



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Forty-third session
1–12 May 2023

Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Montenegro*

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 and the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a summary of 12 stakeholders' submissions² for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations³ and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. ICAN urged Montenegro to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.⁴

B. National human rights framework

Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

3. HRA noted that the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms or Ombudsman was still accredited B status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, due to shortcomings in election conditions which negatively reflected on its autonomy. The implementation of Ombudsman recommendations by authorities also remained a concern.⁵ HRA recommended that Montenegro strengthen the independence of the Ombudsman in accordance with the the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, have the Ombudsman monitor implementation of their recommendations more stringently and publicly react when they are not followed, and review the performance of the Ombudsman through a foreign expert.⁶

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



C. Promotion and protection of human rights

1. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

Equality and non-discrimination

4. CoE-ECRI considered that there was still no system in place to collect disaggregated data and provide a coherent view of cases of racist and homo/transphobic hate speech and hate-motivated violence, and concluded that its corresponding previous recommendation had not been implemented.⁷

5. CoE-ECRI noted that the budget of the Ministry of Education had been earmarked to finance 20 mediators/assistants in the social inclusion of Roma in the field of education, with 18 persons employed. It concluded that its previous recommendation to institutionalise and increase the number of Roma Mediators/Assistants at pre-school and primary school level to ensure attendance and decrease the risk of dropping out had been fully implemented.⁸

6. OSCE-ODIHR recommended that Montenegro provide information and statistics on hate crimes, and build the capacity of criminal justice officials about hate crimes.⁹ It recommended that specialized services for hate crime victims, mostly delivered by civil society organizations, be fully integrated into the general victim support system.¹⁰

7. OSCE-ODIHR noted that people infected, or suspected to be infected, with the COVID-19 virus were targeted by intolerance and discrimination, and threatened and/or physically assaulted. It recommended that Montenegro respond swiftly to hate crimes, investigate them so that perpetrators can be brought to justice and adequate penalties imposed, support victims, publicly condemn such acts, consider providing the possibility to report hate crimes online and allowing third-party reporting to police, improve mechanisms for hate crime data collection, ensure that pandemic consequences do not affect capacities to provide support to victims, build law enforcement and justice sector capacities to recognize and investigate hate crimes, and enact policies to address hate crimes comprehensively.¹¹

Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

8. HRA reported that the crime of torture was still not defined in a manner prescribed in the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It contended that the definition of the crime of torture in Montenegro was too wide regarding perpetrators, prescribed penalties were not commensurate to the gravity of the offense, imprisonment sentences were so low that suspended sentences could be imposed, and acts amounting to torture were subject to a statute of limitation. HRA stated that criminal investigations of torture and ill-treatment had not been effectively conducted, the lack of independence of authorities participating in the investigation *via-à-vis* police officers had proved to be a systemic problem, documenting traces of torture by medical professionals represented a serious issue, and in 2020–2021 only one training on prevention of torture was conducted for police officers.¹² CA asserted that Montenegro did not respect the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment in accordance with international standards, and that most investigations were ineffective.¹³

9. HRA recommended that Montenegro: adopt a definition of torture that includes all elements contained in the Convention; increase penalties to reflect the gravity of the crime; provide that all acts amounting to torture are not subject to any statute of limitations; abolish the possibility of imposing warning measures for acts of torture by public officials; exclude the possibility of granting amnesty to public officials convicted of torture; establish an independent authority to investigate complaints against the police; ensure that medical expertise is performed urgently; include psychological expertise; guide doctors on how to document bodily injuries; conduct training for all police officers to identify and refer torture victims; and ensure that all judges and prosecutors attend trainings on how to identify signs of torture and execute effective investigations.¹⁴ CA recommended more rigid sanctions against managers who were uncooperative in establishing the identity of police officers participating in illegal actions, ensuring one room in each police regional unit is equipped with audio-visual surveillance, with interrogations conducted only in such rooms, and suspending police officers accused of abusing citizens.¹⁵ HRA and CA recommended

strengthening the Department for Internal Control of the Police, and more rigid sanctions against and removal from service of officials who had committed criminal acts.¹⁶

