**

6.33 **Strive for the full implementation of anti-discrimination legislation and combat hate acts and speech, including against LGBT+ people, with the reinforcement of the resources allocated to the 2021–2027 action plan (France);**

6.34 **Criminalize hate speech and hate crimes against persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identities and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Iceland);**

6.35 **Improve enforcement of and responsiveness to complaints under existing anti-discrimination laws, including for LGBTQI+ persons and persons with disabilities (United States of America);**

6.36 **Ensure full and effective implementation of anti-discriminatory laws, particularly for marginalised groups like the Roma community (Malaysia);**

6.37 **Enhance the public awareness campaigns to educate citizens about existing anti-discrimination laws and mechanisms, including the role of the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination (North Macedonia);**

6.38 **Review the legal procedures related to discrimination cases in order to prevent them effectively (Syrian Arab Republic);**

6.39 **Continue advancing measures to ensure comprehensive support and integration for vulnerable groups, particularly women victims of gender-based violence, children in need of protection and persons with disabilities (Georgia);**

6.40 **Take effective measures to combat blood feuds and eradicate the social, cultural and economic factors fuelling them (Russian Federation);**

6.41 **Continue efforts to ensure the conditions of prisons and detentions in conformity with the international standards (Indonesia);**

6.42 **Improve prison and detention system infrastructure to reduce overcrowding and ensure access by detainees to adequate health care (Australia);**

6.43 **Reform the penitentiary system in order to address the problem of prison overcrowding and ensure that detention conditions are in line with international standards (Russian Federation);**

6.44 **Allocate sufficient resources to address overcrowding and poor physical conditions in prisons (United States of America);**

6.45 **Address prison overcrowding and infrastructure problems in order to prevent cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and to ensure suitable living conditions to convicts and pre-trial detainees as well as establish a special medical institution to accommodate and treat individuals subjected to measures of compulsory treatment (Poland);**

6.46 **Cooperate with the Sub-committee on Prevention of Torture to take effective steps to combat prison overcrowding and prevent detention without trial (Syrian Arab Republic);**

6.47 **Strengthen existing measures, such as building new prisons, to tackle prison overcrowding in a sustainable manner (Republic of Moldova);**

6.48 **Redouble efforts to limit the use of pretrial detention measures and shorten the length of detention before trial (Côte d'Ivoire);**

6.49 **Continue efforts to improve the situation of detained persons, in particular by establishing an institution for forensic psychiatric patients under the Ministry of Health, and by improving psychiatric and psychosocial services in other places of detention (Germany);**

6.50 **End the activities of Mojahedin Khalgh terrorist organization currently sheltered in Albania (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.51 **Continue to implement actions arising from the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Albania with the aim of preventing and combating radicalism and violent extremism (Cuba);**

6.52 **Intensify measures to address and prevent corruption at all levels (Cyprus);**

6.53 **Intensify measures to address and prevent corruption at all levels, putting an end to impunity, and raise awareness on the direct impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights (Liechtenstein);**

6.54 **Strengthen measures taken to combat and prevent corruption at all levels, namely by ending impunity (Luxembourg);**

6.55 **Implement effective measures to combat widespread corruption (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.56 **Continue efforts to proactively fight corruption in public administration, inter alia, by ensuring the timely conclusion of the vetting of judges and prosecutors, the full-staffing and adequate financial resources of anti-corruption institutions (Austria);**

6.57 **Strengthen efforts to effectively implement the vetting process for judges and legal prosecutors (Egypt);**

6.58 **Take concrete action to combat existing corruption in public administration (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.59 **Continue its efforts to fight against corruption by finalising and adopting the new draft strategy (Türkiye);**

6.60 **Continue implementing the Strategy against Organized Crime and Serious Crimes and its Action Plan, and swiftly adopt the new draft 2024–2030 Strategy for the Fight against Corruption (Estonia);**

6.61 **Address corruption within the State Police through the Police Oversight Agency’s inspections, investigations, and police vetting (United States of America);**

6.62 **Take effective measures to ensure accountability for public officials and to combat corruption, including the proper implementation of Constitutional Court judgments (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

6.63 **Intensify measures to address and prevent corruption and bring the electoral processes in line with OSCE commitments and international standards (Greece);**

6.64 **Address corruption through a multi-faced and inclusive approach, including further legal reforms and by increasing the budgets for responsible institutions and actors (North Macedonia);**

