

**Universal Periodic Review of Portugal (Fourth Cycle)  
Pre-session of the 47<sup>th</sup> Working Group**

**General outline of the statement by the Provedor de Justiça  
(Ombudsman)**

August 30 2024

## **1. Introduction**

- Greetings and general remarks.
- Focus on four key areas: right to adequate housing, persons with disabilities, older persons, and migrants and asylum seekers.

## **2. Right to adequate housing**

- Emphasize the persistent housing crisis, despite past recommendations to improve conditions for marginalized groups.
- Highlight rising prices, insufficient public housing, and complex government programs that hinder access, especially for vulnerable populations.
- Recommend mechanisms to raise awareness about available housing support.

## **3. Persons with disabilities**

- Acknowledge efforts like the National Strategy for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities but stress the slow implementation and lack of resources.
- Point out issues with physical accessibility, delays in providing assistive products, and the inefficient process for disability certification.
- Recommend better resources, improved administrative processes, and timely issuance of disability certificates.

## **4. Older persons**

- Discuss challenges posed by Portugal's aging population, particularly inadequate palliative care and digital exclusion.

- Mention the need for improved pension processing, better access to digital services, and enhanced financial education for the elderly.
- Recommend making palliative care access a priority and improving digital literacy among older adults.

## **5. Migrants and asylum seekers**

- Address significant delays in processing residence permits, affecting migrants' lives and access to services.
- Highlight the need for better mechanisms to identify vulnerable asylum seekers and improve conditions in temporary detention centers at airports.
- Recommend ending the detention of children for immigration purposes and ensuring better care for unaccompanied minors.

## **6. Conclusion**