

2RP: Responses to Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges

SLOVAKIA

Second Review Session 18

Review in the Working Group: 3 February 2014
Adoption in the Plenary 20 June 2014

Slovakia's responses to recommendations (as of 19.08.2014):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
No responses all pending	128 recs accepted in full, 4 accepted in part (n°68, 111, 135 and 136) ¹ and 9 that does not enjoy its support (n°6-10, 21, 27, 130 and 144).	The delegation and the HRC President stated that 133 recs were accepted and the rest noted, but as rec n°27 could clearly be split into 2, the total amounts to 134 accepted and 13 noted.	Accepted: 134 Noted: 13 Total: 147

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/26/12:

110. The following recommendations will be examined by Slovakia which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014:

[A - 110.1. Reconsider the ratification of OP-CAT \(Denmark\);](#)

¹ Recommendation 27 was also partially accepted. However, as the part accepted and the part not accepted were clearly identified, the recommendation was split into two recommendations, one accepted and one noted. The total number of recommendations is now 141.



A - 110.2. Ratify OP-CAT (Estonia) (Hungary);

A - 110.3 Ratify CPED and OP-CAT (Tunisia) (Chile);

A - 110.4. Continue its efforts initiated to achieve ratification of CPED and accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (Argentina);

A - 110.5. Ratify promptly CPED (Belgium);

N - 110.6. Consider becoming party to ICRMW and to OP-CAT (Azerbaijan);

N - 110.7. Ratify ICRMW (Algeria) (Egypt);

N - 110.8. Consider the possibility of ratifying ICRMW (Ecuador);

N - 110.9. Take a step further in the area of migrants' rights protection and consider ratifying the ICRMW and ILO Convention no. 189 (Philippines);

N - 110.10. Ratify ILO Conventions Nos. 169 and 189 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 110.11. Ratify those international instruments, which have not yet been ratified (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 110.12. Favourably respond and react to future calls and recommendations of the Ombudswoman, particularly when it comes to the situation of Roma (Slovenia);

A - 110.13. Implement recommendations made in the Office of the Ombudswoman's extraordinary report related to human rights complaints on access to education, procedural guarantees in the demolition of illegal dwellings and police conduct (Canada);

A - 110.14. Take all necessary steps to ensure that its national human rights institution is fully effective and independent in accordance with the Paris Principles (France); take appropriate measures to ensure that the national human rights institution functions in compliance with the Paris Principles (India); take further steps to ensure that its national human rights institution is aligned with the Paris Principles (Philippines); continue with its efforts for the establishment of independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Pakistan); undertake the necessary steps to ensure that its national institution is fully consistent with the Paris Principles (Morocco); take the necessary measures to strengthen the independence and mandate of the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights and ensure that it complies with the Paris Principles (Mexico); strengthen the independence and mandate of its National Centre for Human Rights so as to enable it to function in compliance with the Paris Principles (Malaysia);

A - 110.15. Bring its National Centre for Human Rights into conformity with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Turkmenistan);

A - 110.16. Continue working in order to establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, taking into account the recommendations from the treaty bodies in this regard (Guatemala);

A - 110.17. Continue its efforts to re-accredit the National Slovak Human Rights Centre as the national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Algeria);

A - 110.18. Strengthen the independence and mandate of the National Slovak Human Rights Centre so that it operates in compliance with the Paris Principles and be given the necessary resources (Tunisia);

A - 110.19. Strengthen the independence and the mandate of its national human rights institution and provide it with adequate financial and human resources to assist it in meeting the standards required by the Paris Principles (Ireland);

A - 110.20. Allocate appropriate resources to the Office of the Ombudswoman to facilitate equal access to justice for all citizens and further strengthen its monitoring and reporting capacity (Canada);

N - 110.21. Establish an independent mechanism to investigate complaints related to discrimination and segregation within the schooling system (Egypt);

A - 110.22. Work with the EU and the UN for further participation of other important human rights mechanisms, including the protocols to the CRC (Viet Nam);

A - 110.23. That the Government Council for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality take steps towards the implementation of a nation-wide strategy for the promotion and protection of human rights (United Kingdom);

A - 110.24. Speed up the preparation of a national human rights promotion and protection strategy (Uruguay);

A - 110.25. Promptly put in place the national strategy for the promotion and protection of human rights that integrates the contributions arising from this review (Nicaragua);

A - 110.26. Continue its efforts and momentum on the current human rights programme, with more focus on social inclusion, participation of the Roma in employment opportunity, adequate housing, gender equality and capacity building for national human rights institutions in the country (Viet Nam);