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

10. CoE-GRECO concluded that its previous recommendation to Montenegro to take additional measures to strengthen the Judicial Council's independence against undue political influence, establish objective and measurable selection criteria for non-judicial members, and set in place operational arrangements to avoid an over-concentration of powers in the same hands concerning functions of members of the Judicial Council, remained not implemented.¹⁷ CoE-GRECO also concluded that its previous recommendation to further develop the disciplinary framework for judges to strengthen its objectivity, proportionality and effectiveness, and publish information on complaints received, disciplinary action taken and sanctions applied against judges, remained not implemented.¹⁸

11. Having made the same recommendation as directly above regarding prosecutors, CoE-GRECO concluded that it had been implemented satisfactorily.¹⁹

12. HRA contended that since the establishment of the Judicial Council in 2008, it had not been provided for the Council to operate as a genuinely independent state authority. A Draft Law to amend the Law on the Judicial Council and Judges had been prepared, but had not yet reached the Parliament.²⁰ HRA stated that Montenegro should: ensure the independence and professionalism of the judiciary by addressing all remaining recommendations of the Council of Europe Group of States Against Corruption and European Network of Judicial Councils; review the disciplinary and ethical framework for judges and State prosecutors to strengthen their objectivity and effectiveness; and improve education on international human rights standards for acting State prosecutors and judges.²¹

13. CA noted that the Judicial Council lacked three members, the Constitutional Court had three out of seven judges, the position of the President of the Supreme Court had been vacant since 2020, and of the Supreme State Prosecutor since 2019, while these bodies were allegedly not free from political influence.²² It recommended that Montenegro amend the regulations on the composition of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils, thus eliminating direct political influence, and elect the missing members of the above bodies.²³

14. HRA noted that the Special State Prosecutor's Office had not initiated any investigations or filed charges regarding command responsibility, complicity, incitement, or aiding and abetting war crimes, and that in the previous seven years, there had only been one case resulting in conviction.²⁴ HRA stated that Montenegro should act proactively, investigate war crimes on its own motion, raise issues of command responsibility so that those in power in the 1990s were finally held accountable, and review unsuccessfully processed cases.²⁵

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

15. HRA asserted that there was a need for further reforms to create a safe and open environment for independent journalism. In the previous seven years there had reportedly been 75 cases of attacks on journalists, media outlets, and organizations, as well as threats to their safety, and the Government had not provided a foreign expert to help the Commission for Monitoring Investigations of Attacks on Journalists.²⁶ HRA recommended that Montenegro proceed with the reform of the legal framework, and take additional measures to reduce the attacks on journalists and improve the lack of investigation of old cases.²⁷

16. OSCE-ODIHR reported that it had deployed an Election Observation Mission to observe the 2018 presidential election, which concluded that fundamental freedoms had been respected. Candidates had campaigned freely, and technical aspects of the election had been adequately managed, although the transparency and professionalism of the State Election Commission remained issues of concern.²⁸

17. OSCE-ODIHR reported that it had established a Limited Election Observation Mission to observe the 2020 parliamentary elections. It concluded that the elections had been competitive, contestants had been able to convey their messages, but the ruling party gained an undue advantage through the misuse of office and state resources. Lack of independent campaign coverage by the media had undermined the quality of information available. The law provided basic regulations for the conduct of democratic elections but gaps and

ambiguities allowed for circumvention, particularly in campaign finance. The elections were run transparently and efficiently, although the State Election Commission did not properly fulfil its regulatory role.²⁹ OSCE-ODIHR recommended, inter alia, that Montenegro consider undertaking a comprehensive reform to harmonize the electoral legal framework and regulate key aspects of the elections, and amending the law to ensure transparency, accountability and integrity of campaign finance.³⁰

Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

18. CoE-GRETA reported that Montenegro was a country of origin, destination and transit of trafficked persons.³¹ It recommended that Montenegro: strengthen the provision of information to trafficking victims regarding their rights and available services; ensure the availability of interpreters; take further steps to guarantee access to justice for victims and ensure that they are provided with psychological assistance; strengthen access to the labour market for victims and their economic and social inclusion; guarantee effective access to compensation; strengthen the criminal justice response; improve the prosecution of trafficking cases for child, early and forced marriage; sensitise prosecutors and judges to the rights of victims; ensure compliance with guidelines on the non-punishment of victims; protect victims and witnesses and prevent intimidation during the investigation; integrate training on trafficking into the training of relevant professional groups; ensure child-sensitive procedures; strengthen engagement with the private sector; adopt legislation integrating the prevention of human trafficking in public procurement policies.³²

19. CoE-GRETA further recommended that Montenegro examine the possibility of establishing an independent National Rapporteur or designating a mechanism as an independent entity to monitor the anti-trafficking activities of state institutions; ensure that the Labour Inspectorate has adequate resources to carry out inspections; introduce mechanisms for monitoring the compliance of businesses with labour standards and human rights throughout their supply chains; continue investing in social, economic and other measures for groups vulnerable to trafficking; strengthen the identification of victims, including by making the standard operating procedures for victim identification binding; establish more sustainable funding for shelters, and provide long-term assistance to victims.³³

20. ECLJ recommended that Montenegro continue to train authorities on identifying cases, provide aid and rehabilitation for victims, investigate and prosecute traffickers, and continue to work with other countries in the region.³⁴

21. WRC indicated that there had been only three criminal proceedings for trafficking from 2018–2020 and that misconduct allegations had been raised regarding the quality of service provided to victims in shelters.³⁵ It recommended that Montenegro provide adequate legal assistance to victims and include NGOs for state-funded free legal aid, ensure consistent implementation of legislation, review the criteria for licensing organizations providing shelter services to ensure a victim-centred approach, and ensure compensation for victims.³⁶

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

22. CoE-ECSR stated that employment policy efforts had not been adequate in combatting unemployment and promoting job creation, and that special measures for the retraining and reintegration of the long-term unemployed had not been effectively provided.³⁷

23. EUROMIL contended that contractual soldiers received inadequate social and financial protection when they terminated military service. It stated that States should ensure that their employees were able to compete and be integrated into the civilian labour market.³⁸

Right to social security

24. CoE-ECSR reported that the levels of social assistance and minimum old-age pension were inadequate, and that family benefits did not cover a significant percentage of families.³⁹ It asserted that the minimum level of unemployment benefit was inadequate.⁴⁰

Right to an adequate standard of living

25. HRA noted that the amount of material security for a family of four had remained the same since 2014 although the cost of living had increased. HRA recommended that

Montenegro increase the amount of social benefits and provide an adequate standard of living for socially vulnerable people, especially the unemployed, older persons, and persons with disabilities, establish shelters for the homeless as there were none, and institute a system for collecting data on the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights.⁴¹

Right to health

26. WRC reported concerns about women's access to healthcare, including regarding cancer screening and inadequate services in maternity wards.⁴² WRC recommended that Montenegro improve the screening program for early detection of cervical and breast cancer, regularly monitor and improve hygienic conditions, access to pain relief, and patient involvement in decision-making in maternity wards, make modern forms of contraception available to women and girls free of charge, and raise awareness on the prevention of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.⁴³

Right to education

27. BCN contended that Roma and Egyptian children were disadvantaged in the education system, as reflected in attendance and enrolment rates.⁴⁴ BCN recommended that Montenegro allocate more resources to the educational sector with particular attention to minorities, provide free transportation for children from Roma and Egyptian communities, increase the number of Roma mediators, develop new strategies and programmes to combat the discrimination, violence, and exclusion minority groups faced, intensify intervention strategies to prevent underachieving children from dropping out of school.⁴⁵

28. CoE-ECSR noted that children without residence permits were not entitled to access education.⁴⁶

Development, the environment, and business and human rights

29. Regarding corruption, CoE-GRECO concluded that its previous recommendation to ensure that there was a mechanism to promote the Code of Ethics for parliamentarians and raise their awareness, remained partly implemented. It concluded that its previous recommendation that a requirement of ad-hoc disclosure be introduced when a conflict emerges between the private interests of individual members of parliament and a matter under consideration in parliamentary proceedings, had been implemented satisfactorily.⁴⁷

