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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Thirty-sixth session**  
4–15 May 2020

## **Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Croatia\***

### **Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

#### **I. Background**

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 18 stakeholders' submissions<sup>1</sup> to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

#### **II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles**

2. The Ombudsperson of the Republic of Croatia (The Ombudsperson) noted that Croatian Parliament ratified the Istanbul Convention with an interpretative declaration to eliminate ambiguities and controversy.<sup>2</sup>

3. The Ombudsperson stated that advocating for the human rights of vulnerable social groups, such as refugees and asylum seekers, members of national minorities or victims of domestic or gender-based violence, was often discredited and described as contrary to social values, national interests and religious belief of the majority. In 2016, the funds were significantly reduced.<sup>3</sup>

4. The Ombudsperson affirmed that the Anti-Discrimination Act entered into force ten years ago. The Anti-Discrimination Act addresses acts of discrimination on the grounds of gender race, ethnicity or skin colour and nationality. However, discrimination against Roma, Serbs and migrants, is pervasive and most common in the area of labour, followed by access to goods and services, public information and the media.<sup>4</sup>

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\* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.



5. The Ombudsperson acknowledged that state authorities failed to investigate and prosecute hate crimes, which are mostly treated as misdemeanours instead of criminal offences.<sup>5</sup>

6. The Ombudsperson mentioned that there was some positive progress on LGBT rights.<sup>6</sup> However, there is a lack of systematic training and campaigns aimed at raising public awareness about equal inclusion of LGBT persons in society<sup>7</sup> and all procedures relating to gender transition are still relatively slow.<sup>8</sup>

7. The Ombudsperson observed that despite the amendments to the Criminal Procedure Act from 2017, pre-trial detainees were in a more disadvantaged position compared to persons serving their prison sentence.<sup>9</sup> In addition, minors held in pre-trial detention are placed in prisons with no diagnostic department or no work and trainings secured.<sup>10</sup>

8. The Ombudsperson mentioned that persons with disabilities had limited access to education and that, in general, public institutions were inaccessible.<sup>11</sup>

9. The Ombudsperson expressed concern about the gender pay gap, the low female employment rates and the high risk of economic dependence on other family members, and exposure to poverty.<sup>12</sup>

10. The Ombudsperson reported that the normative framework for the protection against domestic violence has not been harmonised with the Istanbul Convention.<sup>13</sup> There is no clear judicial distinction between misdemeanours and criminal offences related to domestic violence, no effective prevention and rehabilitation measures for perpetrators, and sentences are mostly fines or probation.<sup>14</sup>

11. The Ombudsperson noted the risk of child poverty and social exclusion, as well as the lack of social support for children with disabilities, and that there was no effective mechanisms to prevent violence, nor any quality assistance and support to the child victim.<sup>15</sup>

12. The Ombudsperson claimed that members of national minorities were still underrepresented among the public administration and judiciary employees; that there were difficulties regarding the official use of the Serbian language and the Cyrillic alphabet; and that stereotypes perpetuated in the society.<sup>16</sup>

13. The Ombudsperson observed the increased number of migrants' complaints about the violent police treatment, police misappropriating their money and other valuables and pushing them back across the green border, without implementing the legally prescribed procedure.<sup>17</sup>

### **III. Information provided by other stakeholders**

#### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>18</sup> and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies<sup>19</sup>**

14. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) recommended that Croatia ratifies the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency.<sup>20</sup> Joint Submission 4 (JS4) recommended Croatia to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>21</sup>

15. The International Alliance for Peace and Development (IAPD) recommended Croatia to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and members of their families; and ratify the individual complaints procedure under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.<sup>22</sup>

16. Amnesty International (AI) reported that the legislative, policy and institutional framework was yet to be fully harmonised with the Istanbul Convention.<sup>23</sup> Joint Submission 2 (JS2) recommended to ensure awareness-raising activities related to the Istanbul Convention and to harmonise the legislative framework.<sup>24</sup>

## **B. National human rights framework<sup>25</sup>**

17. The Centar za Mirovne Studije (CMS) recommended Croatia to enable and ensure the independent and autonomous work of the Ombudswoman as a national preventive mechanism and national human rights institution established in accordance with the Paris principles.<sup>26</sup>