N - 110.27. Continue efforts to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks to promote and protect human rights, including through the ratification of ICRMW,

A - formulation of a national human rights plan of action, and expediting the amendment process to the law regulating the NHRI so that it is fully in accordance with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);

A - 110.28. Continue its efforts particularly to ensure equal treatment in the education system and equal access to job opportunities (France);

A - 110.29. That a national action plan for the protection of the human rights of LGBTI persons in Slovakia is developed and implemented, within the context of the planned human rights strategy (Norway);

A - 110.30. Develop additional programmes, including a national action plan for children, to enhance the protection and promotion of the rights of women and children (Philippines);

A - 110.31. Further improve human rights records in the country (Azerbaijan);

A - 110.32. Include in its National Strategy for Gender Equality 2009–2013 measures to promote the participation of women in decision-making bodies in the public and private sphere (Spain);

A - 110.33. Expedite its implementation of the measures to ensure equality for men and women (Bangladesh);

- A - 110.34. Take steps to ensure equality between men and women that guarantee non-discrimination and gender equality (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- A - 110.35. Strengthen measures aimed at ensuring gender equality as well as preventing violence against women (Côte d'Ivoire);
- A - 110.36. Take measures to effectively implement the prohibition of discrimination enshrined in the Anti-Discrimination Act (Pakistan);
- A - 110.37. Continue its efforts in effectively implementing the amendment to the Anti-Discrimination Act with a view to further combating discrimination in the country (Cambodia);
- A - 110.38. Enforce the legal and institutional framework on combating discrimination (Romania);
- A - 110.39. Take steps to effectively implement the ban on discrimination contained in the anti-discrimination law and the law on schools (Belgium);
- A - 110.40. Increase awareness raising programmes and campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for diversity among its population (Malaysia);
- A - 110.41. Continue awareness-raising programmes about racial and ethnic diversity in schools, strengthening the monitoring of the implementation of anti-discriminatory policies, especially in remote areas (Uruguay);
- A - 110.42. Step up efforts to combat prejudices against ethnic minorities and to improve relations between the general public and minority communities (Malaysia);
- A - 110.43. Intensify measures aiming at promoting tolerance, intercultural dialogue and the respect of diversity, strengthening awareness-raising campaigns (Spain);
- A - 110.44. Take actions to combat discrimination and prejudice by promoting intercultural dialogue in cooperation with the media to prevent racist statements, hate speech and attacks against ethnic minorities and promote respect for cultural diversity (Thailand);
- A - 110.45. Continue to take measures to combat intolerance based on ethnic origin, in particular against the Roma community (Portugal);
- A - 110.46. Take the necessary measures to continue promoting a culture of tolerance and non-discrimination in Slovak society (Nicaragua);
- A - 110.47. Intensify efforts in the field of ethnic diversity, including by strengthening the inclusive and multicultural education system (Indonesia);
- A - 110.48. Take more resolute legal and practical measures to combat intolerance based on ethnic origin and take further steps to promote mutual understanding and respect between persons belonging to various groups (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- A - 110.49. Adopt effective measures to prevent any manifestation of discrimination and racism (Uzbekistan);
- A - 110.50. Intensify efforts to combat discrimination against ethnic minorities, particularly Roma and migrants (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 110.51. Continue to intensify the necessary actions to eliminate discrimination as well as the trend and/or media dissemination of stereotypes, which may encourage discrimination against minorities, particularly against Roma and Hungarians. (Argentina);

A - 110.52. Eradicate stereotypes and widespread abuse of Roma (Bangladesh);

A - 110.53. Take concrete steps to further develop and implement initiatives targeting not only the Roma minority but also the majority population, including children and adults, in order to increase mutual understanding and respect with a view of combating the nourishment of societal discrimination against Roma (Denmark);

A - 110.54. Make all necessary efforts to address discrimination against Roma, including in employment, education, health care, housing and loan practices (Australia);

A - 110.55. Create effective administrative and judicial mechanisms to remedy discriminatory acts against Roma and other minorities (India);

A - 110.56. Strengthen measures on combating discrimination against women and Roma, as well as eliminate stereotypes of Roma and indigenous people through awareness-raising campaigns (Azerbaijan);

A - 110.57. Strengthen its efforts to combat racist attacks committed by law enforcement personnel, particularly against the Roma, by among others, providing special training to law enforcement personnel aimed at promoting respect for human rights and tolerance for diversity (Austria);

