

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO SLOVAKIA-ADD 1

NETHERLANDS

- Can the government of Slovakia indicate how it ensures the independence of the Slovak National Center for Human Rights (NCHR)? What actions does the Slovak government plan to undertake to better meet the Paris Principles?
- How does the government of Slovakia secure freedom of association, specifically with regard to the requirement of stewards at events?
- Can the government elaborate on the efforts made to advance women's reproductive health and rights in Slovakia, in particular with regards to access to modern contraception, abortion and evidence-based sexuality education in schools?
- What is the government's perspective on securing the right of access of detained persons to a doctor, including one of the detained person's own choice, from the outset of the deprivation of liberty?

CZECH REPUBLIC

- The ILO Committee of Experts encouraged the Government of Slovakia to pursue its efforts to take comprehensive measures to address the growing phenomenon of the trafficking of children. Could you provide information on concrete measures taken within the framework of the National Programme to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings to prevent and eliminate the trafficking of children?
- Pending the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, would you indicate whether there is an independent body that has the right to undertake unannounced visits to all places of deprivation of liberty, including police stations and pretrial detention facilities? If this is not the case, could you provide information on measures undertaken to create such a body?
- Does Slovakia envisage any additional measures to tackle comprehensively the interlined scourges of discrimination, segregation, poverty and social exclusion suffered by some of its vulnerable groups?

BELGIUM

- What is the state of play of the ratification process of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, which has been signed by Slovakia in 2007?
- Which measures have been taken by the Government of Slovakia to prevent and combat human rights violations, such as harassment and the excessive use of force, committed by the members of the police force? Has the Government of Slovakia created an independent control mechanism for these matters?

- Which measures have been taken by the Slovak authorities to effectively implement the prohibition of discrimination as enshrined in the Anti-Discrimination Act and the Schools Act?
- Which concrete steps have been taken by the authorities to ensure that all victims of discrimination are provided with effective remedies and the means to secure them?
- Is the Government of Slovakia considering improving access to affordable abortion services as recommended by the CESCR?
- Is the Government of Slovakia considering collecting comprehensive data related to sexual and reproductive health rights on a systematic basis?

NORWAY

- Concerns have been voiced over the postponement of Slovakia's ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. What are the reasons for the postponement?
- Both the position of Plenipotentiary for national minorities and the Plenipotentiary for civil society are vacant at the moment in Slovakia. What are the plans for these positions?
- The Slovak Ombudsperson's office recently issued a report regarding inclusive education ("The Public Defender of Rights's Extraordinary Report regarding facts indicating serious violation of fundamental rights and freedoms by actions taken by some bodies"), but the report has not been discussed in the Slovak national parliament. What is the status with regard to the report's recommendations, and what follow-up is envisaged?
- Concern has been raised in Slovakia related to the new law on mandatory work in order to receive social benefits, especially with regard to the Roma population. What measures are planned to make sure that this law does not have negative effect on the motivation of the Roma population to take part in the society?