







REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
ANNEX
Implementation of Recommendations
Third Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review



Recommendations	Status of implementation	Assessment/Comment on the degree of implementation
Area: Review of Approval of International Human Rights Instruments		
131.1. Consider finalizing the ratification process of the International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Egypt)/Consider ratifying ICRMW not only to ensure access to just conditions of work and basic social service for migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations, but also to prevent discrimination (Philippines);	 Full implementation	Among the recommendations issued under the Second Cycle of UPR the Republic of Serbia considered the proposal for the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The assessment is that the Convention cannot be ratified, having in mind that its implementation would create excessive financial obligations for the state, ones it could not adequately implement with the existing gross domestic product and national per capita income.
131.2. Accede to the ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);	 Partial implementation	In 2013 the Republic of Serbia and the International Labour Organization signed the Decent Work Country Programme for the period 2013-2017. International Labour Organization Convention no. 189 was not identified as a priority obligation, thus its ratification is potentially planned for the period beyond 2017.
132.1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Portugal);	 Full implementation	The optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the trafficking of children, child prostitution and child pornography was verified in 2002.
133.2 Ratify Additional Protocol III of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 (Estonia);	 Full implementation	The Law Confirming the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and relating to the adoption of an additional distinctive emblem (Protocol III) was adopted in 5 May 2010 and came into force on 29 May 2010.

Area: National Plan for Human Rights

<p>131.11. Consider formulating a national human rights plan of action that unifies all efforts and stakeholders as well as streamline and mainstream all human rights programmes (Indonesia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Under the EU association process, in April 2016, the Republic of Serbia adopted the Action Plan for negotiation chapter 23: judiciary and fundamental rights, representing a strategic document in the field of protection and improvement of human rights, defining public policy in this field, and significantly improving implementation, coordination, deadlines and financing of reform.</p> <p>Key measures are being implemented in the field of the judiciary regarding the independence, impartiality and responsibility, as well as professional capacity and efficiency of the judiciary, as well as measures for processing war crimes; a set of anti-corruption measures, measures for the prohibition of torture, inhumane or degrading treatment and punishment, non-discrimination, protection of vulnerable groups, protection of the rights of national minorities, etc. Over 700 activities for the implementation of measures are planned. An institutional, legislative and strategic framework has been set up in the field of human rights protection and promotion.</p> <p>The capacities of ministry staff have been improved through education for monitoring the implementation of national policies, laws, strategies and action plans at the local level. Staff capacities have been strengthened in local self-government units and CSOs.</p>
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Area: National Mechanism for Reporting on and Monitoring Human Rights

<p>131.4. Consider establishing a national organ to monitor implementation of the recommendations of UN human rights mechanisms (Ukraine);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Government of the Republic of Serbia formed the Council for Implementation of the Recommendations of the UN Human Rights Mechanisms in 2014. This body aims to efficiently monitor the recommendations and improve intersectoral cooperation with the aim of their implementation and strengthening of cooperation with UN mechanisms.</p> <p>The Council drafted a plan for compliance with all recommendations issued to Serbia, with a status, goal, deadlines and bodies competent for the implementation of each individual recommendation, including the recommendations of UN treaty bodies and recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review.</p> <p>The work of the Council is based on two key principles: Inclusion and transparency. Inclusion means that the work of the Council involves, in addition to executive authority bodies and the competent committees of the National Assembly of RS, independent bodies, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders. Transparency involves openness and honesty in the process. The Council represents a forum for discussion, and provides an opportunity for the improvement of communication and cooperation both among executive authorities, as well as between executive authorities and other stakeholders.</p>
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<p>131.5. Implement mechanisms to follow up UPR recommendations in order to verify the implementation and impact of policies and measures adopted to promote equality of rights and non-discrimination for all citizens, in particular the measures aimed at vulnerable groups such as women, children, ethnic minorities, the LGBTI community and persons in the situation of disability (Colombia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.4.</p>
<p>Area: Cooperation with UN treaty bodies</p>		
<p>132.12. Continue active and close cooperation with UN treaty bodies (Estonia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Republic of Serbia is a party to nine fundamental international United Nations treaties in the field of human rights protection. The country is regularly submitting periodic reports to the UN Treaty Bodies, along with responses on the priority implementation of recommendations from the Concluding Observations.</p> <p>The recommendations received by the signatory state from the UN treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council after considering the national reports have been installed into policies in the field of protection and improvement of human rights, and their implementation is monitored at the Government level through the system for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of UN human rights mechanisms.</p> <p>During the reporting period the Republic of Serbia presented the UN treaty bodies with the following: Second and Third Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination of Women (July 2013); Second Periodic Review on the implementation of the International Treaty on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (May 2014); Initial report on the implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (February 2015); Second Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention Against Torture (April 2015); Initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (April 2016); Second and Third periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (January 2017) and the Third periodic report on the implementation of the International Treaty on Civic and Political Rights (March 2017).</p>

The Republic of Serbia submitted the following to the UN treaty bodies: Second and Third periodic report on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (January 2016); Report on the implementation of recommendations no. 17 and 23 from the Concluding Observations regarding the Second and Third periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (April 2016); Report on the implementation of recommendations no. 9a and 19 from the Concluding Observations regarding the Second periodic report on the implementation of the Convention against Torture (April 2016); Report on the implementation of recommendation no. 11, 14 and 28 from the Concluding Observations regarding the Initial report on the implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (May 2016); Report on the implementation of recommendations no. 34 and 54 from the Concluding Observations regarding the Initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (May 2017), and the Fourth periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (July 2017).

The Republic of Serbia is supporting the work and cooperating with UN special procedures, as confirmed by its open call for all thematic procedures since 11 October 2005.




RS is also successfully cooperating with the relevant Council of Europe and Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE) bodies.





During the reporting period, the delegation of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane or Degrading Punishment or Procedures (CPT) visited the Republic of Serbia between 26 May and 5 June 2015, along with an ad hoc visit between 31 May and 7 June 2017.



The Council of Europe European Convention against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) visited Serbia in September 2016 under the fifth cycle of monitoring.


The Republic of Serbia completed the second round of assessment of the implementation of the CE Convention on Combating Human Trafficking. The Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) stayed in the Republic of Serbia between 6 and 10 March 2017.

Area: National Human Rights Protection Mechanisms

<p>131.7. Continue to strengthen the role of national human rights protection mechanisms (Bhutan);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The responsibility for the implementation of national legislation and accepted international obligations in the field of human rights protection belongs to the executive, legislative and judicial authorities in RS. New mechanisms have also been established for the creation and monitoring of adopted policy.</p> <p>Likewise, the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, as an institutional mechanism for support and development of dialogue between public administration bodies and CSOs, created and established clear standards and procedures for the inclusion of civil society at all levels of decision-making.</p> <p>An adequate legal framework and financial funds have been secured for the operation of all independent human rights bodies, as well as for the efficient and independent execution of the mandate with the aim of strengthening their legitimacy and credibility. The funds for the operation of independent state bodies provided from the budget of the Republic of Serbia have been constantly increasing. Likewise, these bodies have been exempt from the application of the Law on the Method of Establishing the Maximum Number of Employees in the Public Sector.</p> <p>In May 2015 the National Assembly elected a new Commissioner for the Protection of Equality. The Commissioner's office has been moved in 2016 to more adequate premises, with the first regional office opened on 20 March 2014 in Novi Pazar. The Action Plan for negotiation chapter 23 envisages measures for strengthening the capacities of the Ombudsman by way of amendments to the Law on the Ombudsman.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>131.9. Ensure the complementarity of the institutions for monitoring the protection of human rights (Republic of Moldova);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.7.</p>
<p>131.10. Step up efforts to ensure complementarity and adequate resources for its human rights monitoring and protection of infrastructure (Philippines);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.7.</p>

<p>132.3. Continue its measures with regard to the better regulation and mainstreaming of the operation of the Ombudsman (Azerbaijan);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Action Plan for negotiation chapter 23 envisages measures regarding the strengthening of the capacities of the Ombudsman through amendments to the Law on the Ombudsman - strengthening its independence and elaborating competences in accordance with the achieved level of development of this institution; through improving the human resources of the institution regarding the adoption of a new rulebook on the internal organization and systematization of jobs in the professional service of the Ombudsman; through securing adequate permanent premises for the institution of the Ombudsman; as well as measures aimed at strengthening the influence of the Ombudsman by prescribing the obligation of reporting to the European Commission on the actions of public authorities on the recommendations issued by this independent state body, as mandated by the Ombudsman, and as mandated by the national mechanism for the prevention of torture.</p>
<p>132.4. Work constantly toward strengthening the coordination among the national human rights mechanisms and regularly provide them with the resources necessary for their proper functioning (Algeria);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.7.</p>
<p>133.5. Establish an independent and external oversight mechanism for alleged unlawful acts by police and that the Ombudsman monitor and investigate these cases independently and impartially (Hungary);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Law on the Ombudsman established the Ombudsman, as an independent state body, protecting the rights of the citizens and controlling the work of public administration bodies, the body responsible for the legal protection of the property rights and interests of the Republic of Serbia, as well as other bodies and organizations, enterprises and institutions entrusted with public competences. Supervision over the work of the police is also within the purview of this independent body.</p>
Area: Human Rights Defenders		
<p>131.18. Establish a more effective mechanism of dialogue with human rights defenders in the area of sexual minorities (Spain);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Ministry of Justice, acting as the coordinator for Negotiation chapter 23: Judiciary and fundamental rights, is cooperating with the National Convention on the European Union. The National Convention consists of 200 CSOs.</p> <p>As an example of good practice, with the aim of cooperation with the civil sector, we note their participation in drafting the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection from Discrimination for the period 2013-2018.</p> <p>In February 2014 the Ministry of the Interior adopted an Action plan for the improvement of activities and cooperation of the police with representatives and associations of LGBTI persons, fully implemented, with the key activities being the appointment of a liaison officer for the LGBTI community in eight local self-government units, the drafting of the Manual for police work with the LGBTI population and trainings for police officers.</p> <p>These activities are being continuously implemented.</p>

<p>131,19. Denounce more forcefully all verbal and physical attacks on human rights defenders (Norway);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Attacks against human rights defenders have been strongly condemned by public authorities, in addition to processing by the prosecution.</p> <p>The attack on Boban Stojanović, gay activist and one of the organizers of the Pride Parade that occurred in August 2016 was strongly condemned by the chairman of the Council for Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality of the National Assembly of RS, Meho Omerović.</p> <p>The attack against the House of Human Rights in January 2016 was publicly condemned by the Minister of Police Nebojša Stefanović, the Mayor of Belgrade Siniša Mali, the political parties in power, as well as political parties in the opposition.</p> <p>The attack against gay activist Predrag Azdejković in September 2015 was also condemned by the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality Brankica Janković.</p> <p>The attack against an LGBTI activist, a German national that occurred in September 2014 was strongly condemned by then Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić, Minister of Police Nebojša Stefanović, Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dačić, the Director of the Office for Human and Minority Rights Suzana Paunović, then Commissioner for the Protection of Equality Nevena Petrušić and then Ombudsman Saša Janković.</p>
<p>Area: Training on Human Rights</p>		
<p>132.9. Continue its efforts in a systematic manner to increase the availability of human rights education and training programmes for the law enforcement and judicial authorities (Republic of Korea);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Judicial Academy has developed a training module in the field of human rights, with the training continuously implemented both for initial training attendees, as well as through continuous trainings for bearers of judicial functions. The programme of continuous training and plan of activities of the Judicial Academy also involves the training of judges and prosecutors for the implementation of international conventions on human rights with special reflection on the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Court of Human Rights, as well as introducing judges and prosecutors to EU standards, the EU acquis and obligations of the judiciary under the process of EU accession.</p> <p>Based on the established needs for professional development, programmes are continuously being organized and implemented for the general professional development of civil servants in public administration bodies and the Government service in the field of human rights protection.</p> <p>The Human Resource Management Service, under the annual plans, is implementing professional trainings for civil servants in the field of human rights protection and anti-discrimination. There were 35 trainings implemented during the reporting period covering 511 attendees from various public administration bodies. In addition to these trainings, the targeted trainings aimed at raising capacities for work with individual vulnerable social groups are also being implemented by the Criminal Sanctions Administration, ministries and offices in the Government, as well as independent state bodies.</p>

		<p>The Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities have organized 10 regional workshops entitled: “Protection from discrimination - recognizing and preventing cases of discrimination in the work of local self-government unit bodies”, implemented during the period March-April 2017. The workshops were attended by 173 LSU employees from around 66 towns and municipalities.</p> <p>During the 2015-2016 period the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government implemented trainings for registrars and deputy registrars, employees in social work centres and police administrations of the Ministry of the Interior, regarding the implementation of laws and other regulations regulating the method of entry of the personal names of members of national minorities in the registries in the language and script of members of the national minority, across all administration bodies entrusted with registry maintenance affairs.</p> <p>In accordance with the established Training Plan for 2015 regarding the application of laws and other regulations on the method of entry of personal names of members of national minorities in the registries in the language and script of a national minority, the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the Ombudsman and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees - 335 trainings have been organized in Serbia for registrars, social work centre workers and police officers, with a further 735 trainings held in 2016.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.10. Continue its efforts in the field of human rights education and training with a particular emphasis on the training of police and law enforcement officials (Morocco);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Government of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the office of the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and under the IPA 2011 project, organized a training on the role of the police in combating discrimination, attended by the heads and deputy heads of 160 police administrations from across Serbia, as well as former police functionaries. A media campaign was created and adopted, promotional and preventive activities at the local level were defined, and implemented during one year.</p>

		<p>During the period 2014 to 2016, through the cooperation of the Ministry of the Interior and the Judicial Academy in Belgrade, a training was implemented regarding the topic “Juvenile offenders and criminal-law protection of underage persons” for 186 police officers, new attendees. Since the start of the implementation of the Law on Juvenile Offenders and Criminal-Law Protection of Underage Persons until 2016, a total of 2,048 police officers have completed the training and received certificates guaranteeing they have acquired special knowledge in the field of rights of the child, juvenile offenders and criminal-law protection of underage persons.</p> <p>Under the EU IPA 2013 twinning project “Support to the improvement of human rights and zero tolerance for discrimination”, a training programme was drafted for representatives of police administrations regarding the topic “Intercultural communication and combating discrimination”. The training was implemented in May 2016 for 30 police officers at a higher and middle management level at the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>In cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, a training has been successfully implemented for 23 police officers in Zemun, Vrbas and Prijepolje, whose priority area of activity will be prevention and community police work.</p>
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The department for professional education and training is implementing continuous trainings for police officers on the topic of human rights, namely through basic police training implemented at the Centre for Basic Police Training in Sremska Kamenica and through annual trainings comprising part of the Programme of professional development for police officers for the current year, implemented in all MoI organizational units.

The area of human rights in basic police training is represented under several subjects and professional modules, with a particularly important spot held by the subject “Human rights and the police code of ethics”, covering the following thematic areas: human rights and fundamental human freedoms; moral and ethics, deontology and police code of ethics. In addition to this subject, areas related to the protection of human rights and freedoms are also covered under the subjects: “Criminal and criminal-process law”, “Police officers: Rights, obligations and duties”, as well as the professional modules: Combating criminality, Application of police competences and use of means of enforcement, Community police work.

The education offers all trainees the opportunity to acquire the necessary knowledge and build the necessary views regarding respect for human rights and freedoms and prevention of torture and mistreatment by the police, as well as respecting the diversity of persons of different sexual orientation and gender identity.

The professional development programme of MoI police officers for 2016 and 2017 places particular emphasis on the topic of recognizing and reacting to discrimination and human rights. The programme envisages mandatory theoretical lectures for all MoI police officers regarding the following topics: Police work with marginalized, minority and socially vulnerably groups; Commission for the implementation of standards of treatment in the field of torture prevention; The term, recognition and police reaction to the various forms of discrimination.


Aiming to standardize and uniformly implement these thematic areas, the Department for Professional Development and Training - Section the Implementation of Training drafted manuals and presentations fully compatible with the curricula for the given topic.

During 2016, based on an approval by the Minister of the Interior and as proposed by the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality, the Department for Professional Education and Training, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, implemented a training for police officers on recognizing and combating discrimination; one-day seminars in seven towns across Serbia, attended by 140 police officers; a seminar on “Recognizing and reacting to discrimination”, intended for police officers of the criminal and traffic police, attended by 39 police officers from 10 police administrations.


The area of human rights in basic police training is represented under several subjects and professional modules, with a particularly important spot held by the subject “Human rights and the police code of ethics”, covering the following thematic areas: “Human rights and fundamental human freedoms”; “Moral and ethics”, “Deontology” and “Police code of ethics”. The thematic area of “Human rights and fundamental human freedoms” includes separate units with the titles: “Right to life and inviolability of psychological and physical integrity”, covering the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Treaty on Civil and Political Rights, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Punishments or Procedures, European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, European Police Code of Ethics, as well as the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guaranteeing the inviolability of physical and psychological integrity and other legal norms, as well as “Gender Equality” separately implementing segments of the Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on measures for combating discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The thematic area “Police code of ethics” covers two units: “Police codes of ethics” and “Fundamentals of the police code of ethics of the Republic of Serbia and the European Police Code of Ethics” (attendants are introduced to the Police Code of Ethics through case studies, situational exercises and role play, with particular emphasis on understanding the links between the Police Code of Ethics, police competences and human rights.

In addition to this subject, areas related to the protection of human rights and freedoms are also covered under the subjects: “Criminal and criminal-process law”, “Police officers: Rights, obligations and duties”, as well as the professional modules: Combating criminality, Application of police competences and use of means of enforcement, Community police work. Under the modular units “Incarceration of suspects” and “Seeking information”, attendees acquire knowledge on the rights of persons under arrest and adopt views on the necessity of respecting the rights of detained persons, respecting the “presumption of innocence”, respecting human dignity, reputation and honour of the detained person, respecting the principle of proportional use of force during arrest, showing care for the healthcare needs and safety of the detained person, to oppose all forms of torture, inhumane and degrading procedures, etc.


The teaching and modular units from the above subjects and professional modules also related to this field are: “Criminal offences against the rights and freedoms of people and citizens” (Violation of equality, Violation of the right to the use of language and script, Illegal detention, Forced statements, etc.), as well as “Legal remedies for citizens against MoI actions in the pre-criminal proceedings”, “Rights of persons under detention”, “Treatment of persons under detention”, “Obligations of police officers regarding respect for human dignity, reputation, honour and the right of the person to refuse making a statement”, “General conditions for the application of police authorizations”, “National and international standards of police actions”, “Police officers, their rights and obligations”, “Disciplinary liability of police officers”, “Respecting equality”, “Police work with minority and socially vulnerable groups”, “General conditions and principles for the application of police authorizations”, “Providing support, protection and assistance to victims (vulnerable groups in the application of law, etc.).


		<p>The implementation of four seminars was planned for 2017, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, regarding the topic “Recognizing and reacting to discrimination”, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On 10 and 11 April 2017 a seminar was implemented in Šabac for 29 police officers (Šabac 7, Valjevo 6, Niš 8 and Sremska Mitrovica 8) 2. On 20 and 21 April 2017 a seminar was implemented on Zlatibor for 28 police officers (Prijepolje 10, Užice 10 and Čačak 8) 3. On 4 and 5 May 2017 the implementation of a seminar was planned in Vrnjačka Banja for 29 police officers 4. On 18 and 19 May 2017 the implementation of a seminar was planned in Srebrno jezero for 29 police officers <p>A manual was produced in 2016 entitled “Manual for the training of police officers on the term, recognition and reaction to discrimination” as basic literature for teaching in this area.</p> <p>During 2017, 2018 and 2019, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the project “Improvement of police and local community relations” will be implemented, where police officers will participate in trainings on communication skills, public thematic discussions will be held, media campaigns will be held aiming to promote the cooperation of citizens and the police, and local action plans will be implemented in the field of prevention.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
Area: Right to privacy		
<p>132.74. Take measures to protect the right to privacy by developing an effective system for monitoring the legality of data collection on citizens by Serbian security services and ensuring that the confidentiality of any collected information is respected (Canada);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Law on the Protection of Personal Data is being applied in the Republic of Serbia. The line ministry formed a WG for drafting the new Law on the Protection of Personal Data, intended to significantly improve personal data protection in accordance with the EU Regulation on personal data.</p>

Area: Access to Drinking Water


<p>132.85. Continue its effort to ensure the access of all citizens to safe drinking water and sanitation (Egypt);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Republic of Serbia has developed a national framework (constitutional, political and legislative) supporting the provision of water supply and sewage services. Regarding the division of responsibility in the sector of water supply, sewage and hygiene, the local self-government is tasked with ensuring a favourable environment for the supply of water and sewage services. Continuous efforts are being invested to provide citizens with access to potable water and a sewage system.</p> <p>Records have been established for the first time on the number and location of informal settlements (583). A geographic information system (GIS) has been established to enable the monitoring and improvement of housing conditions. There were 13 urban plans developed for substandard settlements in 11 municipalities, while 14 municipalities have prepared technical documentation for approximately 20 infrastructural projects. Infrastructural investments will be made during the coming period in these settlements to provide them with better living conditions.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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Area: Freedom of Religion/Churches and Religious Communities




<p>132.98. Resolve alleged discrimination in the restitution of property with regard to certain minority religious groups (Slovakia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Since the beginning of the implementation of the Law on Restitution of Property to Churches and Religious Communities, percentage-wise and in regards to land, the greatest number of resolved requests were by the Christian Adventist Church (100%), followed by the Evangelical Christian Church in the Republic of Serbia (92%), the Jewish religious community (91% of requested land areas), Serbian Orthodox Church (74,37%), Romanian Orthodox Church (69.27%), Christian Reformation Church (65.73%), Roman Catholic Church (61.13%), Greek Catholic Church (52.31%), etc.</p> <p>Regarding buildings, percentage-wise, the greatest number of resolved requests were by the Christian Adventist Church (100%), Christian Baptist Church (100%) and the Christian Nazarene Community (100%), followed by the Christian Reformation Church (95%), Romanian Orthodox Church (74.45%), the Jewish religious community (67.42%), Serbian Orthodox Church (28.15%), Roman Catholic Church (26.87%), Evangelical Christian Church in the Republic of Serbia (21.61%), etc.</p> <p>The verification of administrative acts by the Restitution Agency under second degree proceedings stands at over 95%, witnessing the legal and correct actions of Agency officials in restitution proceedings, regardless of the church or religious community in question.</p> <p>These activities are being continuously implemented.</p>
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<p>133.10. Enforce the principle of separation between State and Church in accordance with its own Constitution and not to condition the fulfilment of the rights of some of its citizens by the agreement of a religious body (Romania);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia prescribes that churches and religious communities shall be separate from the state. The Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with the Faculty of Law in Belgrade, prepared a comparative-law expert analysis regarding the regulation of the status of churches and religious communities, aiming to establish specific criteria based on the best practices of European Union member states, and to apply solutions accepted throughout the region.</p>
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Area: Freedom of Opinion and Expression and Freedom of Assembly

