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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*


Slovenia

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-fourth session from 4 to 15 November 2019. The review of Slovenia was held at the 13th meeting, on 12 November 2019. The delegation of Slovenia was headed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Miro Cerar. At its 17th meeting, held on 14 November 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Slovenia.
2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Slovenia: Bangladesh, Denmark and Egypt.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Slovenia:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Germany, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Slovenia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation of Slovenia informed the Human Rights Council that the Government had prepared the national report by involving various ministries and other government institutions as well as national human rights institutions. The Government had also sought the views of representatives of civil society, through regular briefings.
6. Slovenia accorded high priority to the respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights. The universal periodic review process served as an additional incentive to make further improvements in that respect. Slovenia tasked the National Interministerial Commission for Human Rights with the implementation and monitoring of recommendations from the review. The Government had submitted a voluntary midterm report on the implementation of the recommendations from the previous cycle, in 2017.
7. Slovenia had fully or partially implemented 138 out of the total of 142 recommendations that it had accepted. The delegation highlighted some of the achievements made since 2014. Slovenia had amended the Human Rights Ombudsman Act to broaden the mandate of the Ombudsman with a view to obtaining A status under the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles). The amended Act had established the Council of Human Rights, the Centre for Human Rights, and an institute of children's advocates within the Office of the Ombudsman.
8. In 2016, the Protection against Discrimination Act had strengthened the mandate of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality to assist persons subjected to discrimination in administrative and judicial proceedings, to monitor protection against discrimination at the national level, and to implement preventive measures or redress discrimination, which

included awareness-raising and research activities in that area. The Advocate was authorized to request a review of the constitutionality of legal acts.

9. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Slovenia to the empowerment of women and gender equality at the national and international levels. Slovenia had taken several measures to prevent and combat domestic violence. The Government had submitted its first national report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), which had been ratified in 2014. The Government had carried out a number of awareness-raising campaigns on domestic violence and cyberviolence and had expanded the network of crisis centres and safe houses throughout the country. The Government had implemented several programmes to prevent violence against older women. It had provided funding for several projects relating to gender equality that were being implemented by representatives of civil society.

10. In 2016, Slovenia had adopted the Civil Union Act, granting heterosexual couples and same-sex couples living in civil union the same rights as married couples, except in relation to medically assisted procreation and joint adoption of children.

11. The Government had taken additional measures to resolve the status of persons erased from the register of permanent residents of Slovenia after the dissolution of Yugoslavia. Slovenia had adopted a law to enable every “erased” person to claim just compensation. In 2016, the Council of Europe had deemed the implementation of the related judgment of the European Court of Human Rights satisfactory, and had concluded its supervision over the matter.

12. Slovenia had made considerable progress in reducing a backlog of court cases and shortening the length of trials to ensure the right to fair trial without undue delays.

13. The Government had adopted a zero-tolerance approach towards hate speech. Public incitement to hatred, violence or intolerance was a criminal offence under certain circumstances, punishable by imprisonment. The promotion of tolerance and of respect for diversity were among the goals of the public education system. A special website allowed anonymous reporting of hate speech and other illegal web content. The Ministry of Culture had concluded public consultations on a new Media Act aimed at adapting legislation to the new digital media reality by including provisions to counter hate speech in the media, including online and through new digital media.

14. In 2018, Slovenia had adopted its first National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.

15. In 2016, Slovenia had incorporated the right to drinking water in the Constitution, in order to guarantee access to drinking water to all on a non-profit basis.

16. The Constitution guaranteed freedom of expression, and the Constitution and the Media Act adequately protected the right to public information. In 2019, Slovenia had started to amend the relevant legislation to ensure, inter alia, financial support for the development of independent media operating in the public interest.

17. The Government had established the Expert Group for Solving Spatial Issues in Roma Settlements, with a view to resolving issues concerning access to water, sanitation and electricity for Roma, as a guideline for the future work of the State authorities, municipalities and other institutions. Local communities provided the basic communal infrastructure to about 75 per cent of the Roma settlements, with funding from the State budget and from European Union funds. The National Programme of Measures for Roma for the period 2017–2021 included measures to prevent discrimination against Roma and to ensure social inclusion of Roma. Members of the Roma minority could access legal aid in line with criteria established by the Legal Aid Act.

18. The Domestic Violence Prevention Act included provisions prohibiting corporal punishment. The amendments of 2017 to the Organization and Financing of Education Act prohibited corporal punishment of children in kindergartens, schools, and educational institutions for children and young people with special needs.

19. The delegation emphasized that fighting corruption remained one of the priorities of the State Prosecutor General. The Government had submitted to Parliament amendments to the Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act aimed at improving further legislation and enabling the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption to perform its tasks more effectively. The Government had adopted the Programme on Anti-Corruption Measures for 2017–2019, which contained measures to strengthen the integrity of public employees, high officials and other employees in the public sector and to increase the transparency of operations in the public sector.

20. Slovenia had comprehensive laws on the restitution of property and ensured the return of properties confiscated during the Second World War. The Ministry of Justice and the World Jewish Restitution Organization had jointly commissioned a study in 2018 to evaluate the extent of heirless Jewish-owned properties from that period. The Ministry of Justice would take appropriate measures after having analysed findings of the study.

21. In 2013, the Constitutional Court had ruled that restrictions on ritual slaughter contained in the Animal Protection Act were in line with the Constitution, arguing that the restrictions protected animals from suffering that could be prevented without disproportionately infringing on religious freedom.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

22. During the interactive dialogue, 81 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

23. Rwanda commended Slovenia for the steps taken to implement the recommendations of its review of 2014. It applauded the firm commitment by Slovenia to women's empowerment and gender equality at the national and international level.

24. Serbia commended Slovenia for all the measures adopted to strengthen the capacity of the Human Rights Ombudsman in conformity with the Paris Principles.

25. Slovakia welcomed the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution establishing the right to water as a constitutionally guaranteed right. Slovakia appreciated progress made in ensuring to Roma children equal opportunities for education.

26. Spain noted with appreciation the adoption of the Protection against Discrimination Act and the legal amendments to bring the country's national human rights institution into line with the Paris Principles.

27. The State of Palestine noted with appreciation measures taken regarding the protection of the right to health and in the area of business and human rights, including programmes and action plans adopted in those areas.

28. Thailand commended Slovenia for its achievements in providing universal access to health services, and for its efforts to promote and protect the rights of minorities, including improving the living conditions of the Roma community.