6.65 **Ensure that the judicial system is equipped with sufficient financial and human resources, including magistrates, to enable the judiciary to function efficiently and independently (Sweden);**

6.66 **Implement reforms aimed at strengthening the rule of law, emphasizing the combat of corruption, which is the basic condition for successful implementation of all human rights policies (Czechia);**

6.67 **Further enhance the transparency and efficiency of public services by expanding initiatives such as e-governance and digital inclusion, building on Albania's efforts under the Digital Agenda of Albania 2022–2026 (Viet Nam);**

6.68 **Continue efforts to promote good governance through effective implementation of cross-sectoral strategies (India);**

6.69 **Pursue the implementation of the Intersectoral Strategy for Justice 2021–2025 and its action plan (Morocco);**

6.70 **Strengthen the independence of its judicial authorities to operate without undue interference or political oversight (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.71 **Develop mediation in the judicial field in order to allow better access to justice for vulnerable people, by integrating mediation into the free legal aid system (France);**

6.72 **Allocate the sufficient financial and human resources to ensure the sustainability of the free legal aid services, and to build the capacity of lawyers (Togo);**

6.73 **Strengthen efforts to safeguard freedom of expression and independence of the media, to ensure a safe environment for investigative journalists and their protection from intimidation and attacks (Austria);**

6.74 **Take effective measures to strengthen freedom of expression and independence of the media by ensuring a safe environment for investigative journalists, their protection from intimidation and attacks, as well as by improving their working conditions (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

6.75 **Fulfil its obligations to protect freedom of expression, media freedom and the independence of journalists (Canada);**

6.76 **Implement effective measures to promote media plurality and to safeguard freedom of expression and independent reporting, particularly by ensuring the protection of journalists against intimidation and harassment (Germany);**

6.77 **Continue the efforts to implement the legal framework to protect freedom of expression and shield the journalists against intimidation, death threats and attacks, as well as investigate and punish these attacks against journalists (Czechia);**

6.78 **Enhance efforts to ensure secure working conditions for journalists and other media workers, in collaboration with journalists' organizations (Lithuania);**

6.79 **Align Albanian legislation with the recently adopted EU anti-strategic lawsuits against public participation directive and ensure that journalists are protected from intimidation and harassment, and that incidents are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted, and victims receive proper compensation (Belgium);**

6.80 **Continue guaranteeing fundamental freedoms and rights, including freedom of expression and the media, as enshrined in the country’s Constitution and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Japan);**

6.81 **Promote and protect independent media, eliminating all forms of intimidation against journalists (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.82 **Promote and protect independent media and eliminate all forms of discrimination against journalists, including women journalists (Togo);**

6.83 **Create a safe and supportive environment for the activities of independent media and civil society (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.84 **Continue to reform the legal and regulatory framework, in accordance with Albania’s international obligations, concerning the right to freedom of expression and media, particularly by ensuring the safety of journalists and the transparency of media ownership (Sweden);**

6.85 **Take measures to protect human rights defenders from threats and attacks, especially those working to protect the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community, victims of trafficking and domestic violence, as well as investigative journalists (Chile);**

6.86 **Ensure that the current legal framework concerning civil society is fully implemented, in particular regarding the registration procedures as well as consultation processes for civil society organizations (Sweden);**

6.87 **Revise the regime for the establishment of civil society organisations to make it easy, fast and inexpensive, so that underrepresented communities in particular can be better represented in various consultation processes, including those essential to Albania’s EU accession process (Ireland);**

6.88 **Amend the framework governing the creation of civil society organisations so that it is quicker and less costly, in order to increase the representation of communities in consultation processes (Switzerland);**

6.89 **Establish conscientious objection to military service for professional soldiers and reservists in accordance with international human rights standards (Costa Rica);**

6.90 **Take effective measures to prevent vote-buying in elections, as well as to ensure the secrecy of the vote and protect the editorial freedom of the media (Russian Federation);**

6.91 **Implement all outstanding OSCE-ODIHR recommendations for improving the conduct of elections in Albania (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.92 **Continue efforts on implementation of legislation on property rights and registration, inter alia, by digitalization and publication of cadaster maps, as well as implementing decisions by the European Court of Human Rights (Austria);**

6.93 **Consider adopting legislative measures to reduce evasion of child support and alimony payments (Chile);**