<p>132.75. Continue its efforts to strengthen the institutional and normative human rights framework, particularly with regard to freedom of expression (Australia);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guarantees freedom of expression and it may be limited by law only if necessary to protect the rights and reputation of others, maintain authority and impartiality of courts and protect public health, the morals of a democratic society and national security of the Republic of Serbia. The Constitution prohibits censorship. A set of media laws has been adopted, fully in line with the European regulatory framework (Law on Public Information and Media, Law on Electronic Media, Law on Public Media Services).</p> <p>Endangerment of security, as well as racial and other discrimination incriminating violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms based on differences in race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnicity or another personal characteristic, are regulated through the use of the Criminal Code.</p> <p>Action plans for the strategy of prevention and protection from discrimination, improvement of the work and cooperation of the police with representatives and associations of sexually diverse persons, policing strategies in the community, all served to define specific measures, activities, responsible implementing parties and funds aimed at improving the state of human rights, particularly regarding freedom of expression.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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<p>132.76. Take steps to protect the right to freedom of assembly and freedom of opinion and expression by ensuring the effective investigation and prosecution of alleged threats and violence by various non-state actors and extremist groups toward individuals and groups, including civil society organizations and individuals based on their sexual orientation (Canada);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The new Law on Public Assembly came into force in February 2016, harmonized with contemporary standards of police work in the field of public assembly, and supporting the law to the freedom of peaceful assembly, emphasizing this right under Article 2 of the Law.</p> <p>All prosecutors' offices, under their regular competence and with the aim of protecting fundamental human rights and freedoms, act on criminal reports of violations prescribed by the Criminal Code. Endangerment of security as per Article 138 of the CC, as well as Racial and other discrimination as per Article 387 of the CC incriminate violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms based on differences in race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnicity or another personal characteristic.</p> <p>Aiming to assess the need for potential preventive measures for the prevention of violence, incitement to violence and online hate speech, supervision was implemented over groups on social networks known for previous cases of displeasure with the organization and holding of the Pride Parade.</p> <p>Members of the police took part in several meetings organized on the topic of improving the status of the LGBTI community. Measures and activities have been implemented regarding the safety of sexually diverse persons, further activities were considered in this field with representatives of 15 non-government organizations working on the protection of the rights of sexually diverse persons, the Ombudsman, Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and representative of the Negotiation Team.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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<p>132.77. Develop and implement regulations and practices to ensure transparency in the ownership of media in order to prevent undue influence over editorial material by politicians, businessmen and other centres of power (Sweden);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The procedure for the privatization of media has been finalized, with reports on the privatization of media available at the Ministry of Economy website http://privreda.gov.rs/.</p> <p>The Law on Public Information and Media introduced the Media Registry to ensure clarity of data on media, run by the Business Registrars Agency.</p> <p>Public information is free, and not subject to censorship. The Ministry of Culture and Information is supervising the implementation of media laws and shall initiate misdemeanour proceedings under its competence.</p> <p>The Journalist Code of Ethics considers self-censorship to be a violation of professional and ethical norms, and is under the competence of self-regulation bodies, such as the Press Council. The Ministry, whenever it notices certain behaviour not sanctioned by law, and believing it to represent a violation of certain ethical standards in the field of media, turns to self-regulating bodies with the initiative to re-examine such phenomena and undertake certain measures under their competence.</p> <p>Upon obtaining comments and proposals by the association of journalists, representatives of the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office produced the draft Agreement on Cooperation and Measures for Raising the Security Level of Journalists. The Republic Public Prosecutor and Minister of the Interior signed an Agreement on Cooperation in April 2016, supported by the representative associations of journalists with considerations of introducing a specialized state body that would work on journalist protection (ombudsman for journalists).</p> <p>In December 2015 the Republic Public Prosecutor issued an Instruction whereby appeals, higher and basic public prosecutor's offices shall keep special records regarding crimes against persons engaging in work of public import in the field of information, related to their work, as well as attacks against media websites. Urgent action is prescribed for these cases.</p>
<p>132.78. Implement Recommendation 2010/5 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in particular the issues regarding freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly (Switzerland);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.76.</p>
<p>132.81. Take all appropriate measures to protect the right to assembly and to ensure investigation and prosecution of persons violating civil and political rights as guaranteed by the Serbian Constitution (Denmark);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.76.</p>

<p>133.6. Ensure that LGBT people can express themselves freely for example, in the Belgrade Pride in 2013 (Netherlands);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Aiming for a safe “Pride Parade 2014” public event, good cooperation was achieved with the representatives of the organizational committee of this event. After successful preparations the above event passed safely, along with numerous events held as part of Pride Week 2014. Pride and the first gathering of trans* persons were held on 20 September 2015.</p> <p>One of the priorities in 2016 was the status of trans* persons in society and the walk through the centre of Belgrade, held on 25 June 2016, passed without incident and with minimum security. The third Pride Parade was successfully organized on 18 September 2016, with attendees including representatives of international organizations and state institutions. The International Day against Homophobia was celebrated not only in Belgrade, but also Niš, Novi Sad, Novi Pazar, Subotica, Pančevo and Kragujevac.</p> <p>The Pride weekend and Pride Parade were held on 23-25 June 2017.</p> <p>These activities are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>133.12. Publish and implement a plan to protect rights to freedom of assembly and expression ensuring the police have adequate powers to ensure the safety of those present and that any crimes committed in connection will be thoroughly and transparently investigated (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.76.</p>
<p>Area: Prevention of Discrimination</p>		
<p>131.12. Address the phenomenon of discrimination and negative attitude based on nationality, ethnicity or religion by criminalizing the so-called hate speech (Poland);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Regarding incrimination of hate speech, the Criminal Code incriminates the incitement of national, racial and religious hatred and intolerance under Article 317, stating: “Whoever instigates or exacerbates national, racial or religious hatred or intolerance among the peoples and ethnic communities living in Serbia, shall be punished by imprisonment of six months to five years.”</p> <p>The Criminal Code, under Article 387, prescribes a prison sentence of six months to five years for those who, based on differences in race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnicity or another personal characteristic violate fundamental human rights and freedoms guaranteed by generally accepted rules of international law and international treaties ratified by Serbia.</p>

		<p>Likewise, the Criminal Code envisages the following criminal offences: violation of equality, violation of the right to the use of language and script, violation of the freedom of expression of national or ethnic affiliation, violation of the freedom of religious practice and religious rites, violation of reputation due to racial, religious, national or other affiliation, incitement of national, racial and religious hatred and intolerance, organization and incitement to genocide and war crimes.</p> <p>Aiming to sanction the incitement of national, racial or religious hatred, amendments to the Criminal Code of RS introduced a new Article 54a, introducing special circumstances for issuing a penalty for a criminal offence committed through hatred. If the criminal offence was committed due to hatred for affiliation to a race and religion, national or ethnic affiliation, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity of another person, this circumstance shall be considered as an aggravating circumstance by the court, unless it is prescribed as a characteristic of the criminal offence.</p> <p>In addition to the provisions of the Criminal Code, hate speech is prohibited by the Anti-Discrimination Law, prescribing under Article 11 the prohibition of expressing ideas, information or opinions inciting discrimination, hatred or violence against persons or groups of persons due to their personal characteristics, in public media and other publications, in events and places accessible to the public, by writing and showing messages or symbols, or otherwise.</p> <p>Through amendments to the Criminal Code Serbia became one of the few countries in Europe, and the only one in the region, envisaging a prison sentence of 6 months to five years for any person endangering the safety of persons engaging in work of public import in the field of information related to the work they undertake. This formally equates the criminal-legal protection of journalists with the protection of the President of the Republic, Prime Minister, members of the Government, Constitutional Court judges, judges, public prosecutors, deputy public prosecutors, attorneys and police officers.</p>
<p>131.13. Expand its intervention with the aim of better addressing racial prejudices, xenophobia, hate speeches and other forms of discrimination, in particular against Roma, women, persons with disabilities and the LGBT population (Italy);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Strategy for the Prevention and Protection from Discrimination in the Republic of Serbia and the relevant Action Plan establish the policy of the Government of the Republic of Serbia through 2018 in the field of prevention and protection from discrimination. It is the first document treating the issue of discrimination in a comprehensive manner.</p> <p>The Strategy recognizes nine vulnerable social groups exposed to increased risk of discrimination in various areas; based on affiliation with national minorities; women; LGBT persons; persons with disabilities; elderly persons; children; refugees, internally displaced persons and other vulnerable migrant groups; based on religious affiliation and other persons whose health may be a reason for discrimination.</p>

The systematic nature of monitoring the implementation of measures and activities is achieved through the work of the Government Council for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection from Discrimination.

The Council was established on 13 August 2015, tasked with monitoring progress in the implementation of measures and activities, adherence to the envisaged timeframes, and timely warnings of challenges in implementing measures under the realization of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy. The Council has 14 members, representatives of state bodies, autonomous province bodies, local self-governments, representatives of civil society organizations and the Regulatory Body for Electronic Media.

Representatives of the competent committee of the National Assembly of Serbia, Ombudsman, Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Protection of Personal Data, as well as Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and the provincial Ombudsman have the right to attend Council sessions and otherwise be involved in its work. If needed, the Council may invite representatives of other bodies and organizations to attend their sessions.



Aiming to establish continuity in monitoring the measures and activities envisaged by the Action Plan, as well as more efficient intersectoral cooperation, all sectors tasked with the implementation of goals from the action plan nominated contact persons and their deputies.






The Action Plan is being monitored through periodic reports, with five periodic reports on the implementation of the Action Plan produced thus far, concluding with Q2 2017.



As part of the preparations for drafting a new strategic document, since the current Strategy is valid through 2018, the professional analysis is under way of the effects of the application of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection from Discrimination for the period 2014-2018.


In the field of protection of Roma, national minorities, women, persons with disabilities, strategies and action plans are being implemented for the improvement of the status of these vulnerable social groups.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.


<p>131.14. Ensure adequate protection for all citizens, including members of the LGBT community, by, inter alia, allowing them to assemble to publicly promote their human rights and identifying and prosecuting those who commit violence against those who participate in peaceful assemblies (United States of America);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>In February 2014 the Ministry of the Interior adopted an Action plan for improving the work and cooperation of the police with representatives and associations working on the improvement of the status of LGBTI persons, with the aim of developing and improving community police work, particularly under the segment of training development, action and cooperation of police officers with representatives of associations of sexually diverse persons. The Action Plan was fully implemented, with the key activities being the appointment of a liaison officer for the LGBTI population, the development of a Manual for Police Work with the LGBTI population and training of police officers.</p> <p>Employees of the Ministry and police have the obligation of equal treatment towards all regardless of their racial, sexual or national affiliation, their diversity stemming from social origin, birth, religion, political or other belief or affiliation, gender and gender identity, property, culture, language, age or psychological or physical disability (Article 5 of the Law on Police).</p> <p>The Special Prosecutor's Office for High-Tech Crime is the recipient of criminal reports of criminal offences of Endangering Security as per Article 138 of the CC committed against members of the LGBTI community.</p> <p>The Special Prosecution for High-Tech Crime has established successful cooperation with members of the LGBTI community and relevant organizations during previous years.</p> <p>Representatives of the LGBTI community and relevant organizations participate in criminal proceedings as victims/witnesses.</p> <p>The service for informing victims and witnesses at the Higher Public Prosecutor's Office in Belgrade started working on 10 April 2014.</p> <p>In 2015 the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Victimological Association of Serbia, to provide the necessary assistance and support to victims and witnesses.</p> <p>A number of specialized staff trainings have been held at the Service for informing victims and witnesses, organized by the OSCE Mission to Serbia, along with specialized trainings of deputies in higher public prosecutor's offices regarding support to victims and witnesses.</p> <p>These activities are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>131.15. Take concrete steps to protect its LGBTI citizens and their freedom of assembly and expression (Australia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the responses to recommendations: 132. 76 and 131.14</p>



<p>131.16. Enhance efforts to enable the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community to exercise their fundamental freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Norway);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.76.</p>
<p>131.17. Respond effectively to discrimination and violence against LGBT persons and ensure their safety during public events such as the Belgrade Pride Parade (Austria);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the responses to recommendations: 132.76, 133.6 and 131.14</p>
<p>132.13. Take all necessary measures for the exhaustive and efficient implementation of the anti-discrimination law (Switzerland);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>In order to provide efficient implementation of the law, trainings were provided for employees in the public sector, civil society and local self-governments. The capacities for treating vulnerable social groups have been strengthened for employees in public administration, police, courts and prosecution.</p> <p>The courts provide protection from discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, the Anti-Discrimination Law, the Law on the Prevention of Discrimination of Persons with Disabilities, the Law on Preventing Workplace Abuse.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.14. Strictly apply the new Law on Discrimination and adopt a comprehensive legislation on hate crimes (Brazil);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 123.13.</p> <p>Aiming to sanction the incitement of national, racial or religious hatred, amendments to the Criminal Code of RS introduced a new Article 54a, introducing special circumstances for issuing a penalty for a criminal offence committed through hatred.</p> <p>Likewise, the Criminal Code envisages the following criminal offences: Violation of Equality Article 128, Violation of the right to the use of language and script Article 129, Violation of the freedom of expression of national or ethnic affiliation Article 130, Violation of the freedom of religion and religious ceremonies Article 131, Violation of reputation due to racial, religious, national or other affiliation Article 174, Inciting national, racial and religious hatred and intolerance Article 317, Organizing and inciting genocide and war crimes Article 375, Racial and other discrimination as per Article 387. The above offences incriminate discrimination, intolerance, incitement to violence, and contain the basis for incrimination of hate crimes and hate speech.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.15. Carry out efforts in the area of combating discrimination, and provide the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality with all necessary means to carry out its mandate (France);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>An adequate legal framework and financial funds have been secured for the operation of all independent human rights bodies, in order to ensure the efficient and independent execution of their mandate with the aim of strengthening the legitimacy and credibility of their actions.</p>



		<p>The funds for the operation of independent state bodies provided from the budget of the Republic of Serbia have been constantly increasing. Independent state bodies have been exempt from the application of the Law on the Method of Establishing the Maximum Number of Employees in the Public Sector.</p> <p>The Commissioner for the Protection of Equality opened their first regional office in Novi Pazar on 20 March 2014. In May 2015 the National Assembly elected a new Commissioner for the Protection of Equality. The headquarters of the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality was moved in 2016 to larger premises in Belgrade.</p>
<p>132.16. Continue to implement measures to promote full and effective equality in the social, economic and political spheres (Cuba);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>Work is under way on the Law on Amendments to the Law on Social Welfare, intended to achieve better targeting of beneficiaries of financial social assistance, while increasing the relevant amount for children in the family, as well as undertaking measures to protect long-term unemployed persons, the elderly and persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Numerous activities have also been undertaken for the development of services in the community. The Regulation on Dedicated Transfers (March 2016) has been adopted with the goal of creating the financial opportunities for the development of social services, providing for the transfer of funds to local self-government units under the average national development level and without sufficient funds to develop services within their territory.</p> <p>The Strategy for the development of the social welfare system in the Republic of Serbia 2018-2022 will be adopted with the aim of further developing the social welfare system in the Republic of Serbia. Likewise, a Strategy for the deinstitutionalization and development of social welfare services in the community for 2018-2022 will be adopted.</p> <p>Likewise, the adoption of amendments to the Law on Financial Support to Families with Children is expected as soon as possible.</p> <p>Activities on the improvement of full and effective equality in social, economic and political rights are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.17. Continue its efforts in fighting discrimination based on ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation (Estonia);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Strategy for the improvement of the status of women and improvement of gender equality 2011-2015 established a comprehensive and consistent state policy aimed at eliminating the discrimination of women, improving their status, and integrating the principle of gender equality in all areas of activity of system institutions as one of the factors for the modernization and democratization of society. The Strategy covered areas regarding the participation of women in drafting public policy, in decision-making, in business, as well as in the field of education, healthcare, elimination of violence against women, as well as the issue of gender stereotypes in media.</p>

		<p>The new National Strategy for Gender Equality 2016-2020 and the Action Plan for 2016-2018 aims one of the strategic goals towards increasing the equality of women and men by applying equal opportunity policies and measures with the objective of, inter alia, improving the status of groups of women discriminated against and vulnerable based on multiple grounds.</p> <p>The Strategy for the prevention and protection from discrimination and relevant action plan are used to implement activities towards the improvement of the status of persons of diverse sexual orientation.</p> <p>The Action plan for the exercise of the rights of national minorities is being implemented with the aim of combating discrimination based on ethnic differences. Various media campaigns are stimulating the development of awareness on the culture of diversity among the general public.</p> <p>The adoption of the Law on Gender Equality is expected. The Draft Law is in the presentation phase, and a positive opinion of the content was provided by over 25 institutions, independent bodies and civil society organizations. The Law will pay particular attention to the prevention of violence against women, as well as measures for their economic empowerment.</p> <p>See the responses to recommendations 131.13 and 132.18.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.25. Eliminate racial segregation in schools so that all children, regardless of their ethnic origin, have access to education (Costa Rica);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The right to equal education is guaranteed in the Republic of Serbia by the constitution and laws. The Law on Preschool Education, as well as the Rulebook on the further conditions for establishing the priority of children for enrolment in a preschool institution envisages for children from vulnerable groups to have the right of priority during enrolment in a preschool institution. Attendance of preparatory preschool programme is free of charge for all children and financed from the budget of the Republic of Serbia.</p> <p>The primary school attendance rate for Roma children increased during the last several years. Affirmative action measures are also contributing to this, implemented by the state, giving priority to Roma children for enrolment in schools, scholarship and mentorship programmes, providing for the retention of students in schools.</p> <p>The Rulebook on further criteria for recognizing forms of discrimination by staff, children, students or third persons in an educational institution has been adopted.</p>

		<p>Other rulebooks also regulate this field: Rulebook on professional-pedagogical supervision; Rulebook on safety; Rulebook on educational-disciplinary measures; Rulebook on commendation and rewards; Rulebook on organizing field-trips; Rulebook on the protocol for action in an institution to respond to violence, abuse and neglect. Rulebook on the work permit for teachers, educators and professional associates.</p> <p>The Strategy for the Development of Education in the Republic of Serbia by 2020 planned full coverage of children by primary education, and in particular increased coverage of children from rural areas, Roma children and children with disabilities and development impairments, and a reduction in their drop-out rate during primary and secondary school.</p> <p>International and national projects and programmes are being implemented regarding combating racism and discrimination, intended for students, educational workers, local communities and/or other line ministries, to create a safer and more stimulating environment for all children and introducing the majority population to the problems they are facing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The implementation of the General and Special Protocol for the protection of children and students from violence, abuse and neglect, related to preventive activities and defining procedures in the protection of children from violence •Indicators of forms of discrimination in educational institutions, related to the implementation of measures to resolve and monitor forms of discrimination in the life and work of the school •The manual “Protection of children of Roma nationality from discrimination in education”, distributed to all primary schools •Development of the subject Civic Education in primary and secondary schools and improvement of the status of the subject across all grades, where the contents of the subject, as well as manuals for teacher and student work are prepared in cooperation with Council of Europe experts for education, as well as the most successful teachers in the entire region <p>Support to an anti-discrimination educational environment for children of the Roma nationality (trainings for principals and professional services in schools, workshops for Roma parents)</p>
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		<p>The project “Support for the implementation of regulations in the field of anti-discrimination in education”, wherein two consultative workshops were held to date in Belgrade and Niš, for representatives of school administrations, educational inspections, primary schools, local self-governments, civil society, international organizations and educational advisers. The first workshop was in regards to mechanisms for reaction and protection from discrimination, the second to issues of segregation and measures for desegregation. The products of the workshops are serving as the basis for the planned drafting of three manuals for recognizing and reacting to discrimination in education. The manuals are intended for teaching staff, parents and participants. Likewise, part of the workshop materials on procedures and actions for recognizing and reacting to discrimination in education will be included in the current version of the Rulebook through amendments, upon the adoption of the new Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System, affecting the mandatory nature of application. Additionally, and aiming to improve capacities for the application of the Rulebook, the organization of a set of trainings is planned for teachers, educational inspectors, advisers, principals and school administrations.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.26. Take positive measures to protect and enhance the rights of LGBT persons and facilitate their integration into society (Belgium);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The programme “Improvement of the social welfare system for LGBTI persons and their families”, implemented by the NGO association “Duga Šabac” with the support of the Government of Serbia and the Council of Europe, organized trainings for staff at social work centres for treatment of LGBTI persons and members of their families. A total of 1037 professionals in the social welfare system from 146 social work centres and 3 centres for family accommodation and adoption have been educated to date through the basic accredited training. Advanced trainings have been completed by another 300 experts in social work centres.</p> <p>The Republic Institute for Social Protection accredited two training programmes for working with LGBTI persons, intended for professionals employed in the social welfare system. These are: 1. Guidelines for working with sexual minorities in the social work system (DUGA) and 2. Advanced training for working with sexual and gender minorities in the social work system (DUGA). After these trainings, cooperation is frequently established in specific cases, with initiatives for support programmes to parents of LGBTI persons also initiated.</p> <p>The implementation of the two-year project “Creation of tolerance and understanding towards the LGBT population in Serbian society” has been completed, implemented by the Office for Human and Minority Rights, with the support of the Kingdom of Norway.</p>

		<p>The implementation of the two-year project “Creation of tolerance and understanding towards the LGBT population in Serbian society” has been completed, implemented by the Office for Human and Minority Rights, with the support of the Kingdom of Norway. Public awareness-raising campaigns were implemented under this project on problems faced by LGBT persons, trainings for journalists on ethical reporting on the LGBT population, the capacities of social work centres and judicial bodies for adequate treatment of LGBT persons have been strengthened.</p> <p>Likewise, 28 projects and campaigns by civil society organizations were supported, aimed towards prevention and raising public awareness, thus implementing the measure contained in the Action Plan envisaging ensuring effective prevention of acts of violence and intolerance. Documentary films, video spots and video clips, shows, a number of professional and media events, performances, workshops and trainings were implemented as part of the campaigns. Activities also involve constant communication with national and local media, as well as communication on social networks aimed at raising awareness of the rights of LGBTI persons and facilitating their integration in the community.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.27. Put in place a policy of fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity that would guarantee the rights of LGBT persons to freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly (France);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The adoption of the umbrella strategic document in the field of anti-discrimination - the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection from Discrimination 2013-2018 defines national policy for the improvement of the status of LGBTI persons. The action plan for the implementation of this document defines specific measures, activities, responsible bearers and required funds for their implementation.</p> <p>Practice is indicating the professional development of members of the police regarding the protection of LGBTI persons from violence, as well as employees of social work centres who are adequately trained to work with LGBTI persons and their families.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.28. Ensure that LGBT persons in Serbia can exercise their human rights freely and in security, including fundamental freedoms such as the freedom of expression and the freedom of assembly and association (Germany);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.76.</p>

<p>132.29. Adopt all necessary measures to reduce prejudice and discrimination against the LGBT community, including through the training of the police, prosecutors and judges to respond effectively to violence against LGBT activists and to ensure the adequate protection of LGBT persons in the work place (Ireland);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The Government of Serbia adopted the Community Police Work Strategy in April 2013, followed by the Action Plan for 2015 and 2016.</p> <p>In late 2014 five two-day educational seminars were held on the topic of “Same-sex orientation and gender identity in the work of police officers” attended by 130 police officers (criminal police and general competence police) from all district police administrations, with certificates awarded upon completing the training, while the Ministry of the Interior - Police Administration received a thank-you note for the development of successful cooperation with LGBT communities. An integral part of the Programme of Professional Development of Police Officers for 2015 is the topic “Police work with marginalized, minority and socially vulnerable groups”. Additionally, the Internal Control sector of the police is educating police officers in line with the Professional Development Programme in the field of protecting human rights and preventing torture, inhumane or degrading punishment or procedures.</p> <p>The Professional Development Programme for all police officers of the Ministry of the Interior for 2016 and 2017 is also used to implemented mandatory theoretical classes on the following thematic units: The term, recognition and police reaction to forms of discrimination and Commission for the implementation of standards of treatment in the area of torture prevention.</p> <p>Anti-discrimination training is being continuously implemented, both for active judges, as well as during the initial training throughout the last five years.</p> <p>As part of the initial training at the Judicial Academy there is a special thematic area dedicated to acquiring the necessary knowledge for bearers of judicial functions in the field of anti-discrimination, gender equality and family violence.</p> <p>Likewise, as part of continuous training for bearers of judicial functions, thematic trainings are being organized in regular intervals in the field of anti-discrimination, gender equality and family violence.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.30. Take further steps to protect the LGBT population from intolerance, hate speech, and physical attacks as well as to ensure the better inclusion of the LBGT population and to promote tolerance in this regard (Czech Republic);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.26.</p>

132.79. Continue its efforts to fight against hate crimes, hate speech and incitement to hatred, including in political discourse, to prosecute members of racist or xenophobic extremist groups, and to combat racial prejudice and racial discrimination in the media (Tunisia);



Full implementation

See the response to recommendation 132.77.

