

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

UPR Info Pre-sessions

General Human Rights Situation in ROK

- ROK has failed to implement repeated recommendations, such as on
 - Enactment of the Anti-discrimination Legislation
 - Abolition of the Death Penalty
 - Ratification of the Core International Human Rights Treaties and Ops
- During the COVID-19, the human rights situation got worse

General Human Rights Situation in ROK



- “The international human rights standards are not legally binding in the Republic of Korea”
- Minister of Justice, Han Dong-hoon in Press-conference on 26 October 2022

Recommendations



- Review previous recommendations
- Provide detailed plans for implementation
 - Especially on the repeated recommendations

Rights of People with Disabilities

- Insufficient allocation of budgets for implementation of law and policies
- Roadmap for Deinstitutionalisation BUT inconsistent with the international standards
- Budgets for deinstitutionalisation : 1/300 of the budgets for institutions

Recommendations

- Review the Roadmap for the Independent Living Support
- Have consultation with the people with disabilities and their representative organisations

Workers' Rights

- ILO Conventions 87 and 98 are ratified BUT
 - Trade Union and Labor Relation Adjustment Act conflicts over the Conventions
 - Narrow definition of 'employee' and 'employer' (Article 2 of the TULRAA)
 - Employers are allowed to sue the union workers to reclaim strike damages

Recommendations

- Amend the TULRAA to ensure that
 - All workers including subcontracted workers are guaranteed a legitimate legal basis for negotiating with the principle employers (Article 2)
 - Workers are NOT oppressed due to their union activities and are not subjected to excessive claims for damages

Freedom of Expression



- The government has
 - targeted a media outlet for broadcasting unfavourable news of the President
 - discontinued support the agency awarding cartoon critical of the President

Recommendations



- Guarantee the media freedom and the freedom of expression:
 - by stop targeting certain media for broadcasting unfavourable news about the current administration.

Thank you



From all the members of

- The South Korean NGOs Coalition for the 4th Cycle of the UPR : 461 NGOs