30. In its 2018 Opinion on the Law on Prevention of Corruption, OSCE-ODIHR emphasized that even if the Law generally adhered to international standards, it could benefit from clarifications, and that, to ensure the autonomy of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption it was crucial to adequately protect whistleblowers and ensure that definitions throughout the Law did not leave gaps which could weaken the anti-corruption legislative framework.⁴⁸

2. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women

31. CoE-GREVIO welcomed Montenegro's ratification in 2018 of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). It identified priority issues for the authorities to comply fully with the Convention, including to: ensure sustainable funding for women's NGOs running specialist support services for victims; ensure that training for professional groups includes training on the different manifestations of violence against women; implement regular training; expedite the national plan for improvement of specialist support services for victims; ensure more operational clarity between the misdemeanour offence of domestic violence and that of a criminal law nature; ensure the swift, impartial response of law enforcement officials to domestic and other forms of violence against women; and ensure access to free legal aid for victims of all forms of violence.⁴⁹

32. CoE-CP reported in 2022 on the implementation of CoE-GREVIO recommendations. It welcomed the adoption of a National Plan for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention, and the National Gender Equality Strategy for 2021–2025.⁵⁰ It encouraged

Montenegro to: pursue efforts to ensure equal access of all victims to specialist support services, including by expanding the number of shelters; institutionalise the national co-ordinating body; ensure appropriate resources for policies, measures and legislation aimed at combating violence against women, and implementing institutions; make protection orders available for immediate protection to all victims of domestic violence; ensure systematic training for all professional groups in contact with victims; and set up rape crisis and/or sexual violence referral centres in sufficient numbers to ensure a sensitive response.⁵¹

33. JS1 noted that, despite some advances in policies and legislation, violence against women remained widespread. It contended that domestic violence legislation fell short of protecting women in practice, authorities continued to use mediation in domestic violence cases, and shelters were inadequate.⁵² JS1 recommended that Montenegro: effectively implement the 2019 Amendments to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence by including current and former intimate partners, former in-laws, and extramarital spouses in the definition of domestic violence; amend the Criminal Code to include psychological, economic, and sexual violence, introduce a separate criminal offense for femicide, and criminalize marital rape; propose legislation criminalizing marital rape; amend legislation to more clearly define what constitutes misdemeanour and criminal cases of domestic violence; provide enhanced financial support to organizations providing specialized services to victims; end the practice of mediation in domestic violence cases; publish statistics; and conduct awareness-raising.⁵³

34. WRC recommended that Montenegro strengthen legislation, require regular training, establish an independent mechanism to receive complaints on authorities' conduct, ensure all complaints of violence against women and girls are investigated, and provide programs for social integration of victims.⁵⁴

35. ADF asserted that Montenegro's skewed sex-ratio could be attributed to the prevalent culture of son-preference.⁵⁵ ECLJ noted that, with the freedom granted under law to obtain abortions throughout a pregnancy for socio-economic reasons, there seemed to be a major issue of illegal "sex-selective" abortion.⁵⁶

36. ADF recommended that Montenegro guarantee full respect for the right to life of girl children, before and after birth, ensure effective enforcement of laws prohibiting abortion on the basis of sex, and adopt policies to tackle circumvention of these laws, strengthen controls on prenatal genetic testing, develop programmes and policies that foster zero tolerance for discriminatory attitudes, and promote awareness-raising to eliminate prejudices perpetuating the culture of son preference.⁵⁷ ECLJ stated that Montenegro should continue to seek ways to eradicate the discriminatory culture of sex-selective abortion.⁵⁸

37. WRC expressed concern about: limited access to justice for women who experienced gender-based violence and discrimination; insufficient institutional capacities to ensure the realization of equality principles; shrinking space for specialized services for women, due to an inadequate system for distribution of civil society organization (CSO) funding; the lack of a systematic approach in combating sex selective abortions; a rise in misogynist rhetoric and hate speech; and smear campaigns against women human rights defenders.⁵⁹ It recommended that Montenegro strengthen the political power, institutional, financial and administrative capacity of the national gender equality mechanisms, ensure systematic gender impact assessments of legislation, policies and action plans, and ensure sufficient funding of women's CSO-led service.⁶⁰