The right to press charges due to the use of hate speech in media is held by persons personally harmed by the publishing of information, as well as legal persons whose activity is aimed at protecting human rights.

The Ministry of Culture and Information, in order to exercise public interest in the field of public information, and by way of project co-financing, is providing support to the production of media content aimed at protecting and developing human rights and democracy and preventing all forms of discrimination.

The following projects were implemented in 2016: “LGBTI discussions: Strengthening the Community”, strengthening the LGBTI community through information and Improvement of professional and ethical standards in reporting on the LGBTI population. The projects were financed with a total amount of RSD 1,800,000.

During 2017 support was provided for the project “Improvement of information of the LGBT population and reduction of social distancing against the LGBT population” with an amount of RSD 500,000.00.

The above two paragraphs will not remain, this is merely a reminder to insert a general sentence regarding project financing related to multiple sectors.

The Ministry of the Interior has established a methodology for analytical-statistical monitoring of events relevant for security (physical and verbal attacks and threats) regarding members of the LGBTI population. As part of the preventive measures and activities being implemented with the aim of improving the security of marginalized, minority and socially vulnerable groups, police officers are continuously cooperating in various cases with representatives of LGBT associations (“Gay Straight Alliance”, “Labris”, “Queeria”, “Gayten”, etc.), as well as with representatives of other organizations from the civil sector oriented through their programme and actions towards the protection of human rights of minority and easily vulnerable social groups (“Youth Initiative for Human Rights”, “Civil Right Defence”).

As part of IPA 2011 “Implementation of Anti-Discrimination Policy”, the Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality, has organized a number of roundtables on “hate graffiti”, in order to direct the attention of competent local bodies to links between hate crimes, hate speech and “hate graffiti” as a special type of hate speech. These activities were implemented in 11 towns and municipalities (Bor, Vranje, Novi Pazar, Žitište, Ivanjica, Jagodina, Kosjerić, Leskovac, Loznica, Odžaci, Prijepolje).

In March 2014 the Office organized two trainings for trainers in the police, in Vrnjačka Banja and Sremska Kamenica, attended by 51 police trainers from 30 local self-government units, as well as the head of the police administration of Užice and representatives of the Police Administration, border police, traffic police and Administration for Professional Education, Development, Training and Science.

As part of the activities financed by the EU Delegation under this project, a manual was prepared and published entitled “Hate Crime, Hate Speech and Hate Graffiti - Understanding the Links, Responses to Threats”.

The Office for Human and Minority Rights and the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality have initiated a national campaign for the promotion of equality and tolerance and combating discrimination under the slogan “Discrimination is no joke - let’s talk about equality” and “The same, different, equal”.

The goal of the campaign was increasing the visibility of the problem of discrimination among the general population and promoting existing mechanisms for achieving equality and combating discrimination.

The Law on Textbooks, under Article 11, requires that a textbook may not, through its content or form, discriminate or place in an unequal position groups or individuals, or incite towards such behaviour in accordance with the law regulating the prohibition of discrimination.

Based on a qualitative analysis of 26 textbooks in use since the 2013/14 school year in secondary schools in Serbia, the organization for lesbian human rights “Labris” identified nine disputable textbooks.

A working group from the Institute for the Improvement of Education reviewed these textbooks (two for biology, three for psychology and four for medical subjects) and provided a professional opinion on each one. In reviewing the textbooks the working group treated same-sex orientation as an emotional, romantic and/or sexual attraction towards persons of the same sex, as it is stated most frequently in contemporary literature. It was guided in its work by information from official institutions competent for this topic, as well as results obtained through various research worldwide and in the country, that was published and made available.

The Institute for the Improvement of Education submitted the opinion that the eight reviewed textbooks contain deficiencies that should preclude them from further use, since they are not based on contemporary developments and current data and are not without material errors, i.e. in line with the Quality Standards for Textbooks.

Of the 9 textbooks, one has passed the procedure of content review by applying the Quality Standards for Textbooks. Based on this, the Institute for the Improvement of Education submitted the opinion that the eight reviewed textbooks contain deficiencies that should preclude them from further use, since they are not based on contemporary developments and current data and are not without material errors, i.e. in line with the Quality Standards for Textbooks.

During 2016 a training was held on “Intercultural communication and combating discrimination” organized by the Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in cooperation with the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality, the Ludwig Boltzmann Human Rights Institute of the Republic of Austria and the Office for National Minorities of the Republic of Slovenia, as well as a seminar on “Hate Crimes” organized by the Judicial Academy in Belgrade, the Office for Human and Minority rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the OSCE Mission to Serbia where, in addition to representatives of judiciary bodies, two police officers each from the Ministry of the Interior also took part.

The police is developing its professional capacities, competences and police officer ethics for socially responsible actions of the police service, with full respect for human and minority rights and freedoms and the protection of all vulnerable groups (Article 27 of the Law on Police).

In the field of contemporary creative work, support was provided for the project by the HARTEFACT Fund from Belgrade “Why is it her fault nothing is her fault”; it is a theatre play with 20 talented, young actresses on stage, enabling the viewers to comprehend painful social circumstances that have been developing in our community for a long time, triggered by the arrival of an increasing number of asylum-seekers seeking a better life, fleeing violent conflicts in the Middle East. (the project was supported with RSD 400,000.00 in 2015) <http://www.heartefact.org/en/what-work/productions/>




Likewise, the Serbian-Jewish Singer’s Society from Belgrade has been implementing, for a number of years, a project entitled “Never forget, the Holocaust, never repeat - music writes memories”, against prejudice, stereotypes, anti-Semitism, racism... For tolerance and reconciliation.





There is a large number of cultural projects directly or indirectly contributing to combating racial prejudice and racial discrimination and raising awareness on belonging to a multicultural community. Some of them include: Vojvodina online multiculturalism lessons - “VOLEM”: language - music, by the Centre for the Development of a Knowledge Society “Horizont 21”, Novi Sad (RSD 150,000.00), musical “Equality of the Diverse”, by the Citizens’ Association “Young Ambassadors” Niš (RSD 100,000.00), promotion of young minority Vojvodina poets in Serbia, by the Centre for Civil Society Development, Zrenjanin (RSD 200,000.00), etc.


In addition to the above, another project should be noted, traditionally implemented in Kragujevac; the Salon of Anti-War Caricature, dealing with anti-war topics through the prism of human rights and a criticism of Nazism and xenophobia. MCI has been continuously supporting the implementation of this project, in accordance with criteria noting the significance of art and culture in a broader social context.

There is a large number of cultural projects directly or indirectly contributing to combating racial prejudice and racial discrimination and raising awareness on belonging.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

<p>132.80. Continue with the efforts carried out to combat criminal acts motivated by racial or religious hatred as well as their incitement (Argentina);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.12. Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>Area: National Minorities</p>		
<p>132.88. Intensify dialogue with the Councils of various national minorities in Serbia and with their organizations (Spain);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The national councils of national minorities are fully involved in the development of documents related to improving their status. The Government Council for Minorities is a body leading a Government dialogue at the highest level with national councils of national minorities regarding issues of interest for national minorities. In 2017 the Council proposed a budget fund allocation programme from the budget fund for national minorities, envisaging information in national minority languages to be a priority area for programme financing from the 2017 budget. Funds for financing the work of national councils are provided from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, the budget of the autonomous province, the budget of local self-government units, donations and other forms of income. At an annual level, the budget of the Republic of Serbia is allocating funds to the amount of RSD 250,000,000 for this purpose, while the AP Vojvodina budget allocates funds to the amount of approximately RSD 60 million. Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.89. Continue with the efforts carried out to combat the discrimination suffered by minorities (Argentina);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The action plan for the exercise of the rights of national minorities has been adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia on 3 March 2016. By adopting this AP, Serbia has rounded off its strategic commitment to improving the institutional and legislative framework in the field of human and minority rights. National councils of national minorities fully participated in drafting the Action Plan. This AP envisages greater participation by national minorities in government, the use of script, rights in the field of education and culture. Monitoring the implementation of activities from the Action Plan for Exercising the Rights of National Minorities was entrusted to the Council for National Minorities. The national media campaign “We Are All Together Serbia”, started during the second half of 2017, presenting the cultural and linguistic diversity of national minorities living in Serbia among the majority population, by sending a clear message about the type of state we wish to build. Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>

<p>132.90. Ensure effective practical implementation of the standards guaranteed by the Serbian Constitution in the field of minority rights, including by further harmonizing its legislation, providing adequate financial and administrative support to relevant institutions, preventing any forms of discrimination and prejudice in society and the media, and undertaking measures to achieve a more balanced socio-economic development among the regions in the country (Bulgaria);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Republic of Serbia is complying with obligations in the field of human and minority rights stemming from international and regional treaties it is party to, while the Constitution is prescribing that generally accepted rules of international law and confirmed international treaties are an integral part of the legal system of the Republic of Serbia and apply directly.</p> <p>Other than allocating funds for the work of national councils of national minorities, the competent national, provincial and local bodies regularly allocate financial funds for the work of institutions (institutions, schools, churches) of importance for national minorities, as well as for projects affirming the culture and education of national minorities and provide information in national minority languages.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.91. Further the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and of the laws on the prohibition of discrimination, especially those related to hate crimes (Colombia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Starting from the commitment that compliance with obligations undertaken by accession to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities is a priority in the minority policy being implemented under the process of building a democratic state based on the rule of law, the authorities of the Republic of Serbia consider the findings of the Advisory Committee a basis for undertaking further measures and activities aimed not only at developing the acclaimed legal regulations in the field of protection and improvement of the rights of national minorities, but also the consistent application of the established legislative and institutional framework.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.99. Guarantee teaching of minority languages at all elementary levels and enhance knowledge and tolerance in the Serbian society concerning languages and cultures of others (Libya);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Education is provided for national minority members in 15 languages at all three educational levels, with classroom instruction during the current school year covering a total of over 60,000 children. A total of 11 minority languages are in official use in 42 local self-governments. More than 18,000 hours of radio and television programming are broadcast per month for members of minorities in 16 languages, with over 100 print media in circulation.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.92. Take steps to more effectively integrate Roma into Serbian society (Canada);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Our state is complying with the obligations under the negotiation process for the accession of Serbia to the European Union, as well as the obligations undertaken regarding the implementation of Operational Conclusions agreed in seminars with the European Commission, as of 2011.</p> <p>The preceding period was marked by a strengthening of institutional capacities at the Government level, but also local self-governments, in the field of Roma inclusion.</p> <p>The establishment of the Government Coordination Body for Roma Inclusion is not only harmonizing Roma inclusion policies, but also monitoring their implementation in practice at an operational level.</p>

		<p>The implementation of the Strategy for the Improvement of the Status of Roma by 2015 has established numerous results in the field of Roma inclusion, in education, healthcare, employment, housing, the issue of personal documents has been resolved, thereby enabling citizens of Roma nationality access to fundamental rights. The implementation of measures and activities is also monitored through the work of the Government Council for the Improvement of the Status of Roma and the implementation of the Roma Inclusion Decade.</p> <p>The adoption of the new Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma in the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with the relevant action plan provides Government continuity in the field of Roma inclusion. The Strategy and the relevant action plan define measures and activities, responsible implementing parties and funds for priority areas: housing, employment, education, healthcare and social welfare, as well as prevention of discrimination.</p> <p>The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure is authorized, on behalf of the Government, to coordinate the work of state bodies, local self-government units, public enterprises and other forms of organization by the Republic of Serbia and local self-government units, in activities under their purview regarding the improvement of the status, as well as full inclusion in the social, economic, cultural and political life of Roma.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.93. Take appropriate measure to ensure that the basic civil and political rights of Roma are being assured and that birth registration is available and accessible for all children without discrimination (Brazil);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The fact of birth is entered into registries regardless of whether it is a child whose parents are known or not, a child without parental care, adopted child or child whose parents have no documents.</p> <p>In addition to the improved normative framework (Law on Registries, amendments to the Law on Republic Administrative Fees and amendments to the Law on Extrajudicial Proceedings) systematically providing for the exercise of rights in this field of personal status, the resolution of this issue was significantly contributed to by activities under the implementation of an Agreement between the Ombudsman and line ministries with the support of the UN High Commissariat for Refugees. These agreements served to establish a mechanism for the cooperation of state bodies, the non-government sector and international organizations, providing positive results and ensuring improved exercise of rights of members of the Roma national minority for entry into the registry of births and exercise of rights based on the personal status of citizens.</p> <p>The amendments to the Law on Extrajudicial Proceedings and the implementation of the agreement made it possible to resolve the issue of personal documents within the period relevant for this report for more than 25, 000 persons of Roma nationality.</p>

The highest number of requests for subsequent entry of the fact of birth into the registry of births was received in 2009 - 9,573 and 2010 - 7,996 requests. During 2011 the number of requests was 774, in 2012 it was 1,552, in 2013 there were 784 requests, in 2014 there were 419 requests for subsequent entry of the fact of birth into the registry, in 2015 there were 1,072 requests for subsequent entry of the fact of birth into the registry resolved, and in 2016 there were 1,330 requests under the procedure of subsequent entry of the fact of birth into the registry of births, as well as 2,807 requests on the procedure of renewing the entry of the fact of birth into the registry of births. Other entries into the registry of births during the above years were conducted within the legal deadline for registering this fact.

Likewise, a certain number of persons unable to prove the fact of birth under an administrative procedure have made use of the right of entry into the registry of births in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Extrajudicial proceedings (establishing the time and place of birth). According to data obtained from the Ministry of Justice, in 2014 there were 149 proposals for establishing the time and place of birth resolved, in 2015 - 264, in 2016 - 291 proposal for establishing the time and place of birth.

Regarding the above number of resolved requests, it is impossible to disaggregate the cases related to Roma national minority members, since the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guarantees the freedom of expression of national affiliation, as well as the lack of obligation to do so, therefore the registry of births does not contain data on national affiliation.

Likewise, in addition to the improved normative framework providing a systematic way for exercising rights in this area of personal status, a significant contribution to resolving this issue was provided by activities under the implementation of the Agreement on Understanding concluded in 2012 between the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the Ombudsman and United Nations High Commissariat for Refugees - Office in Serbia, serving as a basis for the cooperation of all competent state bodies, the non-government sector and international organizations, resulting in a significant improvement of the exercise of the right of entry into the registry of births, as well as other rights from the area of personal status (such as the right to citizenship, the right to personal name, ID card, registration of residence, etc.)

This agreement was implemented on 31 December 2016, with all participants in the process assessing that all the measures and activities achieved to date under the cooperation of all relevant bodies have contributed to fully overcoming the problems in exercising the right to entry into the registry of births, as well as other rights under the personal status of citizens.

The introduction of the "Welcome, baby, to the world" service in April 2016 simplified the procedure of entering babies in the birth registry, the registration of citizenship and residence, as well as electronic registration for health insurance, while the baby is still at the birth centre.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

132.94. Increase measures to guarantee non-discrimination, to improve the conditions of Roma regarding the realization of good education, adequate housing, and to make available all basic services to them (Libya);



Full implementation

The implementation of laws and strategic documents enabled free-of-charge attendance of preschool programmes and primary education, which are mandatory.

There are 181 pedagogical assistants working in local self-governments, contributing to inclusion and achieving better results for Roma students in education. Through the application of affirmative action measures (started in 2003), faculties and colleges have enrolled 1,960 students and 5,070 secondary school students and established a system for monitoring regular attendance and student achievements. Scholarships and a mentorship system in secondary schools have been established with the aim of continued education for students enrolled through affirmative action measures.

In the field of health, the results of the work of 75 healthcare mediators have led to significant improvements in the field of healthcare. Their work regarding healthcare education of Roma is the most successful public policy measure undertaken after the adoption of the Strategy for the Improvement of the Status of Roma 2009-2015.


In the field of housing, records have been established for the first time on the number and location of informal settlements in Serbia, providing the opportunity for planned allocation of funds towards resolving these issues. According to municipal data, 583 informal/illegal Roma settlements have been identified in Serbia. The first urban plans have been drafted for substandard Roma settlements and 13 models have been developed in detail for improving the living conditions of Roma. Infrastructural investments will be made during the coming period in these settlements to provide them with better living conditions.


The Law on Housing prescribes when, how and under which conditions are persons displaced from a settlement, i.e. it regulates the procedure for the eviction of such persons, their legal protection under the procedure, as well as the option of their transfer to adequate accommodation, if they do not own other real estate for housing nor funds to secure other accommodation. This law incorporates all obligations stemming from confirmed international conventions.




In addition to social housing as a model for resolving housing issues, the purchase of rural households is also being implemented. Eviction from informal settlements is conducted with respect for all human rights standards and by applying the Law on Housing.

Roma have been recognized as a difficult-to-employ social group, and active employment policy measures are being applied for them, along with self-employment promotion programmes, employment with subsidies for employers in the private sector, etc.





A mechanism was established for targeted transfers by adopting the Regulation on targeted transfers, providing for financial support to local self-governments with development levels below the national average for the development of services in the community, as well as those local self-governments developing innovative services and containing within their territory institutions undergoing transformation.





		<p>The Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure is implementing a Programme for the improvement of the living conditions of Roma in substandard settlements (hereinafter: Programme) in the Republic of Serbia, implemented based on a financial agreement between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union for the national programme IPA 2013.</p> <p>The Programme is implementing activities for the construction and/or improvement of utility infrastructure and housing facilities in substandard settlements with majority Roma populations, financed through a grant scheme in 13 selected municipalities (Ub, Svilajnac, Lebane, Čačak, Prokuplje, Stara Pazova, Smederevo, Novi Pazar, Loznica, Kikinda, Opovo, Boljevac and Niš), contributing to the improvement of living conditions in these settlements. In addition to these activities the Programme will prepare adequate planning and technical documentation for implementing construction and infrastructural projects aimed at improving the living and housing conditions for Roma populations in another 20 municipalities through new investment projects. Likewise, one of the goals of the Programme is strengthening existing mobile teams, as well as assistance in creating mobile teams in 20 new local self-government units and their successful functioning.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.95. Enforce legal safeguards to ensure fair and equal access to housing, education, employment and government services for Romani individuals and protection against arbitrary, forcible evictions and displacement from their homes or temporary residences (United States of America);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.94.</p>

<p>132.96. Enhance measures regarding the integration of Roma citizens through the social and educational systems of the State, inter alia, by facilitating registration in the birth registry allowing them to register using a provisional address (Austria);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.93.</p> <p>The MoI implemented a number of projects related to respecting and protecting human rights and improving the work of police officers, including the project “Roma Inclusion in the Security Sector of the Republic of Serbia - Towards Greater Enrolment in Basic Police Training” initiated by the Police Association “European Police Officers of Roma Nationality” with the financial support of the Office for Human and Minority rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. As part of this project, a new cycle was organized in 2016 of promotional-informational discussions with workshops for members of the Roma national minority interested in enrolment in basic police training within the territory of six police administrations: Sremska Mitrovica, Belgrade, Smederevo, Novi Pazar, Prokuplje and Vranje.</p> <p>Members of the Roma national minority were informed during the workshops on the training, method of application, selection of candidates, and the workshops and trial testing provided them assistance in passing the psychological test and the general information test, as well as the test of Serbian language. The Centre for Basic Police Training is organizing supplemental Serbian language classes for attendees, members of national minorities experiencing difficulties following lectures.</p> <p>Regarding the call for enrolment to the Centre for Basic Police Training in 2017 (among 1634 candidates, 42 are members of national minorities), two workshops were implemented in February 2017 upon the initiative of the Police Association “European Police Officers of Roma Nationality”, with the financial and logistical support of the OSCE Mission.</p>
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		<p>The Centre for Basic Police Training has prepared a programme of workshops and a projection of the engagement of MoI resources (food and accommodation). The workshops were attended by 39 candidates with the following relevant structures: (a) gender structure: 29 men and 10 women; (b) national structure: Bosniaks (1), Bulgarians (1), Gorani (2), Hungarians (2), Macedonians (1), Muslims (1), Roma (23), Romanians (2), Slovaks (5) and Czechs (1).</p> <p>Likewise, when applying for enrolment at the Centre for Basic Police Training, the full testing material for checking the psychological status has been translated into seven languages: Albanian, Hungarian, Roma, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Ukranian, so that members of national minorities have the opportunity of completing that part of the qualifications exam in their mother tongue.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
132.97. Undertake effective legal and administrative measures to ensure greater security of tenure for Roma, especially for those living in informal setting (Germany);	 Full implementation	<p>Infrastructural works on the construction of water supply and sewage systems have been initiated in identified Roma settlements, numbering 583 within the territory of the Republic of Serbia. A geographic-information system has been developed, along with the first urban plans. There will be future infrastructural investments in these settlements.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
132.5 Continue to address and implement its plans of action in relevant areas of human rights in particular on the promotion and protection of minorities and other vulnerable groups (Cambodia);	 Full implementation	<p>The Republic of Serbia adopted a number of action plans in the field of human rights protection: Action plan for Chapter 23: judiciary and fundamental rights, for exercising the rights of national minorities, Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma in the Republic of Serbia, Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for Prevention and Protection from Discrimination, its implementation continuously monitored with reporting on implemented activities.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
Area: Legally Invisible Persons		
132.8. Carry out necessary measures, including legislative amendments, to ensure that all persons born in Serbia have access to birth registration regardless of the status of their parents (Mexico);	 Full implementation	See the response to recommendation 132.93.


