

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SINGAPORE

CZECH REPUBLIC

- What steps does the Government take to protect the freedom of speech and peaceful assembly? Does it prepare revision of the Internal Security Act and the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act and other laws in order to eliminate censorship of the media content as well as self-censorship of media outlets? Does it plan strengthening of protection of the freedom of expression with regard to online bloggers?
- What measures is the Government adopting to eliminate discriminatory provisions in its national legislation with regard to women and other groups such as LGBTIs? In this regard, does it consider revision of the article 377A of the Penal Code?
- Does Singapore consider ratification of the CAT and OP-CAT? Does the Government consider revision of national legislation allowing for corporal punishment?
- What steps have been taken since the last UPR regarding the ratification of the ICCPR and ICESCR and other core international human rights instruments, such as the ICERD and optional protocols to international human rights treaties? Has the Government considered withdrawal of its reservations to the CRC and further withdrawal of reservations to the CEDAW as recommended by relevant treaty bodies?
- Does the Government consider establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty?

GERMANY

- How many persons are currently detained without a trial under the relevant laws, including ISA, CLTPA, MSA, UPA?
- Would Singapore consider bringing its domestic legislation in line with international standards and abolish caning, as first steps for minors and as a mandatory sentence?
- The current law and practice of low job mobility (recruitment fees, sponsorship system) may lead to situations of forced labor. How does the Government of Singapore plan to tackle this problem?
- Would Singapore consider making the Foreign Employee Dormitories Act applicable to all dormitories, so that all migrant workers can profit from the standards that it sets?

LIECHTENSTEIN

- Liechtenstein recognizes that, during the first cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, Singapore accepted a recommendation to accede to the Rome Statute. What steps has Singapore taken to accede to the Rome Statute in its 2010 version?

NETHERLANDS

- Would Singapore be willing to develop and adopt a National Action Plan to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights?
- Would Singapore be willing to re-establish a moratorium on executions, and take other concrete steps towards the complete abolition of the death penalty?
- Would Singapore consider to end caning and all other forms of corporal punishment, and repeal its legislation that permits such punishments?
- Would Singapore be willing to repeal section 377A of the penal code which criminalizes all sexual relations between two male persons?
- Would Singapore be willing to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and implement it in national law?

SLOVENIA

- What steps has the Government taken to implement the CEDAW recommendation on incorporating into its legislation a definition of discrimination against women?
- While we welcome the ratification of the CRPD convention in 2013, we would be interested to learn if Singapore is considering signing and ratifying the optional protocol to the CRPD convention.

SWEDEN

- What steps have been taken since the last UPR to make statistics and other relevant information on the use of the death penalty publically available?
- Is the Government of Singapore ready to reconsider its position regarding corporal punishment of children and prohibit such practices in all settings?
- What measures have been taken to remove all censorship guidelines that allow for the discriminatory treatment of LGBT-related material and viewpoints?

- The use of defamation lawsuits to silence Government critics risks suppressing freedom of speech. What measures is the Government of Singapore taking to ensure freedom of expression for all inhabitants, including in the online sphere?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- Does the government of Singapore intend to regulate the practice labelled ‘female circumcision’ to clearly prohibit harmful procedures and prevent Female Genital Mutilation tourism?
- Will the government consider a dialogue on National Service issues with the Jehovah’s Witness community to find an alternative to the ban on the practice of their religion and the imprisonment of Jehovah’s Witnesses who refuse compulsory military service?
- When will the government of Singapore consider reforming censorship laws so as to enable the TV and print media to depict realistic portrayals of LGBT people?
- Can the government of Singapore provide more statistics on prisons and criminal punishment, in particular the number of people on death row and the number of people sentenced to corporal punishment?
- Would the government of Singapore consider replacing the Sedition Act with legislation that is specifically focused on incitement to racial hatred?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- We remain concerned about the regular use of corporal punishment in the criminal system, in particular caning, for offenses such as vandalism and violation of immigration laws. What consideration has Singapore given to establishing a moratorium on corporal punishment in the criminal system, most urgently for non-violent offenses?
- We are troubled that LGBTI persons reportedly face institutionalized discrimination in Singapore, including government censorship of LGBTI topics in the arts and media. What consideration has Singapore given to creating new legislation to protect LGBTI individuals’ ability to enjoy freedom of expression?
- We are concerned that some laws, including the Internal Security Act and the Criminal Law Act, appear to allow for indefinite detention without a warrant or judicial review. What measures is Singapore considering to ensure that any detentions are lawful and subject to judicial review?

- We welcome Singapore's work to promote religious tolerance, but we are concerned that members of certain religions face restrictions on the practice of their faiths, including the wearing of hijabs by certain public sector professionals and the continued ban on Jehovah's Witnesses and the Unification Church. What actions has Singapore taken, or considered taking, to relax these restrictions?
- We are concerned about the 2013 Online News Licensing Scheme's (ONLS) limitations on internet speech, which have severely constrained Singaporean journalists and bloggers by requiring some media outlets to put up a \$50,000 bond and authorizing the government to shut down websites which post politically sensitive content on the grounds of undermining national harmony. How has Singapore considered narrowing the scope of ONLS to ensure that journalists can exercise their freedom of expression?
- We welcome the 2015 entry-into-force of Singapore's Prevention of Human Trafficking Act. What actions has the government taken since the law came into effect to increase investigations and prosecutions of trafficking offenses, including debt bondage, and convictions and punishments of both sex and labor traffickers?