6.94 **Provide protection and support to the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);**

6.95 **Support, through economic and social policies, the institution of the family and the preservation of family values, in line with provisions of international human rights covenants (Pakistan);**

6.96 **Intensify its focus on combating human trafficking within the framework of its National Action Plan for the Fight against Human Trafficking and the implementation of the National Strategy on Migration (Brazil);**

6.97 **Strengthen the efforts to prevent trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for the purpose of sexual and labour exploitation (Croatia);**

6.98 **Strengthen law enforcement actions to effectively combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including through increased budget allocation for prevention and prosecution (Indonesia);**

6.99 **Strengthen mechanisms to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking and to intensify awareness-raising and sensitization measures, as well as victims' access to justice and support services (Paraguay);**

6.100 **Ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of those involved in human trafficking, including officials who aid and abet the perpetration of human trafficking offences (Russian Federation);**

6.101 **Vigorously investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes and convict traffickers, including complicit officials, under Article 110(a) and 128(b) of the criminal code rather than under lesser offenses (United States of America);**

6.102 **Strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking, particularly allocating required resources and training of relevant public officials (Sri Lanka);**

6.103 **Ensure the full implementation of National Action Plan for the Fight against Human Trafficking, with a focus on protecting children (Ukraine);**

6.104 **Intensify measures to combat human trafficking as well as to increase victim support services and to ensure adequate medical care and psychosocial counselling (Armenia);**

6.105 **Take more effective measures to combat human trafficking and provide assistance to victims of this crime (Belarus);**

6.106 **Increase the number and funding of inclusive and accessible shelters for victims of trafficking (Dominican Republic);**

6.107 **Intensify measures to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons, creating support programmes for victims, especially women and children (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.108 **Further reinforce measures for the enhancement of people’s right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work, especially for the most vulnerable groups (Pakistan);**

6.109 **Adopt an adequate legal framework to regulate unpaid and care work (Panama);**

6.110 **Promote economic and social development, improve the social security system and effectively protect the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities (China);**

6.111 **Continue efforts to support the promotion of the well-being of individuals in need of social care and their families and their social integration (Iraq);**

6.112 **Implement a comprehensive social protection system that articulates existing plans, programmes and strategies with a systemic approach and addresses the root causes of poverty and social exclusion to ensure an adequate standard of living for all without discrimination (Paraguay);**

6.113 **Continue to promote national programmes to reduce poverty and ensure the implementation of the Law on Social Security (Cuba);**

6.114 **Introduce financial assistance programmes to alleviate the economic burden on vulnerable families, ensuring that all children and youth, including those living in poverty, have access to educational resources and opportunities (Panama);**

6.115 **Address all existing gaps and challenges in providing equal access to health, education, adequate housing and improving the living conditions of the minority communities (Sri Lanka);**

6.116 **Pursue its efforts to ensure access to universal health care (Mauritius);**

6.117 **Redouble efforts to address, as appropriate, obstacles to access to universal and free health care, in particular for Albanian children and youth and migrants (Paraguay);**

6.118 **Establish more specialized centres for the treatment of people with mental health problems to ensure that more people in need receive assistance (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.119 **Implement comprehensive policies and a national plan of action to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and provide access to quality health services for women, children and families, particularly the minority groups such as the Roma community (Malaysia);**

6.120 **Continue efforts to effectively implement laws prohibiting prenatal selection based on the sex of the foetus (Côte d'Ivoire);**

6.121 **Strengthen and ensure the effective enforcement of laws prohibiting prenatal sex selection, including amending Law No. 8876 on Reproductive Health and developing programmes that raise awareness of the value of the girl child (Gambia);**

6.122 **Consider creating conditions for at least one year of free pre-school education and free secondary education (Bulgaria);**

6.123 **Increase investment in education, through large-scale reforms in pre-school education (Dominican Republic);**

6.124 **Intensify the reforms of pre-primary education, increase investments in education and ensure the inclusion of young people in educational and vocational opportunities (Switzerland);**

6.125 **Adopt comprehensive measures to respect, protect and fulfil the right to education for all, including by ensuring that Roma and Egyptian children have access to equal and inclusive quality education (Portugal);**

6.126 **Undertake all necessary measures to provide good quality and affordable education to all (Mauritius);**