29. Tunisia welcomed the efforts made by Slovenia to improve its legislative and institutional framework, and to establish a national human rights institution complying with the Paris Principles.

30. Turkey noted with appreciation the considerable progress made in ratifying additional international human rights treaties and strengthening the legislative framework and institutional framework, as well as in adopting new administrative and social measures, since the review of 2014.

31. Ukraine commended Slovenia for its strong commitment to human rights. Ukraine noted the adoption of the Protection against Discrimination Act, amendments to the Human Rights Ombudsman Act and an action plan on business and human rights.

32. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland commended Slovenia for signing the Global Pledge on Media Freedom and encouraged Slovenia to ensure that

new draft legislation in this area would be in line with the Global Pledge. It also called for the decriminalization of defamation.

33. The United States of America commended Slovenia for launching a joint research project with the World Jewish Restitution Organization to compile a historical record of heirless, formerly Jewish-owned properties in the country.

34. Uruguay commended Slovenia for the adoption of the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for 2015–2020 and for its projects, implemented jointly with non-governmental organizations, aimed at eliminating gender stereotypes.

35. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela recognized the work done by Slovenia to implement the recommendations accepted at its universal periodic review of 2014.

36. Afghanistan congratulated Slovenia on its efforts to establish a national human rights institution to be accredited with A status, and on the allocation of additional funds aimed at preventing trafficking in human beings and providing assistance to child victims.

37. Albania welcomed efforts made by Slovenia to support youth, and their integration into the labour market. It encouraged Slovenia to increase efforts to set up a new programme for the protection of the rights of children for 2019–2024.

38. Algeria welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It also noted measures taken to reduce poverty and social exclusion in the country.

39. Angola commended Slovenia for the ratification of important regional and international treaties. Angola highlighted the importance of establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

40. Argentina noted with appreciation the presentation of the midterm report on the implementation of recommendations from the universal periodic review, and welcomed the signing of the declaration on safe schools and the accompanying guidelines.

41. Australia acknowledged that Slovenia had made positive progress since its universal periodic review of 2014, which had included improving its human rights bodies, its judicial system and the situation for “erased” persons. Australia encouraged Slovenia to continue its efforts on those issues.

42. Austria commended Slovenia for the progress made since the last universal periodic review, and in particular the explicit prohibition of corporal punishment and degrading treatment of children. Austria noted with concern that a considerable number of denationalization proceedings were still pending.

43. Azerbaijan was concerned about the reported cases of discrimination against some specific groups, in particular against migrant workers, and noted the necessity of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation.

44. The Bahamas congratulated Slovenia on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and on the harmonization of the law on marriage and family with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Bahamas noted the continued challenges in addressing racial and ethnic discrimination.

45. Bangladesh commended Slovenia for amending the Family Violence Prevention Act to prevent degrading treatment of children, but was concerned about the high prevalence of domestic violence. Bangladesh was concerned about the risk of poverty, and the working conditions, of migrants.

46. Belarus noted the Government’s efforts to protect social and economic rights. However, Belarus noted concerns expressed about conditions in penitentiary institutions, a lack of adequate mechanisms for identifying and supporting victims of human trafficking, discrimination against Roma, and the situation of migrants.

47. Bhutan welcomed the amendments to the Human Rights Ombudsman Act and the establishment of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality. Bhutan noted measures taken to

reduce poverty and social exclusion and to promote gender equality at the national and international levels.

48. Botswana appreciated legislative measures taken to implement recommendations accepted at the universal periodic review of 2014. It noted remaining challenges, including high levels of violence against women and racially motivated hate speech and violence.

49. Brazil noted initiatives to address major issues regarding social and economic rights, but remained concerned at child marriages and at issues with adequate housing in the Roma community. Brazil commended efforts to protect freedom of religion and the rights of older persons. It encouraged Slovenia to promote rights of persons with disabilities, including inclusive education.

50. Bulgaria commended Slovenia for improving the legal and institutional framework for the protection of human rights. Bulgaria noted the adoption of legislation on the protection of the rights of the child.

51. Canada welcomed the Protection against Discrimination Act. It was concerned at challenges faced by the “erased” persons and at difficulties they faced in obtaining legal status. Canada encouraged Slovenia to adopt additional measures to restore their legal status.

52. Chile welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, the broadening of the functions of the Human Rights Ombudsman in line with the Paris Principles, and the adoption of the National Programme of Measures for Roma.

53. China was pleased to note the measures to reduce poverty, to promote the rights of women and children and gender equality, and to combat trafficking in persons, as well as the adoption of the National Programme of Measures for Roma.

54. Costa Rica noted measures to protect the rights of minorities, particularly the rights of the Italian and Hungarian communities. Costa Rica was concerned about hate speech on the Internet, especially against migrants, Roma, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and Muslims.

55. Croatia welcomed the Civil Union Act and the enhancements of the rights of Roma. It noted that Slovenia had not recognized the Croatian community, despite it being the largest ethnic minority group and having resided for centuries in the country as an autochthonous national minority.

56. Cuba noted actions taken by Slovenia to bring up to date the legislative and institutional frameworks on development and the rights of minorities.

57. Cyprus welcomed measures introduced by Slovenia to address the legal status of “erased” persons, and to accelerate the social integration of minorities, such as the National Programme of Measures for Roma.

58. Denmark commended Slovenia for adopting legislation to enable the Human Rights Ombudsman to apply for A status in accordance with the Paris Principles.

59. Djibouti welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It encouraged Slovenia to allocate adequate resources for the functioning of the office of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality.

60. The Dominican Republic welcomed the efforts of Slovenia to protect and promote human rights.

61. Ecuador noted the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the establishment of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, and projects implemented to eradicate cyberviolence against women and children and to integrate foreigners into society.

62. The delegation of Slovenia stated that the legal framework included strong legal protection for the rights of all minorities, which included preservation of their culture and languages. The Italian and Hungarian minorities were constitutionally recognized autochthonous minorities with a special status. In 2018, the Special Rapporteur on minority

issues had identified several good practices and positive developments in the protection of minorities in Slovenia.

63. The delegation highlighted several measures taken in the area of migration, including the establishment of the Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants and the adoption of the National Strategy on Migration. The Government provided migrant children, regardless of their status, with access to the educational system at all levels, no later than three months after their arrival, under the same conditions as Slovenian citizens, and provided them with free Slovenian language courses. Migrant children received medical treatment and adult migrants received urgent medical treatment, with State funding. During the influx of migrants in 2015 and 2016, the Government dealt with migration in a humane manner by providing migrants with necessary shelter, food, and access to health care.