A - 110.58. Unequivocally and publicly condemn attacks against Roma and other minorities whenever they occur and effectively investigate all reported cases of harassment of members of the Roma by the police forces (Austria);

A - 110.59. Increase its efforts to combat racist attacks committed by law enforcement personnel, particularly against the Roma (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

A - 110.60. Do all the necessary to prevent and effectively and thoroughly investigate all violent attacks against the Roma, including those committed by the police forces (Slovenia);

A - 110.61. Enhance its efforts to curb hate speech in the media while investigating and appropriately sanctioning the perpetrators for such hate speeches (Bangladesh);

A - 110.62. Modify the criminal codes to clearly address hate speech and racial and religious incitement in the context of election campaigns (Egypt);

A - 110.63. Investigate and prosecute allegations of all hate speech and political discourse against minorities (Malaysia);

A - 110.64. Investigate and punish all instances of racist statements or of intolerance of ethnic minorities in speeches by politicians and public officials (Mexico);

A - 110.65. Step up its efforts towards advancing the specific courses of action taken in its struggle against discrimination such as programmes to fight poverty and social exclusion, the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 and the endorsement of the Committee for the Rights of LGBTI persons, and launch campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for diversity aimed at all segments of society (Brazil);

A - 110.66. Adopt effective measures to combat extremism and prevent all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, including amending its legislation so as to forbid and prevent activities of extremist organizations (Belarus);

A - 110.67. Increase the monitoring of extremist organizations that act in a discriminatory manner, take effective measures against them, and criminalize and prosecute the financing and participation in those organizations (Spain);

N - 110.68. Ban in law and prevent activities of the extremist organizations (Uzbekistan);

A - 110.69. Step up its efforts to clamp down on racism and acts of extremism in line with its concept of combating extremism for 2011–2014 (China);

A - 110.70. Continue to support the rights of the LGBTI community through its human rights framework (Australia);

A - 110.71. Consider adopting measures to prevent gender-based violence, including amending legislation to include such an offence (Thailand);

A - 110.72. Take steps for the comprehensive prohibition of corporal punishment, including when exercising parental rights (Estonia);

A - 110.73. That legislation on the ban of corporal punishment in the exercise of parental rights be approved (Portugal);

A - 110.74. Reinforce preventive measures for combating trafficking in women and girls for purposes such as sexual exploitation (Sri Lanka);

A - 110.75. Implement effectively the National Plan of Action on Combating Human Trafficking (Turkmenistan);

A - 110.76. Provide adequate resources to fully implement its National Programme to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, paying particular attention to combating trafficking of children (Philippines);

A - 110.77. Step up efforts in the area of combating trafficking in human beings, including measures on the protection, reintegration and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking (Belarus);

A - 110.78. Pay special attention to the adoption of comprehensive measures to address the aggravating problem of trafficking in children. Consider the possibility of sending an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (Belarus);

A - 110.79 Continue to strengthen its policy to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking, particularly by providing assistance to victims, regardless of their nationality (Cyprus);

A - 110.80. Adopt measures to identify the root causes for the exploitation of children, including through prostitution and pornography, and implement adequate mechanisms for prevention and protection (Ecuador);

A - 110.81. Continue to fight human trafficking in all its forms paying special attention to the situation of the victims (Romania);

A - 110.82. Ensure that assistance is provided to all victims of human trafficking and that the authorities devise specific programmes aiming at the reintegration of victims of human trafficking into the labour market and education system (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

A - 110.83. Ensure close cooperation between the police and the NGOs which provide assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings (Slovenia);

A - 110.84. Improve identification of the victims of trafficking in human beings by setting up a coherent national mechanism of identification and referral of such cases (Republic of Moldova);

A - 110.85. Ensure that child victims of offences under OP-CRC-SC are provided with assistance, including social reintegration and physical and psychological recovery (Republic of Moldova);

A - 110.86. That the Government of Slovakia work to raise awareness amongst vulnerable communities of the dangers of human exploitation and to ensure these communities receive adequate support (United Kingdom);

A - 110.87. Ensure full independence of the judiciary system (Turkmenistan);

A - 110.88. That necessary reforms to ensure proper functioning and legitimacy of the judiciary are undertaken, in a transparent and inclusive process with all stakeholders including the civil society (Norway);

A - 110.89. Take effective measures to ensure full independence of the Judicial Council, and the independence of the judiciary (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 110.90. Take measures to strengthen the full independence of its legal system and shorten the time it takes for cases to go through the courts in order to boost the population's confidence in the legal system (France);