6.127 **Further strengthen education against hate speech and discrimination through adopting human rights based national curricula for pre-university education for the majority of the population (Israel);**

6.128 **Continue measures to further improve the political and legal framework in the field of climate change to reach its objectives (Azerbaijan);**

6.129 **Continue to encourage media and awareness campaigns on climate change (Oman);**

6.130 **Increase investment to harmonize school and extracurricular activity programmes for the local implementation of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, including the construction and updating of recreational, sports and green space facilities in schools (Costa Rica);**

6.131 **Ensure effective implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction normative frameworks and adopting specific mitigation measures for children, rural women and vulnerable groups (Maldives);**

6.132 **Continue to innovate in the fields of renewable energy (Oman);**

6.133 **Continue to strive to achieve the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Oman);**

6.134 **Maintain its attention to strengthen woman's rights, equality and non-discrimination (Türkiye);**

6.135 **Continue its efforts in order to accelerate the implementation of its legal and policy framework for the advancement of women (Azerbaijan);**

6.136 **Implement fully its National Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030 including revising relevant legislation such as law no. 9970/2008 "On Gender Equality in Society" (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.137 **Continue promoting increased women’s representation at all levels of public administration and their participation in the private sector (Bhutan);**

6.138 **Continue to promote increased representation of women at all levels of public administration and to encourage their representation in management positions in the private sector (Togo);**

6.139 **Continue to promote and introduce positive measures regarding equal participation of women, including gender equality in public and political life (Cuba);**

6.140 **Continue with the progress made to guarantee and mainstream the participation of women in government and decision-making bodies (Dominican Republic);**

6.141 **Continue its efforts to allocate public funds towards gender focused policies aimed at reducing gender gaps (Bhutan);**

6.142 **Increase the employment rate for women (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.143 **Implement comprehensive programmes to promote gender sensitivity in educational institutions and address societal norms that contribute to gender inequalities (Cyprus);**

6.144 **Address harmful gender stereotypes in political discourse and in the media (Dominican Republic);**

6.145 **Continue to address gender inequality and violence against women, particularly by enhancing the application of the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2021–2030 and by allocating the necessary resources for its implementation (Romania);**

6.146 **Improve coordination between national entities responsible for the protection of women's rights and strengthen policies to address the stigmatisation of survivors of domestic violence (Spain);**

6.147 **Strengthen specialised gender-based violence units in the courts, the Office of the Public Prosecutor and the police (Australia);**

6.148 **Invest in building the capacity of first responders to complaints of domestic violence and encourage reporting of domestic violence against women and girls by raising awareness among women and men about the criminal nature of gender-based violence against women (Maldives);**

6.149 **Take further measures to combat domestic violence, including by fully implementing the existing legislation and by guaranteeing that women victims of violence can access legal aid and social services (Italy);**

6.150 **Take legislative and institutional measures to comprehensively address all forms of violence against women, particularly femicide (Austria);**

6.151 **Take legislative and institutional measures to comprehensively address all forms of violence against women and particularly femicide (Cyprus);**

6.152 **Take legislative and institutional measures to address comprehensively all forms of violence against women and particularly femicide (Liechtenstein);**

6.153 **Take legislative and Institutional measures to comprehensively address all forms of violence against women, including the femicide (North Macedonia);**

6.154 **Implement the 25th International Conference on Population and Development commitment aiming to strengthen and operationalize the multi-sectoral response and referral mechanism for gender-based violence in the 61 municipalities and adopt the law on gender-based violence (Luxembourg);**

6.155 **Continue taking legislative and institutional measures to comprehensively address all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Nepal);**

6.156 **Continue national efforts to address gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms and manifestations (Cuba);**

6.157 **Continue efforts to combat gender-based violence and discrimination (India);**

6.158 **Strengthen further efforts addressing harmful gender stereotypes and to improve reporting, investigation and prosecution of gender-based violence, including domestic violence (Slovenia);**

6.159 **Implement comprehensive programmes for state institutions to address forms of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, and combat the prevalence of stereotypical gender norms in men and boys based on traditional and patriarchal customs (Costa Rica);**

6.160 **Intensify education and awareness programmes to address patriarchal norms and customs that perpetuate gender inequalities and violence against women and girls (Philippines);**

6.161 **Encourage reporting on violence against women and girls by raising awareness about the criminal nature of gender-based violence (Croatia);**