Area: Rights of the Child



<p>131.6. Consider enacting the draft law on the Rights of the Child at the earliest convenience (Indonesia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Existing laws and regulations guarantee the exercise and protection of the rights of the child, therefore the ministry competent for family protection believes that in the current situation there is no need for adopting a separate Law on the Rights of the Child.</p>
<p>131.8. Adopt the Law on the Ombudsman for the Rights of the Child and incorporate an explicit definition of the crime of sale of children into the Penal Code (Poland);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The Government Council for the Rights of the Child implemented an analysis and amendment of the existing contents of the draft Law on the Protector of the Rights of the Child from 2008, and issued an initiative to the Government for initiating the procedure for the adoption of the Law. The draft Law is in the public review phase, in order to improve the contents of the document through comments.</p> <p>The key roles of the Protector of the Rights of the Child according to the above draft Law are the promotion and protection of child rights, particularly for children from vulnerable social groups. The ombudsman for children will also work on prevention in the field of child protection and initiate new laws aimed at improving the status of children. This institution will enable children to submit complaints against violations of their right to their protector and regularly discuss issues of importance for improving their rights with the ombudsman.</p>
<p>131.23. Develop a clear definition regarding the sale of children in the Penal Code and ensure its full enforcement with serious punishment for perpetrators (Thailand);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Although the Criminal Code does not contain a criminal offence under the name of trafficking in children, we note that other criminal offences incriminate trafficking in children. In addition to the criminal offence of human trafficking, the following criminal offences are also defined: trafficking in underage persons for adoption; kidnapping of underage person and change of family status.</p>
<p>131.25. Reinforce measures to prevent child sex tourism and to combat child pornography on the Internet (Republic of Moldova);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Aiming to combat child pornography, amendments to the Criminal Code have introduced the definition of child pornography into the legal system, adding new paragraphs incriminating access to child pornography.</p> <p>Items of pornographic content produced by exploitation of minors (child pornography) are considered to be any materials visually displaying an underage person engaged in real or simulated sexually explicit behaviour, along with any displaying of the sexual organs of a child for sexual purposes.</p> <p>A strengthening of capacities is planned for the coming period regarding an increase in the number of police officers working on combating online child abuse for pornographic purposes. Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>



<p>131.26. Adopt swiftly the comprehensive draft child rights law (Portugal);</p>	 Partial implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.8.</p>
<p>131.27. That the draft child rights law forbid corporal punishment of children in all settings (Portugal);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>Although the family law prescribes that parents may not subject a child to degrading actions and punishments that infringe on the human dignity of the child, and have the obligation of protecting the child from such actions by other persons, work has been initiated on amendments to regulations that will explicitly prohibit physical punishment of children, as a method of child raising.</p> <p>To this end, the ministry competent for family protection initiated the development of a draft Law on Amendments to the Family Law, envisaging, inter alia, amendments related to the introduction of the prohibition of physical punishment of children and the use of physical force as a means of education, and supplements related to the protection of children from violence in the family.</p>
<p>131.28. Expedite necessary legislative measures to expressly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the family and alternative care settings (Uruguay);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.27.</p>
<p>131.29. 131.29. Prohibit by law the corporal punishment of children, including in the family (Austria);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.27.</p>



Area: Gender Equality



<p>132.6. Continue to enable women and the disabled and provide them a greater role in society (Kuwait);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the responses to recommendations 132.20; 132.22; 132.23:132.4;132.82;132.83</p> <p>According to data from the National Employment Service, there were 19.3% more persons with disabilities employed during 2016 than during the previous year, i.e. 5,860 persons with disabilities, 40.37% of them women, which is five times as much as in 2009.</p> <p>During 2016 an assessment was implemented of the effects and impact of the implementation of the Law on the Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities. During the implementation of the law there was increased inclusion of persons with disabilities in active employment policy measures, their employment rate from the records of the National Employment Service and in total has been increased, the number of newly founded enterprises for professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities as special forms of employment has been increased, training programmes have been development and the number of practitioners of professional rehabilitation of persons with disabilities has been increased, special packages of measures have been developed for persons with disabilities as of 2015.</p> <p>The provision of support in the employment of persons with disabilities at NES is reflected through the stimulation of the employment of persons with disabilities in the open labour market, namely: by raising their efficiency in working and learning by establishing mechanisms for preparation and support in the workplace, improving cooperation and raising awareness among employers and all partners involved in the process of professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities on the significance of employing this category of unemployed persons.</p> <p>Working with employers, NES engages in information and counselling on the legal regulations in force in the field of labour and employment, programmes intended for stimulating the employment of persons with disabilities, as well as other issues related to the employment of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Stimulation of employment of persons with disabilities is implemented through approving subsidies for self-employment, subsidies for employers for opening new jobs, subsidies for earnings for persons with disabilities without work experience, costs of implementing public works and other active employment policy measures aimed at stimulating the employment of persons with disabilities. Support measures are secured in cases when persons with disabilities are being employed under special conditions.</p> <p>During 2016 professional rehabilitation measures involved 8,219 persons with disabilities, i.e. 68% more than in 2009.</p> <p>Currently there are 46 enterprises for professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities registered, holding valid operating licences, employing 1,750 persons, among them 1,177 being persons with disabilities.</p>
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<p>132.18. Continue to implement existing legislation related to gender equality ensuring that men and women are treated equally and stereotypes regarding women are eradicated (Lithuania);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>In accordance with the Rulebook on the contents and method of submitting the Plan of measures for eliminating or mitigating the unequal representation of sexes and the annual report on its implementation to the competent ministry, the Ministry of Labour received 428 plans and reports by businesses in 2016, and another 409 by 31 March 2017.</p> <p>During 2015 labour inspectors completed 3,157 cases of supervision over the application of the Gender Equality Law, and adopted two decisions to eliminate deficiencies. Employers were ordered to adopt a Plan of measures for eliminating the unequal representation of sexes, as well as to rectify their records on the gender structure of employees.</p>

		<p>One deposition was made to the Labour Inspectorate in 2015 regarding a violation of the Gender Equality Law. During 2016, labour inspectors completed 1,632 cases of supervision over the application of the Gender Equality Law, and found no irregularities.</p> <p>Due to the need of harmonizing the existing Gender Equality Law with the European Union regulations and standards, work is under way on a new draft Law on Gender Equality.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.19. Continue efforts to achieve gender equality (Greece);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the responses to recommendations 132.20; 132.22; 132.23;132.4;132.82;132.83</p>
<p>132.20. Continue further realization of the Action Plan for implementation of the National Strategy for Improving the Position of Women and Promoting Gender Equality (Armenia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The findings of the Evaluation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Strategy for the Improvement of the Status of Women and Improving Gender Equality 2010-2015 indicate a degree of progress was achieved in the above areas, particularly regarding the improvement of the legal framework in the field of equal participation of women and men in the political life, anti-discrimination, labour and employment, as well as establishing institutional mechanisms for gender equality, improving gender-sensitive statistics and increased visibility of the issue of violence against women. The selected strategic areas and targeted interventions were confirmed to be relevant, but some areas need to be expanded or redefined.</p> <p>In February 2016 the Government of RS adopted the National Gender Equality Strategy for 2016-2020 with an Action Plan 2016-2018. The Strategy contains three primary goals: 1) change of gender patterns and improvement of cultural gender equality; 2) increasing the equality of women and men by applying equal opportunity policies; and 3) systematic introduction of gender perspectives into the adoption, implementation and monitoring of public policy.</p> <p>The first report on the implementation of the National Gender Equality Strategy and relevant Action Plan has been developed.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>



<p>132.21. Take necessary measures to ensure equal treatment as well as consider ways of helping to eradicate stereotypes for women in rural areas (Republic of Korea);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Based on the Rulebook on incentives to improve economic activities in rural areas through support for non-agricultural activities, between 2014 and 2016 the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection disbursed approximately RSD 60 million in subsidies for 144 women, who held priority because they submitted call documents as bearers of an agricultural estate.</p> <p>The Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for 2014-2020 provides an overview of gender equality in rural areas, namely in the domain of economic participation among the rural population.</p> <p>Within the draft National Rural Development Programme of the Republic of Serbia for 2015-2020, under the measures envisaged for the selection criteria, priority is given to female entrepreneurs, and/or women bearers of an agricultural estate.</p> <p>The ministry competent for labour and employment issued a Call for support to projects for the economic empowerment of women in November 2016, selecting 12 projects including projects intended for organic food production. The total value of these projects was RSD 3 million, implemented during the first half of 2017.</p> <p>In 2017, for the first time, measures of credit support are being applied with a more favourable interest rate of 1% issued to women, owners of agricultural estates. Likewise, women members of agricultural estates will, for the first time during this year, have paid maternity leave. The cadastre reform continues to enable monitoring the registration of the property of owners of both sexes into the cadastre.</p> <p>An additional measure for the economic empowerment of women is being implemented through the option of providing spouses, when jointly purchasing real estate, with the option of registering their rights to the real estate at the lowest fee. The goal of the measure is to increase the number of women registered in the cadastre, to protect the property rights of women over common property and thus contribute to their equality and economic empowerment.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.22. Formulate a systematic approach toward eradication of stereotypes regarding women in society creating a climate of zero tolerance for violence against women (Slovenia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Coordination Body for Gender Equality, within its regular activities, participates and supports projects, campaigns and initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and overcoming gender stereotypes and prejudices in Serbia.</p>

		<p>Key examples are: the campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence", the project "Women's Empowerment" - support for the economic empowerment of women who have endured violence; participation in regional conferences on women entrepreneurship and support to the annual award of the "Success Flower for a Dragon Woman" organized by the Association of Businesswomen, etc.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development implemented the project "Prevention of Gender-based Violence" with the aim of sensitizing employees in educational institutions on gender-based violence, responding and empowering everyone to react in cases of gender-based violence (domestic and sexual violence) and discrimination.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.23. Take further measures to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes (Republic of Moldova);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Ministry of Culture and Information supports the development of media content in order to protect and develop human rights and democracy. For projects that explicitly deal with gender equality, around RSD 2,000,000 are allocated annually, while more funds are allocated indirectly by supporting women authors and artists.</p> <p>Through the IPA project Strengthening Media Freedom, the Report on the Status of Gender Equality and the Position of Women in the Media was prepared, which will be the starting document for the working group for the preparation of a future strategy for development of the public information system.</p> <p>In November and December 2015, the Institute for the Study of Cultural Development conducted a survey Cultural habits, needs and attitudes of Serbian citizens on a national sample of 1,565 respondents. The results of the survey have shown that citizens' attitudes are mainly positively oriented towards gender equality. Citizens are most vulnerable to gender equality in the field of education and economics, and least trust in equality regarding political participation and decision-making.</p> <p>The Provincial Secretariat for Social Policy, Demography and Gender Equality, through the publication "Women's Planner", annually promotes women in different areas.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.24. Further its endeavours with a view of positively affecting the participation of women in the field of economy, education and health (Azerbaijan);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Coordination Body for Gender Equality has been continuously undertaking numerous efforts to make a positive impact on women's participation in the economy, education and health. Among others, it initiated and implemented, in cooperation with the National Alliance for Local Economic Development and Ethno Network of Serbia, the project "We bring work for 1000 women in rural areas".</p>

		<p>It also supported the implementation of the Inspiring girls initiative, originating from the United Kingdom, aimed at changing gender stereotypes about male and female sexes and empowering girls to get educated and involved in the work in the information technology sector.</p> <p>The Coordination Body regularly supports the implementation of the project of the Association of Businesswomen of Serbia for the award of the Success Flower for a Dragon Woman for the most successful women entrepreneurs in Serbia. Participating in numerous conferences dealing with these issues, it regularly sends messages that women can and should change Serbia, such as the conference "Women of Influence - Can Women Change Serbia." Awareness-raising activities include media campaigns focused on education of and support to women such as the campaign focused on the prevention of breast cancer.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.82. Increase the representation of women within the State and local administration (Lithuania);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>The Republic of Serbia has developed a legal framework that determines the principle of equal opportunities and availability of jobs for both sexes. When recruiting to state bodies of local self-government units and autonomous provinces, it is taken into account that the national composition, gender representation and the number of persons with disabilities reflect as far as possible the structure of the population, and equal opportunities for promotion and rewarding are envisaged.</p> <p>The new legal solutions through the Law on Gender Equality provide for the introduction of quotas that will ensure the minimum 40 percent of women in management and supervisory bodies for education, science, culture, information and sports, as well as in international organizations.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.83. Ensure that men and women are treated equally, including equal pay for equal work (Ukraine);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>Article 104, paragraph 1-2. of the Labour Law stipulates that an employee has the right to adequate salary which is determined in accordance with the law, the general act and the employment contract. Employees are guaranteed equal pay for the same work or the same values that they earn with the employer. Provisions of the Labour Law ensure that the employed woman and man are equally paid for equal work.</p> <p>The Law on Civil Servants applicable to employees in state bodies, by Article 13 provides that every civil servant is entitled to salary, benefits and other remuneration under the law regulating salaries in state bodies, and Articles 10 and 11 of the same law provide an equal opportunity for promotion and rewarding.</p>

		<p>The Law on employees in autonomous provinces and local self-government units, applicable in the bodies of autonomous provinces and local self-government units, under Article 27 stipulates that each employee is entitled to salary, benefits and other remuneration under the law governing salaries in the autonomous province and the local self-government unit and Article 20 of the same law stipulates that an employee has the right to advance in service by acquiring a higher job determined by this law and acquiring a higher pay band determined by the law regulating salaries for the employees in autonomous provinces and local self-government units.</p> <p>Salaries of employees in the public sector are regulated by the Law on the Salary System for the Public Sector Employees, the Law on Salaries of Civil Servants and General Service Employees, the Law on Salaries in State Bodies and Public Services, which regulate salaries, benefits and other remuneration of public sector employees. A salary consists of the basic salary and increased salary and contains on a monthly basis tax and contributions paid from salaries. The basic salary is determined by multiplying the base for the calculation and payment of salaries, which is unique for all employees, with a coefficient, where these coefficients are determined in the same way for all employees in the public sector, regardless of their gender.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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Area: Persons with Disabilities

<p>132.86. Consolidate the constitutional and legislative framework to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities (Iraq);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>Amendments to the Law on Prevention of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities prepared in 2015 enable persons with disabilities to use seals that contain personal identity information or engraved signature.</p> <p>In March 2015 the Law on the Use of Sign Language and the Law on the Movement of Blind Persons with a Guide Dog were adopted.</p> <p>In October 2015, the Ministry of Health passed the Rulebook on the detailed conditions and manner of using public health facilities in the field of health care by a person moving with the guide dog.</p> <p>On the proposal of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Team, the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure has launched the Project for Increasing the Accessibility of Public Facilities for Persons with Disabilities and Restricted Movement, which is financed from the IPA 2013 unallocated funds.</p> <p>The first phase of the Project is ongoing, which includes mapping of priority works and preparation of technical documentation in vulnerable municipalities of III and IV levels of development.</p> <p>After completion of the mapping and preparation of the necessary documentation, the second phase of implementation of the Project shall follow, which includes the execution of the necessary construction works on public facilities, in the territories of the selected municipalities of III and IV levels of development, which will be financed from the IPA 2016 funds.</p> <p>The project will enable the reconstruction of facilities such as schools, centres for social work, health centres, employment services and others. Reconstruction of the facilities will be realized through the creation of access ramps, installation of elevators, rearrangement of toilets, entrances, passages etc. It is planned to carry out the works in at least 30 municipalities and at least 90 facilities.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.87. Remove the barriers that hinder the effective accessibility of boys and girls with disabilities to education (Mexico);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>At the level of each pre-school, primary and secondary school, an expert team for inclusive education was formed, whose task is to develop and improve inclusive climate, policy and practice at the institution level.</p>

At the local level, inter-departmental commissions for assessment of needs for additional educational, health and social support to a child have been established. The Law on the Education System Foundations explicitly stipulates that in implementing the general principles of the education system, special attention shall be paid to "providing that children, students and adults with developmental disorders and disabilities, regardless of their own material conditions, have access to all levels of education in institutions, and persons placed in social welfare institutions, sick children, students and adults are entitled to education during their stay in the institution and during hospital and home care ", as well as "reducing the number of persons leaving the education system, especially those from socially vulnerable categories of the population and underdeveloped areas, persons with developmental disorders and disabilities and other persons with specific learning disabilities and support for their reintegration into the system, in accordance with the inclusive education principles.

Also, children with developmental disorders and disabilities have the right to use a sign language or a special script, as well as other technical solutions that can be used when the educational process is performed in the sign language and with the means of that language.

The new Law on Textbooks stipulates that students with disabilities use a textbook which format is adapted to their needs and a teaching aid has been defined as a teaching tool used in educational work with children with disabilities.

According to the Law on Secondary Education, secondary education is free and not compulsory, and the possibility of organizing distance education is also envisaged.

The Rulebook was adopted regarding detailed criteria for recognizing forms of discrimination by an employee, a child, a student or a third person in the institution of education.

The Strategy for Development of Education in the Republic of Serbia by 2020 plans the full coverage of children with primary education, and in particular the increased coverage of children from rural areas, Roma children and children with disabilities and developmental disorders and decrease in dropouts during primary and secondary education.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and the UNICEF Office in Serbia supported the project "Info Line for Parents - Support for Inclusive Education". Telephone number 0800100121, is active on weekdays from 12:00 to 19:00.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

Area: Elderly People

132.84. Continue its efforts to meet the needs of the elderly and improve the quality of their life regarding housing and transport (Kuwait);



Full implementation

The Law on Social Protection, with the aim of improving the quality of social protection services, introduces licensing of social protection organizations. This law provides the ability to allocate funds for innovative services on their territory and from their budgets, which some of them use to provide "social housing in protected conditions" and, through the construction of housing units, solve the housing issue of certain social service beneficiaries, among others the elderly people. The residents of social housing units who are in the status of social vulnerability are also enabled to pay reduced utility bills. Data on the volume and type of subsidies for the housing costs allocated by some local self-government units are not systematized.



The Rulebook on detailed conditions and standards for the provision of social protection services stipulates standards for most social protection services.

There was an increase in capacity (by opening private homes), the humanization of home conditions in terms of respecting basic human rights of the beneficiaries (greater comfort, improved and standardized services), strengthening the role and importance of rehabilitation (more rehabilitation services), as well as all types of daily activities of beneficiaries (more programmed and free activities), promotion of the deinstitutionalization process (developing a range of services for elderly people in the area and strengthening contact with the home area).

According to the City Decision on Social Protection of Citizens, for poor elderly people receiving permanent financial help, Belgrade provides an increase of this amount by somewhat under 1/5, has enabled free public transport services for the elderly (65+) and some other services in the City: use of libraries, reduced ticket prices for some events and the like. Funding of soup kitchens is provided in Belgrade as well as in all major urban centres of the Republic.

In order to improve access to social services in particular, the Gerontological Centre for the Elderly in Belgrade established a special Info-Centre for providing information to the elderly in Belgrade and throughout Serbia in early 2011, in the field of social protection, health care, pension and disability insurance, culture, education, banking services, services provided at the level of local self-government, utility and other services, advisory work, crisis support, etc. Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

Area: Migrants, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

<p>132.100. Protect the rights of immigrants and take active measures to protect the rights of foreign workers, and promote harmony among all ethnic groups (China);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Law on Asylum stipulates that in the procedure of granting asylum in the Republic of Serbia, discrimination on any ground is forbidden, in particular on grounds of race, colour, gender, nationality, social origin or similar status, birth, religion, political or other conviction, financial situation, culture, language, age or intellectual, sensory or physical disability (Article 7).</p> <p>A person seeking asylum is interviewed by a person of the same sex, that is, a translator or interpreter of the same sex is provided, except in cases when it is not possible or causes great difficulties to the authority conducting the asylum procedure (Article 14). The specific situation of persons with special needs seeking asylum is taken into account, such as minors, persons who are completely or partially deprived of their work capacity, children separated from parents or guardians, disabled persons, elderly persons, pregnant women, single parents with underage children and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence (Article 15).</p> <p>The Law on Employment of Foreigners was adopted which regulates the conditions and procedure for employment of foreigners in the Republic of Serbia and other issues of importance for the employment and work of foreigners in the Republic of Serbia. A foreigner employed in the Republic of Serbia in accordance with this Law shall have rights and obligations in terms of work, employment and self-employment, equal to a national citizen's rights and obligations, if the conditions prescribed by law are fulfilled.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.101. Continue its efforts for addressing the challenges of refugees and IDPs in the country (Azerbaijan);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Republic of Serbia is the only state in Europe that in the 21st century is facing the problem of long-term internal displacement. At present, 203,140 internally displaced persons and about 17,000 internally displaced persons in Kosovo and Metohija are living in the Republic of Serbia. Sustainable conditions for the return of IDPs to Kosovo and Metohija after 18 years have not been provided.</p> <p>According to UNHCR data, since 1999, about 12,145 internally displaced people have returned to Kosovo and Metohija, which is less than 5%. The safe and free return of all internally displaced persons to Kosovo and Metohija is also emphasized in UNSC Resolution 1244 (1999).</p>

The position of the Republic of Serbia is to enable internally displaced persons, within the framework of finding durable solutions, to have an equal choice between local integration and sustainable return, which is also the responsibility of the international presence of the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG) in Kosovo and Metohija. The main obstacles to sustainable return are: security situation; the lack of an adequate and effective mechanism for protection and access to rights; the unresolved issue of property restitution and the inability to use destroyed, usurped housing and agricultural property; insufficient funds for the reconstruction or construction of houses for returnees; difficult access to public services and the opportunity to use their mother tongue; lack of economic opportunities to support return; complicated return procedures. In the context of the exercise of fundamental human rights, including the right to free enjoyment of property and labour rights, we consider it necessary to provide the possibility of choosing for all IDPs from Kosovo and Metohija, regardless of whether they will decide to return to Kosovo and Metohija or to integrate in the place of displacement outside Kosovo and Metohija.

