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

## **Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Liechtenstein\***

### **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.<sup>1</sup> It is a summary of 5 stakeholders' submissions<sup>2</sup> for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

#### **II. Information provided by stakeholders**

##### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>3</sup> and cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

2. Broken Chalk (BCN) commended Liechtenstein for having signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRDP) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, as it had been recommended by 40 Member States during the 3<sup>rd</sup> UPR cycle but encouraged Liechtenstein to ratify the CRDP as soon as possible.<sup>4</sup>

3. The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) recommended Liechtenstein to ratify Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).<sup>5</sup>

4. ECRI recommended Liechtenstein to ratify the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems.<sup>6</sup>

5. The Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings of the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (CoE-GRETA) encouraged Liechtenstein to sign and ratify the CoE Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs.<sup>7</sup>

6. The European Committee of Social Rights of the CoE (CoE-ECSR) reported that Liechtenstein has not yet signed nor ratified the Revised European Social Charter.<sup>8</sup>

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\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



7. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) noted that Liechtenstein had signed but not yet ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). It urged Liechtenstein to complete all steps for its ratification as a matter of international urgency.<sup>9</sup>

## **B. National human rights framework**

### **1. Constitutional and legislative framework**

8. The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR) deployed a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) in Liechtenstein in 2021, in advance of the parliamentary elections. The interlocutors of OSCE/ODIHR NAM stated that the legal electoral framework provided clear and sufficient guidance and covered all aspects of elections. However, some OSCE/ODIHR NAM stakeholders noted that in order to reflect changing political and technological realities more accurately, some media regulations should be updated.<sup>10</sup>

9. OSCE/ODIHR NAM reported that the political and campaign finance rules had been substantially reformed since the previous parliamentary elections. However, it reported that despite strengthened framework for party financing, campaign financing remains largely unregulated.<sup>11</sup>

10. Concerning cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), the CoE Committee of the Parties to CoE Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, also known as the Lanzarote Convention, (CoE-Lanzarote Committee) recommended Liechtenstein to take the necessary legislative or other measures to establish jurisdiction over transnational cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs, when one of the constituent elements of the offence has taken place in their territory.<sup>12</sup> It also recommended Liechtenstein to remove the requirement that prosecution of cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated by ICTs can only be initiated following a report from the victim or a denunciation from the State of the place where the offence was committed for offences of sexual abuse (Art. 18 of the Lanzarote Convention), offences concerning child prostitution (Art. 19), the production of “child pornography” (Art. 20 (1) (a)) and offences concerning the participation of a child in pornographic performances (Art. 21), when committed by one of their nationals or by a person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory.<sup>13</sup>

### **2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures**

11. ECRI strongly recommended that the Liechtenstein authorities provide the Association for Human Rights (VMR) with the competence to bring cases of individual and structural discrimination or intolerance in its own name before institutions, adjudicatory bodies and the courts.<sup>14</sup> Referring to funding of National Human Rights Institutions, CoE-ECRI recommended Liechtenstein authorities to assess, based on objective criteria, the amount of human and financial resources that the Association for Human Rights in Liechtenstein needs to implement all its functions and competences with real impact and adapt the funding, accordingly, involving the Association for Human Rights in this process.<sup>15</sup>

## **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*

12. CoE-ACFC recommended Liechtenstein to continue promoting effective equality, inter-cultural awareness, and respect for diversity in society.<sup>16</sup>

13. Concerning anti-discrimination framework, CoE-ECRI recommended the Liechtenstein authorities to enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation in line with

its General Policy Recommendation No.7.<sup>17</sup> The Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of CoE (CoE-ACFC) also recommended Liechtenstein to amend the current legislative framework relating to discrimination to provide comprehensive protection from all forms of discrimination and improve disaggregated data collection.<sup>18</sup>

14. After general consideration concerning the composition of society in Liechtenstein, BCN recommended Liechtenstein to create a clearer focus on those at the margins of society. One way to do this is by creating a representation of those who stand outside of privilege, meaning migrants, women and persons with disabilities.<sup>19</sup>

