



Promoting and strengthening
the Universal Periodic Review

Recommendations & Pledges

FINLAND

Second Review Session 13

Review in the Working Group: 23 May 2012
Adoption in the Plenary: 19 September 2012

Finland's responses to recommendations (as of 20.09.2012):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
51 recs. accepted, 1 rejected, and 26 pending	Out of the 26 pending recs., 20 accepted fully, 4 in parts (underlined in blue), and 2 rejected	No additional information provided	Accepted: 75 Rejected: 3 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0 Total: 78

Paragraph headers are as in the Report of the Working Group, but the nature of responses to recommendations may have subsequently been changed.

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/21/8:

89. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Finland and enjoy the support of Finland:

A - 89.1. Advance its efforts to ratify CRPD (Namibia) / Actively consider ratifying CRPD (China) / Ratify and implement the CRPD, with active involvement of representatives of persons with disabilities (Slovenia) / Expedite the on-going internal proceedings and ratify the CRPD and its Optional Protocol enabling individual complaints (Portugal);

A - 89.2. Continue strengthening efforts to ratify CED (Argentina) / Ratify CED and fully recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (France);

A - 89.3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Belgium);

A - 89.4. Proceed swiftly with the ratification of the OP- CRC-SC and OP-CAT (Estonia);

A - 89.5. Ratify OP-CRC-SC, OP-CAT, CRPD and its Optional Protocol, CED, and OP-ICESCR (Spain);

A - 89.6. Consider signing and ratifying the ICRMW (Egypt);

A - 89.7. Consider ratifying ICRMW as well as ILO Convention no.189 on decent work of domestic workers (Philippines);

A - 89.8. Ratify promptly the ILO Convention 169 (Nicaragua) /Conclude as soon as possible the process towards the ratification of the ILO Convention (169) on indigenous and tribal peoples in independent countries and carry out the necessary internal normative adjustments to this end (Mexico) / Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries within the term of office of the current government administration (Norway);

A - 89.9. Consider adhering to and/or ratifying all those international human rights instruments that have not been adhered to and/or ratified (Ecuador);

A - 89.10. Take further legislative and institutional measures for the promotion and protection of human rights including those of the immigrants (Nepal);

A - 89.11. Ensure that the National Human Rights Institution is fully compliant with the Paris Principles (India);

A - 89.12. Reinforce its efforts, such as the drafted National Action Plan for Reducing Crime, to eliminate the phenomenon of bullying and violence at schools (Slovakia);

A - 89.13. Brief the Human Rights Council in their UPR mid-term review report on the lessons learnt of the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights, including on the effectiveness of the established indicators (Hungary);

A - 89.14. Undertake further measures aimed at protection of women's rights, including prevention of violence (Ukraine);

A - 89.15. Continue its efforts in eliminating discrimination and preventing violence against women and children (Indonesia);

A - 89.16. Take effective legal and practical measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children, in particular women and children with disabilities, immigrant and refugee women and children, and women and children from ethnic and religious minorities, especially Muslims and Roma (Iran);

A - 89.17. Continue to combat racism and discrimination and adopt effective national legislation in this regard (Palestine);

A - 89.18. Strengthen efforts to restrict the outbreaks of racism and xenophobia, especially the manifestations of racism on the Internet, as was recommended by CERD (Spain);

A - 89.19. Persevere in its efforts to prevent and combat xenophobia, in particular on the Internet (Morocco);

A - 89.20. Step up its efforts to combat racism and xenophobia and ensure that racially-motivated crimes are promptly detected, investigated and sanctioned (Algeria);

A - 89.21. Increase the attention and effective measures to fight against discrimination faced by minorities, ensuring the protection of their rights (Spain);

A - 89.22. Strengthen mechanisms aimed at combating discrimination, racism and xenophobia, and persevere in the adoption of measures to promote tolerance and respect of foreigners and members of national, racial and ethnic minorities (Chile);

A - 89.23. More stringent monitoring mechanisms to address the rise in racist and racially-motivated crimes and xenophobic acts, and ensure effective detection, investigation, prosecution, and punishment (Egypt);

A - 89.24. Continue its efforts to combat racism, intolerance and discrimination as well as to strive towards the integration of Roma and immigrants (Portugal);

A - 89.25. Strengthen its measures to protect the rights of foreigners, immigrants, asylum-seekers and the Roma as well as enhance its integration programmes to enforce the principles of equality and non-discrimination, which are enshrined in its Constitution (Namibia);

A - 89.26. Pursue appropriate, efficient policies to eliminate the social exclusion of the most vulnerable groups, in particular mentally disabled children, immigrant and refugee children and children from ethnic minorities at schools (Slovakia);

A - 89.27. Continue efforts in empowering those sections of the society that require special treatment (Nepal);