The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, from the budget of Serbia and in cooperation with international agencies and organizations, the governments of individual countries and local self-governments units, implements programs of permanent solutions to the housing needs of refugees through the distribution of construction materials for the completion of commenced construction or the adaptation of substandard buildings in the ownership, purchase of houses with a garden, grant of prefabricated houses, construction of housing units that are leased with possible purchase, through social housing in protected conditions. It also provides assistance for economic strengthening of families.

The Law on Asylum and the Law on Migration Management stipulate that the Republic of Serbia, within its possibilities, shall provide conditions for the inclusion of refugees in social, cultural and economic life. According to the Law on Migration Management, one of the competencies of the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration is the implementation of measures for the integration of persons who have been granted refugee status.

In order to successfully implement the integration of these persons, the Government, at the proposal of the Commissariat, adopted in July 2015 a Decree on Criteria for Establishing Priority Accommodation of Persons Recognised the Right to Refuge or Granted Subsidiary Protection and the Conditions for the Use of Temporary Housing. Based on this decree, 8 families have so far requested and received the accommodation.

Also, in December 2016, the Decree on Integration of Persons Granted Asylum in Social, Cultural and Economic Life of the Republic of Serbia was adopted, thus enabling legal basis for implementation of the integration program. The Commissariat has developed an Integration Program for persons who have been granted some form of protection in the Republic of Serbia (shelter or subsidiary protection).

Also, in asylum centres and reception centres, legal and psycho-social assistance is provided to all persons, and information and access to information and access to institutions and organizations that are directly involved in anti-violence activities are available. Over the past two years, international and civil society organizations have carried out a series of trainings that included, in a particular segment, the subject matter of international standards of protection in dealing with women victims of domestic violence among the migrant population. Also, certain CSOs provided accommodation and psycho-social assistance to identified potential victims of gender-based violence.

The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, from the budget of Serbia and in cooperation with international agencies and organizations, the governments of individual countries and local self-government units, implements programs of permanent solutions to the housing needs of refugees through the allocation of construction materials for the completion of commenced construction or the adaptation of substandard buildings in the ownership, purchase of houses with a garden, grant of prefabricated houses, construction of housing units that are leased with possible purchase, through social housing in protected conditions. It also provides assistance for economic strengthening of families.

Although the number of refugees is decreasing primarily due to their integration in the Republic of Serbia, today 27,802 refugees and over 203,140 internally displaced persons reside in the territory of Serbia.

The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration has been conducting activities for a long time in order to permanently solve the housing problem of refugees and internally displaced persons who have been living in collective centres for years.

Projects designed to close collective centres are financed from EU funds - IPA 2012 "Support to Improving the Living Conditions of Forced Migrants and Closing the Collective Centres", as well as other donors, are implemented in cooperation with implementing partners (UNHCR, ASB, DRC, Help and IOM).

For all persons who were accommodated in collective centres, permanent housing solutions were provided.

The Regional Housing Program is a joint multiannual program of four countries - Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia, which aims to provide permanent housing solutions for 16,780 families (45,000 individuals) in Serbia. The Regional Housing Program is an integral part of the Sarajevo Process. The Regional Program is financed by a trust fund managed by the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) and implemented in accordance with procedures approved by CEB and donors. Implementation of the activities envisaged by the Regional Program in the Republic of Serbia is carried out by coordinated participation of the competent organizations, state administration bodies and local self-government units, with the support of the external Project Implementation Unit. In addition to financial resources from the trust fund, financial resources for housing projects are provided partly from the resources of the Republic budget, and partly from the budget of the municipalities and cities on whose territory the programs of permanent integration of refugees have been implemented. Implementation of five subprojects under the Regional Housing Program is underway. RHP is being implemented in 117 LSGU, of which in 49 LSGU which provide land and infrastructure, the construction of housing units is planned. In parallel with five projects, the Republic of Serbia was granted the extension of the fourth subproject which included selected beneficiaries from the previous subprojects that due to limited number of housing solutions could not be taken care of within these subprojects. The seventh subproject, approved in December 2016, will provide the design of 358 housing units in 11 LSGU. The procedure for signing a grant agreement for this subproject has been launched. The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration as the leading expert implementing the Regional Housing Program in the Republic of Serbia, also submitted the eighth project proposal for CEB approval, worth 20 million euros, which should provide additional 938 housing solutions.

From the very beginning, the Republic of Serbia has taken measures and activities for accepting and improving the living conditions of internally displaced persons and is committed to the exercise of the rights of displaced persons during their displacement, regardless of their decision whether to return to the place they came from or remain in place where they have settled or choose another place for their own accommodation. Strategic frameworks have been established to allow for the improvement of the living conditions and improvement of the socio-economic status of IDPs until durable solutions are provided.

Internally displaced persons are citizens of the Republic of Serbia and exercise all their rights and obligations in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the leading principles of the UN on internal displacement and other international standards for respecting human rights. All persons registered as internally displaced persons from Kosovo and Metohija have been issued the ID card of the displaced person, which is for the purpose of records and is valid with the appropriate personal document. On the basis of IDP ID and appropriate personal document of IDP, they exercise all rights as the citizens of the Republic of Serbia do in the place where they have been displaced (health care, social protection, education, employment).

The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, when planning and utilizing budget funds, takes care that these programs include local self-government units in which a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons live. From 2008 to 2016, more than 3.3 billion dinars were allocated to 171 local self-government units, and more than 5,600 families were provided with housing units. Over 4,600 most vulnerable families have been empowered economically.

According to estimates, more than 900,000 migrants and refugees from war-endangered areas passed through Serbia without significant incidents. More than 40% of minors have been residing in reception centres since the closure of the migrant route in relation to the total number of persons accommodated. At present, 18 centres are operative (5 asylum centres and 13 reception centres) with a total capacity of 6000. Currently, there are 4,505 persons in the centres. Of that 2,172 minors.

Considering that the Western Balkan route was formally closed and that the retention of migrants in the territory of the Republic of Serbia is now much longer, especially minors representing 48% among the migrant population should be taken into account.

On September 4, 2015, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted a Response Plan in case of an increased number of migrants with needs assessment. The Response Plan is updated regularly according to needs. In September 2016, a revised Response Plan to increased number of migrants in the territory of the Republic of Serbia for the period October 2016 to March 2017 was adopted, defining the main directions of action, measures and activities that need to be undertaken in order to provide adequate protection for migrants during the winter.

In December 2016, a revised Response Plan to an increased number of migrants in the territory of the Republic of Serbia for the period April-December 2017 was adopted.

Also, in 2015 the Government working group was established to solve the problem of mixed migration flows.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans' Affairs and Social Affairs has issued an instruction on the work of the centres for social work and social protection institutions, which provides for urgent accommodation and guardianship for unaccompanied minors, with health care, food, clothing and access to information.


In every permanent and reception centre there is a corner for children, and accommodation for men and women is separated. The social protection system has increased and strengthened the capacity to accommodate and care for unaccompanied minors.


Through partnership with civil society organizations, psycho-social support was provided and additional recreational and educational activities and conditions for attending school for children and youth were organized.

There are health care spaces in all centres (in centres with more capacity, healthcare staff is present 24 hours a day), spaces for mothers with children, as well as spaces for CSOs. The epidemiological situation is regularly monitored, which is crucial for the prevention of possible transmission of infectious diseases both among migrants and the local population.

In accordance with the principle of best interest for a child, all school-age migrants, regardless of their legal status, are provided with access to non-formal education services, which the competent institutions provide in cooperation with UNICEF and NGOs. Asylum seekers and school age persons granted asylum are included in the formal education system (primary and secondary school). In cooperation with NGOs in the centres, numerous activities are organized for children and adults (sports, art, occupational activities). The staff in the centres is continuously trained in cooperation with the relevant MoD and NGOs in the field of protection, work and treatment of vulnerable categories of migrants, identification of potential victims of trafficking in human beings, gender-based violence, in order to provide adequate support to migrants and to prevent various forms of violence. All instances of doubt are immediately referred to the competent services in accordance with standard operating procedures.

Also, in December 2016, the Decree on Integration of Persons Granted Asylum in Social, Cultural and Economic Life of the Republic of Serbia was adopted, thus enabling legal basis for implementation of the integration program. The Commissariat has developed an Integration Program for persons who have been granted some form of protection in the Republic of Serbia (shelter or subsidiary protection).

		<p>In addition to the humanitarian aspect in resolving and dealing with the migrant crisis, the Republic of Serbia is continuously working to improve and strengthen the management system of migrations and asylum system. Draft Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection has been drafted which, having in mind the obligations taken over in the process of accession, is in line with the European Union directives regulating the field of asylum. The basic changes provided for in the text of the draft in relation to the solutions prescribed by the applicable Asylum Law relate primarily to the more precise and detailed definition of the rights of asylum seekers and persons granted protection, in particular those related to the conditions for restraining the movement, the rights of an unaccompanied minor, the rights of asylum seekers belonging to vulnerable categories of persons, securing the best interests of the minor, and which are through the draft fully aligned with solutions of ratified international instruments relating to fundamental rights and freedoms of asylum seekers and refugees.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.102. Continue pursuing appropriate, sensitized policies such as the National Strategy on Resolving the Issue of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons for the period 2011-2014 to address the situation of such persons in a durable, sustainable manner (Slovakia).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">  Full implementation </p>	<p>The Republic of Serbia has adopted the National Strategy for Resolving the Issues of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons for the period 2015-2020.</p> <p>The National Strategy, as regards specific strategic objectives, provides for creation of necessary conditions for the dignified and sustainable return of refugees to the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina through regulatory, institutional and other mechanisms for exercising acquired rights in the countries of origin; providing the necessary conditions for achieving the equality of refugees who have decided to live in Serbia and their integration into the local community; improvement of the living conditions of the most vulnerable categories of internally displaced persons, individuals and families, thus gaining access to rights, services and resources, in accordance with the law, as other citizens do, and addressing their basic life issues; protection of interests of internally displaced persons in access and the exercise of rights at the place of origin.</p> <p>Local action plans for resolving the issue of refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees based on readmission agreements are strategic and action documents of local self-government units that determine the needs of the listed categories of persons and provide for the measures and activities and allocations of a local self-government unit in order to improve their position. Solving the problem of this population with measures and activities that are fully adapted to their real needs is considered and planned for the mid-term period in the local action plans. Employment and solving the housing issue are the basic needs of refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees based on readmission agreements.</p>

		<p>Bearing in mind that asylum-seekers and migrants in need without a defined status were not identified in the local action plans as a special category of migrants, since December 2015 within the project "Strengthening capacities and providing assistance in solving the refugee crisis", financed by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark in Serbia and directly implemented by the Danish Refugee Council in cooperation with the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, workshops have been held for representatives of local self-government units with the aim of changing the existing local action plans and including the needs of asylum seekers and migrants in need without an established status. These are local self-government units located along the migrant route.</p> <p>In the period from 2008 until now, 154 local self-government units have adopted local action plans, 103 have innovated local action plans - included returnees on the basis of readmission agreements, while 16 included asylum seekers and migrants in need without a defined status. The process of amending the local action plans is underway in 38 local self-government units.</p> <p>Local action plan is a condition and basis for the participation of a local self-government unit in public calls and projects financed from the budget of the Republic of Serbia and by donors.</p> <p>The Strategy for Prevention and Protection against Discrimination recognizes refugees, internally displaced persons and other vulnerable migrant groups as one of 9 vulnerable social groups and contains a set of measures to improve the status of members of this group, while the follow-up Action Plan contains specific activities, deadlines for their implementation, responsible executors, indicators, as well as the allocated funds, for measures and activities to be taken by state institutions in order to protect and improve the situation of refugees, internally displaced persons and members of other vulnerable migrant groups.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
Area: Domestic Violence		
<p>131.20. Effectively implement the relevant policies in the field of combating domestic violence in order to prevent domestic violence and to ensure impartial and prompt investigation and prosecution of perpetrators (Czech Republic);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>In December 2015, the Republic Public Prosecutor issued a mandatory instruction setting out the obligation to keep special records in the appellate, higher and basic public prosecutor's offices in relation to, inter alia, the criminal offense of domestic violence, and in which cases urgent action is required. Special records shall contain information on the perpetrator of the criminal offense, the injured party, the criminal offense, the undertaken actions and the rendered public prosecutor's and court decisions, and for the criminal acts committed from hatred (Article 54a of CC) and the records on the motives for committing the criminal offense.</p>

Public prosecutor's offices shall submit to the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office through the appellate public prosecutor's offices a quarterly report with data contained in special records, no later than the 15th day of the last month of the quarter for which the report is submitted. The appellate public prosecutor's offices shall submit summary quarterly reports to the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office no later than the 18th of the last month of the quarter for which the report is submitted.

In accordance with the mandatory instruction of the Republic Public Prosecutor, by decision of the public prosecutor of the First Basic Public Prosecutor's Office in Belgrade as of 18 Feb. 2016, a Department for combating domestic violence was formed and a coordinator of the Department for cross-sectoral cooperation was appointed.




Deputy public prosecutors have regular monthly contacts and meetings with representatives of the CSW and the police with a view to working as efficiently as possible in order to prevent domestic violence, and contacts have also been established with the Victimological Society of Serbia, the Autonomous Women's Centre and other CSOs for better cooperation and joint action.






In the reporting period, the Association of Public Prosecutors and Deputy Public Prosecutors of the Republic of Serbia has a significant contribution in the implementation of training of public prosecutors and deputy prosecutors in the area of protection of victims of domestic violence. Numerous trainings were organized, numerous projects were implemented and publications were printed that helped to eliminate dilemmas in practice and improve the protection of victims of domestic violence. "Treatment of Domestic Violence Cases", at the end of the project, a publication titled "Treatment of Domestic Violence Cases" was issued, which contains recommendations regarding both normative improvement and practices of judicial authorities and police, cooperation of all actors including police and centres for social work (September 2014-March 2015); "Judiciary Initiative for Better Protection of Domestic Violence Victims" (June 2013-April 2014); "Partnership for the Protection of Human Rights - More Efficient Cooperation of Judiciary and Civil Society" (April 2013-April 2014).




Within the Program for Professional Development of Police Officers in the framework of compulsory education in 2016, a seminar was held on the topic "Police action in accordance with the special protocol on police action in cases of domestic and intimate partnership violence against women" attended by 1605 police officers.




By improving the normative and institutional framework in this area, preconditions for efficient implementation of the recommendation have been created and in the forthcoming period we will continue on its full implementation.


		<p>In all police departments in the Republic of Serbia, coordinators to deal with domestic violence, police officers of the criminal police and police of general jurisdiction have been appointed.</p> <p>An initiative has been launched to establish local teams in all police departments in the Republic of Serbia, consisting of representatives of the police, the prosecutor's office, centre for social work, health institutions and non-governmental organizations. Teams will organize meetings at least once a month on the occasion of the analysis of events and the improvement of work in cases of domestic violence.</p> <p>In order to ensure the security of women, children and other family members, police officers acting in domestic violence cases have been ordered to temporarily seize firearms without delay, as well as to inform the centre for social work for the purpose of undertaking social intervention measures.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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<p>131.21. Undertake steps to shorten the period needed for issuing protective orders against domestic violence and to improve the effectiveness of criminal sanctions for violations of protective orders (Slovenia);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The program for professional development of police officers for 2017 continues the implementation of the instructional unit which content consists of the following topics: manifestation forms of domestic violence; family members under the Criminal Code; general principles for protection of women victims of domestic and intimate partnership violence; reporting domestic and intimate partnership violence against women by telephone; sending and arrival of police officers to the place of domestic and intimate partnership violence against women; the most common risks; documenting events; statements of support for victims of domestic and intimate partnership violence against women; cooperation with other institutions and institutions dealing with domestic and intimate partnership violence against women.</p> <p>For the purpose of standardization and uniform implementation of this thematic area, the Department for Vocational Training - the Training Implementation Unit developed a manual and presentation that are fully compatible with the instruction content of the topic.</p> <p>The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence provides for two urgent measures: the urgent measure of removing the perpetrator of the violence from the apartment and the urgent measure of forbidding the perpetrator to contact and approach the victim. Urgent measures are imposed by a police officer for prevention of domestic violence and can last for 48 hours, and can be imposed cumulatively. The public prosecutor, in case of establishing the existence of a direct threat of domestic violence, is obliged to submit a motion to extend the emergency measure. The court evaluates the risk assessment of the competent police officer, the risk assessment made by the basic public prosecutor and assesses the evidence and claims submitted by the public prosecutor. Urgent measures can be extended by court decision for another 30 days. On the proposal of the basic public prosecutor, the basic court shall decide within 24 hours of receiving the submission and without holding a hearing. The law contains penal provisions that prescribe violations and greater effectiveness of urgent measures and measures of protection against domestic violence is achieved.</p> <p>At the level of the Government, the Council for Suppression of Domestic Violence has been established, which is tasked with monitoring the implementation of the Law and improving the coordination of competent state bodies, institutions and other entities, and the effectiveness of preventing domestic violence and protection against domestic violence.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.33. Enhance its efforts to eradicate violence against women and to improve the status of women in society (Japan);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the responses to recommendations: 131.20; 131.21; 132.40; 132.40; 132.41; 132.44</p>
<p>132.34. Continue its efforts to combat violence against women and promote gender equality (Singapore);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the responses to recommendations: 131.20; 131.21; 132.40; 132.40; 132.41; 132.44; 132.20; 132.22; 132.23:132.4;132.82;132.83</p>

<p>132.35. Redouble efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and adopt policies on education and awareness-raising in this area (Spain);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See Domestic violence in general</p>
<p>132.36. Develop a work plan to implement the National Strategy of 2011 to prevent violence against women (Libya);</p>	 Not implemented	<p>The Coordination Body for Gender Equality has initiated the adoption of a new strategy for preventing and combating domestic and intimate partnership violence against women, accompanied by an action plan. Collecting the opinions of the competent state bodies on the initiative is in progress.</p>
<p>132.37. Give further attention to the assistance available to victims of violence against women, especially in the field of psycho-social support (Slovenia);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>In 2016, the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office established a working group to develop a General Obligatory Instruction on the manner of conduct of the Information and Support Service for the victims and witnesses in the prosecutor's offices in order to improve the provision of these services in accordance with international standards. In addition, within this project the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office participated in preparation of the Manual on communication with witnesses and victims in the work of the public prosecutor's offices.</p> <p>During 2016, representatives of the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office continued to cooperate with the OSCE Mission in the Republic of Serbia on the project "Support for the Establishment of a National Support Scheme for Victims and Witnesses in the Republic of Serbia".</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.38. Harmonize legal measures and policies in order to guarantee rights of victims of domestic violence in accordance with international standards, for instance, by amending the Criminal Procedure Law that would expand the term 'family member' in the criminal offence of domestic violence to include a former spouse or partner (Kyrgyzstan);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence defines domestic violence as an act of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence of the perpetrator towards the person with whom the perpetrator is in the present or was in earlier marital or extra-marital or intimate partnership relationship or towards the person with whom the perpetrator is the blood relative in the direct line, and in the lateral line to the second degree or with whom is the relative by marriage to the second degree or to whom is the adoptive parent, the adoptee, foster child or foster parent, or another person with whom he/she lives or lived in a common household.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.39. Carry out efforts in harmonizing legal provisions to guarantee the rights of victims of domestic violence (Angola);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the responses to recommendations 132.21; 132.28 and 132.40</p>

<p>132.40. Take additional measures in order to improve the implementation of legislation protecting against domestic violence, including through awareness raising campaigns and training on domestic violence for officials (Lithuania);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>The Provincial Secretariat for Health Care, in partnership with the Women's Support Centre from Kikinda, has been implementing a three-year project, "Stop - Protect - Help", since January 2016. The project is intended for women in the situation of violence and potential victims, professionals in all sectors at all levels of authority, women's organizations and the entire population on the territory of the province.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.41. Come up with a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and combat domestic violence, and conduct awareness campaigns at the national level (Republic of Korea);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>Starting from the obligations of the state provided for by the Istanbul Convention as well as the measures provided for in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection against Discrimination, CBGE initiated the adoption of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Suppression of Domestic and Intimate Partnership Violence against Women and Girls for the period 2017-2020. For the analysis of the previous strategy and development of a new one, as well as for the implementation of numerous awareness-raising activities, the necessary funding was provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) within the project "Integrated Response to Violence against Women and Girls II". The project began in July 2016 and will last until July 2018, with a total value of \$ 940,000. The project has been implemented in cooperation with all UN agencies in Serbia and relevant line ministries. Its implementation will contribute to the further development of the social and institutional environment in Serbia with zero tolerance for violence.</p> <p>In order to encourage women to report cases of domestic and sexual violence by raising awareness about the criminal nature of such actions, the Ministry of Justice organized a national media campaign of raising awareness called "Off Violence".</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.42. Implement the national strategy to prevent domestic violence and provide training for relevant officials on domestic violence (Republic of Moldova);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence provides for mandatory specialized training for representatives of the competent authorities (police, public prosecution, court). The training program is prepared by the Judicial Academy which also conducts training of judges, public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors, while the training of competent police officers is conducted by the Criminal Police Academy. From February to May 2017, 410 police officers from 27 police departments and from the MoI headquarters were trained.</p> <p>Within the Republic Institute for Social Protection, several training programs on the topic of domestic violence have been accredited, which are intended for professional workers employed in social protection institutions (CSW and institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries).</p>