64. Slovenia had made significant progress in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, since its second universal periodic review. Parliament had adopted four laws, concerning the rights of persons with severe disabilities, personal assistance systems, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and their right to vote through effective access to polling stations and alternative voting methods.

65. Slovenia had focused its efforts to prevent human trafficking and had carried out several awareness-raising activities, targeted at the general public, and, particularly, at children, young persons, migrant workers and asylum seekers. Slovenia enforced the legal provisions criminalizing human trafficking with harsh punishments prescribed in the legislation addressing this crime, and put emphasis on international and regional cooperation in combating it.

66. The delegation explained that article 297 of the Criminal Code addressed hate speech without using the term “hate speech” but categorizing it under the criminal offence of public incitement to hatred, violence or intolerance. A recent decision of the Supreme Court had broadened the narrow interpretation of this offence. Discriminatory, racist or similar motives could be taken into account as an aggravating factor under the current criminal law.

67. The Government had adopted measures to improve the access of women to employment and close the gender pay gap. The delegation noted a certain decrease in the representation of women in the recent parliamentary elections, but emphasized that otherwise there was a high representation of women in the political life of the country and legislation was in place to ensure a high level of representation of women in decision-making positions.

68. Slovenia had established the institute of children’s advocates in the Office of the Ombudsman to ensure protection of the rights of children in judicial and administrative proceedings. The Government had been in the process of establishing a safe house for child victims of abuse and violence, based on the Scandinavian model. The Government had introduced child-friendly rooms in a number of courts across the country to provide a safe environment for children during judicial proceedings.

69. Despite prison overcrowding in one of the prisons in the past, Slovenia had been striving to comply with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules). The 2017 report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had identified some positive developments in that area.

70. Regarding the proposal to decriminalize defamation, the delegation explained that the Constitutional Court considered the criminal offence of defamation and insult in accordance with the Constitution and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

71. The public service broadcaster guaranteed a special programme for minorities coming from former Yugoslav republics, emphasizing especially their languages and cultures. The Government also provided legal and financial support to preserve the cultures and languages of minorities. The Government had reached a bilateral agreement with

Austria to ensure cooperation between the two countries in culture, education and science to meet the needs of German-speaking communities in Slovenia.

72. The delegation stated that Slovenia strived for inclusive education without segregation, including in preschool institutions. The education system included special assistance for Roma children to achieve better learning results.

73. Egypt welcomed the amendments to the Human Rights Ombudsman Act, efforts to reduce poverty and social exclusion, and the adoption of the Youth Guarantees Scheme to promote employment among youth. It noted challenges in ensuring freedom of expression.

74. Ethiopia noted with appreciation measures taken regarding the rights of older persons, third-country nationals, and persons with disabilities. It highlighted the importance of an amendment to the Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Act to introduce minimum 40 per cent representation of both genders in government bodies.

75. Fiji noted the commitment of Slovenia to human rights education and to the right to safe environment. It noted the establishment of an interministerial working group to draft a strategy on migration.

76. France welcomed progress in protecting the rights of women and fighting discrimination.

77. Georgia welcomed the ratifications of the Istanbul Convention and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It commended Slovenia for strengthening the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman.

78. Germany appreciated efforts by Slovenia to implement recommendations from the universal periodic review of 2014.

79. Ghana commended measures to reduce poverty and social exclusion, and to implement the Youth Guarantee Scheme.

80. Greece commended Slovenia for its work to improve access to health care, including through the adoption of the resolution on the National Mental Health Programme 2018–2028.

81. Iceland welcomed efforts taken by Slovenia to advance gender equality and the right to a healthy environment.

82. India commended Slovenia for progress made since the universal periodic review of 2014 and for broadening the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman in line with the Paris Principles.

83. Indonesia appreciated the progress made by Slovenia in the area of the rights of older persons, and commended its efforts to improve its national human rights framework, including setting out a legal basis to strengthen the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman.

84. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern at reports of the use of racist, xenophobic and Islamophobic rhetoric by several political figures and continuing allegations of racial hatred and violence.

85. Iraq welcomed the Government's efforts to guarantee the exercise of civil and political rights, including by strengthening the independence of the judiciary and improving the administration of justice.

86. Ireland welcomed the introduction of legislation in 2017 broadening the powers of the Human Rights Ombudsman. Ireland encouraged Slovenia to implement fully the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights launched in 2018.

87. Italy welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, and efforts to combat human trafficking and to address child and forced marriage in the Roma community.

88. Jordan noted the preparation by Slovenia of its national report through a participatory process. It noted with appreciation the implementation of a national plan to combat violence against women and the measures to combat human trafficking.

89. Lebanon welcomed the creation of a national human rights institution and the efforts to combat poverty and strengthen social integration.
90. Lithuania commended Slovenia for its commitment to human rights and acknowledged the significant achievements made by the Government since the last universal periodic review.
91. Luxembourg welcomed the positive developments in the area of health and equality. It also welcomed the legislative measures taken to allow the Human Rights Ombudsman to apply for A status in line with the Paris Principles.
92. Malaysia commended Slovenia for its efforts in implementing the accepted recommendations from previous reviews and encouraged it to continue efforts to promote and protect the human rights of its population, including of minorities.
93. Maldives commended Slovenia for its 2017 midterm report regarding implementation of the recommendations received during the second cycle of the universal periodic review.
94. Malta commended the ratification by Slovenia of several international human rights instruments, as well as its increased protection against discrimination, measures to protect minorities and efforts to prevent violence against women.
95. Mexico acknowledged the progress in the area of gender equality, which allowed Slovenia to be one of the countries in the world with the smallest gender pay gap.
96. Montenegro commended Slovenia for the establishment of new human rights institutions, and for measures to protect children from all forms of violence and to protect vulnerable groups, including minorities. Montenegro encouraged Slovenia to combat hate speech on the Internet.
97. Myanmar commended Slovenia for its achievements in various areas, including the establishment of a national human rights institution, the reduction of poverty, and the protection of the rights of women and persons with disabilities.
98. Nepal welcomed the establishment of a national human rights institution with A status, and efforts by the Government to promote equal opportunities for men and women and greater social inclusion for vulnerable groups.
99. The Netherlands congratulated Slovenia on the adoption of the Family Violence Prevention Act, which explicitly prohibited corporal punishment of children, and on its decision to increase spending for the Advocate of the Principle of Equality.
100. Niger welcomed the measures taken by Slovenia to implement previously accepted recommendations and to strengthen its legal and institutional framework to better protect and promote human rights.
101. Nigeria noted with appreciation the efforts of Slovenia to combat human trafficking and provide protection for the victims. It commended the country's policy on migration and its efforts to protect the rights of migrants.
102. North Macedonia welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and improvements to the legislative and institutional framework to combat violence against women. It appreciated legislative amendments to broaden the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman.
103. Pakistan noted with appreciation efforts by Slovenia to reduce poverty and social exclusion and to improve the situation of older persons. It remained concerned about an increase in cases of hate speech on the Internet, particularly against migrants, Roma and Muslims.
104. Peru acknowledged the efforts made by Slovenia regarding human rights, particularly the rights of women.
105. The Philippines acknowledged the progress made in implementing the recommendations accepted during the second universal periodic review.