38. WRC reported that the adoption of amendments to the electoral law, the Law on Government and the Law on Parliament, that would allow an increase in the quota of 40% for candidates of the underrepresented sex on electoral lists, to improve the representation of women in politics, was still pending.⁶¹ It recommended that Montenegro adopt the amendments.⁶²

39. CoE-ECSR noted that women were not permitted to work in all professions, which constituted discrimination based on sex.⁶³ WRC reported that gender-based discrimination in labour continued to be widespread, and that the COVID-19 pandemic had led to a worsening of women's employment opportunities and regression to the private sphere.⁶⁴ WRC recommended that Montenegro improve and enforce antidiscrimination provisions of the labour law, develop employment measures targeting women, increase resources to ensure

access to justice and remedies for persons who experience labour discrimination, and ensure better division of family care and unpaid work by improving labour legislation.⁶⁵

Children

40. CoE-ECSR stated that legislation on the prohibition of employment of children subject to compulsory education was not effectively enforced.⁶⁶ BCN asserted that child labour in Montenegro was a serious issue, with children frequently forced to beg on the streets or subject to sexual exploitation and human trafficking.⁶⁷ BCN recommended that Montenegro implement effective strategies to stop and prevent child labour, and strengthen its legal system with experienced trained legal advisors.⁶⁸

41. CoE-LC-2 recommended that Montenegro, as a Party to the Lanzarote Convention on the Protection of Children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse extend mandatory screening to the recruitment of all professionals in regular contact with children.⁶⁹

42. CoE-LC-ICT requested Montenegro, as a Party to the Lanzarote Convention, ensure that training on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)-facilitated sexual offences against children is available for prosecutors and judges working on these issues.⁷⁰ It required ensuring that corresponding investigations and criminal proceedings are treated as priority.⁷¹ It requested Montenegro to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over transnational cases of child sexual exploitation facilitated by ICTs, when one of the constituent elements of the offence had taken place in their territory.⁷² It required ensuring that all children at primary and secondary level receive information about the risks of child sexual exploitation facilitated by ICTs.⁷³

43. JS1 recommended that Montenegro propose legislation to erase legal obscurity around the legality of child marriage and raise the age for marriage to at least 18 years, establish a shelter for victims of forced marriage, and establish separate shelters for adult and child victims of human trafficking.⁷⁴

Persons with disabilities

44. HRA noted that community-based services that respond to the needs of persons with disabilities, and that include peer support and other alternatives to the medical model of mental health, had not been developed. HRA recommended that Montenegro fully harmonize its legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopt and apply the concept of reasonable accommodation with effective sanctions, repeal laws and protocols permitting any form of deprivation of liberty based on impairment, provide effective safeguards and remedies to persons with disabilities deprived of their liberty on the basis of impairment, adopt a comprehensive strategy for effective deinstitutionalization and allocate adequate resources to its implementation.⁷⁵

Indigenous peoples and minorities

45. CoE-ACFC recommended that Montenegro: take measures to improve the social and economic situation of Roma and Egyptians, particularly by increasing employment opportunities and ensuring access to health care, education and housing; take further steps to improve the attendance of Roma and Egyptian children in education, including through outreach emphasising the importance of education and tackling early forced marriage, and providing long-term support to the Roma mediators programme, reintroduce civic education in the compulsory curriculum, introduce compulsory teacher training to ensure intercultural dialogue and mutual respect in education policy, enhance the availability of state language teaching, and extend affirmative action for small national minority communities to ensure equal treatment regarding thresholds in electoral legislation.⁷⁶

46. CA noted the lack of quality and comprehensive programs in minority languages, or programs that promote the culture of all minorities.⁷⁷ CoE-ECRML recommended that Montenegro intensify contacts with Romani speakers in order to introduce their language into formal education, develop a strategy of training for teaching in/of Romani, make adequate teaching material available in Romani, and introduce Romani in local self-government units where Romani speakers have their highest concentration.⁷⁸

