



**Mid-term report of Estonia on the implementation
of the Universal Periodic Review
recommendations**

March 2014

Introduction

The first review of Estonia in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in the Human Rights Council took place on 2 February 2011 in Geneva. Hereby Estonia presents its mid-term report, reflecting the accepted recommendations.

Estonia is a member of Human Rights Council 2013-2015. Estonia values the UPR process as an excellent tool to keep track on the constant work on improving the situation of human rights. Every country needs an honest glance to the mirror. The UPR creates a system whereby every country is a stakeholder in the development and safeguarding of human rights in the world. Giving recommendations is as important as implementing them and should be a result of a careful, comprehensive analysis, free of political bias; whereas accepted recommendations should be implemented in good faith.

Estonia is of the view that the UPR process contributes to a structured dialogue in the society. In Estonia, the non-governmental sector has played an important role in promoting human rights.

Estonia submits the mid-term report to describe the progress made and remaining challenges during the time elapsed since February 2011.

Recent developments

Signature or ratification or accession to the following international human rights instruments:

- CRPD and OP-CRPD, entered into force on 29 June 2012
- OP-CRC-AC, entered into force on 12 March 2014
- Amendments to the Rome Statute, entered into force on 27 March 2013

Laws, plans and mechanisms

- The position of the Ombudsman for Children was created on 19 March 2011 when the Chancellor of Justice took on the tasks to protect and promote children's rights.
- Estonian Government adopted in the end of 2011 the Strategy of Children and Families 2012-2020.
- In October 2013 the Estonian Government established Gender Equality Council, set forth in the Gender Equality Act and functioning as an advisory body to the Government.
- Substantial amendments to the Penal Code regarding criminalization of human trafficking entered into force on 28.04.2013.
- Amendment to the Penal Code, criminalizing purchase of sex from under-aged person, entered into force on 23 December 2013.
- New Child Protection Act is in drafting process.

The annex attached contains a detailed list of measures taken according to the recommendations made to and accepted by Estonia during its first cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION
The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by and enjoy the support of Estonia.	
77.1. Speed up efforts to ratify CRPD and its Optional Protocol (OP-CRPD) (Slovenia);	Estonia has ratified the CRPD and its OP which entered into force in Estonia on 29 of June 2012.
77.2. Ratify and implement CRPD (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);	See 77.1.
77.3. Ensure speedy ratification of CRPD, and take steps to ensure full conformity with the principles of the Convention without delay (Canada);	See 77.1.
77.4. Ratify CRPD as soon as possible (France);	See 77.1.
77.5. Ratify CRPD, in accordance with the commitment formulated in paragraph 128 of its national report (Chile);	See 77.1.
77.6. Complete the ratification of CRPD and OP-CRC-AC (Ecuador);	Estonia has ratified the OP-CRC-AC, the ratification instrument was deposited with the UN on the 12 th of February 2014 and the OP-CRC-AC entered into force for Estonia on 12 March 2014. See also 77.1.
77.7. Consider ratifying CRPD (Algeria);	See 77.1.
77.8. Consider ratifying OP-CRC-AC and CRPD (Brazil);	See 77.1 and 77.6.
77.9. Conclude as soon as possible the ratification of CRPD as well as OPCRC-AC (Spain);	See 77.1 and 77.6.

77.10. Ratify CED, OP-CRC-AC and CRPD (Argentina);	The preparations for accession to CED are underway. See also 77.1 and 77.6.
77.11. Sign and ratify CED (Ecuador);	See 77.10
77.12. Amend the Penal Code to ensure full compliance with International norms on prohibition of torture (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Draft amendment to the Penal Code is in the Parliament.
77.13. Review and revise the Code of Civil Procedure, as necessary, to ensure that persons with disabilities are not deprived of their right to vote on the basis of disability (Canada);	The right to vote in Estonia does not depend upon whether a person is disabled or not. A person must be of at least 18 years of age to vote. In order to vote, a person must be entered in the list of voters, which means that they must have the address of their residence entered in the population register. If a person is not able to go voting to the polling place for health reasons for example, he/she may apply for voting at home. Furthermore, it is also possible to vote electronically and with a mobile phone. See also 77.1.
77.14. Amend the Criminal Code, as announced in the national report, and introduce a separate provision on trafficking of human beings (Germany);	A separate provision on trafficking of human beings has been inserted to the Penal Code. <u>§ 133. Trafficking in human beings</u> (1) Placing a person in a situation where he or she is forced to work under unusual conditions, engage in prostitution, beg, commit a criminal offence or perform other disagreeable duties, or keeping a person in such situation, if such act is performed through deprivation of liberty, violence, deceit, threatening to cause damage, by taking advantage of dependence on another person, helpless or vulnerable situation of the person, is punishable by 1 to 7 years' imprisonment. (2) The same act, if: 1) committed against two or more persons; 2) committed against a person of less than 18 years of age; 3) committed against a person in a helpless situation; 4) committed in a torturous or cruel manner;