*Human rights and counter-terrorism*

15. The Committee of experts on the evaluation of anti-money laundering measures and the financing of terrorism (MONEYVAL) reported that some threats and important inherent risks have not been fully examined, which affects understanding of money laundering risk. These included an estimation of the extent of use of Liechtenstein's financial sector to launder the proceeds of tax offences committed abroad, and information on the types and location of non-bankable assets that are administered by trust and company service providers; extensive use was made of data collected by the Financial Market Authority to understand terrorist financing risk; and support the application of enhanced and simplified customer due diligence measures. It noted that the threat of funds being used for terrorism in Liechtenstein is low. Still, the risk that Liechtenstein may be misused for terrorist financing purposes is determined to be medium as funds may be moved through its financial system. As an international financial centre, services and products offered in Liechtenstein could potentially be used to finance terrorism abroad. It recommended Liechtenstein to conduct additional studies to examine and estimate the extent of ML threats associated with tax offences committed abroad. In line with the country's action plan continue to improve its understanding of money laundering (ML)/terrorist financing (TF) threats presented by transactional links to countries presenting a higher ML risk.<sup>20</sup>

16. MONEYVAL noted that Liechtenstein's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) constituted an important source of financial intelligence. Whilst the majority of money laundering investigations are triggered by requests for mutual legal assistance (MLA)/information received by foreign counterparts, the FIU's analyses are an inevitable part of any investigation/operational activity carried out by LEAs. Suspicious activity reports (SARs)/suspicious transactions reports (STRs) filed by persons subject to the Due Diligence Act (DDA) are generally commensurate with the landscape of prevalent proceeds-generating crimes in the country. However, they have rarely targeted some of the higher risk predicate offences. As regards terrorism funded related reporting, submission of only seven SARs/STRs might appear low.<sup>21</sup>

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

17. Regarding hate crimes issues, OSCE/ODIHR recognized Liechtenstein's efforts in reporting on hate crime to OSCE/ODIHR. However, it observed that the law enforcement agencies of Liechtenstein had not recorded the bias motivations of hate crimes. Therefore, it noted that Liechtenstein would have benefited from raising the awareness and building the capacity of criminal justice officials about hate crimes.<sup>22</sup>

18. Referring to hate speech, CoE-ECRI recommended the Liechtenstein authorities to reinforce their responses against hate speech, by organising, together with the Association for Human Rights and the civil society, an awareness-raising campaign about the prohibition of racist and homo/transphobic hate speech and discrimination, and about the legal framework existing in this field; by encouraging public figures to condemn hate speech; and by supporting self-regulation initiatives of the media regarding hate speech.<sup>23</sup>

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

19. Referring to criminal law, CoE-ECRI recommended the Liechtenstein authorities to bring their criminal law, in general, into line with its General Policy Recommendation No.7, in particular by criminalising the public denial, trivialisation, justification or condoning, with

a racist aim, of war crimes, and by prohibiting the creation and leadership of all racist groups that promote racism with the intention of contributing to racist offences.<sup>24</sup>

20. Concerning the Third Evaluation Round of Liechtenstein, The CoE Group of States Against Corruption (CoE-GRECO) drafted a Compliance Report on “Incriminations and Transparency of Party Funding”. The report assessed the measures taken by the authorities of Liechtenstein to implement the 20 recommendations that had been issued in the Third Round Evaluation Report on two distinct themes: Incriminations and Transparency of Party Funding. Regarding Transparency of Party Funding, it reported that Liechtenstein had satisfactorily implemented five out of eight recommendations in this regard. Therefore, CoE-GRECO reported that there are three recommendations that remained only partly implemented. The first one concerned funding, record of funding of political parties, introduction of a general ban on donations from persons or bodies that fail to reveal their identity to the political party or candidate concerned, and transparency on funding from parliamentary groups and private support to these groups and on financial flows connected. The second recommendation referred to the establishment of a mechanism for the independent supervision of the financing of political parties and election campaigns, with the necessary authority and resources to ensure proper supervision; and to the requirement of political parties and other election campaign participants as appropriate, to present periodically financial statements comprising adequate information for enabling proper supervision.<sup>25</sup> The third recommendation to Liechtenstein by CoE-GRECO was not completely implemented, it concerned the necessity of including the periodic publication of results and findings concerning individual party compliance in improved supervisory arrangements.<sup>26</sup>