<p>132.43. Fully implement the national strategy to prevent domestic violence, and conduct awareness raising campaigns and training on domestic violence for officials (Norway);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the responses to recommendations 132.41, 132.40, 132.42</p>
<p>132.44. Effectively combat domestic violence and establish shelters and support centres with medical, psychological and legal support (Austria);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the responses to recommendations: 131.20; 131.21; 132.40; 132.40; 132.41; 132.44</p> <p>There are safe houses managed by centres for social work in Kragujevac, Leskovac, Priboj, Smederevo, Vranje, Jagodina, Šabac, Niš and Majdanpek. In AP Vojvodina, there are 5 safe houses, managed by centres for social work, with total capacity for 122 persons: Novi Sad; Zrenjanin, Sombor, Pančevo and Sremska Mitrovica. In the past period, the Provincial Government, in cooperation with the B92 Fund, supported the construction and equipping of safe houses in Zrenjanin, Pančevo, Sombor and Sremska Mitrovica with a total of 22,500,000RSD.</p> <p>Since 2011 the City of Belgrade, recognizing the importance of a shelter service for women victims of domestic violence, has provided financial support to the civil society organization Counselling against Domestic Violence in Belgrade, which has three safe houses for women victims of domestic violence. By introducing the service of providing shelter for women victims of domestic violence into the normative framework of the city of Belgrade, which defines the conditions for exercising rights and services in the field of social protection, the basis for the implementation of the public procurement procedure of the service has been established in accordance with the Law on Social Protection and the Decision on Rights and Social Protection Services. The service was formally established by the public procurement in early 2016, when a contract for providing the service was concluded with the licensed organization Counselling Centre against Domestic Violence in Belgrade. The accommodation capacity of the Counselling Centre is 30 women and children, 24 hours a day. The costs of this service are fully covered by funds from the budget of the City of Belgrade provided for each current year, the service is free for women victims of violence.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.45. Increase its efforts in ensuring the protection of children from violence in line with its 2008 National Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children from Violence and 2010 Action Plan (Malaysia);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>Within MoESTD there is a group for protection against violence and discrimination, which in December 2013 conducted a survey to explore the incidence of gender-based violence in primary and secondary schools in RS. The authors of this research are, in addition to MoESTD, Centre for Gender Studies of the Faculty of Political Sciences, UNICEF and the Institute of Psychology of the Faculty of Philosophy.</p>

		<p>The survey was conducted as part of two programs: the United Nations Joint Project "Integrated Response to Violence against Women" in cooperation with UNICEF, UNDP and UN Women. The other program is "School without Violence", which is implemented by the MoESTD with the professional and financial support of UNICEF. The results showed that a total of 69% of primary school students and as many as 74% of secondary school students at least once experienced at least one form of gender-based violence. The Group for protection against violence and discrimination, in cooperation with civil society, implemented the National Study on the Social Problem of Sexual Abuse of Children in the RS with the aim of assessing the degree of sexual violence against children.</p> <p>The "School without Violence" program included 274 schools (253 primary and 24 secondary schools), 17,000 teachers who passed training for prevention of violence and 229,000 students. An interactive website "School without Violence" was created, www.sbn.rs, which provides the necessary information in the field of violence prevention. The capacity was strengthened with 60 mentors for work in the field of prevention of violence on the topic of prevention of digital violence, gender-based violence - domestic and sexual violence, as well as 88 advisors for work on the MoESTD SOS telephone line for reporting violence in schools. 0800200201, free line with on-call duty every working day, from 7.30-15.30.</p> <p>An instrument for assessing the safety of the school environment, gender-based and digital violence and the Safety Assessment Manual for the school environment has been developed in the framework of assessing the fulfilment of quality standards of educational institutions and strengthening the capacity of schools and educational advisers to monitor the security of the school environment.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.46. Continue efforts in connection with the prevention of violence against children and the fight against child trafficking, child prostitution and pornography (State of Palestine);</p>	 <p>Full implementation</p>	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.45</p> <p>In order to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, several projects have been implemented:</p> <p>"Prevention and Protection of Children against Violence in Sports" - conducted in the period 2013 - 2014 and within it the Model Protocol for the Protection of Children and Youth against Violence in Recreational and Sports Activities was developed. With the Astra Citizens' Association, in 2014 the MoI signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on the establishment of an effective system for the protection of missing children in the Republic of Serbia and a SOS line for missing children – 116000 – was established.</p>

"Click Safe - Centre for Safe Internet Serbia" - started in 2014. In accordance with the project goal, procedures for reception and processing of harmful and unauthorized contents have been adopted and the internet portal Net Patrol has been activated, which is an electronic mechanism for filing applications for illegal or harmful content on the internet of the Safe Internet Centre. This portal is a member of the network of organizations "Inhope" - an international association of "hotlines" on the internet. During 2014 and 2015, 46 links were posted online on the Net Patrol website. Also, in 2015, the celebration of the Safe Internet Day was held in which 150 students from primary and secondary schools took part, and the main topic was the exchange of various explicit contents on social networks, as well as the phenomenon of sexually explicit footage (the so-called "selfie" and similar footage) and the responsibility of state institutions.

"Empowering children and young people with disabilities to react to abuse and neglect" - in 2014 and 2015, 10 seminars were held "Protection of children and young people with developmental disabilities against abuse and neglect." 42 police officers from the MoI with certificates for dealing with minors participated in training sessions. As one of the main results of the project, "Guide for Implementation of the Protocol for Protection of Children against Abuse and Neglect in Relation to Children and Young People with Developmental Disabilities" was prepared and then presented at the final international conference held in January 2016 in Belgrade, after which police departments in the Republic of Serbia were informed that the Guide could be downloaded from the website www.cpd.org.rs/reports and used in the immediate work.

IPA 2013 "Improving the Rights of the Child through Strengthening the Judiciary and Social Protection System in Serbia" - in the course of 2015 and 2016, a round table "Improving the Child Protection System against Violence" was organized, 15 information sessions were held to protect a minor as a victim and a witness in pre-investigative and criminal proceedings involving 170 police officers. The leaflet and poster "Protection of children victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings" were made, which were distributed to police departments and stations.

Within the "Program of UNICEF Office in Belgrade regarding the Improvement of Capacities for Combating Neglect, Violence, Abuse and Misuse of Children via the Internet" which commenced in 2015, the MoI was donated equipment for the needs of the Department for the Fight against High-Tech Crime, an analysis was made regarding the existing legal instruments for the protection of children against violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, and Basic Training of Police Officers to Combat Criminal Offenses in the Field of Sexual Abuse of Minors was conducted. Training was attended by 70 police officers with certificates for dealing with minors.

"Improvement of Intersectoral Cooperation in the Protection of Children from Violence" - in 2016 and February 2017 in Niš, Kragujevac and Novi Sad, meetings were held aimed at establishing and strengthening intersectoral teams for the protection of children from abuse and neglect in Aleksinac, Svrljig, Knjaževac, Zaječar, Kraljevo, Vrnjačka Banja, Trstenik, Paraćin, Vrbas, Subotica, Novi Bečej and Sremska Mitrovica with the aim of consistent implementation of the General Protocol for the Protection of Children from Abuse and Neglect, i.e. improvement of intersectoral cooperation in the protection of children from all forms of violence. The meeting was organized for representatives of education, social protection and health care system, citizens' associations, public prosecutors and police.

"Engagement and support at the national level to reduce the occurrence of child labour" - during 2016, six meetings were held and two round tables and workshops were held. Final versions of legal instruments and lists of hazardous jobs for the protection of children from the most serious forms of child labour were prepared, as well as the proposal of the Special Protocol of the Labour Inspectorate for the Protection of Children against Child Labour Abuse.

As regards the preventive plan, actions and programs aimed at improving the security culture and protection of minors were realized: "School without violence - my school, safe school", "Drugs are zero – you have only one life", "October-month of fight against human trafficking", "Safe childhood-development of youth safety culture", "Sports-School-Police" and projects of local character in accordance with the Action Plan of the Police Strategy within a Community. In addition, in order to prevent violent acts and acts with elements of abuse, the police are undertaking operational-preventive actions: "School policeman", "School without drugs and violence", "Armageddon-protection of minors from exploitation in pornography".

The curriculum for the professional development of police officers in the course of compulsory education for 2017 provides for an instructional unit "Law on juvenile perpetrators of criminal offenses and protection of minors in criminal justice system" whose content is the topic of police treatment of juvenile perpetrators and injured minors in pre-investigative proceedings.

For the purpose of standardization and uniform implementation of this thematic area, the Department for Professional Development and Training - Training Section has developed a manual and presentation that are fully compatible with the instructional content of the topic.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

132.47. Give full and effective implementation to the national campaign to reduce violence against children and women in order to further reduce the occurrence of rape and domestic violence, sexual harassment, child abuse including in educational institutions and child marriage (Australia);



Full implementation

See the response to recommendation 132.45

Amendments to the Criminal Code of 23 November 2016 introduced a criminal offense of forced marriage (Article 187a).

The Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Men and Women in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2016-2025 as well as the National Strategy for Gender Equality provide for the measures related to prevention and reduction of the number of juvenile and forced marriages and juvenile pregnancies in the Roma community.

All police departments and stations in the Republic of Serbia shall apply Specific Protocol on the conduct of the police officers to protect minors from abuse and neglect; 24-hour availability of trained police officers (in the field of child rights and juvenile justice, there are currently 2,048) is provided to children, as well as their parents or guardians; equal treatment of the police with regard to the protection of the personality of the minor victim and the manner of conducting a conversation with him/her.

In order to consistently implement the General Protocol for the Protection of Children from Abuse and Neglect, or to improve intersectoral cooperation in the protection of children from all forms of violence, the new and reinforced existing intersectoral teams for the protection of children from abuse and neglect were established in Aleksinac, Svrlijig, Knjaževac, Zaječar, Kraljevo, Vrnjačka Banja, Trstenik, Paraćin, Vrbas, Subotica, Novi Bečej and Sremska Mitrovica (project "Improvement of Intersectoral Cooperation in the Protection of Children from Violence").

We emphasize the fact that police officers of the Criminal Police Directorate-Service for Combating Organized Crime-Department for Combating Organized General Crime within the Action Plan for Chapter 24 which provides for one of the key goals in the field of combating organized crime, ie trafficking in human beings, implementation of activities 6.2.8 - "Improved mechanisms for suppression of all forms of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with EU standards, as an adequate response from the Republic of Serbia to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings, in line with EU standards and within the implementation of the IPA 2013 project, the Twinning Contract, following a series of joint meetings with the Centre for the Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings and civil society organizations "ASTRA" and "ATINA", initiated the creation of a joint Memorandum of Cooperation which includes key points on the basis of which the future cooperation in the field of fight against human trafficking will be improved and continue to strengthen enhanced multi-sectoral cooperation, with an emphasis on providing adequate support to victims of trafficking in human beings. The draft text has been agreed in the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) and in the forthcoming period it is possible to sign said agreement.

Please note that in the text of the enclosed draft proposal for the XXI Human Trafficking (Recommendations No. 131.22; 131.24; 131.30; 132.48-132.57), item four (4) has already indicated the existence of certain memoranda of cooperation signed by state bodies and civil society organizations, and footnote No. 4 has explained "RPP with Victimology Society of Serbia and organizations *Astra* and *Atina*, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development with Unitas Fund, Ministry of Youth and Sports with CSO Your Serbia etc.", which does not include the drafted proposal of the above mentioned Memorandum of Understanding, whose signing is expected to be on 18 Oct. 2017 when the World Day against Trafficking in Persons is marked.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

Area: Trafficking in Human Beings

131,22. Undertake steps to shorten the period needed for issuing protective orders against domestic violence and to improve the effectiveness of criminal sanctions for violations of protective orders (Slovenia);







Since the end of November 2016, IPA Twinning Project "Combating Organized Crime (trafficking in human beings, drugs, weapons, financial investigations)" is being conducted". Within the activities carried out so far, training programs for judges, police officers and prosecutors on trafficking in human beings have been developed, with emphasis on conducting investigations and providing protection and support to the human trafficking victims, and subsequently, in the first quarter of 2017 a basic training of police officers of the Criminal Police Directorate on investigating trafficking in human beings was carried out.

The Public Prosecutor's Office acts in accordance with the positive legal provisions following the Special Protocol on actions of the judicial bodies for Human Trafficking Victims Protection in the Republic of Serbia, adopted in February 2012. In all Higher Public Prosecutor's Offices in the Republic of Serbia, the contact point prosecutors for cases of human trafficking, with specialized training in this area and who act and coordinate the actions in human trafficking cases, have been designated. The Public Prosecutor's Office in cooperation with the Judicial Academy, foreign partners and non-governmental organisations, organises and conducts training for public prosecutors, especially for contact point prosecutors.

Victims and witness support services were established in all 25 Higher Courts in the Republic of Serbia, and the Victims and Witnesses Info Services were established in the Higher Public Prosecutor's Offices in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Nis and Kragujevac. A publication titled "Legal framework and recommendations for the implementation of the principles of impunity for victims of human trafficking in the Republic of Serbia" was published.

Employment of victims is one of the most effective ways for their reintegration. Within the framework of improving the conditions for reintegration of victims, the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection signed a Protocol on Cooperation with the National Employment Service. This protocol improves the opportunities for employment of victims of human trafficking as a particularly sensitive group of hard-to-employ beneficiaries. The activities of the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection on the integration of victims will be improved by creating spatial conditions for the implementation of the victim support activities. Preparations to adapt the business premises of the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection are underway.

The Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

<p>131.24. Consider enhancing national efforts in the area of trafficking in person through adopting a definition for the sale of children and child pornography in the criminal code (Egypt);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.23.</p>
<p>131.30 Ensure the rights of victims to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition (Switzerland);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>See the response to recommendations 131.22 and 131.49.</p>
<p>132.48. Continue its intensified efforts against human trafficking (Philippines);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the entire title Human Trafficking</p>
<p>132.49. Implement the Protocol on fight against trafficking in human beings of the Ministry of Justice as well as adopt the new national strategy to prevent and combat trafficking in human being and to protect victims (Portugal);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 131.22.</p> <p>National strategy for the prevention and suppression of human trafficking, especially women and children and for protection of victims in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2017-2022 was adopted, as well as the Action Plan for the period 2017-2018. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation will be carried out accordingly.</p> <p>In the assessment of SOCTA (Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment) made in 2015 and published in early 2016, trends and recommendations related to the combat against human trafficking were presented. A public version of the report is available on the website of the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>In order to strengthen the measures for compensation and reintegration of victims, it is planned that a special part of the Strategy for the improvement of the rights of victims and witnesses is dedicated to the efforts on speeding up the decisions on compensation for damages in criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Protection of victims is continuously implemented through the coordinating role of the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection, with the participation of relevant institutions and non-governmental organisations. Reintegration of victims is part of the process of providing assistance and support.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>

132.50. Take measures to prevent child trafficking and sexual exploitation through education programmes and development of support services of assistance, rehabilitation and protection (Belgium);



Full implementation

A four-day training for the employees at the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection and the key associate organization was organised on the topic of the work with sexually exploited children - "Access to Children Victims of Human Trafficking and Principles of a Forensic Interview with the Emphasis on Sexual Exploitation of Children".

In 2016 the project "Prevention of Trafficking in Children and Youth in Serbia" was implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and Centres for Human Trafficking Victims Protection, with the support of UNITAS Fund.

The project dealt with the prevention of trafficking of children in education and consisted of two parts: raining of educational experts (primary and secondary schools) for the implementation of national indicators for preliminary identification of victims of trafficking in education, and the work with children on the prevention of human trafficking. Indicators are applied in all systems, with coordination and consultations with the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection.





Trainings were carried out in the reception and transit centres to identify possible victims of trafficking among migrants and refugees, with guidelines for referral; trainings were also carried out for the employees of the Commissariat for Refugees of the Republic of Serbia (*KIRS*) for the preliminary identification of victims of trafficking among children and adult migrants. Trainings were conducted for application of Standard Operative Procedures for the protection of children of refugees/migrants.





Through the Programme of vocational specialization of police officers in the framework of the compulsory education in 2016, a seminar was held on the topic of "Legal provisions governing the issues of human trafficking, illegal migrations and human smuggling" - attended by 159 police officers.

An integral part of the compulsory education within the Programme were the following thematic units: international legal obligations of the Republic of Serbia, national legislation, illegal passage of the state border and smuggling of people, human trafficking, national mechanisms, legal basis for providing humanitarian residence.


With the view of standardisation and uniform implementation of this thematic field, the Division for Vocational Education and Training - Department for the implementation of training - has prepared a manual and a presentation fully compatible with the teaching content of the topic.


The Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

<p>132.51. Establish specialized shelters for children victims of human trafficking (Portugal);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The support to children victims of human trafficking is coordinated by the competent Centre for social work in cooperation with the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection. Accommodation of children victims of human trafficking in the Republic of Serbia falls exclusively within the competence of the state and the first option is the possibility of accommodating children in foster families.</p> <p>Children are accommodated in specialized shelters for children, in foster families or social welfare institutions. Preparations for opening a shelter for children victims of human trafficking in Novi Sad are underway.</p> <p>During 2016 and 2017, the Centre for Foster Care and Adoption of Belgrade has been implementing the foster care project for refugee/migrant children which also includes the care of children from this population who are trafficking victims.</p> <p>Since 2017, with the license of the relevant Ministry, an Integrated home for children victims of all forms of violence and exploitation was opened within the framework of protection of migrant children. This service is provided by the Jesuit Refugee Service.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.52. Adopt comprehensive measures to ensure access to justice, provision of compensation and assistance to facilitate reintegration into local communities for victims of trafficking, particularly women and children (Thailand);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the entire title Human Trafficking.</p>
<p>132.53. Develop specialized programmes and services aimed particularly at the rehabilitation and reintegration of children victims of human trafficking (Libya);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.51.</p>
<p>132.54. Bring the legislation against sexual exploitation of children fully in conformity with the principles and provisions of CRC, the Palermo Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention against Cybercrime and Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Portugal);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>The Article 184 of the Criminal Code contains a criminal act of mediation in prostitution, paragraph 2 of which criminalises child prostitution in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Palermo Protocol, the Council of Europe's Convention on cyber-crime and the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Special Protocol on the treatment of the judicial bodies for protection of minors from abuse and neglect contains a definition of sexual abuse of minors.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>

<p>132.55. Incorporate an explicit definition of the crime of sale of children into its Penal Code and draft Child Act (Malaysia);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendations 131.24 and 131.6.</p>
<p>132.56. Provide a clear definition of child prostitution in its national legislation in line with its international obligations (Kyrgyzstan);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>See the response to recommendation 132.54.</p>
<p>132.57. Develop programmes and activities concerning training and capacity building of employees and others of vocational workers who work with children in the field of child sexual exploitation for commercial purposes (Libya);</p>	 Full implementation	<p>During the period 2014-2015, the National indicators for the preliminary identification of possible trafficking victims were created in the Republic of Serbia. The indicators comprise social protection, education and police systems.</p> <p>In 2015, for all employees at the Centre for Human Trafficking Victims Protection a three-day training was organised for the work with children victims of some form of violence, including human trafficking. In 2016, the Centre participated in the training of health mediators within the UNICEF Project, which was dedicated to recognising and establishing a relationship between health mediators and sexually exploited children and their families.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>Area: Protection of Journalists</p>		
<p>132.31. Amend and where necessary repeal all legislation which restricts the ability of journalists to carry out their work freely and which impacts upon the independence of the media (Ireland);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>The Law on Public Information and Media in Article 4 governs the right to freedom of information and states that: "Public information is free and is not subject to censorship".</p>

		<p>The above mentioned Article stipulates that freedom of public information shall not be violated by the abuse of office and public powers, property and other rights, nor by the influence and control over the means of printing and distribution of newspapers or electronic communication networks used for distribution of the media contents.</p> <p>The Law on Public Information and Media provides for Chapter VIII regulating the rights of journalists in performing journalistic work. Article 49 stipulates that a journalist's employment may not be terminated, nor may he be placed in an unfavourable position for publishing a true claim and for expressing his views and opinions. Article 50 stipulates that a journalist has the right to refuse to execute editor's order if, by acting in accordance with such order, he would violate regulations, professional rules and ethics of the journalistic profession. Also, Article 51 stipulates the right of the journalist to the authenticity of the article, implying that a journalist's article the meaning of which has been changed in the editorial process may not be published under his name without his consent. Article 52 stipulates that a journalist shall not be required to disclose the source of information, except for information relating to a criminal offense or a perpetrator of a criminal offense, for which a sentence of at least five years of prison is prescribed, provided that the information for such criminal offense cannot be obtain otherwise.</p> <p>Direct and indirect discrimination against media editors, journalists and other persons in the field of public information on the grounds of their political ideology and belief or other personal characteristics is prohibited.</p>
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		<p>The free flow of information in the media, as well as the editorial autonomy of the media shall not be jeopardized, and in particular by putting pressure, making threats or blackmailing editors, journalists or source of information.</p> <p>Physical attacks on editors, journalists and other persons involved in the collection and dissemination of information through the media shall be punishable by law.</p> <p>The freedom of public information shall not be violated by the abuse of office and public powers, property and other rights, nor by the influence and control over the means of printing and distribution of newspapers or electronic communication networks used for distribution of the media contents.</p> <p>Article 53 regulates the rights of journalists to professional association. The above Article stipulates that journalists can freely establish their associations in accordance with the law governing associations.</p> <p>Chapter IV of the Law on Public Information and Media regulates the issue of publicity of media information. The Media Registry was established in accordance with the law. Article 38 of the Law stipulates that the purpose of the Media Registry is to provide the publicity of the information on media. The Media Register includes, among other things, names of legal and natural persons who directly or indirectly have more than 5% of the publisher's founding capital share, data on their related parties in terms of the law regulating the legal status of companies and data on other publishers in which these parties have more than 5% of founding capital share. The register also includes data on the amount of funds allocated to the media on account of the state aid, in accordance with the provisions of this Law, as well as data on the amount of funds received from public authorities, including national authorities, territorial autonomy bodies, local self-government units, organisations exercising public authority, as well as legal entities established or financed in whole or mainly by the Republic of Serbia, the autonomous province, or a local self-government unit (hereinafter: the Public Authority).Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.32. Strengthen the protection of journalists, media personnel, and human rights defenders against the attacks and prosecute those responsible for such kind of attempts (Estonia);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The Action Plan for the Negotiating Chapter 23 provides for a series of activities within the frame of recommendation 3.5.1 and 3.5.2 dedicated to the protection of journalists and freedom of expression.</p>

		<p>The following activities of the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office in the draft Action Plan for Chapter 23 regarding protection of journalists are foreseen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendments to the Rules on the administration of Public Prosecutor's Offices regarding the method of keeping records of perpetrators of criminal offences committed against journalists (the cases in which journalists are the aggrieved party are designated as priority). -Drafting and signing of a cooperation agreement between the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Interior, in accordance to which acting in investigation of threats and violence against journalists will be prescribed as a priority. -Drafting and signing of a cooperation agreement between the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Culture and Information and representative associations of journalists (designation of the contact point for cooperation between these institutions, the prescribed method and procedure for exchange of information, as well as the manner of informing on the events that do not have characteristics of a criminal offence, the manner of problem identification and other relevant issues). <p>Public Prosecutor's Offices of general and special jurisdiction continue to conduct investigations and criminal prosecution of perpetrators of criminal offences with elements of violence against journalists and media employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By invoking legal remedies for court decisions, public prosecutors tend to influence the tightening of penal policy and the establishment of new judicial practice in the field of protection of human rights and freedoms. <p>In order to increase the efficiency of work of the Public Prosecutors' Offices in criminal proceedings against perpetrators of criminal offenses committed against journalists, the Republic Public Prosecutor issued in December 2015 Procedures prescribing that public prosecutor's offices shall keep separate records for acts against persons performing work of public interest in the field of information, with regard to the actions taken and in connection with the attacks on the media websites in cases where urgent action is prescribed.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
Area: Rule of Law and Judiciary Reforms		
<p>132.71. Further strengthen the rule of law and institutions to enforce social cohesion, tolerance and equality in order to exhaustively guarantee human rights for its people, in particular those of vulnerable groups such as women , children, displaced and disabled persons (Vietnam);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>On August 31, 2013, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Strategy for Judicial Reform for the period 2013-2018 which foresees concrete measures and activities for achieving strategic goals, defines deadlines and competent entities for their implementation, as well as funding sources.</p>

		<p>The Strategy sets out five basic reform principles that include the promotion of independence, impartiality and quality of justice, expertise, accountability and efficiency of the judiciary system.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
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132.58. Improve the effectiveness of the administration of justice (Poland);



Pending recommendation

As the inefficiency has been a major problem for the judiciary of the Republic of Serbia for a long period of time, the National Strategy for Judicial Reform for the period 2013-2018 with the accompanying Action Plan and the Action Plan for Chapter 23, a number of measures aimed at improving efficiency are envisaged, starting with the improvement of procedural laws, the establishment of an e-justice system, as well as monitoring and correction of functioning of the judicial network. By continuously monitoring the performance of the measures and activities, more than 90% of due activities have been fully or partially implemented. A reduction of the burden of the courts was planned by establishing a system of private enforcement officers, public notaries and mediation in dispute resolution by which it would be achieved, and with speeding up the resolution of old cases and infrastructure investments, a shorter duration of court proceedings and improved citizens' access to justice is achieved.