A - 110.91. Fully implement the European Commission's 2013 recommendations related to the reform of public administration and the efficiency of the judicial system (United States);

A - 110.92. Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma (Azerbaijan);

A - 110.93. Ensure appropriate investigation of all acts of violence committed for racial motives and punish those responsible for them (Uzbekistan);

A - 110.94. Take all necessary measures to prevent illegal treatment by law enforcement bodies, ensure impartial investigation of all reports of torture and ill-treatment in order to bring the offenders to justice (Uzbekistan);

A - 110.95. Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma and amend the Criminal Code so as to introduce and adopt stronger punishments for racially motivated crimes committed by police officers (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

A - 110.96. Conduct immediate and impartial investigation of all reports on torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, bring those found guilty to justice and provide compensation to victims (Belarus);

A - 110.97. Make sure that all victims of discrimination have access to effective remedies and the means to obtain them (Belgium);

- A - 110.98. Ensure effective legal protection for victims of discrimination (Pakistan);
- A - 110.99. Consider establishing an independent body with the right to undertake unannounced visits to all places of deprivation of liberty, including police stations and pretrial detention facilities, with a view to an early ratification of OP-CAT (Czech Republic);
- A - 110.100. Continue to take all necessary steps to combat corruption, ensure judicial independence and promote a fair and transparent legal system for all Slovak citizens (Australia);
- A - 110.101. Sustain and promote the family, based on the stable relationship between a man and a woman, as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Holy See);
- A - 110.102. Continue to strengthen efforts to eliminate discrimination in employment and occupation faced particularly by women and Roma persons, pursuant to the recommendations of ILO supervisory bodies (United States);
- A - 110.103. Implement measures that guarantee the right to work to its citizens, in particular to youth under the age of 25 and women (Cuba);
- A - 110.104. Bridge the wage gap between men and women (Libya);
- A - 110.105. Better ensure the effective enforcement of laws against sexual harassment and adopt additional preventive and protective measures to combat sexual violence in the workplace (Netherlands);
- A - 110.106. Take measures to guarantee access to safe drinking water for all its population (Chile);
- A - 110.107. Increase inputs to help to improve the living standards of people living in poverty and create more job opportunities for women, youth and other special groups (China);
- A - 110.108. Adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual health and reproductive rights based on human rights and WHO standards and allocate sufficient financial and human resources for their implementation (Belgium);
- A - 110.109. Increase access to contraceptive methods for all women as required by CESC (Belgium);
- A - 110.110. Continue to safeguard the choice of health-care workers to have recourse to the principle of conscientious objection (Holy See);
- N - 110.111. Maintain the protection of the right to life from conception to natural death following article 15 of the Slovak constitution that states: "Human life is worthy of protection even prior to birth" (Holy See);
- A - 110.112. Ensure women's access to quality sexual education as well as to condoms and other means necessary for the practice of an informed and responsible sexual health (Mexico);
- A - 110.113. Adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual and reproductive health and rights, based on international human rights and WHO standards, and involve non-governmental organizations working on women's rights and on reproductive rights in the preparation and implementation of this programme (Netherlands);

A - 110.114. Continue pursuing appropriate and efficient policies aimed at further improving access to education for socially disadvantaged children and consider, if necessary, the adoption of additional measures (Czech Republic);

A - 110.115. Continue efforts to develop the capacities of the institutions that deal with disabled persons (Oman);

A - 110.116. Improve legislation in the area of the protection of the rights of the national minorities (Russian Federation);

A - 110.117. Continue improving the protection of national minorities in Slovakia, such as through institutional and legislative developments (Montenegro);

A - 110.118. Support the preservation and development of the cultures of national minorities (Sri Lanka);

A - 110.119. Adopt positive policies to include representatives of minorities at various levels in national and local government (Uruguay);

A - 110.120. In line with the suggestions of the Council of Europe, improve efforts to provide adequate opportunities for children belonging to minorities to learn their mother tongue and to study in their mother tongue in schools (Hungary);

A - 110.121. Fully implement its National Roma Integration Strategy to combat socioeconomic marginalization and discrimination and continue to condemn all acts of violence against Roma persons (United States); continue to implement the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 (Angola); reinforce the provisions of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma (Chile); take all necessary measures to implement the National Roma Integration Strategy. This includes the provision of financial means regarding the efficient implementation of this Strategy (Austria);