6.162 **Amend the Criminal Code to incorporate a definition of rape based on lack of consent (Ireland);**

6.163 **Amend the definition of rape for it to be based on lack of consent, instead of force or threat, in line with international standards and further strengthen the fight against gender based and domestic violence, including prevention and protection measures for survivors (Belgium);**

6.164 **Amend the Criminal Code with a view to incorporating a definition of rape based on lack of consent, in line with article 36 of the Istanbul Convention (Denmark);**

6.165 **Incorporate a definition of rape based on lack of consent into the Criminal Code and ensure that criminal legislation is wholly aligned with international standards (Iceland);**

6.166 **Amend the Penal Code to specifically criminalise femicide and cyber-violence and to incorporate a definition of rape based on lack of consent (Spain);**

6.167 **Adopt comprehensive legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence, including femicide and cyberviolence (Iceland);**

6.168 **Adopt legislative measures to combat all forms of violence against women, with a particular focus on domestic violence (Chile);**

6.169 **Close gaps in the implementation of laws on violence against women, domestic violence, child poverty, child sexual violence and abuse, and promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (France);**

6.170 **Ensure adequate training of police and other relevant actors in order to increase their capacity to deal with domestic violence cases, and take further steps to raise public awareness of domestic violence as a criminal offence (Czechia);**

6.171 **Provide training to law enforcement and the judiciary on violence against women, intimate partner violence and the rights of LGBTQI+ persons (Canada);**

6.172 **Improve the infrastructure and financial and human resources to combat cases of domestic violence against women and promote training for law enforcement and justice operators to be able to recognize situations of risk (Paraguay);**

6.173 **Strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence, in line with the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee, by ensuring the effective enforcement of relevant laws and enhancing support services for survivors (Gambia);**

6.174 **Improve infrastructure and human and financial resources allocated to referral mechanisms for cases of violence against women and girls (Morocco);**

6.175 **Increase availability of legal aid, shelter and counselling services for victims of domestic violence, and ensure that all regions have access to at least one specialized centre (Estonia);**

6.176 **Reform the legal framework in order to prevent, investigate and sanction political gender violence, and adopt the necessary measures to guarantee that victims and survivors of trafficking and sexual and gender violence have access to shelters and to legal, medical and psychosocial assistance free of charge (Mexico);**

6.177 **Increase the number of shelters for women and girls who are victims of domestic violence, especially in rural areas. (Malta);**

6.178 **Consider providing inclusive and accessible shelters for victims of domestic violence with expertise in treatment and rehabilitation (Sri Lanka);**

6.179 **Expand the availability and accessibility of shelters and support services for victims of domestic and sexual violence, particularly in rural areas (Malaysia);**

6.180 **Expand assistance and protection programmes for the victims of trafficking and domestic violence (Ukraine);**

6.181 **Establish more shelters and specialized centres for prevention, diagnosis and rehabilitation for victims of domestic violence (Costa Rica);**

6.182 **Collect and analyse detailed data on the types and use of weapons in incidents of femicide, domestic violence and gender-based violence in order to facilitate evidence-based policy-making and improve prevention mechanisms (Panama);**

6.183 **Improve the implementation of measures to combat domestic violence, particularly in the care of victims, and apply appropriate sanctions to the perpetrators of these crimes (Switzerland);**

6.184 **Conduct a full review of the Family Code and enact legislation to prohibit child, early and forced marriage, ensuring that exceptions to the minimum marriage age of 18 are eliminated (Austria);**

6.185 **Revise the Family Code to repeal provisions allowing marriage before the minimum legal age and to introduce a legal prohibition of forced marriages and prosecute those responsible for its violation (Russian Federation);**

6.186 **Adopt legislative measures to exclude any possibility of exception to the minimum age of 18 for marriage and prohibit forced marriages (Costa Rica);**

6.187 **Enact legislation to prohibit child, early and forced marriage, ensuring that the minimum age for marriage is set at 18 years (Estonia);**

6.188 **Take legal measures to end child marriage by removing any exception to the minimum legal age of 18 and to prohibit forced marriage (Liechtenstein);**

6.189 **Amend existing laws to remove all exceptions that allow marriage for children under the age of 18 and prohibit forced marriage (Philippines);**

6.190 **Remove all exceptions that allow marriage for children under the age of 18 (Cyprus);**