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

47. WRC recommended that Montenegro further strengthen efforts to protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons effectively, and investigate and prosecute cases of violence and discrimination against those persons.⁷⁹

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

48. CA noted cases of abuse of migrants by members of the border police, and insufficient accommodation capacity in reception centres for foreigners.⁸⁰ It recommended effective prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of crimes against migrants.⁸¹

Stateless persons

49. JS2 welcomed the establishment of a statelessness determination procedure in the 2018 Law on Foreigners, but noted shortcomings in the procedure and in the range of rights afforded to people recognised as stateless.⁸² JS2 recommended that Montenegro take steps to facilitate access to the procedure for all stateless persons in Montenegro, regardless of their residence status, ensure its implementation is harmonised across the territory, and amend the Law to allow for persons recognised as stateless to be automatically granted a residence permit and all rights protected under the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.⁸³

50. Despite a relatively robust legal framework to ensure universal immediate birth registration, JS2 asserted that bureaucratic barriers, combined with antigypsyism and marginalisation, had a disproportionate impact on Roma and Egyptian communities, as evidenced by lower overall birth registration rates among these populations.⁸⁴ JS2 recommended that Montenegro ensure that birth registration policies and practices take into account UNHCR guidelines, remove all practical barriers to birth registration so that all children are registered immediately regardless of their parents' documentation or residence status, ensure that children's nationality status is determined as soon as possible after birth, provide capacity building to frontline civil registry officials to address discriminatory attitudes, improve the recording of statelessness, and ensure that all stateless people on the territory have access to fundamental rights without discrimination.⁸⁵

51. CoE-GRETA recommended that Montenegro continue efforts to ensure access to civil registration procedures and issuance of personal documents to persons at risk of statelessness.⁸⁶

Notes

¹ See A/HRC/38/13, A/HRC/38/13/Add.1, and A/HRC/38/2.

² The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.

Civil society

Individual submissions:

ADF	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
BCN	The Stichting Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, Strasbourg (France);
EUROMIL	European Organisation of Military Associations and Trade Unions, Brussels (Belgium);
HRA	Human Rights Action, Podgorica (Montenegro);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
CA	NF Civic Alliance, Podgorica (Montenegro);
WRC	WRC Montenegro, Podgorica (Montenegro);

Civil Society

Joint submissions:

JS1	Joint submission 1 submitted by: Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis (United States of America); SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence;
JS2	Joint submission 2 submitted by: Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Eindhoven (Netherlands); Phiren Amenca, the European Network on Statelessness (ENS), and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI);

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

CoE	Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France); Attachments: (CoE-ACFC) Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection Of National Minorities, Strasbourg, Third Opinion on Montenegro adopted on 7 March, 2019 ACFC/OP/III(2019)001rev; (CoE-CP) Committee of the Parties, Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), Conclusions on the implementation of recommendations in respect of Montenegro adopted by the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention, adopted 8 June 2022, IC-CP/Inf(2022)3; (CoE-ECRI) European Commission against Racism and Intolerance Conclusions On The Implementation Of The Recommendations In Respect Of Montenegro Subject to Interim Follow-up, adopted on 7 April, 2020 CRI(2020)26; (CoE-ECRML) Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minorities Languages, Fifth Evaluation Report on Montenegro, Strasbourg, adopted on 1 July 2020 MIN-LANG (2020) 1; (CoE-ECSR) European Committee of Social Rights, Montenegro and the European Social Charter, Update: March 2022; (CoE-GRECO) Group of States Against Corruption, Fourth Evaluation Round Corruption Prevention In Respect Of Members Of Parliament, Judges And Prosecutors, Second Compliance Report, Montenegro, adopted 2-6 December 2019, Strasbourg, GrecoRC4(2019)27; (CoE-GRETA) Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Evaluation Report Montenegro, Third Evaluation Round, Strasbourg, published 2 June 2021, GRETA(2021)08; (CoE-GREVIO) Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, Baseline Evaluation, Report on legislative and other measures giving effect to the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), Montenegro, published 25 October 2018, GREVIO/Inf(2018)5; (CoE-LC-2) Lanzarote Committee, Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation
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and sexual abuse, 2nd implementation report, Protection of children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust: The strategies, adopted on 31 January 2018; (CoE-LC- ICT) Lanzarote Committee, Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, Implementation report, The Protection Of Children Against Sexual Exploitation And Sexual Abuse Facilitated By Information And Communication Technologies (ICTs), Addressing The Challenges Raised By Child Self-Generated Sexual Images And/Or Videos, 10 March 2022;