106. Portugal congratulated Slovenia on its strong commitment to protecting human rights, in particular its leading role in promoting the rights of older persons.
107. Qatar commended the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, and of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality.
108. The Republic of Korea noted the efforts of Slovenia to protect the rights of older persons, including the adoption of the Active Ageing Strategy. It commended Slovenia for adopting the second national action plan for the implementation of the Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security, for the period 2018–2020.
109. The Republic of Moldova appreciated steps taken to strengthen the institutional framework to combat human trafficking and increase resources for protection of the victims. It welcomed the implementation of the Youth Guarantee Scheme facilitating the integration of young persons in the labour market.
110. The Russian Federation welcomed the implementation of a national programme regarding Roma, and efforts to strengthen the institutional framework to combat trafficking in persons and to enhance prevention of trafficking in persons.
111. Honduras welcomed the adoption of the Protection against Discrimination Act, as well as the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.
112. Senegal commended Slovenia for strengthening its legal and institutional framework, which included bringing its national human rights institution into line with the Paris Principles, and for ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.
113. Uzbekistan noted with appreciation the ratification of the international instruments on the rights of women and children, and the efforts to improve the situation of national minorities and older persons.
114. Israel commended Slovenia for the establishment of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, and for the adoption of laws and policies, including the Civil Union Act, the Youth Guarantee Scheme and the long-term Active Ageing Strategy.
115. The delegation of Slovenia noted that the Government had drafted a new Housing Act to ensure public housing, including for members of vulnerable groups holding permanent residence status to find effective solutions to their housing problems.
116. Slovenia had adopted comprehensive policies in response to challenges that ageing populations faced and to protect the rights of older persons. Pensions had been increased to avoid poverty among older persons. Slovenia had also amended the legislation regulating social benefits in order to improve the financial situation of older persons who were at risk of poverty. The national housing programme for 2015–2025 contained special measures to provide adequate housing for older persons that enabled the provision of high-quality care and social inclusion.
117. The Government had made efforts at the national level to address environmental issues. At the same time, the authorities adhered to a policy of cooperation and collaboration with other countries in order to be able to deal with difficult issues in the areas of environmental protection, security and migration.
118. Slovenia had launched a study on the possibility of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Slovenia had been finalizing the process of ratification of the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) of the International Labour Organization.
119. The authorities were considering the feasibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, bearing in mind that the rights of migrant workers, including family reunification, were already regulated by domestic legislation in line with the Convention and European Union standards. Slovenia had not ratified the Convention of the Reduction of Statelessness, of 1961, as the Citizenship Act had already included all the principles of the Convention.

120. In conclusion, the delegation expressed its gratitude to those member States of the United Nations that had put forward their questions and recommendations. The peer review mechanism contributed to improvement of the human rights situation in many countries. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Slovenia to promoting human rights at the international level. Thus, Slovenia would stand for elections to the Human Rights Council again for the period 2026–2028.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

121. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Slovenia and enjoy the support of Slovenia:**

121.1 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France) (Lithuania);**

121.2 **Complete the process of ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine); Increase efforts towards ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Slovakia);**

121.3 **Ratify and implement the International Labour Organization's 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

121.4 **Build on progress in ensuring independence of Slovenia's national human rights institution and its promotion to the highest accreditation status (Ukraine);**

121.5 **Improve access to affordable and good-quality care for older persons and people with a mental or physical disability (Australia);**

121.6 **Continue taking effective measures to protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities (China);**

121.7 **Take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (Afghanistan);**

121.8 **Continue raising awareness in society of the need to eliminate discrimination, intolerance and hate speech (Slovakia);**

121.9 **Increase governmental efforts to combat racism, intolerance and hate speech (Egypt);**

121.10 **Further strengthen efforts in raising public awareness of the need to eliminate hate speech and intolerance (Lithuania);**

121.11 **Strengthen the legislative framework in cases of racist hate speech and racially motivated violence by ensuring effective investigation and appropriate prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (Rwanda);**

121.12 **Explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and promote awareness-raising campaigns to combat stereotypes and prejudices against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (Israel);**

121.13 **Strengthen the efforts to combat domestic violence (Iraq);**

121.14 **Continue efforts to combat domestic violence and strengthen protection mechanisms for the victims (Lebanon);**

121.15 **Take effective steps to finalize and implement a national plan for the prevention of family violence and violence against women, including guidelines for working with sexually abused children (Botswana);**

- 121.16 Continue to strengthen its efforts through a comprehensive strategy to protect older persons from violence and all forms of abuse, and ensure that cases of elderly abuse are investigated and prosecuted (Maldives);
- 121.17 Strengthen measures to prevent trafficking for the purposes of sex and forced labour, including measures to identify and support victims and those at risk of trafficking, and dedicate resources to investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators (Australia);
- 121.18 Continue efforts undertaken to combat trafficking in persons, particularly exploitation of children and women, by strengthening the fight against traffickers (Djibouti);
- 121.19 Continue its efforts to prevent trafficking in persons, particularly children (Myanmar);
- 121.20 Make additional efforts to investigate, prosecute and punish all human trafficking cases proportionally to the gravity of the crime (Serbia);
- 121.21 Continue efforts aimed at combating human trafficking and ensure the protection of the victims (Jordan);
- 121.22 Step up efforts in ensuring adequate mechanisms to identify and protect victims of trafficking, especially children, including providing comprehensive assistance based on their individual needs (Philippines);
- 121.23 Strengthen measures to identify and provide support to women at risk of trafficking, in particular Roma, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, and measures aimed at addressing the root causes of trafficking (Belarus);
- 121.24 Pursue policies which ensure victims of trafficking will be provided with adequate assistance and care (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 121.25 Continue efforts to reduce poverty and ensure greater inclusion of vulnerable groups, particularly older persons (Bhutan);
- 121.26 Continue its efforts to combat poverty and inequality (Myanmar);
- 121.27 Continue implementation of measures to reduce the level of poverty and social exclusion, with special consideration to the welfare of the most vulnerable groups (India);
- 121.28 Continue the positive initiatives taken for the welfare of older people (India);
- 121.29 Continue already commendable efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, including through greater participation by women in political life at the local and national level (Australia);
- 121.30 Continue efforts to eliminate discrimination against women, including in the labour market (Tunisia);
- 121.31 Continue implementing policies to promote the participation of women in public and political life and take further steps to combat and prevent violence against women and domestic violence (Republic of Moldova);
- 121.32 Continue taking measures for the protection of women's rights, particularly preventing violence against women (Bhutan);
- 121.33 Revise the legal definition of rape in the Criminal Code so that it is based on the lack of consent rather than force, coercion or physical threat (Chile);
- 121.34 Continue policies aimed at preventing and combating all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and sexual abuse (Georgia);