A - 89.28. Give special attention to the prevention of domestic violence against women and children (Mexico);

A - 89.29. Strengthen the relevant legislative and implementation frameworks regarding the violence against women (Egypt);

A - 89.30. Prevent the re-victimization in cases of violence in intimate partnership and bring perpetrators to justice (Brazil);

A - 89.31. Ensure that rape is categorized as a sexual violation rather than according to the degree of violence used or threatened by the perpetrator; and facilitate access to justice for victims of rape to ensure that cases of rape are reported and prosecuted in court (Slovenia);

A - 89.32. Take effective measures to eliminate widespread sexual misuse and harassment against women and girls, including on the Internet and via mobile phones (Iran);

A - 89.33. Ensure that women who are victims of trafficking are recognized as such and provided with protection and assistance (Slovenia) (UK);

A - 89.34. Implement existing procedures upholding internationally recognized standards in combating trafficking in persons and conduct necessary training for law enforcement to properly identify and protect victims of trafficking (USA);

A - 89.35. Watch over the full implementation of laws that forbid corporal punishment in all settings through, among other measures, awareness-raising campaigns between adults and children, as well as the promotion of positive and non-violent forms of discipline that do not affect the upbringing of these children (Uruguay);

A - 89.36. Ensure that children are heard in the judicial and administrative procedures concerning them, in accordance with procedures adapted to their maturity and, when children must be placed, this be done in family-type structures rather than in institutions (Belgium);

A - 89.37. Promptly create a national mechanism for the prevention of torture with access to all places of deprivation of liberty (France);

A - 89.38. Take steps to ensure by both legislative and non-legislative measures, including initiatives for the promotion of multiculturalism, the protection of all religions and faiths and the non-escalation of hatred among people of different religions and faiths, based on the tenets of understanding, mutual acceptance and respect (Malaysia);

A - 89.39. Implement strict measures, including in the area of legislation, to combat hate speech and other manifestations of racism and xenophobia, including on the internet, in line with the obligations under articles 19 and 20 of ICCPR (Egypt);

A - 89.40. Take effective measures to combat racist propaganda and the xenophobic material on the Internet (Iran);

A - 89.41. Share its best practices acquired in fighting internet spread racism, including the results of the last measures that is the ratification of relevant instruments, modification of the Criminal Code, police monitoring of the internet (Hungary);

A - 89.42. Ensure effective implementation of the ILO Forced Labour Convention no. 29 and the ILO Convention no. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value (Uzbekistan);

A - 89.43. That the first National Action Plan for Fundamental and Human Rights integrate the concerns of all minorities (Nicaragua);

A - 89.44. Consider the possibility of establishing new measures to strengthen the respect for the rights of migrants and fight against all forms of discrimination they suffer (Argentina);

A - 89.45. Implement training programs in the field of human rights for the police and the forces of order, especially directed at improving the treatment of asylum-seekers and immigrants in an irregular situation and consider ratifying the ICRMW of 1990 (Ecuador); 1

A - 89.46. Evaluate the internal guidelines and criteria with regards to risk assessment in the countries of origin of asylum-seekers and ensure a continuous flow of information and education on these internal guidelines (Sweden);

A - 89.47. Take concrete measures to reduce the resort to detention of migrants solely for immigration purposes (Brazil);

A - 89.48. Apply alternative measures to the detention of asylum-seekers and irregular immigrants, including children and other vulnerable people, and establish a mechanism to examine this practice (Uruguay);

A - 89.49. Adopt specified standards for accommodation of unaccompanied children and establish additional conditions for the appointment of a guardian for them (Thailand);

A - 89.50. Give more attention to asylum-seekers and unaccompanied minors in cases of family reunion (Iraq);

A - 89.51. Reconsider the matter by taking the necessary steps to fulfil the objective expressed in 2008 to reach the 0.7% target for ODA in relation to the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 (Norway);

90. The following recommendations will be examined by Finland which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 21st session of the Human Rights Council in September 2012:

A - 90.1. Ratification and effective implementation of CRPD, with full participation and active involvement of NGOs in the promotion, protection and monitoring of the human rights treaty framework (UK);

A - 90.2. Develop and introduce specific measures directed at improving professional training of the staff of the children institutions, improving the legislation and practice in the provision of psychiatric treatment, as well as eradicating discrimination against ethnic minorities (Russian Federation);

A - 90.3. Undertake concrete measures to ensure that the media production and coverage are non-discriminatory and promote positive images of girls and women (Malaysia);

A - 90.4. Take effective legal and practical measures to prevent and combat dissemination of racist, xenophobic and Islamophobic propaganda in particular in press and on the Internet (Iran);

A - 90.5. Carry out more efforts to integrate the Roma minority in society, especially by the allocation of funds for the implementation of the National Plan and the participation of this minority in carrying out this Plan (Spain);