6.191 **Step up the efforts to full implementation of the legal and policy framework regarding child protection, namely child marriages, child abuse and child trafficking (Slovakia);**

6.192 **Further enhance efforts to prevent and combat early and forced marriages (Georgia);**

6.193 **Strengthen efforts to implement the national agenda for the rights and protection of the child (Kazakhstan);**

6.194 **Redouble its efforts to protect the rights of the child, including through improving access to education and implementing the National Agenda for Child Rights and Protection and the Justice for Children Strategy 2022–2026 (Japan);**

6.195 **Fully implement the current National Agenda for Child Rights and Protection and the legal provisions prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings (Estonia);**

6.196 **Consider fully implementing the National Agenda for Child Rights and Protection (Malawi);**

6.197 **Ensure the effective implementation of the National Agenda for Children's Rights 2021–2026 with further efforts of tackling early marriages including by developing relevant awareness raising campaigns and programmes and establishing protection schemes for victims of children marriage who file complaints (Republic of Moldova);**

6.198 **Take further measures to implement legal provisions prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings and provide adequate resources for their implementation (Liechtenstein);**

6.199 **Continue implementing comprehensive measures to promote and protect the rights of the child and ensure the safety of children in schools (Lithuania);**

6.200 **Take further measures to prevent abuse and violence against children (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.201 **Introduce effective procedures to protect children from all forms of violence both in schools and family environment, informing both institutions and citizens about the legal obligation to report and respond to cases of violence against minors as well as the legal prohibition of corporal punishment (Poland);**

6.202 **Strengthen the enforcement of child protection laws and anti-violence measures to safeguard vulnerable children (Ukraine);**

6.203 **Ensure the effective and full implementation of court decisions in cases of international child abductions and to ensure compliance with its international commitments (Belgium);**

6.204 **Consider applying new models of administration, restorative justice and diversion measures in the new Juvenile Justice Code and Law on the Rights of the Child (Malawi);**

6.205 **Reduce further the number of children deprived of liberty and shorten the length of detention and make the most of diversion measures and restorative justice for children as part of the juvenile justice reform (Luxembourg);**

6.206 **Provide adequate financing for the juvenile justice reform (Montenegro);**

6.207 **Devote further attention in order to guarantee the full enjoyment of the rights of children, including by granting access to education and health, especially in rural and remote areas (Italy);**

6.208 **Strengthen the prevention of child pregnancies through educational initiatives on sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as promote the continuous training of educational personnel (Mexico);**

6.209 **Protect children from all forms of economic exploitation including child labour through necessary legislative, policy and other interventions (Sri Lanka);**

6.210 **Increase education campaigns to combat instances of child labour and other forms of exploitation of minors (Malta);**

6.211 **Continue advancing accessibility and inclusion in education, ensuring equal opportunities for all, especially for marginalized communities as well as people with disabilities (Viet Nam);**

6.212 **Continue its efforts in ensuring inclusive education, and in increasing the number of children with disabilities in public and private educational institutions (Bhutan);**

6.213 **Continue to implement the Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, thus ensuring the right to inclusive education and public spaces for all children with disabilities (Italy);**

6.214 **Continue efforts towards fully integrating persons with disabilities by improving the accessibility to public spaces, including schools (Lithuania);**

6.215 **Continue to implement measures to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities, through the effective implementation of the National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities (India);**

6.216 **Further increase the number of assistant teachers for students with disabilities (United Republic of Tanzania);**

**6**.217 **Take further steps for protecting the rights of the persons with disabilities (Pakistan);**

6.218 **Pursue efforts to strengthen the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Azerbaijan);**

6.219 **Improve care centres for persons with disabilities and enhancing the infrastructure of these centres (Jordan);**

6.220 **Take concrete steps to ensure that all public buildings are accessible to persons with disabilities, allowing for independent and equal access to essential services, in line with the promotion of accessibility enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and furthermore ratify its Optional Protocol (Portugal);**

6.221 **Expressly criminalize the prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of disability (Chile);**

6.222 **Review legislation to incorporate a clear prohibition against disability-based discrimination (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.223 **Strengthen endeavours to protect individuals with disabilities by improving legal protection against discrimination, safeguarding their autonomy, legal capacity and access to justice (Armenia);**

6.224 **Repeal current legislation that allows for the forced deprivation of liberty, hospitalization and forced treatment of persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities (Colombia);**