- 121.35 Continue efforts to prevent domestic violence and violence against women through the adoption of a national plan for this purpose (Luxembourg);
- 121.36 Further strengthen measures to prevent and combat violence against women (Myanmar);
- 121.37 Strengthen measures to prevent and combat violence against women, including domestic violence and sexual abuse (Maldives);
- 121.38 Revise the definition of rape in the Criminal Code so that it is based on the absence of consent (Greece);
- 121.39 Continue consolidating achievements in the promotion of rights, inclusion, equal opportunities and well-being of persons with disabilities within implemented national programmes (Dominican Republic);
- 121.40 Continue efforts to protect persons with disabilities and encourage involvement of civil society in drafting laws and plans that aim at improving their conditions (Lebanon);
- 121.41 Ensure the full integration of persons with disabilities in society through the programme of equal opportunities and ensure that they are not discriminated against (Qatar);
- 121.42 Continue implementing activities that affirm the full integration of persons with disabilities into society (Montenegro);
- 121.43 Continue to devote great attention to the effective implementation of the existing legislative framework on the use of the minority language, with particular reference to the availability of bilingual personnel in public services, offices and the media (Italy);
- 121.44 Continue efforts to prevent discrimination against Roma (Albania);
- 121.45 Continue working in accordance with the national programme to combat discrimination against Roma minorities for 2017–2021 (Lebanon);
- 121.46 Continue making progress in the promotion of human rights and well-being of Roma communities, through the National Programme of Measures for Roma (Dominican Republic);
- 121.47 Further intensify the implementation of the National Programme of Measures for Roma for 2017–2021 (Georgia);
- 121.48 Step up policies ensuring that Roma children can participate in the mainstream education system (Peru);
- 121.49 Continue promoting the implementation of policies for the integration of migrants (Dominican Republic);
- 121.50 Improve the living, working and social conditions of migrants and refugees and their access to health care (Turkey);
- 121.51 Continue efforts to promote the rights of migrants and asylum seekers (Iraq);
- 121.52 Ensure respect for the principle of non-refoulement through individual assessment of each migratory situation (Peru);
- 121.53 Ensure that asylum seekers have access to fair asylum procedures (Afghanistan);
- 121.54 Ensure that all asylum seekers have access to fair and effective asylum procedures, and investigate all reported cases in this regard (Azerbaijan);
- 121.55 Provide training for law enforcement authorities to increase awareness and knowledge, and ensure that their actions related to the

treatment of asylum seekers comply with European and international obligations and norms (Canada);

121.56 Ensure that all asylum seekers have access to legal representation, by providing free legal aid to those not in a position to pay for a lawyer (Cyprus);

121.57 Ensure that all asylum seekers have access to fair and effective asylum procedures in accordance with Slovenia's International Protection Law and international law (Honduras);

121.58 Take appropriate measures to guarantee the rights of persons erased from the Register of Permanent Residents, in compliance with the 2018 Constitutional Court decision (France).

122. The following recommendations will be examined by Slovenia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council:

122.1 Complete the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Senegal);

122.2 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Egypt);

122.3 Undertake measures to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia); Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger); Consider acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);

122.4 Complete the process of ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal);

122.5 Consider ratifying the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Uruguay);

122.6 Accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and put in place statelessness determination procedures to ensure the protection of stateless persons (Brazil);

122.7 Ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Slovakia) (Spain) (North Macedonia);

122.8 Sign and ratify the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Croatia);

122.9 Ratify the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other human rights instruments (Honduras);

122.10 Consider the ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Philippines);

122.11 Recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals or other States parties (Lithuania); Recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of victims or other States parties (Slovakia);

122.12 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 122.13 Ensure that the Human Rights Ombudsman is fully autonomous and independent from the Government by amending public finance legislation (Denmark);
- 122.14 Ensure that the Ombudsman and other national human rights mechanisms are adequately funded and that financial control is fully independent of government (Ireland);
- 122.15 Intensify efforts to establish a national human rights institution (Jordan);
- 122.16 Consider establishing a national institution for the rights of the child (Lebanon);
- 122.17 Provide the Advocate of the Principle of Equality with additional resources for its full operational and effective functioning (North Macedonia);
- 122.18 Put in place measures to combat all forms of human rights violations against older persons (Angola);
- 122.19 Continue taking measures in order to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights for young people (Republic of Moldova);
- 122.20 Implement the decisions of the Constitutional Court on which no action has been taken, in particular those concerning the need to revise the Mental Health Act (Mexico);
- 122.21 Increase the pace of implementation of the already existing and the newly adopted measures for all of the above (Turkey);
- 122.22 Strengthen, through a comprehensive strategy, the fight against discrimination in all its forms, including on the grounds of the status of migrant, refugee, asylum seeker, and of disability, or any other condition; and strengthen its policies to combat racism and hate speech (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 122.23 Continue the revision of the law on equal opportunities for men and women (Albania);
- 122.24 Continue efforts to promote gender equality (Jordan);
- 122.25 Formulate a comprehensive anti-discrimination policy to prevent and eliminate racism and xenophobia (Azerbaijan);
- 122.26 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination strategy in consultation with representatives of civil society (Luxembourg);
- 122.27 Continue strengthening the institutional and normative framework for protection against discrimination (Montenegro);
- 122.28 Design and fully implement strategies to prevent all forms of discrimination, including by integrating non-discriminatory values in its education curricula, to eliminate racism and xenophobia (Indonesia);
- 122.29 Explicitly incorporate in its legislation, policies and strategies to combat discrimination the recognition of multiple and intersectional discrimination based on sex, age, ethnic origin or sexual orientation, or due to the status of migrant, asylum seeker, refugee, person with disability or any other condition (Honduras);
- 122.30 Develop public policies aimed at eliminating discrimination, including racial discrimination, and in this respect improve the response of the criminal justice system to cases of hate speech and violence committed on the grounds of race, by ensuring the investigation and prosecution (Costa Rica);
- 122.31 Identify measures to combat all forms of discrimination, particularly racial discrimination, with special focus on fighting hate speech and racist and xenophobic statements against minorities (Djibouti);