A - 110.122. Strengthen its obligations under the Strategy for Roma Integration with a view to effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other interrelated forms of intolerance (Cuba);

A - 110.123. Continue with activities towards implementing the revised National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion for 2011–2015 and the adopted Strategy for the Integration of Roma up to 2020 (Montenegro);

A - 110.124. Assess the implementation of the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 annually and keep Roma NGOs, including women's and children's organizations, actively involved in the implementation and assessment of the strategy (Finland);

A - 110.125. Promote a more effective policy aimed at integrating Roma on issues related to education, employment, housing and health, that will produce positive results (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 110.126. Focus on education as the most important part of a long term sustainable solution for the Roma population and have patience and perseverance with this work. Roma children must be given the same opportunities and not put in schools aimed at mentally challenged students (Sweden);

A - 110.127. Strengthen efforts to include Roma children in mainstream education (Sri Lanka);

A - 110.128. Introduce a clear duty on all schools to desegregate education and end discrimination against Romani children (Israel);

A - 110.129. That further steps are taken in order to review existing policies and practices that lead to segregation of Roma children in schools (Portugal); adopt a concrete plan and measures leading to the abolition of segregated settings and achievement of better education outcomes for children from Romani communities (Austria);

N - 110.130. Take measures that ensure that children of ethnic minorities can remain within the school system. In this regard, it is suggested that these measures are implemented at the level of local governments with an important number of Roma or Hungarian population residing there and that adequate follow-up of the progress is carried out in this regard (Uruguay);

A - 110.131. Adopt and implement a sound legal framework and appropriate policies to address the issue of discriminatory practices against Roma in the education system, utilizing the definition of segregation provided by the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and of the regional court in Prešov, including measures to ensure that the court's definition of ethnic segregation in education is disseminated and promoted to the relevant stakeholders (Ireland);

A - 110.132. Further increase its efforts to end the segregation of Roma children in schools by tasking an appropriate authority with the clear responsibility of identifying segregation and giving schools binding guidelines to end segregating practices (Finland);

A - 110.133. Establish a task force of relevant ministries and civil society organizations to develop a plan to desegregate Roma education and to ensure the necessary resources are available to begin implementation (Canada);

A - 110.134. That appropriate steps are taken to ensure inclusive education in Slovak schools and to desegregate students that have been placed in special classes or special schools on other grounds than mental disability (Norway);

N - 110.135. Intensify efforts to increase the rate of registration and participation in the educational system of Roma children (Albania);

N - 110.136. Adopt a national strategy and plan of action to ensure access to adequate and acceptable education for Roma children (Uzbekistan);

A - 110.137. Pay particular attention to the provision of adequate basic services to the Roma population, such as drinking water, sanitation, electricity and systems of sewage and waste disposal (Spain);

A - 110.138. Ensure that housing policies are motivated by the integration of Roma and other marginalized and vulnerable groups and that they avoid all forms of exclusion or forced segregation (Mexico);

A - 110.139. Put an end to forced evictions and demolition of Roma settlements without previous notice and, if such cases take place, offer alternative housing solutions (Spain);

A - 110.140. Make sure to strike a balance between the need to give Roma a chance to own their own land and the risk of cemented segregation that might bring. Giving the Roma the chance to buy out the now, sometimes illegal, lands of settlements would create better possibilities also to claim the need for sanitation and municipal services (Sweden);

A - 110.141. Stop the land segregation that has fomented the building of walls and barriers in areas such as Prešov, Michalovce, Partizanske or Trebišov (Spain);

A - 110.142. Take steps to facilitate access to education, health and housing for the Roma community (India);

A - 110.143. Take further measures for the sustainable development of the Roma community with a focus on their integration into mainstream society (India);

N - 110.144. Step up its efforts in order to improve the participation of the Roma minority in parliament, having in view the fact that one Roma candidate was elected in the parliamentary elections in 2012 (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)¹;

A - 110.145. Put in place mechanisms to identify at an early stage children among refugees and asylum seekers who might have been involved in armed conflict in order to ensure their protection, recovery and reintegration (Bulgaria);

A - 110.146. Implement laws and policies that protect and promote the civil, political, social and economic rights of migrants, Roma people, refugees and asylum seekers, especially the rights to health, to education and to work (Holy See);

Notes

¹ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue was: "Step up its efforts in order to improve the participation of Roma minority in the Parliament having in view the fact that no Roma candidate was elected on the parliamentary elections in 2010" (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia).

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