5) serious health damage is caused thereby;
6) danger to life is caused thereby;
7) committed by two or more persons;
8) committed by taking advantage of official position,
9) serious consequences are caused thereby;
is punishable by 3 to 15 years' imprisonment;
10) committed by a person who has previously committed a criminal offence provided for in this section or §§ 133¹, 133², 133³ or 175;
is punishable by 3 to 15 years' imprisonment.
[RT I, 13.12.2013, 5 - entry into force 23.12.2013]

(3) An act provided for in subsection (1) or (2) of this section, if committed by a legal person,
is punishable by a pecuniary punishment or compulsory dissolution.

(4) For the criminal offence provided for in this section, the court shall impose extended confiscation of assets or property acquired by the criminal offence pursuant to the provisions of § 83² of this Code.

(5) For the purposes of this section, vulnerable situation is a situation where a person lacks an actual or acceptable opportunity not to commit any of the acts specified in subsection (1) of this section.
[RT I, 04.04.2012, 1 - entry into force 14.04.2012]

§ 133¹. Support to human trafficking

(1) Transportation, delivery, escorting, acceptance, concealment or accommodation without prior authorisation of a person placed in a situation specified in subsection 133 (1) of this Code, or aiding without prior authorisation his or her forced acts in any other way,
is punishable by up to 5 years' imprisonment.

(2) The same act, if:

- 1) committed against two or more persons;
- 2) committed against a person of less than 18 years of age;
- 3) committed against a person in a helpless situation;
- 4) committed by taking advantage of official position,

is punishable by 2 to 10 years' imprisonment.

	<p>(3) An act provided for in subsection (1) or (2) of this section, if committed by a legal person, is punishable by a pecuniary punishment or compulsory dissolution.</p> <p>(4) For the criminal offence provided for in this section, the court shall impose extended confiscation of assets or property acquired by the criminal offence pursuant to the provisions of § 83² of this Code.</p> <p>[RT I, 04.04.2012, 1 - entry into force 14.04.2012]</p>
77.15. Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Thailand);	Estonia does not have currently an accredited national human rights institution. Estonia is looking for the best solution for the NHRI.
77.16. Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);	See 77.15.
77.17. Set up a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ecuador);	See 77.15.
77.18. Set up an independent national human rights institution that operates in accordance with the Paris Principles (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);	See 77.15.
77.19. Consider options for developing the human rights institutions according to the Paris Principles, as emphasized by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Bosnia and Herzegovina);	See 77.15.
77.20. Take the necessary steps to establish a national human rights institution in accordance	See 77.15.

with the Paris Principles on the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Czech Republic);	
77.21. Accelerate the development of activities of one of the existing institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights in order to better adapt it and convert it into an institution which is in conformity with the Paris Principles (Morocco);	See 77.15.
77.22. Explore the possibility of seeking accreditation from the International Coordinating Committee for the relevant institutions, including the Office of the Chancellor of Justice (Malaysia);	See 77.15.
77.23. Start consultations with its national human rights institutions to request accreditation from the International Coordinating Committee (Spain);	See 77.15.
77.24. Create the institution of ombudsman for children (Finland);	In Estonia, the position of the Ombudsman for Children was created on 19 March 2011 when the Chancellor of Justice took over the tasks to protect and promote children's rights. To fulfil the tasks of the Ombudsman for Children, there is the Children's Rights Department in the Office of the Chancellor of Justice.
77.25. Intensify efforts to guarantee the good functioning of the Commissioner on Gender Equality by providing sufficient resources (Spain);	Allocated funds have grown steadily over the years – EUR 51884 (2010), EUR 60136 (2011), EUR 60786 (2012), EUR 63351 (2013), EUR 76681 (2014). Additionally, in 2013-2015 the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner is implementing a pre-defined project in the framework of the gender equality and work-life balance programme of the Ministry of Social Affairs, co-financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014. The budget of this project is 700 000 EUR.