- 122.32 Strengthen activities to raise awareness in society of the need to eliminate discrimination, intolerance and hate speech (Greece);
- 122.33 Strengthen activities and laws aimed at the elimination of discrimination in society, and of other intolerance and hate speech against minorities and other groups, including based on sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics (Iceland);
- 122.34 Take more effective measures against discrimination, hate speech and racism (Turkey);
- 122.35 Intensify measures and programmes to combat racism, xenophobia and intolerance (Philippines);
- 122.36 Implement stronger measures to curtail instances of racial and ethnic discrimination, discourage hate speech, and commit to sustained efforts to deter racially motivated violence, especially towards vulnerable groups (Bahamas);
- 122.37 Take effective measures to prevent, investigate and punish racial crimes, racist hate speech and violence against minority groups, including migrants and refugees (Ecuador);
- 122.38 Adopt a comprehensive strategy on combating discrimination and racism through a consultation process with all interested parties (Uzbekistan);
- 122.39 Continue efforts made to combat discrimination and hate speech against minorities and foreigners (Tunisia);
- 122.40 Intensify efforts to combat hate crimes and hate speech, in line with the commitments made in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Afghanistan);
- 122.41 Intensify efforts to combat the increase of hate speech, particularly on social media, by condemning racially hostile language in the public domain, and strengthen the response of the criminal justice system in this regard (Bangladesh);
- 122.42 Strengthen laws on racist hate speech and racially motivated violence to further support the work of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality and ensure punishment of perpetrators (Botswana);
- 122.43 Enact comprehensive legislation to address incidents of hate speech on social media and elsewhere (Ghana);
- 122.44 Continue efforts to combat hate speech, and strengthen the capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to cases of hate crimes (Indonesia);
- 122.45 Undertake awareness-raising campaigns to combat hate speech (Iraq);
- 122.46 Intensify efforts aimed at combating hate speech, and racism against Muslims and ethnic minorities (Jordan);
- 122.47 Sustain efforts in combating hate speech and other hate crimes (Nigeria);
- 122.48 Take measures to more effectively prevent and combat hate speech and incitement to violence against minorities, both online and offline (Republic of Korea);
- 122.49 Ensure zero tolerance for all cases of hate speech against migrants and ethnic and religious minorities (Uzbekistan);
- 122.50 Deepen efforts to investigate and punish racist hate speech and cases of racially motivated violence, ensuring that they are investigated promptly and effectively (Argentina);
- 122.51 Strengthen the response of its criminal justice system in cases of racist hate speech and violence by ensuring effective investigation and

appropriate prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators (Islamic Republic of Iran);

122.52 Strengthen the response of its criminal justice system in cases of hate speech and hate-motivated violence by ensuring effective investigation and appropriate prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (Israel);

122.53 Strengthen the response of its criminal justice system in cases of hate speech and related violence by ensuring effective investigation and appropriate prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators (Pakistan);

122.54 Strengthen the criminal justice system to ensure effective and appropriate investigation, prosecution and punishment of the offences of hate speech and racist violence (Luxembourg);

122.55 Amend its Criminal Code to highlight racist motives, which aggravate the related crimes and offences (Islamic Republic of Iran);

122.56 Intensify efforts to combat stereotypes and prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including by launching a nationwide awareness-raising campaign (Ireland);

122.57 Strengthen efforts to end discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, including awareness-raising to increase the social acceptance of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community in all spheres of professional and social life (Netherlands);

122.58 Promote the access of same-sex couples to sexual and reproductive health programmes, ensuring in particular the availability of specific health services for trans persons (Uruguay);

122.59 Enact general legislation on the recognition of both same-sex parents involved in the growth of a child, as well as extending access to adoption to same-sex couples on a par with others (Iceland);

122.60 Adopt legal provisions that will allow legal gender recognition to transgender individuals and take meaningful steps to sensitize authorities and the public to their human rights (Malta);

122.61 Work towards ending protocols that aim to “normalize” intersex bodies through harmful and medical practices including non-consensual surgery (Malta);

122.62 Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, and in the improvement of human development indicators (India);

122.63 Gradually increase official development assistance to reach the international target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (Luxembourg);

122.64 Increase the amount of humanitarian aid and development assistance to a level compatible with its gross domestic product (Turkey);

122.65 Continue to ensure that the application of the preamble of the Paris Agreement is reflected in the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions due in 2020, in line with its commitments under the Paris Agreement (Fiji);

122.66 Ensure that women, children and persons with disabilities are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, policies and programmes on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Fiji);

122.67 Provide specific funding to the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption to establish and enforce a code of conduct, including through the establishment of credible mechanisms for supervision, on the misuse of information and public resources by members of the National Assembly and National Council (United States of America);

122.68 Take the necessary measures to address and combat corruption and related impunity more effectively, to ensure transparency in the management of the Public Administration (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

122.69 Strengthen oversight over Slovenian companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses (State of Palestine);

122.70 Strengthen measures to address domestic violence and sexual abuse, including ensuring effective access to support services, remedies, and means of protection to women victims (Philippines);

122.71 Implement measures to ensure practical protection for older persons from violence and all forms of ill-treatment and investigate such cases and prosecute perpetrators (Uzbekistan);

122.72 Take measures to combat domestic violence and to provide for the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons (Russian Federation);

122.73 Continue to reduce the backlog of judicial cases, by further improving the staffing and financial resources of the courts (Germany);

122.74 Ensure the right to justice for all detainees, through the provision of free public defence counsel in order to provide the rights to defence and a fair trial (Costa Rica);

122.75 Ensure that all detained persons benefit effectively from the right of access to a lawyer from the very outset of their deprivation of liberty, if necessary free of charge (Denmark);

122.76 Improve the living conditions in detention facilities, in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules (Angola);