## **C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law**

### **1. Cross-cutting issues**

#### *Equality and non-discrimination<sup>27</sup>*

18. JS2 noted that equality before the law based on different personal grounds was enshrined in Article 14 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia. Sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics are not explicitly mentioned, but the article contains a phrase “or other personal grounds” which keeps an open list of different personal grounds.<sup>28</sup> JS2 also acknowledged that anti-discrimination directives that prohibit discrimination based on gender, gender expression, and/or sexual orientation have been included in various pieces of legislation since 2003, including the Penal Code, Gender Equality Law, Media Law, Labour Law, Asylum Law etc.<sup>29</sup>

19. IAPD stated that discrimination against ethnic and sexual minorities remained widespread.<sup>30</sup> As an example of that, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) reported that Croatia had no standardised procedure for adjusting the certificate or diploma after gender reassignment or after choosing to live in another gender identity.<sup>31</sup>

20. JS4 and JS2 recommended to introduce strategies on tackling violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons<sup>32</sup>; and to amend antidiscrimination and criminal legislation to include sex characteristics as a personal ground for protection from discrimination.<sup>33</sup>

21. JS6 stated that hate crimes targeting LGBTI persons continued to be a problem in Croatia.<sup>34</sup> Lezbijaska Grupa Kontra (KON) noted that there was a lack of trust in the police and State institutions, which was result of police misconduct and failure of State institutions to sanction hate crimes against LGBT persons.<sup>35</sup> JS4 concluded that police, prosecutors, and judiciary faced difficulties in identifying hate crime and appropriately applying the law.<sup>36</sup>

22. According to JS2, the transgender community was very invisible in Croatia and remained the most marginalized part of the LGBT community.<sup>37</sup> It recommended to secure adequate representation of LGBTI civil society in all decision-making processes relevant for LGBTI communities in Croatia.<sup>38</sup>

#### *Development, the environment, and business and human rights<sup>39</sup>*

23. JS4 stated that human rights defenders and environmental organizations were under pressure from private investors who took legal actions against them due to their activities to protect the public interest.<sup>40</sup> It recommended Croatia to ensure an enabling and safe environment for the work of human rights defenders and secure public funding schemes for sustainable and long-term human rights work on advocacy and provision of social services.<sup>41</sup>

### **2. Civil and political rights**

#### *Right to life, liberty and security of person<sup>42</sup>*

24. JS7 recommended to amend the Law on Protection from Domestic violence; amend the Criminal Procedure Act, by introducing additional rights for the victims of the criminal offense of domestic violence; provide state-funded and state-mandated rights based multi-sectoral training for police officers, judges and social workers; place a moratorium on the practice of dual arrests by police officers until a thorough investigation is conducted;

criminally prosecute all forms of repeated domestic violence; and provide housing care for victims of domestic violence immediately after the violence had been reported.<sup>43</sup>

25. JS4 affirmed that detention conditions generally improved but some of the detention units showed several deficiencies and thereof did not comply with proscribed basic minimum standards.<sup>44</sup> Joint Submission 1 (JS1) stated that there was a clear tendency for the State authorities to limit the access to detention facilities;<sup>45</sup> such facilities often lacked interpreters; and employees did not have the capacity or resources to adequately care for and support unaccompanied migrant children.<sup>46</sup> JS1 recommended to ensure that civil society organisations and independent institutions for human rights protection have access to places of detention and the right to monitor the situation in detention centres;<sup>47</sup> to place non-citizens in detention solely based on clearly defined grounds; to cease detaining migrants solely based on irregular entry; to ensure adequate accommodation and care to unaccompanied children; to limit the time people remain in detention to the shortest time possible; to ensure effective review of detention by administrative courts; to ensure that detainees have effective access to legal aid to challenge detention<sup>48</sup>; and harmonize measures of pre-trial detention with international human rights standards and national legislation.<sup>49</sup>

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law<sup>50</sup>*

26. JS2 observed that legal gender recognition process was regulated by law but remained inadequate, while the bodies responsible for its implementation had no clear guidance on implementation or they seemed to be ignoring prescribed timelines. It also stated that there were no legal provisions for any gender options except male and female.<sup>51</sup>

27. JS2 asserted that intersex persons were not properly visible within Croatian society and were not protected from discrimination and hate crimes, while sex characteristics were not mentioned or recognized in any existing legislation or public policy in Croatia.<sup>52</sup>

