

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

2ND BATCH

BELGIUM

- Is the Government of Venezuela considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures and responding positively to the outstanding requests of special rapporteurs to visit the country?
- Which measures is the Government of Venezuela considering to address extrajudicial killings and excessive use of force by law enforcement officers? Will prompt, independent, impartial and effective investigations be launched into these crimes in order to bring the perpetrators to justice?
- Which measures is the Government of Venezuela considering to take in order to ensure an effective response to all forms of violence against women and girls? Does the Government envisage further implementation of the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence, as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women?
- Which concrete measures is the Government of Venezuela taking to ensure the full enjoyment of the freedom of association, expression and peaceful assembly, in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?
- What follow-up has been given to the recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights regarding the availability and quality of health-care services? Is Venezuela considering adopting a comprehensive program on sexual health and reproductive rights based on human rights and WHO standards?

GERMANY

- Venezuela still is one of the most violent countries in Latin America. What steps does the government take to reduce the homicide rate in your country? What is the government doing to prevent violent attacks by security forces such as during the demonstrations in spring 2014 or by OLP ("operation for the liberation of the people") and what measures does your government foresee to ensure that police and security forces comply fully and at all times with international human rights standards?
- For the last year, the Venezuelan people have been seriously affected by shortage of food and medical goods. What measures does the government take in order to address shortages of food, water, electricity supply and basic necessities as well as medicines and surgical and medical equipment in order to improve living conditions without delay, ensuring the full implementation of the 2015 recommendations by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights?
- What are Venezuela's plans to reduce child and maternal mortality?
- Germany notes with concern that, raising serious questions about the separation of constitutional power, the Supreme Court's judgments are exclusively in favor of the government. What is Venezuela doing to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judicial system?
- In 2015 Venezuela recorded the greatest decline in the World Press Freedom Index (by Reporters without borders). How does Venezuela intend to improve media legislation and the working conditions of journalists in order to guarantee freedom of expression in your country and to protect representatives of the media from legal harassment, unlawful detention and intimidation?