6.225 **Repeal regulations that allow the deprivation of liberty, hospitalization and forced treatment of persons with psychosocial disabilities and establish independent mechanisms to monitor internment centres (Costa Rica);**

6.226 **Implement in full the National Action Plan for the Equality, Inclusion and Participation of Roma and Egyptians to reduce these communities’ out-of-school rates (Australia);**

6.227 **Combat discrimination and violence against Roma and Egyptian minorities (Chile);**

6.228 **Eliminate any form of discrimination that persists in relation to ethnic minorities, particularly in the case of boys and girls, and ensure inclusive pre-school education that includes all children without discrimination, in particular Roma children (Colombia);**

6.229 **Take additional measures to eliminate discrimination against national minorities, including Roma (Belarus);**

6.230 **Implement the necessary reforms to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the Roma community and the ethnic minorities (Sri Lanka);**

6.231 **Develop the necessary administrative and legislative measures to end discrimination against minorities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.232 **Establish policies that enhance public services for minorities and support cultural diversity (Jordan);**

6.233 **Step up efforts to resolve civil registration issues faced by minority populations in the interest of inclusion and equality (Philippines);**

6.234 **Take concrete measures to ensure the swift adoption and implementation of by-laws relating to the 2017 framework Law on the Protection of National Minorities, including in particular the right to self-identification and the use of minority languages in the administration (Greece);**

6.235 **Expedite the adoption of the three remaining by-laws that ensure the full and effective implementation of the Framework Law on the Protection of National Minorities (Romania);**

6.236 **Continue the adoption of the remaining by-laws to ensure the full and effective implementation of Law No. 96/2017 on the Protection of National Minorities (Bulgaria);**

6.237 **Ensure access to public education in minority languages, by applying the 20% threshold requirement to local communities (Greece);**

6.238 **Establish transparent and fair legal processes for registration of property titles of the rightful owners belonging to national minorities and ensure that expropriation procedures for commercial purposes in the name of “public interest”, undertaken with compensation far below the actual market price, cease infringing on the property rights of minority owners (Greece);**

6.239 **Legally recognize same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships legally (Canada);**

6.240 **Amend the Family Code to provide legal recognition for same-sex partnerships and marriages (Denmark);**

6.241 **Recognise same-sex unions, marriages and registered unions (Ireland);**

6.242 **Consider enacting legislation to legally recognise same-sex partnerships. (Malta);**

6.243 **Guarantee equal rights for same-sex partnerships through legislative measures (Iceland);**

6.244 **Legally recognize same-sex unions or marriages, as well as gender identity on the basis of the principle of self-determination, and strengthen independent monitoring mechanisms and accountability measures of the Action Plan for LGBTI+ People (2021–2027) (Mexico);**

6.245 **Ensure legal recognition of gender identity based on the self-determination principle and allow individuals to update their official documents to reflect their gender identity without necessary medical or legal barriers (Iceland);**

6.246 **Redouble efforts to implement the National Action Plans on LGBTIQ+ persons, with adequate resources and a timeline that includes specific actions and timeframes to facilitate their monitoring (Colombia);**

6.247 **Continue progress in the fight against discrimination against the LGBTI community and increase the capacity of the authorities and the relevant budget to ensure the implementation of the Plan of Action for LGBTI persons (Spain);**

6.248 **Ban all non-consensual and non-therapeutic surgeries on intersex children and ensure their rights to bodily autonomy and integrity (Iceland);**

6.249 **Implement national strategies and action plans to protect the rights of refugees and migrants effectively and ensure their integration into society without discrimination (China);**

6.250 **Strengthen the measures to ensure that the rights of migrants and asylum seekers are protected in accordance with international obligations (Egypt);**

6.251 **Take concrete and effective measures to safeguard the rights of migrants (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

6.252 **Take the necessary measures to ensure respect for the human rights of all migrants and those transiting through Albanian territory (Syrian Arab Republic);**

6.253 **Develop and implement measurable and targeted support programmes to address specific barriers faced by vulnerable groups, particularly migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, including by ensuring that their treatment meet international human rights standards (Ghana).**

7.**All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting States and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Albania was headed by the Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ms. Megi FINO, and composed of the following members:

• Mme. Vasilika HYSI, Ambassadeur de l’Albanie auprès UNOG ;