A - 90.6. Continue to take tangible measures to guarantee equal treatment of Roma and other minorities to promote the right to work and to better integrate them into the society (China);

A - 90.7. Establish broad public outreach programmes to discourage discrimination against ethnic minority residents in Finland (USA);

A - 90.8. Increase its efforts in the field of discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, inter alia, by review of national legislation and administration with a view to eliminate discrimination against LGBTI people with regard to family and parental rights and the right to security and integrity of the person (Iceland);

A - 90.9. Allocate sufficient funds in order to ensure an effective implementation of the National Action Plan to reduce violence against women that came into force in 2010 (The Netherlands);

A - 90.10. Further step up the efforts and allocate sufficient funds to ensure the effective implementation of the National Action Plan to prevent violence against women as well as broaden the action plan to cover domestic violence (Norway);

A - 90.11. Continue strengthening measures aimed at addressing domestic violence, with special focus on the programmes being developed to consolidate the mechanisms to protect women and children (Chile);

A - 90.12. Allocate the necessary funds to ensure effective implementation of the National Action Plan to combat violence against women (Palestine);

A - 90.13. Take the necessary measures to prevent domestic violence, through the creation of a national action plan, in particular Finland was urged that the violence not be classified depending on the degree of violence or threat used by the author (Spain);

A - 90.14. Step up its effort to prevent violence against women, particularly victims of trafficking, by providing adequate protection and assistance, especially shelters, funding and staffs for these shelters (Thailand);

A - 90.15. Train educators and health workers in identifying signs of sexual abuse in children (Slovenia);

A - 90.16. Provide a framework for prohibiting use of child labour by the Finnish companies engaged with businesses abroad and multinational companies headquartered in Finland (The Netherlands);

A - 90.17. Allocate additional resources to the judicial system as necessary to ensure timely due process (USA);

A - 90.18. Conclude the drafting of the Government bill on administrative proceedings and the preparations of the client service strategy (Sweden);

A - 90.19. Carry out independent investigations regarding the cases of violations of labour rights in the country, including in the area of forced labour and equal pay between women and men (Uzbekistan);

A - 90.20. Ensure equal pay for both sexes (Iraq);

A - 90.21. Mental health services in schools should benefit from sufficient resources and qualified staff in order to deal with problems affecting in particular adolescents, such as suicidal thoughts and nutritional or addictive problems (Belgium);

R - 90.22. Introduce human rights education as a mandatory part of teachers' training (Slovenia);

A - 90.23. Establish a holistic legal and policy framework to guarantee the equal right of children with disabilities to access good-quality health-care services, public buildings and transportation (Iran);

A - 90.24. Address overcrowding in the immigration detention facility by increasing the capacity of the existing facility or by making additional facilities available to ensure proper treatment of those detained (Norway);

R - 90.25. That development aid must not be tied to conditionalities that do not take into account the traditional values of recipient countries (Namibia);

A - 90.26. Investigate the cases of rendition flights where Finland's participation is suspected and bring to justice those involved, considering additionally the possibility of compensation for victims of torture in conformity with internal legislation and international legislation (Ecuador).

91. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Finland:

R - 91.1. Adhere to ICRMW (Uruguay 3) /Expedite means and ways towards the ratification of the ICRMW as part of its international obligation in promoting and protecting the rights of migrant workers (Indonesia 2) / In conformity with article 77 of ICRMW, declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and examine the communications that allege that the rights of individuals protected by this Convention have been violated (Uruguay).

Voluntary pledges and commitments made by Finland in the framework of the UPR

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- The delegation reassured Finland's commitment to full and effective implementation of the 1951 Geneva Convention related to the status of refugees and to respecting the principle of non-refoulement.

- Finland renewed its commitment, presented during the first universal periodic review of Finland, regarding the development assistance objective, as further elaborated in the national report for the second universal periodic review.

- Finland is committed to more effective and systematic monitoring of the implementation of human rights. As part of this commitment, the newly established Network for fundamental and human rights, composed of contact persons representing all Ministries, will monitor the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan and prepare the Government Report on Human Rights Policy. The Network will analyse the situation of fundamental and human rights in Finland, including the implementation of Finland's human rights obligations and commitments, and the associated periodic reporting. The Network will also review UPR recommendations; Finland has several good practices in the sphere of cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders on human rights. The Network will provide an opportunity for further development of these partnership models.

- Finland is committed to present a voluntary interim report on the progress made in implementing the UPR recommendations to the Human Rights Council in 2014.

Endnotes

1 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: Implement training programs in the field of human rights for the police and the forces of order, especially directed at improving the treatment of asylum-seekers and immigrants in an irregular situation and ratify the ICRMW of 1990 (Ecuador).

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