

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO CANADA

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Can you inform us on progress with regard to Canada's accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?

NETHERLANDS

- *Violence against women.* Given reports of violence against indigenous women and girls, how does the Government of Canada intend to address discrimination against this vulnerable group?
- *Capital punishment.* What steps is the Government of Canada taking to prevent its citizens from being subjected to capital punishment abroad?
- *International Human Right Law.* When will Canada ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
- *Civil society.* Considering the importance of the work of human rights defenders and the need for NGOs to be able to operate freely regarding human-rights-related activities, how will the Government of Canada ensure that existing regulations on charitable status do not obstruct NGOs in their activities in this area?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- What measures has Canada taken to engage civil society and promote the free exchange of opinions/suggestions between civil society and policymakers since its 2009 UPR?
- What has Canada done to eliminate the abuse (physical or otherwise) of women and girls, particularly in aboriginal communities. How will it ensure the root causes of abuse are tackled to prevent abuse from occurring in the first place?
- Will Canada become a party to the Optional Protocol of the Committee Against Torture (OP-CAT)? What are the issues that have delayed its ratification to date?

SLOVENIA

- What progress has been made towards including domestic violence as a criminal offence in the national criminal code, and what further steps will be taken to ensure effective prevention of and response to violence against indigenous women?

SWEDEN

- Could Canada inform us of the latest status in its contacts with CEDAW aiming at addressing the issue of violence against women?
- What measures is the Government of Canada taking to ensure that the rights of the child are protected in the Canadian legal system?
- What measures are taken to make sure that the UN Convention of Refugees is respected?

MEXICO

- What is the status of the process to withdraw Canada's reservation to article 37(c) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child? ("The Government of Canada accepts the general principles of article 37 (c) of the Convention, but reserves the right not to detain children separately from adults where this is not appropriate or feasible")
- How is proper legal representation guaranteed to asylum seekers that fall under the Designated Country of Origin category?
- Has the implementation of the Bill S-2 reduced the number of family violence incidents against indigenous women and their children?
- What are the obstacles that Canada has faced to ratify the American Convention on Human Rights? Have you considered ratifying with a reservation on article 4 such as other countries in the continent have done?

ESTONIA

- Committee of the Rights of the Child expressed its concern that in the Criminal Code of Canada under Section 43 the corporal punishment is allowed by law. The Committee urges Canada to repeal Section 43 of the Criminal Code to remove existing authorization of the use of "reasonable force" in disciplining children and explicitly prohibit all forms of violence against all age groups of children. Estonia would like to ask what measures Canada is taking to address this issue.