



**Submission provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Compilation Report
(Excerpts of Treaty Body Concluding Observations and Special Procedure
Reports) - Universal Periodic Review:**

Portugal

We would like to bring your attention to the following excerpts of Treaty Body Concluding Observations and Special Procedure reports relating to issues of interest and concern to UNHCR with regards to Portugal.

Treaty Body Concluding Observations

**CEDAW/C/PRT/CO/7 42nd session
1 April 2009**

7. The Committee welcomes the introduction, as of 2008, of women's access to refugee status determination procedures with systematic registration of their asylum claims independently from the principal male applicant of the family. It also welcomes the new asylum law that exempts asylum seekers who are minors and their family members from detention at border crossing points during the admissibility stage, which benefits in particular single parent families.

46. The Committee notes the lack of information in the periodic reports on the situation of Roma women, as well as on refugee, asylum-seeking and immigrant women.

47. The Committee requests the State party to provide, in its next periodic report, detailed information, including statistical information, on the situation and socioeconomic status of Roma, refugee, asylum-seeking and immigrant women, including their access to employment and social services.

**CAT/C/PRT/CO/4 39th session
19 February 2008**

4. The Committee welcomes the entry into force of the following legislation:

(a) Act No. 23/2007 of 4 July 2007, according to which foreign nationals may not be deported to a country where they would be in danger of being subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

CERD/C/65/CO/6 65th session

10 December 2004

10. The Committee expresses concern about allegations it has received of instances of police misconduct towards ethnic minorities or persons of non-Portuguese origin, including excessive use of force, ill-treatment and violence.

The Committee recommends that the State party investigate thoroughly, impartially and effectively all allegations of ill-treatment, violence or excessive use of force by police officers, bring those responsible to justice and provide adequate remedies and compensation to the victims. Furthermore, in light of its general recommendation XIII, the Committee recommends that the State party continue to provide intensive training to law enforcement officials so as to ensure that in the performance of their duties they respect and protect human dignity and maintain and uphold the human rights of all persons without distinction as to race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin.

15. The Committee is concerned about the non-suspensive effect of appeal in the admissibility phase of the asylum procedure, which may result in creating an irreversible situation, even if the decision of the administrative authorities were to be overturned on appeal.

The Committee urges the State party to guarantee respect for the legal safeguards for asylum-seekers and to ensure that its asylum law and procedures conform to its international obligations in this field.

**Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section
Division of International Protection Services
UNHCR
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