28. JS2, JS4 and JS6 recommended to create and implement a new comprehensive plan to ensure that all parts of the criminal justice system recognize and treat with appropriate seriousness bias-motivated crimes;<sup>53</sup> and allocate resources to train border guards, immigration officers and police.<sup>54</sup> CoE called for effective implementation of the relevant legislation, particularly by improving the system of recording hate crime data.<sup>55</sup>

29. JS4 claimed that the Croatian justice system still faced a number of non-processed war crimes, and that the data available pointed to the presence of ethnic prejudice and profiling in war crime procedures.<sup>56</sup> It recommended to investigate and prosecute war crimes without ethnic profiling; ensure justice and reparation for victims of war crimes and bring to an end the climate of impunity; and improve and intensify the cooperation with other States and their public and judicial bodies on resolving the issues of missing persons.<sup>57</sup>

*Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life<sup>58</sup>*

30. JS6 noted that activists, members of civil society and journalists have been subject to acts of physical violence and threats for their work in Croatia.<sup>59</sup> In addition to such direct attacks on journalists by the State, the State has failed to protect journalists from, and has even promoted, censorship and efforts to eliminate critical journalism, by permitting more than 1,100 lawsuits to be brought against journalists by politicians and public figures.<sup>60</sup>

31. JS6 recommended to strengthen and enforce laws that protect journalists from physical harm, including training judges and police officers on how to address hate crimes perpetrated against journalists; enhance safeguards protecting the independence of the media and adopt standards setting out transparent policies and procedures for ensuring the independence of public broadcasters from political persuasion and interference; and provide additional funding for minority media outlets and media that features or represents minority viewpoints within the State.<sup>61</sup>

32. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) verified some improvements in the Croatian electoral system, especially regarding the enhancement of the participation of Roma and Sinti in public and political life.<sup>62</sup> It recommended to ensure the equality of the vote; consolidate and harmonize election legislation into a single comprehensive electoral code; ensure that the electoral calendar timelines are duly respected;

allow independent candidates to contest an election individually; and decriminalize defamation, insult and shaming.<sup>63</sup> In addition, JS4 recommended to develop effective and sustainable measures to strengthen the participation of Roma youth and women in civil society organizations and political life.<sup>64</sup>

### 3. Economic, social and cultural rights

#### *Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work<sup>65</sup>*

33. JS6 and B.a.B.e. Budi aktivna. Budi emancipiran (BB) observed that women were underrepresentation in senior work place roles<sup>66</sup> and were also regularly employed at the lower paid jobs so that in the case of expansion of family they were those who use parental leave and stay at home to take care of the children.<sup>67</sup> Employers do not allow women to have more flexible working hours or work from home in order to harmonize their family and professional obligations.<sup>68</sup> Women are also more often than men employed on fixed term employment contracts so that in the case of pregnancy their contracts are not extended.<sup>69</sup> They earn less than men, even though they work more and beside their regular working hours.<sup>70</sup>

34. JS7 and JS6 recommended to amend labour laws and policies in order to include the time that women spend on maternity leave into pension calculations and to increase maternity benefits; create tax and other incentives for employers to encourage the recruitment and employment of women on permanent contracts; review parental leave policies; invest in social protection services;<sup>71</sup> and enact legislation barring employers from asking about a person's family status or family planning, or other similar questions, during job interviews.<sup>72</sup>

#### *Right to an adequate standard of living<sup>73</sup>*

35. JS4 stated that the data on the inadequate living conditions of the Roma national minority was concerning. In the findings of the same research, approximately one-third of the 1500 Roma households analysed live in dwellings which are in a very poor or ruinous state, and often do not meet the minimum sanitary conditions.<sup>74</sup> CMS added that the State housing capacities were often inadequate and families were not provided with adequate accommodation.<sup>75</sup>

36. Then, JS4 and CMS recommended that Croatia develop and implement effective measures to achieve adequate living conditions for Roma national minority, based on the principle of non-segregation;<sup>76</sup> and ensure the respect of the Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).<sup>77</sup>

#### *Right to health<sup>78</sup>*

37. AI observed that women's access to sexual and reproductive health service and information, including contraception and abortion, although abortion on request in early pregnancy remains legal. Widespread refusals by medical practitioners to perform abortions on the grounds of conscience, prohibitively high cost of the service and uneven regional distribution of authorised public hospitals where the staff is willing to perform abortions, are some of the key obstacles facing women seeking to legally terminate a pregnancy.<sup>79</sup>