122.77 Amend defamation legislation so that it is considered a civil, not criminal, offence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

122.78 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in particular through effective prosecution of perpetrators (Chile);

122.79 Increase efforts to prevent trafficking of persons and child exploitation and to protect and support victims (Egypt);

122.80 Continue efforts in combating human trafficking and upholding the rights of victims of human trafficking as well as the rights of migrants (Nigeria);

122.81 Continue efforts to combat human trafficking and strengthen the monitoring and data collection mechanisms (Tunisia);

122.82 Continue to strengthen its institutional structure for combating trafficking in human beings and provide victims of trafficking with adequate access to health care, counselling and effective protection (Pakistan);

122.83 Investigate, prosecute and punish all cases of trafficking in persons and provide victims of such crimes with proper redress measures (Israel);

122.84 Strengthen its efforts in combating trafficking in persons, specifically through ensuring the provision of adequate support and rehabilitative resources to victims, and through enhanced investigation and prosecution efforts (Bahamas);

122.85 Continue its victim protection, law enforcement, and prevention efforts by vigorously prosecuting sex and labour trafficking offences and

imposing adequate penalties, including significant prison terms, on all convicted traffickers (United States of America);

122.86 Ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with adequate assistance regardless of whether they cooperated with law enforcement authorities in investigations and criminal proceedings (Belarus);

122.87 Continue supporting the family as the fundamental and natural unit of society (Egypt);

122.88 Consider instituting anti-poverty policies and programmes that would ensure the full protection and promotion of the rights of children (Ghana);

122.89 Accelerate the approval of a national housing policy that deals, among other things, with access to social housing for all its residents without discrimination, and that addresses the special needs of people with disabilities and the elderly in this area (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

122.90 Continue its achievements on improving access to health care for all and implement effectively the resolution on the National Mental Health Programme 2018–2028 (Ethiopia);

122.91 Accelerate its efforts to improve access to health-care services (Georgia);

122.92 Continue its efforts in regard to the right to health and provide equal access to quality health-care services to all persons including in rural areas, persons with disabilities and older persons (State of Palestine);

122.93 Ensure the availability and accessibility of palliative care for all older persons (Malaysia);

122.94 Develop the allocation of education funds to eliminate regional disparities in access to education (Algeria);

122.95 Ensure equal access to quality education for all students (Malaysia);

122.96 Continue measures to improve equal access to quality education for all, addressing the problem of regional disparities in access to education (Nepal);

122.97 Develop actions and policies to ensure quality inclusive education at all levels (Israel);

122.98 Intensify efforts towards providing comprehensive human rights education programmes to law enforcement officials on the rights of migrants and refugees (Greece);

122.99 Continue making progress in the implementation of strategies to achieve gender equality in all areas of economic, political and social life, including employment and equal pay (Cuba);

122.100 Step up measures to increase the employment rate of women and their representation at the level of management (Myanmar);

122.101 Strengthen measures aimed at preventing and combating violence against women, including domestic violence and sexual abuse, by ensuring that victims have access to effective remedies and means of protection (Rwanda);

122.102 Increase public education and strengthen enforcement efforts to combat gender-based violence (Bahamas);

122.103 Amend its legislation to include all forms of violence against women and strengthen measures aimed at preventing and combating sexual abuse, guaranteeing access to effective protection services (Spain);

122.104 Continue efforts to combat violence against women, by aligning national legislation with international standards, particularly the Council of

Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (France);

122.105 **Strengthen measures to prevent and curb all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, by among other things ensuring effective remedies to victims (Malaysia);**

122.106 **Revise the definition of rape in the Criminal Code so that it is based on the absence of consent, bringing it in line with international human rights law and standards (Iceland);**

122.107 **Revise the definition of rape contained in the Criminal Code, so that it is based on lack of consent and not on force or coercion, therefore aligning it with international standards, such as the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Mexico);**

122.108 **Strengthen quality accessible sexual and reproductive health public services to women belonging to vulnerable groups (Peru);**

122.109 **Encourage non-violent forms of discipline and conduct information campaigns to raise public awareness of the harmful effects of corporal punishment on children (Algeria);**

122.110 **Develop and implement a national strategy for the protection of child victims of exploitation and sexual abuse in order to identify, prevent and support child victims of various forms of exploitation and abuse (France);**

122.111 **Develop and implement a national strategy on the protection of children from sexual exploitation and abuse (Iceland);**

122.112 **Develop and implement additional policies for the protection of children to ensure that migrant children, Roma children and other vulnerable children have free access to education, health care, decent housing and adequate nutrition, as well as to combat child poverty and social exclusion (Uruguay);**

122.113 **Review national legislation, policies and programmes to harmonize them with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);**

122.114 **Take further steps to adopt specific legislation and policies regarding the protection of the rights of women and girls with disabilities (Bulgaria);**

122.115 **Consider the introduction of more detailed provisions on inclusive education of children with disabilities in existing legislation and policies (Bulgaria);**

122.116 **Ensure equal access to quality education for all students with disabilities, without discrimination (Qatar);**

122.117 **Adopt a comprehensive strategy to prevent all forms of violence, abuse and ill-treatment against persons with disabilities, particularly women, children and older persons with disabilities (Ecuador);**

122.118 **Develop community-based and people-centred mental health services which, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, respect the rights, will and informed preferences of persons with mental health conditions or psychosocial disabilities (Portugal);**

122.119 **Review current relevant legislation to better protect the rights of all minorities, and provide legislation on minority rights that would include additional provisions on minority-language education in areas where there is an interest (Serbia);**

122.120 **Ensure comprehensive legislation to protect the rights of minorities (Malaysia);**