21. Concerning the Fourth Evaluation Round of Liechtenstein, CoE-GRECO drafted an Evaluation Report in 2020, followed by a Compliance Report in 2022 on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Evaluation Report. The Fourth Evaluation Round concerned “Corruption prevention in respect of members of parliament, judges and prosecutors”. Regarding this, CoE-GRECO concluded that Liechtenstein had implemented in a satisfactory manner one, regarding judicial code of conduct, out of the sixteen recommendations received. Of the other recommendations, six have been partly implemented and nine have not been implemented.<sup>27</sup>

22. On the prevention of corruption of judges, CoE-GRECO reported that Liechtenstein had only partly implemented the recommendation on the necessity of an increased role of the judiciary in the selection process of judges; the necessity of publication by law of all vacancies for posts of judges and a more transparent procedure in this regard; the necessity of introduction of integrity requirement for the selection of judges, guided by precise and objective criteria, to be checked before appointment and to be made public. Moreover, CoE-GRECO considered that the recommendation on the issue of 1 professionalisation of all judges, the limitation of the number of part-time judges; and the introduction of rules on conflicts of interest was not completely implemented. CoE-GRECO reported that Liechtenstein had not fully implemented the recommendation referred to training on integrity matters based on the judicial code of conduct and on the availability of confidential advice to all judges.<sup>28</sup>

23. Regarding the prevention of corruption of prosecutors, CoE-GRECO reported that Liechtenstein had only partially implemented the recommendations about the improvement of the notion of “personal and professional suitability” with criteria for assessing a prosecutor’s integrity; about the introduction of a code of conduct for prosecutors and to be made public; about training for prosecutors, on a regular basis, on various topics relating to ethics and integrity. In addition, CoE-GRECO reported that Liechtenstein had not implemented the recommendation about the introduction of adequate safeguards to Article 50 of the Public Prosecutors Act against retaliation.<sup>29</sup>

24. Regarding the prevention of corruption of members of parliament, CoE-GRECO reported that Liechtenstein had not implemented any of the recommendations on that issue. Specifically, recommendations about the increase of the transparency of the legislative process referring to the preliminary examination of draft legislation by parliamentary commissions; about the introduction of a code of conduct, training and awareness-raising for members of parliament, with the appropriate supervision and enforcement, covering relevant

integrity matters, and being made public; the requirement of specific disclosure in case of conflict of interest of a member of parliament and a matter under consideration in parliamentary proceedings; the introduction of rules on advantages for members of parliament and being public and rules on contacts between members of parliament and third parties seeking to influence parliamentary proceedings.<sup>30</sup>

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

25. Concerning political participation, CoE-ECRI recommended the Liechtenstein authorities to open up new possibilities for the political participation of foreign residents, and to bring to fruition their plans to introduce dual citizenship and progressively ease the requirements for acceding to citizenship.<sup>31</sup>

26. Concerning the parliamentary elections of 2021, OSCE/ODIHR NAM decided not to deploy an election observation activity. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed no concerns regarding postal voting, including regarding secrecy, and opined that this type of voting would help overcome challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that the high threshold of 8% to enter parliament may leave some citizens without parliamentary representation, at odds with international good practice.<sup>32</sup>

*Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons*

27. The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) reported that Liechtenstein moved forward to end human trafficking, through the launch of the Initiative for a Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, in September 2018.<sup>33</sup>

28. CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to adopt an action plan or other policy document which addresses all aspects of such issue; including prevention and the provision of training to relevant professionals (such as law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges, labour inspectors, lawyers, asylum officers, social workers, child care professionals, medical and educational staff); involving more stakeholders, such as members of the judiciary, NGOs and other members of civil society in action against trafficking in human beings; paying increased attention to prevention and protection measures for groups at risk of trafficking in human beings, such as nightclub dancers, agricultural workers under trainee contracts, personal care workers for the elderly and asylum seekers.<sup>34</sup>

29. Concerning prohibition of all forms of slavery, CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to include slavery, and practices similar to slavery and servitude as types of exploitation in the legal definition of trafficking in human beings in Article 104a of the Criminal Code.<sup>35</sup>

30. CoE-GRETA considered that the Liechtenstein authorities should take further steps to ensure that trafficking in human being offences for all types of exploitation are proactively investigated and promptly prosecuted.<sup>36</sup>

31. Referring to fight against trafficking in human beings, CoE-GRETA reported that using knowingly services of a victim of trafficking in human beings is not punishable under Liechtenstein law. Noting the relevance of this provision in countries of destination, CoE-GRETA invited the Liechtenstein authorities to adopt legislative measures to criminalise the use of services with the knowledge that the person is a victim of trafficking in human beings, regardless of the form of exploitation, as stipulated by Article 19 of the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.<sup>37</sup>

32. While welcoming the adoption of the Guidelines against Trafficking in Human Beings, CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to take further steps to ensure that all victims of trafficking are identified as such and can benefit from the assistance and protection measures contained in the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. At the same time, CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to ensure that all protection measures are available in practice to victims of Trafficking in Human Beings, witnesses and their legal representatives, to prevent reprisals and intimidation during investigation, as well as during and after the court proceedings. Moreover, CoE-GRETA

urged Liechtenstein authorities to adopt measures to facilitate and guarantee access to compensation for victims of trafficking.<sup>38</sup>

33. In order to create an evidence base for future policy measures, CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to set up and maintain a comprehensive and coherent statistical system on trafficking in human beings by compiling reliable statistical data from all main actors, including specialised NGOs, on measures to protect and promote the rights of victims as well as on investigations, prosecutions, convictions and compensations in human trafficking cases, ensuring at the same time the respect of the right of data subjects to personal data protection in all circumstances. Furthermore, CoE-GRETA considered the need of research related to the phenomenon of Trafficking in Human Beings as an evidence base for future policy measures.<sup>39</sup>

34. Noting that awareness raising is essential for preventing Trafficking in Human Beings, GRETA considers that the Liechtenstein authorities should develop initiatives to raise awareness of Trafficking in Human Beings for different forms of exploitation, including child trafficking, amongst the general public, groups considered at risk and service providers, including the financial sector. Awareness-raising should be accompanied by research and the impact of the measures should be assessed.<sup>40</sup>

35. CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to take additional measures to prevent trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, in particular by using interpreters during labour inspections of places of work at which foreigners with insufficient command of German or other languages spoken by the labour inspectors work; paying particular attention to at-risk groups, such as persons employed to provide personal care for the elderly, and foreign agricultural workers employed on trainee contracts, based on which employers rather than the workers apply for residence permits for the latter, with the potential risk of abuse this procedure entails. They also encouraged reviewing the regulatory systems concerning domestic and personal care workers and ensuring that inspections can take place in private households with a view to preventing abuse and detecting cases of human trafficking; and working closely with the private sector, in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Moreover, it recommended discouraging demand for the services of trafficked persons, to be achieved in partnership with the private sector and civil society.<sup>41</sup>

36. CoE-GRETA considered that stating explicitly in law the irrelevance of the consent of a victim to the intended exploitation could improve the implementation of anti-trafficking provisions and provide victims with greater confidence in self-reporting to NGOs and public authorities. Therefore, CoE-GRETA recommended Liechtenstein to do so.<sup>42</sup>

37. CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to take steps to improve the identification of child victims of trafficking and their referral to dedicated assistance services, by developing a procedure for identifying children, based on co-operation between relevant institutions, which takes account of the situation and specific needs of child victims of trafficking, with input from child protection specialists and a focus on the best interests of the child as the prime consideration; by providing capacity-building to stakeholders (police, NGOs, child protection authorities, Migration and Passport Office, social workers) as well as guidance for the identification of child victims of Trafficking in Human Beings for different purposes, including the exploitation of begging and exploitation of criminal activities.<sup>43</sup>

38. CoE-GRETA considered that the Liechtenstein authorities should make full use of the legal possibilities to grant residence permits to victims of Trafficking in Human Beings and ensure that they are systematically informed of these possibilities. Moreover, CoE-GRETA considered that officials of the Migration and Passport Office should be given clear guidance in this respect.<sup>44</sup>

39. CoE-GRETA considered that the Liechtenstein authorities should ensure that the return of victims of trafficking is conducted with due regard for their rights, safety and dignity, in compliance with the non-refoulement obligation under Art. 40, par. 4 of the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. In the case of children, no return should be carried out before a thorough assessment of the child's best interest has been carried out and arrangements made for the necessary support measures upon arrival in the

receiving country. Moreover, CoE-GRETA said that Liechtenstein authorities should develop international cooperation to ensure proper risk assessment, including the risk of re-victimisation through re-trafficking, safe return, and effective reintegration of victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. Regarding victims of Trafficking in Human Beings among asylum seekers, CoE-GRETA requested Liechtenstein authorities to apply the 2006 UNHCR's Guidelines on the application of the Refugees Convention to trafficked people and their possible entitlement to asylum when deciding upon applications for asylum of persons who are at risk of being re-trafficked or otherwise persecuted should they be obliged to return to their State of origin or residence.<sup>45</sup>

40. CoE-GRETA urged the Liechtenstein authorities to ensure compliance with Art. 26 of the Convention through the adoption of a provision on the non-punishment of victims of trafficking for their involvement in unlawful activities, to the extent that they were compelled to do so, and/or by developing relevant guidance. CoE-GRETA stressed that public prosecutors should be encouraged to be proactive in establishing whether an accused person is a potential victim of trafficking. In this regard, CoE-GRETA highlighted that while the identification procedure is on-going, potential victims of trafficking should not be punished for immigration-related offences.<sup>46</sup>

#### *Right to social security*

41. Regarding social and welfare issues, CoE-ECRI recommended to successfully complete the amendment of the Foreigners Act and abrogate articles 49, 69.2.e and 27.3, thus eliminating the obstacles connected to social welfare support for obtaining a permanent residence permit.<sup>47</sup>

#### *Right to education*

42. BCN urged Liechtenstein to officially acknowledge the right to education in a legal framework, to make every citizen aware of the right to education and to not merely assume it as a given. It also urged Liechtenstein to participate in research concerning its performance and contribute data to the HMRI Rights Tracker. Without Liechtenstein's participation, it cannot be assessed how well Liechtenstein provides access to education. It also added that without Liechtenstein's participation in the studies, it cannot be accurately evaluated if their education has an as high standard as the country claims it to be, as Liechtenstein's missing appearance on multiple reports on assessing educational performance and quality of education.<sup>48</sup>

43. BCN recommended Liechtenstein to make education culturally, economically and physically accessible to all groups, not just those of white middle- or upper-class backgrounds, by increasing the representation of marginalised groups in university and high schools and giving the right attention to the needs of students with migratory background.<sup>49</sup>

44. CoE-ECRI recommended Liechtenstein to ensure that all children whose mother tongue is not German, acquire, during their preschool and primary school education, sufficient German language proficiency and skills to achieve school results comparable to those of other children; and to considerably increase the enrolment rate of children with other mother tongues than German in the middle- and upper-tier secondary schools. Those measure to be part of an action plan on integration with related implementation targets.<sup>50</sup>