38. AI recommended to amend the Law on Medical Practice to ensure that conscience-based refusals by individual medical practitioners are adequately regulated; including on women's access to safe and legal abortion; enforce a legal obligation for all providers to put in place and use a standardised system of data collection to obtain and maintain accurate information about the termination of pregnancies; ensure that legal abortion procedures are ultimately covered by the National Health Care Fund or that the cost of the procedure is not prohibitively high and subsidised for women of more vulnerable economic and social status; and conduct a public awareness campaign to ensure that women are adequately informed about their right to terminate pregnancy that is primarily focused on their best interest.<sup>80</sup>

39. CMS observed that persons under international protection in Croatia have a right to health protection to the same extent as citizens of the Republic of Croatia, but in practice this was not the case, while asylum seekers were only entitled to emergency healthcare.<sup>81</sup> It

recommended Croatia to respect Article 12 of the ICESCR regarding the right to health of asylum seekers and refugees.<sup>82</sup>

*Right to education*<sup>83</sup>

40. JS2 reported that sexual education was below standards and kept this way by Catholic church influence, while religious education in schools in Croatia played a significant role.<sup>84</sup> The government and the judicial system ambiguously maintain anti-discrimination laws, but do not actively promote human rights practices.<sup>85</sup>

41. CMS stated that children of asylum seekers did not have the right to attend kindergarten, but only to one year of preschool education; and that segregation of Roma in the education system was still present.<sup>86</sup> International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) recommended further cooperation between the library sector and other relevant authorities to ensure the availability of both formal and informal learning opportunities for Roma children and youth; and ensure for asylum seeking children effective and non-discriminatory access to education.<sup>87</sup> CMS recommended to ensure asylum seeking children effective and non-discriminatory access to education.<sup>88</sup>

#### 4. Rights of specific persons or groups

*Women*<sup>89</sup>

42. Joint Submission 7 (JS7) reported that domestic violence in Croatia persists to be a dominant form of gender-based violence (GBV). It is identified as a crucial problem in Croatian society.<sup>90</sup> According to the Council of Europe (CoE), violence against women is deeply rooted in the inequality between women and men in society.<sup>91</sup> JS7 said that such forms of violence were most often prosecuted as a disturbance of public order unless serious bodily harm occurred when it can be prosecuted under criminal law<sup>92</sup>. Emotional or psychological violence in these cases remains unsanctioned.<sup>93</sup>

43. JS7 noted that patriarchal gender norms and practices, the strong influence of conservative religious institutions, and the falling demographic, among other factors, manifested in unpaid reproductive labour, falling almost exclusively on women, and in lack of equity in social protection and healthcare, and represented significant barriers to women realising their rights in the areas of labour, safety and security, bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive rights.<sup>94</sup>

44. JS6 observed that Croatia accepted several recommendations to adopt legislation pertaining to gender discrimination in the workplace and to implement programs to change society's perception of women, including removing barriers affecting employment. Nevertheless, while the Labour Act and the Gender Equality Act 2008 provide certain protections against employment-related and political gender discrimination, women still face discrimination in the job market and in elections, and gender stereotypes are a "common phenomena" in Croatian media.<sup>95</sup>

*Persons with disabilities*<sup>96</sup>

45. IFLA strongly recommended that the final law<sup>97</sup> maintains this state of affairs, in order to avoid creating needless barriers to the work of libraries to provide access to information for persons with disabilities.<sup>98</sup>

46. IFLA noted that the Croatian Library for the Blind played a key role in providing accessible materials – it is currently the largest producer of books in accessible formats in the country, alongside several smaller organizations. Various other non-specialised libraries are also working to ensure better access to information for users with print disabilities.<sup>99</sup> IFLA recommended acknowledging the existing library initiatives to provide better access to information and knowledge for people with disabilities.<sup>100</sup>

*Minorities*<sup>101</sup>

47. JS2 noted that reports cited discrimination against minorities in schools, and textbooks that used derogatory adjectives to refer to minorities.<sup>102</sup>