In order to implement the activities envisaged by the Action Plan for Chapter 23, the Ministry of Justice has initiated a consultative process in relation with the amendments to the Constitution in the part relating to the judiciary. To that end, on May 19, 2017 the Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, announced a public invitation for the participation of the civil society organisations in a consultative process, inviting the non-governmental sector to submit its proposals for amending the Constitution in the part relating to the judiciary. The public invitation was open until June 30, 2017 and 15 proposals were received.


As a continuation of the consultation process, the Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, organised the first in a series of roundtables on July 21, 2017 in the Palace of Serbia in Belgrade, in order to consider the received proposals and answers.



The roundtables will be held in September, October and November 2017 in Belgrade, on the topics "Competence of the Judicial Office Holders"; "Competences of the Council (High Court Council and State Prosecutorial Council)"; "Election and composition of the Council"; "Sources of the Law (the issue of case-law)" and "Judges' Mandate (election, responsibility and competence)".




Also, it is necessary to emphasize the adoption of the Law on protection of the right to a trial within a reasonable time, which established a system for lodging an appeal in case the trial lasts unduly long, as well as the possibility of compensation for damages due to violation of the right to trial within a reasonable time.



Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.



<p>132.59. Continue to enhance its judicial system and ensure respect for the rule of law (Singapore);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The judicial system of the Republic of Serbia has provided for and taken a series of measures aimed at improving efficiency. In the past period significant accomplishments have been made on establishing and developing judicial professions, reducing in this way the burden of courts and with speeding up resolution of old cases and infrastructure investments, a shorter duration of court proceedings and improved citizens' access to justice is achieved. Public notaries started to work since September 1st 2014, and by adopting the Law on Mediation in Dispute Resolution, a legal framework for functioning of the dispute settlement mediation system was created and is in force as of January 1st, 2015. The Law on Enforcement and Security was adopted in December 2015 and represents a compromise between the speed of enforcement proceedings and the harmonisation of the court practice (by right of appeal), the competences of enforcement officers were extended, the most important acts of the enforcement officers were subjected to a legal remedy - the objection - about which the court decides, harmonising in this way the practice of enforcement officers from the area of the same basic or commercial court, the general part of the enforcement proceedings was rearranged to make it clear and systematic, clearer solutions were obtained in order to avoid misunderstandings in practice.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.60. Reinforce judicial reforms initiated in 2009 with a view to ensuring the judiciary's independence, transparency, efficiency and accessibility (Slovakia);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>Due to the duration and complexity of the procedure of amendment of the Constitution, a number of transitional measures aimed at strengthening the independence of the judiciary are envisaged through changes to the judicial laws and within the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. The High Court Council adopted in November 2016 a Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates for the first election of judges and the Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates for the election of judges to the permanent judicial office to other or higher court and on the criteria for proposing candidates for the court president. In addition, the State Prosecutorial Council adopted in September 2016 a Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of qualifications, competence and worthiness of the candidates in the procedure for the first election of a deputy public prosecutor, whereas in May 2015 a Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of qualifications, competence and worthiness of the candidates in the procedure of proposing and election to office of public prosecutor was adopted. The High Court Council and the State Prosecutorial Council have also adopted criteria and standards for evaluation of the performance of judges, court presidents, public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors. Amendments to the Law on the High Court Council and the State Prosecutorial Council have significantly enhanced transparency of the work of both bodies.</p>

		<p>With regard to taking measures aimed at improving impartiality, ethics and integrity of the holders of judicial offices, we point out that the State Prosecutorial Council and the High Court Council have adopted the Code of Ethics for public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors as well as for judges, and in addition, they have adopted the Code of Ethics for the members of both State Prosecutorial Council and the High Court Council. Establishment of the Ethical Committee both in the State Prosecutorial Council and in the High Court Council is also of great importance. It is important to note that disciplinary bodies have been established and are operational both in the State Prosecutorial Council and in the High Court Council.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.61. Continue the policy aimed at improving the judicial system, reforming law enforcement bodies and lowering the level of crime and corruption (Russian Federation);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>In order to improve professional competence of the holders of judicial offices, the capacities of the Judicial Academy, which carries out the initial training as well as permanent and specialized training, are being improved.</p> <p>The review of the re-election of judges has been completed and unelected judges were integrated into the judicial system of the Republic of Serbia.</p> <p>In 2016 the Government adopted the Code of Conduct for members of the Government which regulates commenting judicial decisions and procedures, and a Draft Code of Conduct for deputies is under preparation.</p> <p>In the past period significant accomplishments were achieved on establishing and developing judicial professions, reducing in this way the burden of courts and with speeding up resolution of old cases and infrastructure investments, a shorter duration of court proceedings and improved citizens' access to justice is achieved. Public notaries started to work since September 1st 2014, and by adopting the Law on Mediation in Dispute Resolution, a legal framework for functioning of the dispute settlement mediation system was created and is in force as of January 1st, 2015.</p> <p>The Law on Enforcement and Security was adopted in December 2015 and represents a compromise between the speed of enforcement proceedings and the harmonisation of the court practice (by right of appeal), the competences of enforcement officers were extended, the most important acts of enforcement officers were subjected to a legal remedy - the objection - on which the court decides, harmonising in this way the practice of enforcement officers from the area of the same basic or commercial court, the general part of the enforcement proceedings was rearranged to make it clear and systematic, clearer solutions were obtained in order to avoid misunderstandings in practice.</p>

		<p>The Republic Public Prosecutor's Office, in cooperation with the State Prosecutorial Council, has taken active measures in accordance with the National Judicial Reform Strategy, as well as in accordance with the Public Prosecutor's Office Development Plan towards improving the public prosecutorial system and reforming Public Prosecutor's Offices. In this respect, a number of by-laws were adopted, such as, for example, a Rulebook on the evaluation of the work of public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors, Rulebook on the election of public prosecutors and deputies, Code of Ethics, Rules on disciplinary procedure and disciplinary liability, Decision on the method of testing candidates for the election of public prosecutors and deputies, etc. Also, action plans for the implementation of the National Strategies, especially in the field of fight against corruption were adopted, and mechanisms for introducing new institutes into Public Prosecutor's Offices are foreseen, such as, for example, engagement permanently employed financial experts in the field of financial forensics during criminal proceedings and the procedure for confiscation of proceeds from crime.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.62. Ensure that Serbian jurisdictions are able to rigorously apply criminal provisions related to racial and discriminatory offences (France);</p>	 <p>Partial implementation</p>	<p>In the amendments to the Criminal Law made at the end of 2012, Article 54a was introduced, imposing a special circumstance for determination of penalty for a criminal offense committed for the reasons of hatred, racial, religious, national or ethnic affiliation, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity of other person. If a criminal offense is committed by hatred for reasons of affiliation, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity of other person, this circumstance shall be judged by the court as aggravating unless it is regulated as a feature of a criminal offense.</p>
<p>Area: Accountability for War Crimes</p>		
<p>132.64. Continue efforts in the fight against impunity for gross violations of human rights committed during the armed conflict (Argentina);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>In order to ensure the prosecution of all persons who allegedly committed war crimes before domestic courts, the Government adopted a National War Crimes Strategy on February 20, 2016. In addition, a draft wording of the Prosecutorial Strategy for Investigation and Prosecution of War Crimes in Serbia was prepared and its adoption is expected in the upcoming period. It is also important to note that the National Assembly elected the new War Crimes Prosecutor on May 15, 2017, allowing in this way a full-capacity work of the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office.</p>

<p>132.65. Take all necessary measures to put an end to impunity by prosecuting alleged perpetrators in accordance with law and international standards (Switzerland);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The Prosecutorial War Crimes Strategy for the period 2016-2026, drafting of which is managed by the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Serbia, with participation of the representative of the War Crimes Investigation Service of the Ministry of Interior, will enable fulfilment of the recommendations from the European Commission's Screening report for Chapter 23 of the negotiations on the accession of the Republic of Serbia to the European Union, and fulfilment of the tasks envisaged by the National Strategy: significant improvement of efficiency of the investigation and prosecution of war crimes in the Republic of Serbia which will be reflected in the suppression of impunity of war crimes irrespective of the status of the perpetrator, support to the judiciary through the promotion of regional cooperation, and harmonisation of court practice in order to achieve proportionality in punishment and improved mechanisms for protection and support to witnesses and victims.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>132.66. Take necessary measures to ensure that all persons alleged to have committed war crimes are prosecuted in national courts, and that victims are properly compensated (Spain);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>Starting from 2003 when the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office was established, a large number of perpetrators of crimes against humanity and international law were prosecuted, as well as for the crimes of concealment, if they relate to the perpetrators of war crimes.</p> <p>The War Crimes Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Serbia applies the Criminal Code of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from 1992/93, based on the principle of applying a more lenient law to the perpetrator of the war crime. The mentioned Law does not specifically provide for the crime against humanity. However, particular actions of crimes against humanity are to a great extent covered by other stipulated criminal offences of that Law.</p> <p>The War Crimes Prosecutor's Office, through its cooperation with the International Crime Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), and through regional cooperation with the Prosecutor's Offices of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro, has signed relevant Memoranda, Agreements and Protocols through which it comes to knowledge and evidence that persons presently located on the territory of the Republic of Serbia have committed war crimes, and subsequently undertakes their prosecution.</p> <p>With regard to the victims' right to compensation, drafting of the National Strategy to regulate the rights of crime victims with the accompanying Action Plan is planned, which will provide for concrete measures for improving the exercise of the right to compensation, as well as the establishment of the support service network.</p>
<p>132.67. Ensure that persons accused of being the authors of or accomplices in crimes against humanity are properly prosecuted (Mexico);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>The War Crimes Investigation Service acts according to the orders and requests of the national authorities: Ministry of Justice (War Crimes Prosecutor's Office, the Higher Court in Belgrade - War Crimes Department, Court of Appeal in Belgrade - Department of War Crimes, Service for assistance and support to witnesses and victims within the Higher Court in Belgrade) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p>

<p>132.68. Ensure that all persons suspected of having committed or being accomplices of crimes against international law are brought to national courts and judged in accordance with international norms (France);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>The War Crimes Investigation Service (hereinafter: WCIS), as an integral part of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, it acts according to the orders and requests of national authorities of the Republic of Serbia: Ministry of Justice (War Crimes Prosecutor's Office, the Higher Court in Belgrade - War Crimes Department, Court of Appeal in Belgrade - Department of War Crimes, Service for assistance and support to witnesses and victims within the Higher Court in Belgrade) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The WCIS is in charge of contacts with other, domestic and foreign judicial and police bodies working on investigating war crimes and prosecuting perpetrators, with a view of exchanging data, documentation and evidence necessary for the prosecution of war crime perpetrators on the territory of the former SFRY.</p> <p>In accordance with the provisions of the new Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Serbia, WCIS, as a specialized organisational unit dealing with cases of war crimes, is entrusted by the Prosecutor with the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • finding the aggrieved persons • conducting interviews with witnesses, aggrieved persons and suspects • collecting evidence • deprivation of liberty of perpetrators • solving the fate of missing persons in armed conflicts on the territory of the former SFRY, including discovery of mass graves • creation of data base for war crimes.
<p>132.69. Continue to strengthen its efforts to combat impunity for serious crimes under international law by continuing its cooperation with the ICTY and by ensuring that other perpetrators are prosecuted in domestic courts in accordance with international standards (Australia);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>The War Crimes Investigation Service cooperates and acts upon the request of the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Serbia for detention of all persons suspected of committing a crime or of complicity in a crime against international law before the courts in the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with international norms and respecting the rights of the detained suspects. The Service shall act upon the requests of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) through the Ministry of Justice relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acting upon the requests of ICTY • protection of witnesses and their families whose safety could be threatened during and after their testimony before the ICTY • providing conditions for testimony and providing technical assistance to witnesses • surveillance of persons temporarily released by the ICTY in accordance with the guarantees of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, and surveillance of their transfer. <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>

<p>132.70. Ensure that a serious inquiry is undertaken into persons responsible for detaining and executing the Bitici brothers in 1999 (United States of America);</p>	 <p>Partial implementation</p>	<p>In the case of Bitici brothers, the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office indicted two persons. In January 2003 a final acquittal was passed in this case. The War Crimes Prosecutor's Office subsequently issued an Investigation Order against NN person for war crime against prisoners of war pursuant to Article 144 of the Criminal Code of the FRY.</p>
<p>Area: Respect for Police Code of Conduct</p>		
<p>132.11 Ensure strict observance of code of conduct by law enforcement officials (Poland);</p>	 <p>Pending recommendation</p>	<p>In accordance with the Law on Police, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Code of Police Ethics published on March 6, 2017 in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" No. 17/2017, which is a set of rules on the ethical conduct of police officers in the Ministry of Interior, which supports the rule of law and is in line with the European Code of Police Ethics and other international instruments related to the police.</p> <p>Conduct contrary to the provisions of the Code represents behaviour detrimental to the reputation of the Ministry and the police profession, and the Code is also part of the programme through which the employees in the Ministry receive vocational training and specialisation.</p> <p>Article 207, paragraph 1, point (7) of the Law on Police stipulates, as a serious breach of official function, a behaviour of an employee that is detrimental to the reputation of the Ministry, which means that a conduct contrary to the provisions of the Code entails disciplinary liability of the employees of the Ministry of Interior.</p> <p>Through the Programme of general vocational specialisation of civil servants, classes for police officers on "Ethics and Integrity" are held. In accordance with the Action Plan for Monitoring the Implementation of the National Strategy for the Fight Against Corruption in 2015, the Internal Control Department of the Police initiated drafting of a curriculum in the field of police ethics intended for police officers and implementation of the training in cooperation with the OSCE Mission in the Republic of Serbia and the Council of Europe's project "Strengthening of Cooperation between the Prosecutor's Office and the Police". Representatives of the Department participate in drafting a new Code of Police Ethics.</p> <p>The following topics are an integral part of the Programme for vocational specialisation of police officers for 2017: Police work with the marginalised minority and socially vulnerable groups and Peace Model for conducting structured official interviews with full respect for victims, minority, marginalised and socially vulnerable groups, the Concept, recognition and response to the manifestations of discrimination; Commission for the implementation of standards of the police conduct in the field of torture prevention.</p> <p>On the initiative and with the financial support from DCAF, two workshops on the topic of "Police Integrity and Ethics - Training-Oriented Aspects" were held in 2016 and were attended by 60 police officers.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>

Area: Prohibition of Torture

131.3. Develop further measures with regard to the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (CAT) (State of Palestine);



Full implementation

During preparation of the activities for implementation of the Action Plan for Chapter 23, the Internal Control Department of the Ministry of Interior proposed that the methodology of proving cases of abuse be done in cooperation with the OSCE Mission in the Republic of Serbia, given that drafting of the Procedures for treatment of persons remanded into custody and detained persons has already been initiated in cooperation with the Mission.

At the end of 2016, the Republic Public Prosecutor's Office initiated establishment of a Working Group with the aim of developing a methodology for the prosecution and the police to investigate cases of abuse and torture by the police, in which 3 representatives of the Internal Control Department shall participate. Several meetings were held and in June 2017 a final version of the document was produced. It is planned to start the education of prosecutors and police officers who in practice investigate cases of abuse, and its beginning is foreseen in the second half of 2017. It is planned to carry out education for the representatives of the Internal Control Department and for police officers of the Criminal Police Directorate, from the Ministry's headquarters and from the regional police directorates.

A teaching unit "Commission for the implementation of standards of the police treatment in the field of torture prevention", envisaged by the programme of vocational specialisation of police officers in the framework of compulsory education for 2017, contains the following topics: the notion of torture; prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishments; criminal proceedings and execution of sentence; use of coercion by the police; competences of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture.

With the view of standardisation and uniform implementation of this thematic field, the Division for Vocational Education and Training - Department for the implementation of training - prepared a manual and a presentation fully compatible with the teaching content of the topic.

In order to strengthen the capacities of the NPM, a reorganisation of the Ombudsman's professional service has begun and the Secretariat of the National Preventive Mechanism has been established as a separate organisational unit with four officers. One independent advisor was permanently employed. The NPM Secretariat now employs two women and one man, all with a high degree of education, while there is still one job vacancy.

Multidisciplinary teams were established to visit institutions for accommodation of persons deprived of liberty - 77 visits during 2013, 78 during 2014 and 76 by September 2015. Reports with recommendations for removal of identified work deficiencies that could lead to abuse or torture (total of 400 recommendations in 2013, 345 in 2014 and 208 by September 2015) were submitted to all institutions. For the purpose of more efficient implementation of the recommendations, NPM entered into a dialogue with the visited institutions and competent ministries.

On the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture on June 26, 2013, a public hearing was held in the National Assembly, where the Annual Report on the work of NPM for 2012 was presented.

The National Assembly reviewed the Report on the Work of the National Preventive Mechanism for 2013 for the first time, and it was assessed as detailed and comprehensive. By the majority vote of deputies, the Conclusions were adopted by means of which the National Assembly obligated the competent authorities to commence implementation of the Ombudsman's recommendations and to inform accordingly the National Assembly by 31 December 2014. According to information available to the Ombudsman, the competent authorities have not fulfilled their obligation.



Also, a part of the activities of NPM were related to the improvement of the regulations in the field of protection of the rights of persons deprived of liberty and torture prevention (the expressed opinions indicated to the competent authorities the deficiencies of the Law on the Protection of Persons with Mental Disorders, the Ministry of Interior's Procedures on treatment of persons remanded into custody and detained persons, as well as the need for the passing the laws that will govern the field of probation, etc.)

In 2013 NPM organised a roundtable with a topic "Torture prevention and culpability ". At the initiative of NPM Serbia in March 2013, a Network of NPMs of the countries of South East Europe was established in Belgrade, which, in addition to NPM Serbia, includes NPM Albania, NPM Macedonia, NPM Slovenia, NPM Croatia, NPM Montenegro, NPM Austria, NP Bulgaria, NPM Hungary and Bosnia and Hercegovina Ombudsman.

In 2014, NPM Serbia organised the first South East European Forum of mechanisms foreseen by the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture, attended by the representatives of the UN Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT), representatives of the NPM Network of Southeast European countries and representatives of the NPMs of Romania, Germany, Greece, Czech Republic, France, Poland, Estonia and Azerbaijan, members of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT), the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) and other international organisations, as well as representatives of the civil society and representatives of the Public Monitors of Russia (CoE PMC Project), among others.

All other activities of the NPM in the field of preventing abuse and torture can be found at <http://npm.rs>, as well as on the website of the Protector of Citizens: <http://zastitnik.rs>.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

<p>132.2. Allocate adequate financial means and put proper legal foundations in place in order to ensure that the concerns expressed by the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture are addressed (Denmark);</p>		<p>The Ministry of the Interior is beneficiary of the Project "Strengthening the protection of the rights of persons deprived of liberty and sentenced persons in Serbia" within the framework of the joint programme of the Council of Europe and the European Union "Horizontal Programme for Support to the Western Balkans and Turkey", in which the representatives of the Internal Control Department, General Police Directorate and Human Resources Department are participating. Implementation of the activities started in early 2017 and within the project, an analysis of the existing legal framework of the Ministry of Interior regarding the treatment of persons deprived of liberty (if it is in compliance with all positive regulations, if there is a need for drafting new procedures and forms) is foreseen, as well as an analysis of the existing curriculum in this field, in order to upgrade and educate the existing trainers. In 2012 and 2013, the Internal Control Department initiated drafting of Procedures for treatment of persons remanded into custody and detained persons in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Serbia. The Work Group for drafting the Procedures was headed by the representative of the General Police Directorate, Police Directorates, and the adoption of the Procedures was followed by drafting of the curriculum and a training for trainers was conducted, who since then have conducted trainings for police officers on the topic of "Implementation of the Procedures on the treatment of persons remanded into custody and detained persons", which are part of the Programme of vocational specialisation of the employees of the Ministry of Interior.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
<p>133.3. Bring its definition of torture into line with that of CAT and accelerate judicial reforms so that acts of torture are not subject to negative prescriptions (Tunisia);</p>	 Not implemented	<p>Within the gradual harmonisation of the Criminal Code with international standards during the EU accession process, amendment of the definition of torture is planned.</p>
<p>133.4. Adjust its definition of torture to the definition of CAT and carry out legislative reforms to adjust the penalties to the seriousness of the crime of torture and in order not to apply the statute of limitations to torture (Costa Rica);</p>	 Not implemented	<p>See the response to recommendation 133.3.</p>

Area: Persons in Detention

132.72. Continue to make efforts to improve the treatment of detainees in prisons (Japan);



Pending recommendation

With the view of informing prisoners about their rights and facilitating the initiation of complaint mechanisms, the Law on the Execution of Criminal Sanctions and the Rulebooks governing the status of sentenced persons are printed and available to prisoners. A Guide for convicted persons who have just begun serving prison sentence was also drafted in order to enable the prisoners to learn about their rights and obligations in the institution in a simple way. A Handbook for detainees and a Handbook for sentenced persons were drafted, informing in a more accessible way persons deprived of liberty about their rights during execution of a sentence or measure, with the prescribed mechanisms of lodging complaint and appeal and requests for judicial protection to the judge in charge of the enforcement of criminal sanctions. In addition, forms were printed for persons deprived of liberty for lodging all kind of legal protection, both internal within the Administration and external – to judges for enforcement of criminal sanctions, and they represent an integral part of the Directive of the Director of Administration, submitted to all institutions. Also, training of judges for the enforcement of criminal sanctions is carried out continuously and a Handbook for judges for the enforcement was drafted.