## **2. Rights of specific persons or groups**

### *Children*

45. CoE-Lanzarote Committee assessed Liechtenstein commitment under the Lanzarote Convention which focused on "Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" and on "Protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse: Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos". It recommended Liechtenstein to put in place effective mechanisms for data collection with a specific focus on children affected by the refugee crisis who are victims or presumed victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and review the possible removal of obstacles to the collection of such data, especially in case of legal restrictions to do so,

with due respect for the requirements of personal data protection. In addition, it recommended Liechtenstein to use a coordinated approach between the different agencies and actors in charge, to facilitate the prevention and protection of children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Additionally, it recommended that information and advice concerning prevention of and protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse should be provided to children affected by the refugee crisis in a manner adapted to their age and maturity, in a language they understand, and which is sensitive to gender and culture. Moreover, it considered that Liechtenstein and other Parties to the Convention should exchange information on awareness raising activities which specifically focus on the risks faced by children affected by the refugee crisis with respect to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. CoE-Lanzarote Committee urged Liechtenstein, in line with Article 5 of the Convention, to effectively screen all persons who by their professions have regular contact with children affected by the refugee crisis for convictions of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children in line with its internal law.<sup>51</sup>

46. CoE-Lanzarote Committee considered that, while providing adequate protection to child victims, irrespective of where the exploitation/abuse occurred, Liechtenstein should do its utmost to be able to distinguish between sexual exploitation and sexual abuse occurring prior to the entry of the child victim on its territory and after the entry. Moreover, CoE-Lanzarote Committee considered that Liechtenstein should encourage and support the setting up of specific information services such as telephone or Internet helplines to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse affected by the refugee crisis as well as persons wishing to help them to provide advice in a language which is understandable to them.<sup>52</sup>

47. CoE-Lanzarote Committee considered that Liechtenstein and other Parties to the Convention should agree on common strategies/procedures to effectively deal with the phenomenon of cross-border missing children.<sup>53</sup>

48. Concerning the second monitoring round about “Protecting children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse: Addressing the challenges raised by child self-generated sexual images and/or videos”, CoE-Lanzarote Committee recommended Liechtenstein to ensure in its legal framework that a child will not be prosecuted in case of possessing his/her own self-generated sexually suggestive or explicit images and/or videos or of another child with the informed consent of the child depicted on them or in case of passively receiving those material. Moreover, not prosecuting the child in case of sharing such material with the consent and with the intention of being only for private use. CoE-Lanzarote Committee added that prosecution of the child in case of self-generated material identified as child pornography as of Art. 20 (2) of the Lanzarote Convention should be intended as a last resort.<sup>54</sup>

49. CoE-Lanzarote Committee recommended Liechtenstein to establish specialised law enforcement units, services, or persons in charge of dealing with ICT facilitated sexual offences against children and provide specific training and finance support for those units and ensure an effective investigation and prosecution of ICT facilitated sexual offences against children, allowing, where appropriate, for the possibility of covert operations.<sup>55</sup>

50. Referring to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs, CoE-Lanzarote Committee recommended Liechtenstein to take the necessary legislative or other measures to encourage and support the establishment of information services, such as telephone or internet helplines, to provide advice to child victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs as well as persons wishing to help them, in a confidential manner or with due regard for their anonymity. These information services to be made available as widely as possible, such as extended hours of service, understandable language for the child, and to be free of charge.<sup>56</sup>

51. CoE-Lanzarote Committee recommended Liechtenstein to implement international cooperation on the rights of the child concerning the sexual exploitation and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs and to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse in matters related to child self-generated sexual images and/or videos in the territory of a Party other than the one where they reside may make a complaint before the competent authorities of their State of residence.<sup>57</sup>