48. JS6 stated that Serbs and Roma remained subject to pervasive discrimination in the public and private spheres, including in the form of hate speech and discrimination in the workplace. A ministry official confirmed that discrimination in the workplace was one of the biggest challenges facing the Roma community. Roma also continue to face discrimination with respect to acquiring housing.<sup>103</sup> IAPD recommended that the National Roma Inclusion Strategy be systematically revised to improve its effectiveness.<sup>104</sup>

*Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers*<sup>105</sup>

49. JS1 observed that Croatia has long served as a transit country for refugees and migrants attempting to reach Western Europe, although, the country has failed to develop adequate integration policies.<sup>106</sup>

50. CMS informed that numerous domestic and international organisations reported on illegal (mass) expulsions from Croatian territory. Testimonies include denial of asylum seeking, illegal expulsions at the green borders, destruction and theft of private belongings, sexual harassment, and various forms of physical violence.<sup>107</sup>

51. CMS recommended to adopt a new migration policy and include asylum seekers and foreigners in the next Action Plan for Integration; amend the Croatian Aliens Act; implement concrete measures to ensure timely and fair asylum approval procedures; ensure right of access to asylum and territory for persons in search of protection; ensure the protection of unaccompanied migrant children.

*Stateless persons*<sup>108</sup>

52. Joint Submission 5 (JS5) noted that stateless people in Croatia did not have access to State funded legal aid and were often treated as third country nationals and presumed to hold another nationality. It further affirmed that the Croatian Government had no legal mechanism, by which to identify and grant stateless people protection, in order to implement its international obligations under the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons.<sup>109</sup>

53. JS5 recommended to establish a dedicated statelessness determination procedure in line with UNHCR guidance; amend the Law on Croatian Citizenship to introduce full safeguards to prevent childhood statelessness; and improve data collection on stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness in Croatia and publish it.<sup>110</sup>

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org). (One asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with “A” status).

*Civil society**Individual submissions:*

AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
IAPD	The International Alliance for Peace and Development, Geneva (Switzerland);
BB	B.a.B.e. Budi aktivna. Budi emancipiran, Zagreb (Croatia);
CMS	Centar za mirovne studije, Zagreb (Croatia);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
IFLA	International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Den Haag (Netherlands);
KON	Lezbijska grupa Kontra, Zagreb (Croatia).

*Joint submissions:*

JS1	<b>Joint submission 1 submitted by:</b> Global Detention Project; Centre for Peace Studies (CMS; CPS), Geneva (Switzerland);
JS2	<b>Joint submission 2 submitted by:</b> LGBTI CSOs Coalition; ERA - LGBTI Equal Rights Association for Western Balkans and Turkey; Dugine Obitelji; LGBT Centar Split, Belgrade (Serbia);
JS3	<b>Joint submission 3 submitted by:</b> Advocates for Human Rights; Autonomous Women’s House Zagreb, Minneapolis (United States of America);
JS4	<b>Joint submission 4 submitted by:</b> Human Rights House Zagreb; B.a.B.e.; Center for Peace Studies; Documenta – Center for Dealing with the Past; Human Rights House Zagreb; Rainbow Families Croatia; Roma Youth Organization Croatia; Serb National Council; Victims and Witness Support Service Croatia; Youth Initiative for Human Rights – Croatia; Zagreb Pride, Zagreb (Croatia);
JS5	<b>Joint submission 5 submitted by:</b> Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion; The Civil Rights Project Sisak; Institute on Statelessness; Inclusion European Network on Statelessness, Eindhoven (Netherlands);
JS6	<b>Joint submission 6 submitted by:</b> Combatting Right-wing Extremism in Croatia; The Advocates for Human Rights Autonomous Women’s House Zagreb, Minneapolis (United States of America);
JS7	<b>Joint submission 7 submitted by:</b> The Sexual Rights Initiative; Be active. Be emancipated. B.a.B.e Croatia, Ottawa (Canada).

