

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports

ITALY

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Italy's acceptance of numerous recommendations made during the review of Italy on refugees and migrants, including on protection, reception conditions and unaccompanied minors.¹ Amnesty International calls on Italy to implement these urgently.

Since the beginning of this year, over 8,000 refugees and migrants have reached Italy after a dangerous sea crossing, while about 400 have died in the attempt.

In 2014, Italian authorities rescued some 170,000 individuals through Operation Mare Nostrum, and during the interactive dialogue numerous delegations lauded this operation. Yet, shortly after the review in October 2014, Italy ended this life-saving operation. Amnesty International has repeatedly called on Italy – as well as on EU institutions and EU Member States – to ensure that a search-and-rescue operation of at least a comparable scale and mandate to Operation Mare Nostrum is urgently put in place in the central Mediterranean. We acknowledge the efforts that the Italian authorities continue to perform to rescue people at sea, even in

¹ Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review – Italy, A/HRC/28/4, 10 December 2014, recommendations 145.63 (Algeria), 145.69 (Bangladesh), 145.71 (Uzbekistan), 145.72 (Argentina), 145.78 (Togo), 145.80 (Tunisia), 145.90 (Ghana), 145.91 (China), 145.124 (Moldova), 145.125 (Holy See), 145.137 (Mexico), 145.138 (Kyrgyzstan), 145.139 (Sri Lanka), 145.156 (Venezuela), 145.159 (Trinidad and Tobago), 145.160 (Cote d'Ivoire), 145.161 (Cuba), 145.162 (Djibouti), 145.163 (Kenya), 145.164 (Japan), 145.165 (South Sudan), 145.166 (Philippines), 145.167 (Qatar), 145.168 (Guatemala), 145.169 (Nicaragua), 145.171 (Holy See), 145.172 (Turkey), 145.173 (Israel), 145.174 (Netherlands), 145.175 (Norway), 145.177 (Sudan), 145.178 (Kyrgyzstan), 145.179 (Denmark), 145.180 (Brazil), 145.181 (Angola), and 145.182 (Bangladesh).

the absence of an ad hoc operation, but we foresee avoidable tragedies if search-and-rescue efforts are not immediately stepped up.

Mr. President,

Amnesty International also welcomes Italy's acceptance of recommendations to strengthen the protection of the human rights of Roma, including by combatting discrimination and racial segregation of Roma and by implementing the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion.² We remain deeply concerned about violations of the rights of Roma, especially continuing forced evictions, segregation in mono-ethnic camps, and discrimination in access to social housing. We urge Italy to implement the recommendations it has accepted on Roma rights, in particular as regards access to adequate housing without discrimination.³

Finally, we regret Italy's decades-long failure to introduce the crime of torture in accordance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and to create a National Human Rights Institution based on the Paris Principles. We welcome Italy's accept of the numerous recommendations to remedy these failures and call for their early implementation.⁴

Thank you, Mr. President,

² A/HRC/28/4, recommendations 145.69 (Bangladesh), 145.85 (Chile), 145.88 (Pakistan), 145.92 (Russia), 145.145 (Germany), 145.146 (USA), 145.147 (Finland), 145.148 (Finland), 145.149 (Serbia), 145.50 (Holy See), 145.151 (Sri Lanka), 145.153 (Ghana), 145.155 (Iran), and 145.156 (Venezuela).

³ A/HRC/28/4, recommendation 145.151 (Sri Lanka).

⁴ A/HRC/28/4, recommendations 145.99 (Australia), 145.26 (Malaysia), 145.27 (Bulgaria), 145.28 (Chad), 145.29 (Indonesia), 145.30 (Bahrain), 145.31 (Chile), 145.32 (Morocco), 145.33 (DRC), 145.36 (Senegal), 145.37 (Costa Rica), 145.38 (Azerbaijan), 145.39 (Peru), 145.40 (Kenya), 145.41 (Egypt), 145.42 (Guatemala), 145.43 (Denmark), 145.44 (Pakistan), 145.45 (Uruguay), 145.46 (France), 145.47 (Ireland), and 145.48 (India).