52. CoE-Lanzarote Committee required Liechtenstein to ensure that all children at primary and secondary level receive information about the risks of child sexual exploitation



and sexual abuse facilitated by ICTs and that lectures and/or activities on this topic should not be left to the discretion of schools or teachers. At the same time, CoE-Lanzarote Committee recommended Liechtenstein to ensure that the persons who have regular contacts with children (as in the education, health and social protection, sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities), have an adequate knowledge of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including when facilitated by ICTs, for example through education or continuous training.<sup>58</sup>

#### *Persons with disabilities*

53. BCN recommended Liechtenstein to focus on practical ways to help persons with disabilities to be able to attend school and university, both psychologically and physically. Therefore, being more inclusive regarding the right to education, which is a right that all should enjoy.<sup>59</sup>

#### *Minorities*

54. Referring to freedom of religion of minority groups, CoE-ECRI recommended the Liechtenstein authorities to strictly respect their duty of neutrality and impartiality in regulating matters of religion and to abolish discriminatory regulations and practices in this regard, ensuring that Muslim communities find adequate prayer rooms, and bringing the project of a Muslim burial site to a positive conclusion.<sup>60</sup>

55. CoE-ACFC commended Liechtenstein for its supports initiatives for national minorities in the framework of the European Economic Area (EEA), supporting other States regarding Roma inclusion and their national integration strategies. It recommended Liechtenstein to continue promoting the objectives of the Framework Convention for the protection of National Minorities (FCNM), including by pursuing their support to national minorities in Europe, in co-operation with the CoE; and to continue disseminating information about the FCNM and the protection it offers.<sup>61</sup>

#### *Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons*

56. Although CoE-ECRI recognised that the VMR undertook a situation analysis of LGBTQI+ persons living in Liechtenstein, ECRI noted that it was not sufficient to represent the complete context of LGBTQI+ persons in the country, thus reiterated its recommendation to the Liechtenstein authorities to commission a study about the problems that LGBTQI+ people face and what measures should be taken to remedy these problems.<sup>62</sup>

#### *Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers*

57. BCN recommended Liechtenstein increase its awareness of the needs of students with immigrant background. It is vital for Liechtenstein to be more inclusive in regard to the right to education, which is a right that all should enjoy.<sup>63</sup>

58. After the recommendations made by CoE-ECRI to Liechtenstein in 2018 about the issues of migrants and people with migratory background, ECRI welcomed the efforts made by the government in 2018 to commission a study on integration of migrants in Liechtenstein. The study made by the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights notably recommended to further advance the activities in the field of integration using the socio-economic potential of migrants and to establish a specialised coordination unit for integration to monitor the progress of the implementation efforts. Nevertheless, ECRI noted that a new national action plan on integration still needs to be developed and implemented, therefore recommended to fully implement these efforts.<sup>64</sup>

59. Regarding age assessments of young asylum seekers by the Migration and Passport Office of Liechtenstein, CoE-GRETA noted that the method used does not take into account psychological, cognitive or behavioural factors of the persons. Therefore, CoE-GRETA invited the Liechtenstein authorities to review the age assessment procedures, ensuring that the best interests of the child are effectively protected, and taking into account the Convention on the Rights of the Child and General Comment No. 6 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.<sup>65</sup>

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> See A/HRC/38/16 and the addendum A/HRC/38/16/Add.1, and A/HRC/38/2.

<sup>2</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:*

BCN	Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (The Netherlands);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, Strasbourg (France);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland).

*Regional intergovernmental organization(s):*

CoE	The Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France); Attachments: (CoE-ECRI) European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, (CoE-ACFC) Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection Of National Minorities, (CoE-GRETA) Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, (CoE-GREVIO) Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, (CoE-Lanzarote Committee) Committee of the Parties to the Lanzarote Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, (CoE-GRECO) Group of States Against Corruption, (CoE-Moneyval) (2022) 6, Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism, (CoE-ECHR) European Court of Human Rights, (CoE-ECSR) European Committee of Social Rights, The Netherlands and the European Social Charter.
OSCE-ODIHR	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights/Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw (Poland).