With regard to specialized treatment, a training of employees for the implementation of specialized programs for juvenile offenders was conducted and handbooks for training of penology teachers and penology trainers were developed. Further training for the trainers working in the Service for treatment for the implementation of specialized treatment programmes for sentenced persons, as well as for the particularly vulnerable categories of sentenced persons are foreseen.

The Police Internal Control Department supervises the legality of the police work with regard to respect and protection of human rights - representative of the Department is President of the Commission for the implementation of standards of police conduct in the field of torture prevention. In June 2014, the Commission for the implementation of standards of police conduct in the field of torture prevention was established (the Commission for monitoring the implementation of the European Convention for the prevention of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment) tasked to implement the recommendations of the relevant international treaty bodies into the practice of the Ministry of the Interior, in accordance with the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Serbia by the ratification of a series of conventions on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The above activities are carried out in cooperation with the competent national authorities in order to find mechanisms for prevention of torture and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; by participating in working meetings and roundtables; by participating in the work of the Work Group for the establishing of the Procedures for treatment of persons remanded into custody and detained persons and through the organisation of seminars on the topic "Prohibition against torture, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment by police officers" and "Police work with marginalized, minority and socially vulnerable groups".

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

132.73. Continue to carry out necessary reforms to end prison overcrowding, including the launching of a new plan for the renovation and new construction of prisons with conditions comparable to those of the European Union average providing them with the material and human resources appropriate for its proper functioning (Spain);




Pending recommendation

The problem of overpopulation of the institutions for the enforcement of criminal sanctions is approached in two ways, both through infrastructure investments and through the development and further improvement of the system of alternative sanctions. In this context, two new prisons are currently being built in Pančevo and Kragujevac, while the existing institutions are being restructured continuously, in stages. With the adoption of the Law on the execution of extrajudicial sanctions and measures, a network of offices for alternative sanction was established, with a total of 25 offices throughout the country. The establishment of a network of offices of alternative sanctions was accompanied by continuous training for the holders of judicial offices and newly appointed commissioners for the alternative sanctions. A Rulebook governing the execution of extrajudicial sanctions and measures was prepared in accordance to which the procedures of the work of the commissioners were drafted, as well as the Rulebook on exercising supervision over the execution of extrajudicial sanctions and measures.

The Administration for the Execution of Criminal Sanctions makes efforts to improve the prison conditions within the existing budget. In addition, we also provide funds from EU funds to achieve the standards of the developed European countries in this area. A plan of activities and a Strategy for development of the system for enforcement of criminal sanctions by 2020 in the RS was developed with the Action Plan, and it foresees activities and deadlines for improvement of accommodation, treatment and health care for persons deprived of liberty.

The Administration for the execution of criminal sanctions undertakes activities toward the improvement of conditions in prisons, the implementation of individualized treatment programmes, health care and protection of the rights of persons deprived of liberty. The Strategy for development of the system of execution of criminal sanctions by 2020 in the RS and the Action Plan foresee in detail the activities aimed at improving the existing situation in each of the above mentioned areas.

Four blocks of the Belgrade District Prison and three blocks of the Special Prison Hospital were renovated; new capacities were provided in the Subotica District Prison; in the Correctional Educational Facility Kruševac the capacities of the reception department were renovated; reconstruction of the Criminal Correctional Facility for Juveniles in Valjevo was completed; the facility for accommodation of elderly and disabled persons in KPZ Požarevac-Zabela was reconstructed; reconstruction of the accommodation facility in the Criminal Correctional Facility in Nis and in the Criminal Correctional Facility in Sremska Mitrovica was completed.

		<p>In 2015 the number of executed alternative sanctions and measures increased (368 sanctions of work in the public interest sentenced; seven conditional sentences with protective surveillance; 1214 prison sentences prohibiting leaving the residing premises of the prisoner (house arrest) and 178 measures to ensure the presence of the defendant and smooth conduct of criminal proceedings - ban on leaving home (home detention).</p> <p>The total number of persons deprived of liberty is maintained at approximately the same level since the end of 2012, although the number of persons discharged from serving prison sentence under amnesty is reduced (1228 persons were released from serving sentence in 2012, 2013 - 1221 persons, 2014 - 282 persons and in 2015, 49 persons).</p> <p>The Administration for the execution of criminal sanctions provided funds from the EU - IPA 2013 funds for education of employees and improvement of work of the Centre for training and vocational training of the Administration. After signing the contract with a Twinning partner, training for trainers-employees in the Service for treatment for the implementation of specialized treatment programmes for sentenced persons will be conducted.</p> <p>Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.</p>
Area: Corruption		
<p>132.7. Continue its efforts in the fight against corruption to strengthen its national policy in this area (Morocco);</p>	 Pending recommendation	<p>Elaboration of a comprehensive analysis of anti-corruption legislation regarding the compliance with EU law and international standards is foreseen in order to identify shortcomings of the legal framework for fight against corruption, taking into consideration the previous analyses.</p> <p>Subsequently, the legal framework for the fight against corruption will be amended in accordance with a comprehensive analysis of anti-corruption legislation regarding the compliance with EU law and international standards in order to identify shortcomings of the legal framework for fight against corruption.</p> <p>In addition to the above, strengthening the capacities of human resources of various bodies directly or indirectly involved in the fight against corruption is foreseen, as well as a series of continuous trainings for the employees. Also in the part dealing with the Repression of Corruption, strengthening the capacities of human resources of the bodies responsible for the fight against corruption at the repression level is envisaged, as well as a series of continuous trainings for the employees.</p>

Within the process of reform of the Ministry of Interior, in 2016 the activities were directed towards the adoption of a new Law on Police in order to create clear employment and career advancement of the employees in the Ministry, the procedures for treatment for police officers and other employees in the Ministry and introduction of new disciplinary measures for strengthening the responsibility of the Ministry managers. The goal of creating a clear legal framework was to minimize the doubts in treatment, prevent improvisations and any possibility of abuse by police officers and other employees in the Ministry. During the drafting of the Law on Police and the by-laws, the Ministry took into consideration all obligations stipulated by the strategic documents defining activities in the field of human resources and prevention and suppression of corruption, as well as the Action Plans for Chapter 23 (fight against corruption) and Chapter 24.

A special segment is dedicated to the improvement of the normative framework of the Internal Control Department in order to clearly define this Department as the main executor of the activities for prevention and suppression of corruption within the Ministry of Interior. When drafting the Law on Police, the emphasis was put on strengthening the preventive mechanisms for suppression of corruption, and the Division introduced three new preventive institutes applied by the related services in the European Union, in the first place the Member States that have joined the EU in the past 10 years - conducting a corruption risk assessment, implementation of the integrity test and keeping records on the financial situation, and checking any change in the financial situation of managers of the Ministry of Interior, as well as high-risk jobs established by the corruption risk assessment).

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

132.63. Make the fight against corruption sustainable by ensuring that due legal process is being followed from the opening of an investigation through to the end. Political outbursts should be avoided to leave room for genuine and independent work by police and prosecution. Furthermore, practices should be developed and implemented to prevent future cases of high-level corruption, mainly by ensuring increased and effective transparency in processes such as privatization and public tenders (Sweden);



Pending recommendation

The most important documents regulating the issues of fight against corruption in the Republic of Serbia are: Anti-corruption Strategy and the accompanying Action Plan adopted for the period 2013-2018, Chapter 23 of the EU accession negotiations and Action Plan for its implementation. The mentioned Strategy foresees the establishment of Anti-Corruption Department as a specialized organisational unit at the Ministry of Interior, in charge of the suppression of corruption on the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia. The Republic of Serbia also adopted a new Law on Organisation and Jurisdiction of Government Authorities in Suppression of Organized Crime, Corruption and other Severe Criminal Offences adopted on November 23, ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 94/2016), setting out the competences and powers of the organisational unit to be established within the Ministry of Interior. Regarding the establishment of an organisational unit for suppression of corruption, the Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with OSCE in the Republic of Serbia and under the auspices of the Kingdom of Sweden, conducts the Project "Strengthening the capacities of law enforcement in the fight against corruption in Serbia - Phase II". A working body was formed within the Ministry of Interior, members of which are representatives of the relevant organisational units of the Ministry of Interior, and such working body is in cooperation with the OSCE preparing the best model of organisational structure, and subsequently of training the police officers to work in the new unit.

In 2016 police officers of the Criminal Police Directorate, Department for combating organized crime and Department for suppression of corruption put special emphasis on suppressing corruption offenses involving holders of the judicial offices in the Republic of Serbia, which resulted in deprivation of liberty of five judges. Police officers also deprived of liberty the employees in the inspection bodies, and they focused on proving corruptive activities in the public companies as well. One of the future activities will be proving corruptive activities in the field of public procurement.

Strengthening the role of the Internal Control Department in the Ministry of Interior is defined in strategic documents such as: Action Plan for the implementation of the National Strategy for the Fight against Corruption, the Action Plan for Chapter 23 and the National Programme for the Adoption of *Acquis*. The Action Plan for Chapter 23 in the field of "Fight against corruption" contains activities aimed at developing a legal framework that will regulate the work of this Department within the Ministry of Interior, developing mechanisms for strengthening the integrity of police officers and strengthening the capacity of the Division in order to suppress corruption in the police sector in accordance with the performed assessment and changes in the normative part. The activities of the Division were focused, within the reform process of this Ministry, on improving the legal framework by adopting a new Law on Police in early 2016. The intention of the Internal Control Division was to use the new Law on Police to create a clear normative framework for the treatment of the internal control police officers and clearly emphasize the role and competences of the Division as an organizational unit of the Ministry of Interior responsible for supervising the legality of the work of police officers and other employees in the Ministry and as a bearer all activities aimed at suppressing the corruption of employees of the Ministry of Interior.

The new Law on Police introduces new institutes for prevention of corruption, stipulates the obligation of all organizational units of the Ministry of Interior to provide intelligence within 24 hours as soon as they become aware that an employee of the Ministry of Interior has committed a criminal offense, it prescribes the obligation of responsibility of the managers for the implementation of the measures ordered by the authorised officials of the Internal Control Department, and prescribes new disciplinary measures aimed at strengthening the responsibility of managers in the Ministry.

The Code of Conduct for the members of the Government on the limits of commenting judicial decisions and procedures was adopted, according to which members of the Government are obliged to respect the principle of the presumption of innocence as well as the authority and impartiality of the court. A code of conduct for Members of Parliament which will promote the above values is also planned.

The new Law on Police introduces new institutes for prevention of corruption, stipulates the obligation of all organizational units of the Ministry of Interior to provide intelligence within 24 hours as soon as they become aware that an employee of the Ministry of Interior has committed a criminal offense, it prescribes the obligation of responsibility of the managers for the implementation of the measures ordered by the authorised officials of the Department, and prescribes new disciplinary measures aimed at strengthening the responsibility of managers in the Ministry.

In accordance with the Public Procurement Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2014-2018 and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the period 2014-2015, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement was adopted on July 31, 2015 and entered into force on August 12, 2015. With the amendments to the Law on Public Procurement further harmonisation with the following EU directives was made: Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing of Directive 2004/18/EC, Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sector and repealing of Directive 2004/18 /EC and Directive 2007/66 /EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2007 amending Council Directives 89/665/EEC and 92/13/EEC concerning the improvement of the effectiveness of legal protection in public procurement procedures. Monitoring of the implementation of the supervision and control measures in public procurement is carried out continuously.

Adoption of a new Law on Public Procurement is planned in order to eliminate restrictions for the full implementation of measures for monitoring, supervision and control of the Law. The new law will be fully aligned with *acquis communautaire* in this field.

Finally, training for the police employees, prosecutors and judges is carried out continuously in order to prosecute cases of corruption in public procurement more effectively.

Also, in cases of corruption offences, the responsibilities of the Criminal Police Directorate and the Service for Combating Organized Crime (SBPOK) are extended, and the above mentioned Law now stipulates that, apart from the persons designated, elected and appointed by the National Assembly, the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the High Court Council and the State Prosecutorial Council, SBPOK shall also act in the case of persons designated, elected and appointed by the President of the Republic of Serbia and General Session of the Supreme Court of Cassation.

Activities aimed at implementing the recommendation are being continuously implemented.

Overview of documents relevant for human rights protection adopted during the period 2013-2017

LAWS

- Law on Registry Books "Official Gazette of RS", no. 109/09, 4/10-correction, 10/10, 25/11 and 5/13;
- Law on Amendments to the Law on organisation and jurisdiction of government authorities in suppression of organised crime, corruption and other severe criminal offences ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 19/13);
- Law on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 32/13);
- Law on the Protection of Persons with Mental Disorders ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 45/13);
- Law on Patients' Rights ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 45/13);
- Law on Primary Education ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 55/13);
- Law on Secondary Education ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 55/13);
- Law on Pupil and Student Standard ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 18/10 and 55/13);
- Law on Misdemeanours ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 65/13);
- Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 101/13);
- Law on Amendments to the Law on Judges ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 101/13);
- Law on Amendments to the Law on the Organization of Courts ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 101/13);
- Law on exercising the right to health care for children, pregnant women and maternity ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 104/13);
- Law on National Councils of National Minorities ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" No. 72/09, 20/14-CC and 50/14);
- Law on non-contentious proceedings ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 25/82, 48/88, 46/95 – other law, 18/05 other law, 85/12, 45/13 - other law, 55 / 14);
- The Criminal Procedure Code ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 72/11, 101/11, 121/12, 32/13, 45/13 and 55/14);
- *Civil Procedure Law* ("Official Gazette of RS" No. 72/11, 49/13 – CC Decision, 74/13-CC and 55/14)
- Law on the Execution of Extrajudicial Sanctions and Measures ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 55 / 14-35);
- Law on Foreigners ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 36/09 and 32/13; 88/10, 99 / 10,57 / 11, 119/12, 45/13 - other law and 93/14);
- Law on Health Insurance ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 107/05, 109/05, 109/05 - corr., 57/11, 110/12 - CC Decision and 119 /12.99/1);
- Law on the Protection of Whistle-blowers ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 128/14);
- Law on Guide Dog Assistance ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 29/15);
- Law on the Use of the Sign Language ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 38/1);

- *Law on Employment and Unemployment Insurance ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 36/09, 88/10 and 38/15);*
- *Law on Protection of the Right to a Trial within a Reasonable Time ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 40 / 15-3);*
- *Law on Textbooks ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 68/15);*
- *Law on Amendments to the Law on the State Prosecutorial Council ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law on Amendments to the Law on the High Court Council ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law Amending the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law Amending the Law on Judges ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law on Amendments to the Law on the Judicial Academy ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 106/15);*
- *Law on the Judicial Academy ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 104/2009 and 32/2014 -CC and 106/15);*
- *Law on Electronic Media ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 83/14 and 6/16 - other law);*
- *Law on Sports ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 10/16);*
- *Law on Public Information and Media ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 84/14, 58/15 and 12/16 - authentic interpretation);*
- *Law on the Amendments to the Law on Misdemeanours ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 13/16); independence of the judiciary*
- *Law on the Foundations of the Education System ("Official Gazette of RS" No. 72/09, 52/11, 55/13, 35/15 - authentic interpretation, 68/15 and 62/16 - CC decision);*
- *Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 94/16);*
- *Criminal Code ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 85/05, 88/05 - corr., 107/05 - corr., 72/09, 111/09, 121/2012, 104/13, 108/14 and 94/16);*
- *Law on seizure and confiscation of the proceeds from crime ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 32/13 and 94/16);*
- *Law on Organization and Jurisdiction of Government Authorities in the Suppression of Organized Crime, Terrorism and Corruption ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 94/16)*
- *Budget Law of the Republic of Serbia for 2017 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 99/16);*
- *Law on Public Service Media ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 83/14; 103/15 and 108/16);*
- *Labour Law ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 24/05, 61/05, 54/09, 32/13, 75/14 and 13/17 – CC decision);*

RULEBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONS





- Rulebook on incentives for promotion of economic activities in the country through support to non-agricultural activities ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 81/13);
- Rulebook on the criteria and procedure for transfer of public prosecutors to another public prosecutor's office in the case of abolition of the public prosecutor's office or reduction of the number of deputy public prosecutors: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 105 / 13-12);
- Rulebook on amendments to the Rulebook on the Textbook Plan, ("Official Gazette of RS" - Education Gazette No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the type of professional qualifications of teachers, professional associates and assistant teachers in vocational schools ("Education Gazette", No. 5/91, 1/92, 21/93, 3/94, 7/96, 7/98, 3 / 99, 6/01, 3/03, 8/03, 11/04, 5/05, 6/05, 2/07, 4/07, 7/08, 11/08, 5/11, 8/11, 9/13 and 6/14)
- Rulebook on amendments to the Rulebook on the final examination schedule in elementary education and care ("Educational Gazette", No. 12/14);
- Rulebook on enrolment of students into secondary schools, ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 41/14);
- Regulations on keeping records in secondary schools: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 31/06, 51/06, 44/13 and 55/14);
- Rules on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of the work of public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 58 / 14-13);
- Rules on the disciplinary proceedings and disciplinary liability of public prosecutors and deputy public prosecutors: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 64 / 12-15, 109 / 13-20, 58 / 14-34);
- Rulebook on the disciplinary proceedings against convicted persons: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 79 / 14-15);
- Rulebook on special conditions to be met by the employee sent to work in the Special Detention Unit and the method of his election before sending him to work: ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" No. 103 / 14-26);
- Rulebook on the measures for maintaining order and security in the institutions for the execution of criminal sanctions: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 105 / 2014-31);

- Rulebook on the criteria, standards, procedure and bodies for the evaluation of the performance of judges and court presidents: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 81 / 14-54, 142 / 14-240, 41 / 15-185, 7 / 16-23) ;
- Rulebook on the method of supervision of the execution of extrajudicial sanctions and measures: ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" 16 / 16-230);
- Rulebook on the criteria for recognizing discrimination by an employee, child, student or a third person in institutions for education and care ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 22/16)
- Rulebook on the work license for teachers, psychologists and pedagogues in student's homes ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 37/16);
- Rulebook on the conditions for the realization of bilingual education ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 105/2015, 50/2016);
- Rulebook on house rules in correctional institutions and district prisons ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 110/2014-73, 79/16-20);
- Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of the qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates in the procedure for the first election of a deputy public prosecutor: ("Official Gazette of RS" No. 80 / 2016-81;
- Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of the qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates in the procedure of proposing and election to office of public prosecutor: ("Official Gazette of RS" No. 80 / 2016-81;
- Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of the qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates in the procedure for the first election of judges: ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 94 / 2016-90);
- Rulebook on the criteria and standards for the evaluation of qualifications, competence and worthiness of candidates for the election of judges to the permanent judicial office to other or higher court and on the criteria for proposing candidates for the court president; ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 94 / 2016-93);
- Rulebook on the manner of performing security services in institutions for the enforcement of criminal sanctions: ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 21 / 2016-22, 104 / 2016-162);
- Rules of administration in public prosecutor's office: ("Official Gazette of RS", 110 / 09-71, 87 / 10-159, 5 / 12-16, 54 / 17-36);
- Guide for keeping the registry books and forms for registry books ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", no. 109/09, 4/10 – corr., 10/10, 25/11, 5/13 and 94/1);
- Rules of procedure of the High Court Council ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 29 / 13-51, 4 / 16-104, 91 / 16-46, 24 / 17-64);
- Rules of procedure of the State Prosecutorial Council ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 29 / 17-101, 46 / 17-41, 46 / 17-41);
- Code of Ethics of the members of the State Prosecutorial Council: ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 60 / 14-37);
- Code of Ethics of the members of the High Court Council: (Official Gazette of RS", No. 26 /16-44);

STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

- National Employment Strategy for the period 2011-2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 37/11);
- Strategy for the development of education in Serbia until 2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", no. 107/12);
- Community Policing Strategy ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 43/13);
- National judicial reform strategy for the period 2013-2018. ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 57/13-3);
- National Strategy for the Fight against Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events for the period 2013-2018 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 63/13);
- Development strategy of the system of execution of criminal sanctions in the Republic of Serbia until 2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 114/13);
- Strategy of agriculture and rural development of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2014-2024 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 85/14);
- Strategy for prevention and protection against discrimination for the period 2013-2018. ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 60/13);
- National Youth Strategy 2015-2025 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 22/15);
- National Strategy on resolving the issues of refugees and internally displaced persons for the period 2015-2020, ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 62/15);
- Strategy on Scientific and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia for the Period 2016-2020 - Research for Innovation (Official Gazette of RS, No. 25/16);
- National Strategy for the Prosecution of War Crimes ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 19/16);
- Strategy on regulatory reform and improvement of the system of managing public policies for the period 2016-2020 with the relevant Action Plan and Annexes ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 8/16);
- National strategy for gender equality for the period 2016-2020 with the relevant Action Plan for 2016-2018 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 4/16);
- Strategy for the social inclusion of Roma in the Republic of Serbia 2016-2025 ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 26/16);
- Strategy for prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and victims protection for the period 2017-2022. ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 77/17);
- Strategy to reduce the overcrowded accommodation capacities in institutions for enforcement of criminal sanctions in the Republic of Serbia until 2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 43/17);
- Strategy of development of information security in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2017-2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 53/17);
- Water management strategy for the territory of the Republic of Serbia until 2034 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 3/17);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan for the implementation of the Development Strategy of the system of execution of criminal sanctions in the Republic of Serbia until 2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 85/14); • Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for prevention and protection against discrimination 2014-2018. ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 107/14); • Action Plan for the implementation of the National Youth Strategy for the period 2015-2017 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 70/15); • Action Plan for the implementation of the Community Policing Strategy for 2015 and 2016 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 70/15); • Action Plan for implementation of the Strategy for the social inclusion of Roma in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2017-2018 • Action Pan for the implementation of the Strategy for prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and victims protection for the period 2017-2018 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 77/17); • The Action Plan for the Negotiating Chapter 23: judiciary and fundamental rights • Action Plan for the implementation of the national minority rights • National Action Plan for implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 - Women, Peace and Security in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2016-2020 ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 53/17).
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-  Full implementation
-  Not implemented
-  Partial implementation
-  Pending recommendation