• M. Tedi DOBI, Vice – Ministre de la Justice ;

• Mme. Ira SALATAJ, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Etrangères, Responsable de la Section des Droits de l`Homme, Direction des Organisations Internationales ;

• M. Ilir NEZAj, Conseiller en charge des Droits de l’Homme près de la Mission de l’Albanie auprès UNOG ;

• Mme. Jona DERVISHALIAJ, DG, Direction générale du développement de la protection sociale, Ministère de la Santé et de la Protection sociale ;

• Mme. Eni DICI, Conseillère, Ministère de la Santé et de la Protection sociale ;

• Mme. Evis FICO, Chef du Cabinet de la Présidente du Parlement albanais ;

• Mme Mimoza ARBI, Directrice du service juridique, Parlement albanais ;

• Mme. Sonila KADAREJA, Conseillère au service juridique, Parlement albanais ;

• Mme. Anisa POLLO, DG commandée, Direction général des politiques du développement culturelles, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• M. Bledar TAUSHANI, Directeur, la Direction des politiques de l’emploi et de la migration, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• Mme. Kejn BERLIKU, Responsable du secteur des relations de travail, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• Mme. Dardana GRABOVAJ, Directeur du département du logement, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• Mme. Mimoza KONDILI, Responsable du secteur du suivi et de la mise en œuvre des projets, Direction du logement, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• Mme. Eralda SHTYLLA, Responsable du secteur de la compétitivité, Direction des Politiques de Promotion des Entreprises, Ministère de l’Economie, de la Culture et de l’innovation ;

• Mme. Zamira GJINI, Directrice générale, Direction générale des politiques et du développement de l'éducation, des sports et de la jeunesse, Ministère de l'Education et des Sports ;

• M. Ilirjan TAVANXHIU, Spécialiste, Secteur de la gestion du personnel militaire et civil, Direction de la gestion des ressources humaines et des services, Ministère de la Défense ;

• Mme. Elda OKETA, Spécialiste, Secteur du développement du personnel, de l'éducation et de la qualification, Direction de l'administration des ressources humaines et des services, Ministère de la Défense ;

• M. Gentian OPRE, Directeur, Direction de l'analyse et de la planification budgétaires, Ministère des Finances ;

• Mme. Mariana SHEHI, Directeur, Direction de l'intégration, de la coordination, des accords et de l'assistance technique, Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural ;

• M. Shpetim ҪOKAJ, Directeur, La Direction de l'administration des archives, La Direction générale de l'état civil, Ministère de l'Intérieur ;

• Mme. Dorina META, Responsable du secteur de l'asile et des étrangers, Ministère de l'Intérieur ;

• M. Lavdim DURBAKU, Responsable du secteur de l'ordre public, Direction de l'ordre public, Direction générale de la police d'État ;

• Mme. Ornela XHEMBULLA, Officier de police judiciaire, Direction de la coordination institutionnelle, Bureau du Procureur général ;

• M. Femi SUFA, Directeur général adjoint, Direction générale des prisons ;

• Mme. Klotilda KAREÇI, Directeur, Direction des affaires sociales, Direction générale des prisons ;

• M. Ergys SHEHU, Responsable, Secteur du support sous la direction générale, Direction générale des prisons ;

• M. Eljo MUÇAJ, Inspecteur en chef, Inspection nationale du travail ;

• Mme. Konstantina BEZIANI, Présidente de la commission des minorités nationales, Commission pour les minorités nationales ;

• M. Hasimin KECI, Membre de la commission des minorités nationales, Commission pour les minorités nationales ;

• Znj. Eneida RABDISHTA, Spécialiste, La Direction des changements climatiques, Ministère du Tourisme et de l'Environnement ;

• M. Maldi DEMA, Directeur, Direction de la coordination du système des statistiques nationales, de l’alignement et des projets, Institut des statistiques d'Albanie (INSTAT);

• Mme. Anisa OMURI, Directeur, Direction des statistiques sociales, Institut des statistiques d'Albanie (INSTAT) ;

• M. Ergys BEZHANI, Traducteur/Interprète ;

• M. Ermal COMO, Traducteur/Interprète.

1. A/HRC/WG.6/47/ALB/1 and A/HRC/WG.6/47/ALB/1/Corr.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. A/HRC/WG.6/47/ALB/2. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. A/HRC/WG.6/47/ALB/3. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)