**UPR35**

**Canada’s recommendations for Kygyzstan’s UPR**

**20 January 2020**

Thank you, Madame President

Canada welcomes progress made on several fronts by Kyrgyzstan since its last UPR, including the strengthening of the Ombudsman Office to include national and international standards.

Canada recommends that Kyrgyzstan:

1. Take further measures to prevent the misuse of legislation on extremist activity and terrorism; incitement of ethnic hatred; and defamation, in order to prevent targeting of journalists, media organisations, and human rights defenders.
2. Amend legislation to comprehensively protect vulnerable groups such as women and minorities, combat discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, and remove barriers for vulnerable groups to access state programming, justice, and protection from violence.
3. Fully investigate allegations of torture and bring perpetrators to justice.
4. Improve prison and detention conditions by strengthening monitoring, bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice, and providing human rights training to the judiciary, prison officials, and law enforcement authorities.

Canada is encouraged to see Kyrgyzstan engage with its civil society organisations, necessary for a healthy pluralistic democracy.