<sup>3</sup> *The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:*

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

<sup>4</sup> BCN, para. 11.

<sup>5</sup> CoE-ECRI, para. 3.

<sup>6</sup> CoE-ECRI, para. 33.

<sup>7</sup> CoE-GRETA, para. 89.

<sup>8</sup> CoE-ECSR, para. 1.

<sup>9</sup> ICAN, paras. 4–6.

<sup>10</sup> OSCE/ODIHR, para. 10.

<sup>11</sup> OSCE/ODIHR, para. 12.

<sup>12</sup> CoE-Lanzarote Committee, para. 4, RIV-1.

<sup>13</sup> CoE-Lanzarote Committee, para. 4, RIV-5.

<sup>14</sup> CoE-ECRI, CRI(2018)18, para. 19.

<sup>15</sup> CoE-ECRI, CRI(2018)18, para. 67.

<sup>16</sup> CoE-ACFC, para. 6.

<sup>17</sup> CoE-ECRI, para. 14.

<sup>18</sup> CoE-ACFC, para. 6.

<sup>19</sup> BCN, para. 32.

<sup>20</sup> MONEYVAL (2022) 6, p.5, para. 1(a).

<sup>21</sup> MONEYVAL (2022) 6, p.5, para. 1(b) and p. 17.

<sup>22</sup> OSCE/ODIHR, para. 15.

<sup>23</sup> CoE-ECRI, para. 33.

<sup>24</sup> CoE-ECRI, para. 7.

<sup>25</sup> CoE-GRECO, TER, paras. 1,5, 22–26 and 32–36.

<sup>26</sup> CoE-GRECO, TER, paras. 37–41.

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- 27 CoE-GRECO, FER, comp, paras. 1–23–56.  
28 CoE-GRECO, FER, comp, paras. 15–27–34.  
29 CoE-GRECO, FER, comp, paras. 40–44–48–52.  
30 CoE-GRECO, FER, comp, paras. 6–11.  
31 CoE-ECRI, para 51.  
32 OSCE/ODIHR, paras. 5–9.  
33 ECLJ, para. 15.  
34 CoE-GRETA, paras. 20–52–59–76.  
35 CoE-GRETA, para. 43.  
36 CoE-GRETA, para. 165.  
37 CoE-GRETA, para. 149.  
38 CoE-GRETA, paras. 101–110–135–171.  
39 CoE-GRETA, paras. 62–64.  
40 CoE-GRETA, paras. 68–80.  
41 CoE-GRETA, para. 76–85.  
42 CoE-GRETA, para. 44.  
43 CoE-GRETA, para. 116.  
44 CoE-GRETA, para. 129.  
45 CoE-GRETA, para. 140.  
46 CoE-GRETA, para. 156.  
47 CoE-ECRI, para. 63.  
48 BCN, para. 28–29 and 31.  
49 BCN, paras. 26–34.  
50 CoE-ECRI, para. 46.  
51 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, CoE doc, para. 5. CoE-Lanzarote Committee, poc, para. 5, R15–17–18 and paras. 2–4–8, R7–13–37.  
52 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, poc, paras. 3–6, R11–32.  
53 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, poc, para. 7, R35.  
54 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, imp, para. 2, RII-6–8–9.  
55 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, imp, para. 3, RIII-1–3–7–13 and 28.  
56 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, imp, para. 6, RVI-1.  
57 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, imp, para. 5, RV-3–17.  
58 CoE-Lanzarote Committee, imp, paras. 7–8, RIX-3, RX-1.  
59 BCN, para. 25.  
60 CoE-ECRI, para. 59.  
61 CoE-ACFC, paras. 4–5 and 10.  
62 CoE-ECRI, para. 77 doc1, paras 2.2–2.3–2.4 doc2.  
63 BCN, para. 34.  
64 CoE-ECRI, para. 40 doc1, paras. 1.2–1.3–1.4 doc2.  
65 CoE-GRETA, para. 115.
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