*National human rights institution:*

ORC	Ombudsman of The Republic of Croatia in cooperation with the Ombudsman for Children, the Ombudswoman for Gender Equality and the Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities, Zagreb (Croatia).
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*Regional intergovernmental organization(s):*

CoE	The Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France); <b>Attachments:</b> (CoE-CPT) Report to the Croatian Government on the visit to Croatia carried out by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) from 14 to 22 March 2017; (CoE-CPT) Response of the Croatian Government to the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on its visit to Croatia from 14 to 22 March 2017; (CoE-Commissioner) The Letter from the Commissioner for
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	Human Rights addressed to the Prime Minister of Croatia on 5 October 2018;
	(CoE-Commissioner) The Letter from the Commissioner for Human Rights addressed to the Prime Minister of Croatia on 18 April 2017;
	(CoE-Commissioner) Report by Nils Muižnieks commissioner for human rights of the council of europe following his visit to croatia from 25 to 29 april 2016;
	(CoE-ECRI) Report on Croatia (fifth monitoring cycle), adopted on 21 March 2018;
	(CoE-ECRI) Appendix: Government's viewpoint;
	(CoE-ECRI) Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of Croatia subject to interim follow-up, adopted on 19 March 2015;
	(CoE-ACFC) Advisory committee on the framework convention for the protection of national minorities Fourth Opinion on Croatia, adopted on 18 November 2015;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by Croatia, adopted on 11 May 2017;
	(CoE-ECRM) Sixth periodical report presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter, Zagreb, June 2019;
	(CoE-GRETA) Report concerning the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by Croatia, adopted on 20 November 2015;
	(CoE-GRECO) Second compliance report, Fourth evaluation round, Corruption prevention in respect of members of parliament, judges and prosecutors, adopted on 7 December 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Country Factsheet;
	(CoE-CM) Supervision of the execution of judgments and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on Execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Nine cases against Croatia, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 7 June 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on Execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Two cases against Croatia, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 November 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on Execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, X. and Y. against Croatia, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 April 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on Execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Guberina against Croatia, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 April 2018;
	(CoE-CM) Resolution on Execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Four cases against Croatia, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 November 2018;
	(CoE-ECSR) Report on the provisions relating to one of the four thematic groups on an annual basis, Croatia and the European Social Charter, March 2019.
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Vienna, (Austria);
OSCE	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights/Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw (Poland).

<sup>2</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 9.

<sup>5</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 18.

<sup>6</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 27.

<sup>7</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 28.

<sup>8</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 29.

<sup>9</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 23.

- <sup>10</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 24.
- <sup>11</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 42.
- <sup>12</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 30.
- <sup>13</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 32.
- <sup>14</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 31.
- <sup>15</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, paras. 39, 43, 44 and 49.
- <sup>16</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, paras. 63-64.
- <sup>17</sup> Ombudsman of the Republic of Croatia, para. 67.
- <sup>18</sup> The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:
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| ICERD      | International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;                             |
| ICESCR     | International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;  |
| OP-ICESCR  | Optional Protocol to ICESCR;   |
| ICCPR      | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;  |
| ICCPR-OP 1 | Optional Protocol to ICCPR;  |
| ICCPR-OP 2 | Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;                               |
| CEDAW      | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;                                    |
| OP-CEDAW   | Optional Protocol to CEDAW;  |
| CAT        | Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;                      |
| OP-CAT     | Optional Protocol to CAT;  |
| CRC        | Convention on the Rights of the Child;   |
| OP-CRC-AC  | Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;                                     |
| OP-CRC-SC  | Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;                    |
| OP-CRC-IC  | Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;  |
| ICRMW      | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; |
| CRPD       | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;   |
| OP-CRPD    | Optional Protocol to CRPD;   |
| ICPPED     | International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.                        |
- <sup>19</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.1–13, 99.17–19 and 99.21–23.
- <sup>20</sup> ICAN, p. 1.
- <sup>21</sup> JS4, paras. 2, 3 and 5. See also CoE, p. 3.
- <sup>22</sup> IAPD, p. 7. See also JS4, paras. 3 and 5.
- <sup>23</sup> AI, p. 1. See also JS6, para. 40 and JS3, para. 11.
- <sup>24</sup> JS2, para. 30.1. See also AI, p. 8 and JS3, para. 47.
- <sup>25</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.36–40.
- <sup>26</sup> CMS para. 37. See also JS4, para. 11 and CoE, p. 3.
- <sup>27</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.29, 99.53, 99.55–57, 99.59, 99.67–69, 99.71–74, 99.76, 99.102, 99.114, 99.138, 99.143–145, 99.147 and 99.149.
- <sup>28</sup> JS2, para. 6.
- <sup>29</sup> JS2, para. 11. See also JS7, para. 6.
- <sup>30</sup> IAPD, p. 3. See also JS7, para. 4.
- <sup>31</sup> FRA, p. 4.
- <sup>32</sup> JS4, paras. 95-96.
- <sup>33</sup> JS2, paras. 30.1, 30.4 and 30.5.
- <sup>34</sup> JS6, para. 7.
- <sup>35</sup> KON, paras. 22-23.
- <sup>36</sup> JS4, para. 53.
- <sup>37</sup> JS2, para. 23.
- <sup>38</sup> JS2, para. 30.7.
- <sup>39</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.36–37, 99.42 and 99.54.
- <sup>40</sup> JS4, para 21. See also IAPD p. 7.
- <sup>41</sup> JS4, para 24. See also CMS para. 33.
- <sup>42</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.18–22, 99.25, 99.27–30, 99.49–52, 99.58, 99.61, 99.69, 99.78–80, 99.82, 99.84, 99.86–88, 99.93, 99.96, and 99.108–109.
- <sup>43</sup> JS7, paras. 40-45.
- <sup>44</sup> JS4, para. 41.