T-ES(2022)02 subject to editing;

OSCE-ODIHR Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights/Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw (Poland).

³ *The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:*

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

⁴ ICAN p. 1.

⁵ HRA para. 10.

⁶ HRA para. 11.

⁷ CoE-ECRI p. 5 para. 1.

⁸ CoE-ECRI p. 5 para. 2.

⁹ OSCE-ODIHR para. 17.

¹⁰ OSCE-ODIHR para. 18.

¹¹ OSCE-ODIHR paras. 19–20.

¹² HRA paras. 4–8.

¹³ CA paras. 3–5.

¹⁴ HRA para. 9.

¹⁵ CA para. 9.

¹⁶ CA para. 9 and HRA para. 9.

¹⁷ CoE-GRECO paras. 20–27.

¹⁸ CoE-GRECO paras. 28–33.

¹⁹ CoE-GRECO paras. 34–39.

²⁰ HRA para. 1.

²¹ HRA para. 2.

²² CA paras. 24–27.

²³ CA para. 29.

²⁴ HRA paras. 22–23.

²⁵ HRA para. 26.

²⁶ HRA paras. 13–15.

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- 27 HRA para. 16.
28 OSCE-ODIHR para. 9.
29 OSCE-ODIHR paras. 12–13.
30 OSCE-ODIHR paras. 14–15.
31 CoE-GRETA p. 4.
32 CoE-GRETA pp. 47–50.
33 CoE-GRETA pp. 50–52.
34 ECLJ para. 29.
35 WRC paras. 15–16.
36 WRC p. 6.
37 CoE-ECSR p. 3.
38 EUROMIL para. A.1.
39 CoE-ECSR pp. 4–5.
40 CoE-ECSR p. 4.
41 HRA para. 18.
42 WRC paras. 10–11.
43 WRC p. 5.
44 BCN para. 6.
45 BCN paras. 30–32.
46 CoE-ECSR p. 5.
47 CoE-GRECO paras. 6–19.
48 OSCE-ODIHR para. 6.
49 CoE-GREVIO pp. 8–9.
50 CoE-CP p. 2.
51 CoE-CP p. 3.
52 JS1 para. 1.
53 JS1 paras. 35–39, 43, 44 and 46.
54 WRC pp. 7–8.
55 ADF para. 8.
56 ECLJ paras. 6 and 12–13.
57 ADF para. 15.
58 ECLJ para. 28.
59 WRC paras. 1–6.
60 WRC p. 4.
61 WRC para. 7.
62 WRC p. 4.
63 CoE-ECSR p. 3.
64 WRC para. 9.
65 WRC p. 5.
66 CoE-ECSR p. 4.
67 BCN para. 12.
68 BCN para. 33–34.
69 CoE-LC- 2 p. 39.
70 CoE-LC-ICT pp. 67 and 69.
71 CoE-LC-ICT p. 80.
72 CoE-LC-ICT p. 91.
73 CoE-LC-ICT p. 166.
74 JS1 paras. 41, 42 and 47.
75 HRA para. 20.
76 CoE-ACFC pp. 2–3.
77 CA para. 10.
78 CoE-ECRML p. 29 paras. a)–d).
79 WRC p. 5.
80 CA paras. 17–18.
81 CA para. 23.
82 JS2 paras. 19–27.
83 JS2 paras. 44I and II.
84 JS2 paras. 28–39.
85 JS2 paras. III–VII.
86 CoE-GRETA p. 51.
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