- 122.121 Continue to strengthen efforts to promote and protect the rights of minorities in an integrated, comprehensive and inclusive manner, especially by improving their access to key social services, such as housing, education, and safe drinking water and sanitation (Thailand);
- 122.122 Ensure adequate representation of minority ethnic groups in the elected bodies for their inclusion in governance (Nepal);
- 122.123 Redouble efforts in ensuring equitable access to basic services by minorities towards their social inclusion and the full realization of their human rights (Philippines);
- 122.124 Recognize Slovenian sign language in the Slovenian Constitution (Austria);
- 122.125 Engage in a structured dialogue with the German-speaking community including the Umbrella Organisation for the Cultural Associations of the German-speaking Community, as also recommended by the Council of Europe (Austria);
- 122.126 Allocate additional resources to the preservation of the culture and language of the German-speaking community in Slovenia, as previously recommended (Austria);
- 122.127 Undertake all necessary steps to recognize the Croatian community as an autochthonous national minority and grant it the rights deriving from this status that have already been assigned to the Italian and Hungarian communities (Croatia);
- 122.128 Continue its efforts to promote an environment inclusive of ethnic minorities and to fully guarantee their access to public services, including through the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the period of 2017–2021 (Republic of Korea);
- 122.129 Continue to pay more attention to the issue of ethnic minorities, including the Roma (Russian Federation);
- 122.130 Address the continued discrimination against members of the socially marginalized Roma community in some parts of the country, especially with respect to their persistent difficulties securing adequate housing and obtaining public services, by continuing to implement its National Programme of Measures for Roma for 2017–2021 (United States of America);
- 122.131 Enact and fully implement legislation that seeks to improve the current situation in the Roma minority (Ghana);
- 122.132 Remove the distinction in legislation and other measures between “autochthonous” and “non-autochthonous” Roma communities (Greece);
- 122.133 Take further steps to uphold the rights of Roma people and protect them against prejudice, discrimination and social exclusion, including by ensuring effective implementation of the National Programme of Measures for Roma (Brazil);
- 122.134 Review its National Programme of Measures for Roma to set clear priorities and timelines for the implementation of measures, particularly regarding access to basic services, so as to ensure the full integration of Roma communities (Canada);
- 122.135 Strengthen the National Programme of Measures for Roma by identifying concrete targets, so as to further equal, legal and fair treatment of minorities, in line with Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 16 (Netherlands);
- 122.136 Conduct an independent evaluation in accordance with the National Programme of Measures for Roma for 2017–2021 (Spain);

- 122.137 **Improve the living standards of its Roma population, including by providing better access to basic utilities and services and improving education outcomes for Roma students at all levels (Australia);**
- 122.138 **Further the understanding that anti-Gypsyism is a driver for social exclusion of Roma and Sinti, and strengthen efforts to improve their living conditions, for example by adopting measures to ensure their access to drinking water, sanitation and electricity (Austria);**
- 122.139 **Step up its efforts to provide safe drinking water and sanitation services to the Roma population who live in informal settlements (Chile);**
- 122.140 **Continue efforts to improve the living conditions of Roma and particularly ensure the right to drinking water for everyone as laid down in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Germany);**
- 122.141 **Further improve living conditions of the Roma population and better protect their right to education (China);**
- 122.142 **Adopt efficient measures and allocate sufficient resources to integrate Roma children in preschool institutions, put an end to segregation in schools and reduce school dropout cases (Costa Rica);**
- 122.143 **Continue efforts for the integration of Roma, migrants and other minorities, particularly for their access to education, health care, employment and housing, and ensure their participation in political and social life (Cuba);**
- 122.144 **Adopt a definitive legislative and policy framework in order to prevent groundless expelling of migrant workers (Azerbaijan);**
- 122.145 **Ensure that migrants, women, children and persons with disabilities are meaningfully engaged in the drafting and implementation of the Government's strategy on migration (Fiji);**
- 122.146 **Safeguard the rights of newly-arrived and all immigrants in line with Slovenia's international obligations and commitments (Thailand);**
- 122.147 **Guarantee full access to and improved quality of health care, social services and education to migrants, irrespective of their migratory status, and implement alternative measures to deprivation of liberty for all migrant children (Portugal);**
- 122.148 **Continue to implement the State strategy regarding migration, in particular the efforts to ensure coordination of the work of relevant agencies in the situation of an increase in migration flow (Russian Federation);**
- 122.149 **Reform its national legislation in order to implement international obligations of Slovenia on migrants, refugees and asylum seekers (Canada);**
- 122.150 **Strengthen education programmes on the human rights of migrants and refugees, for migration officials, security forces, the army, prosecutors and judges, with special focus on the principle of non-refoulement (Mexico);**
- 122.151 **Work towards implementing additional measures to ensure that unaccompanied children or families with children are not held in detention (Cyprus);**
- 122.152 **Guarantee protection of the rights of separated and unaccompanied children, and facilitate family reunification processes as well as access for asylum seekers and refugees to social services such as housing, public health care and education on an equal footing (Ecuador);**
- 122.153 **Strengthen the asylum system to fully respect the principle of non-refoulement (Cyprus);**
- 122.154 **Ensure that border and police guards provide adequate information to asylum seekers and migrants about relevant procedures and their rights in the language that they understand (Malta);**

122.155 Deepen measures aimed at ensuring that “erased persons” can recover their permanent residence in an accessible and swift way by the law adopted in 2010 (Argentina);

122.156 Continue efforts to address effectively the “erased persons” issue (Slovakia);

122.157 Establish a procedure for determination and registration of stateless persons, in order to ensure protection of their human rights (Costa Rica).

123. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Slovenia was headed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Miro Cerar and composed of the following members:

- Dr. Dominika Švarc Pipan, State Secretary at The Ministry Of Justice – Deputy Head of Delegation;
- Dr. Tanja Kerševan Smokvina, State Secretary, Ministry Of Culture;
- Mr. Stanko Baluh, Director, Government Office For National Minorities;
- Ambassador Sabina Stadler Repnik, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the UN Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ms. Nataša Potočnik, Director, Migration Office, Internal Administrative Affairs, Migration and Naturalization Directorate, Ministry of the Interior;
- Ms. Špela Isop, Deputy Director General of Directorate for Social Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs And Equal Opportunity;
- Mr. Robert Golobinek, Head of Punitive Law and Human Rights Division, Ministry of Justice;
- Dr. Roman Lavtar, Head of Local Self-Government Service, Ministry Of Public Administration;
- Ms. Nuša Majhenc, Head of Labour Migration Division, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs And Equal Opportunity;
- Dr. Marko Rakovec, Head of Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Katarina Štrukelj, Director, Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants;
- Mr. Tomislav Omejec, Head of General Police Division, Ministry of the Interior, Police;
- Mr. Albert Černigoj, Head of Counterterrorism and Extreme Violence Section, Ministry Of The Interior, Police;
- Ms. Alja Klopčič, Minister Plenipotentiary, Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Nadja Čobal, Secretary, Ministry of Health;
- Ms. Dragica Iskrenovič, Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning;
- Ms. Irena Vogrinčič, Undersecretary, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Saša Mlakar, Undersecretary, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs And Equal Opportunity;
- Ms. Tjaša Herman, Senior Adviser, Government Office for National Minorities;
- Ms. Mija Javornik, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport;
- Mr. Klemen Ponikvar, Counselor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ms. Urška Učakar, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.