- 45 JS1, p. 2.
- 46 JS6, para. 36.
- 47 JS1, p. 3. See also JS6, p. 8 and CMS, para. 30.
- 48 JS1, p. 3.
- 49 JS1, p. 3.
- 50 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.77, 99.89–90, 99.92, 99.94–95, 99.97–107 and 99.111.
- 51 JS2, para. 26.
- 52 JS2, para. 28.
- 53 JS2, para. 30.3. See also JS4, paras. 54 and 102.
- 54 JS6 para. 40.
- 55 CoE, p. 3.
- 56 JS4, para. 81.
- 57 JS4, paras. 82, 92 and 96.
- 58 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.33–34, 99.56, 99.70, 99.141 and 99.152.
- 59 JS6, para. 23.
- 60 JS6, para. 28.
- 61 JS6, pp. 8 and 9.
- 62 OSCE, paras. 7-9.
- 63 OSCE, para. 6.
- 64 JS4, para. 118.
- 65 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.32, 99.60, 99.70–71, 99.73–74, 99.112–116 and 99.136.
- 66 JS6, para. 30.
- 67 JP7, para 19.
- 68 BB, para. 3.
- 69 BB, para. 4.
- 70 BB, para. 5.
- 71 JS7, paras. 24-27.
- 72 JS6, p. 9.
- 73 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.62, 99.76, 99.117–120, 99.153, 99.163–164 and 99.167.
- 74 JS4, para. 121.
- 75 CMS, paras. 40-41.
- 76 JS4, para. 122.
- 77 CMS, para 42.
- 78 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.92, 99.96, 99.121–123, 99.132 and 99.136.
- 79 AI, p. 4.
- 80 AI, p. 8.
- 81 CMS, paras. 43-44.
- 82 CMS, para. 46.
- 83 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.26, 99.112, 99.119, 99.124–130, 99.136, 99.140, 99.149–150, 99.155 and 99.165.
- 84 JS2, para. 25.
- 85 JS2, para. 22.
- 86 CMS para. 48. See also JS4, para. 123.
- 87 IFLA, p. 3. See also CMS, para. 51; JS6, pp. 8-9; and JS4, para. 124.
- 88 CMS, paras. 3, 5, 7, 15, 22 and 51.
- 89 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.49, 99.58–59, 99.67–69, 99.73–74, 99.81 and 99.84.
- 90 JS7, para. 31. See also JS3, para. 1.
- 91 CoE, p. 7.
- 92 JS7, para. 24.
- 93 JS7, para. 37.
- 94 JS7, para .3.
- 95 JS6, para. 6.
- 96 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.32, 99.47, 99.63 and 99.130–140.
- 97 IFLA, para 5.
- 98 IFLA, para. 6 recommendation.
- 99 IFLA, para 8.
- 100 IFLA, para. 9 recommendation.
- 101 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.73, 99.116, 99.128, 99.141–157 and 99.166.

<sup>102</sup> JS2, para 23.

<sup>103</sup> JS6, para. 21.

<sup>104</sup> IAPD, p. 7.

<sup>105</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, paras. 99.17, 99.117, 99.158–165 and 99.167.

<sup>106</sup> JS1, p. 2.

<sup>107</sup> CMS, para. 18.

<sup>108</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/14, para. 99.166.

<sup>109</sup> JS5, paras. 14-15.

<sup>110</sup> JS5, para. 23.

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