<p>77.26. Take effective measures towards ensuring equal and full enjoyment of human rights by all, in accordance with its international obligations (Sweden);</p>	<p>With regards to raising awareness on the Equal Treatment Act and principles of non-discrimination, Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project of Tallinn Technical University since 2010. The project tackles all grounds of discrimination named in the Equal Treatment Act.</p> <p>In 2014 Ministry of Social Affairs starts the amendment of Equal Treatment Act to abolish the hierarchy of protection depending on the ground of discrimination. Currently ETA divides the protected areas depending on the basis of discrimination. It covers discrimination based on religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation only in the area of employment (as required by EU Directive 2000/78/EC), while discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin and colour is additionally covered in the areas of services and social security (as required by the EU Directive 2000/43/EC).</p> <p>As to measures taken to guarantee equal treatment based on sex and to promote gender equality, see 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.</p>
<p>77.27. Continue efforts to protect and promote the rights of the child (Lithuania);</p>	<p>Estonian Government adopted in the end of 2011 the Strategy of Children and Families 2012-2020. The main objective of the Strategy is to improve the well-being and quality of living of children and families, thereby promoting the birth of children.</p> <p>New Child Protection Act is currently in drafting process. New act sets principles for all parties to ensure child wellbeing and provide necessary assistance to children in need. Main focus of the act has been put on prevention, early intervention, cross-sectorial cooperation and provision of effective child protection services.</p> <p>Also the Chancellor of Justice has acted as an Ombudsman for Children since 19 March 2011. Overview of the Chancellor of Justice's activities as the ombudsman for children may be found in annual reports of the Chancellor of Justice. Available at: http://lasteombudsman.ee/en/annual-reports.</p> <p>Norway and EEA Grants program: Children and Youth at Risk (2013-2016). Main approach of the program is in prevention and cross-sectorial cooperation. Program activities focus on</p>

	<p>creating a legal and organizational framework to establish the support system for children and youth at risk, supporting professionals in multiple agencies to provide adequate early intervention and preventive services, and provision of evidence-based interventions to support positive parenting and prevent juvenile delinquency.</p>
<p>77.28. Strengthen its efforts to raise awareness among its citizens on the provisions contained in the Equal Treatment Act, and to ensure its full implementation as well as that of the Gender Equality Act (Thailand);</p>	<p><u>On matters of gender equality:</u> A project „Mainstreaming gender perspective into state budget” was carried out from October 2010 to April 2012 within the framework of the EU PROGRESS Programme (2007-2013) in co-operation of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner to train employees of ministries and government agencies in gender budgeting and to compile a gender budgeting manual for the public sector. The aim of the project was to provide government officials involved in the process of preparation and execution of the state budget with knowledge and skills on how to integrate the aspect of gender equality and to provide them with a broader knowledge on European and national policy on gender equality.</p> <p>With the co-financing of European Social Fund, Ministry of Social Affairs launched in 2013 an awareness-raising campaign called “Stereotype” in order to draw attention to and encourage youngsters to be aware of and give up gender stereotypes in everyday life situations. The campaign consisted of several activities, among them career days for boys and girls, which were aimed at youngsters aged 15-19 with a view to help them make gender stereotype free educational and career choices. During the events boys were introduced to typically “female professions”, e.g. nurse and girls to typically “male professions”, e.g. ground engineer. In television and internet 7 video clips with women and men in different gender-discriminative situations were shown (available in http://www.stereotypyyp.ee/en/). The campaign got a very positive feedback and the humorous video clips that challenge viewer to create a change have been acknowledged internationally as good practices.</p> <p>Measures are being implemented also in the framework of a pre-defined project of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner under programme for promoting gender equality and reconciliation of work and family life co-financed from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014. The project is being carried out in 2013-2015 and is</p>

	<p>targeted at increasing the effectiveness of legal protection against discrimination by raising rights awareness and helping victims of discrimination directly through strategic litigation as well as increasing the capacity of officials assisting discrimination victims. The project also supports implementation of gender mainstreaming obligations under the Gender Equality Act.</p> <p>See also 77.26 (on matters of equal treatment), 77.29 and 77.31.</p>
<p>77.29. Intensify the measures for gender equality and equal treatment, particularly regarding the rights of women and the integration of national minorities, in accordance with the commitment formulated in paragraph 160 of its national report and the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Chile);</p>	<p>In August 2012 the Estonian legislation was changed so that spouses, engaged in the activities of the business of the self-employed worker, have a voluntary possibility for the same social protection as the self-employed workers. In order for this social protection to be provided, the self-employed worker has to register his or her spouse as a spouse engaged in the activities of the business of the self-employed worker in the register of taxable persons and pay social tax for the registered spouse. The social protection thereby provided includes e.g. state pension insurance and health insurance, which in turn includes benefit for temporary incapacity for work (sickness benefit, maternity benefit, adoption benefit and care benefit).</p> <p>According to changes made to the Insurance Activities Act that came into force in May 2013, while the differences between the insurance premiums and insurance indemnities of women and men cannot be caused by the use of sex of a person as a factor in the assessment of the insured risks, an insurance undertaking is permitted in the assessment of insured risks in sickness insurance to take into account the risks, which are characteristic only to men or only to women, and to differentiate, if necessary, to the extent of the specified risks the insurance premiums and insurance indemnities of women and men. Neither pregnancy nor maternity can affect the size of the insurance premiums and insurance indemnities.</p> <p>In October 2013 the Estonian Government established Gender Equality Council, set forth in the Gender Equality Act and functioning as an advisory body to the Government. Its main responsibilities are advising the Government in matters related to strategies for the promotion of gender equality, approving general objectives of gender equality policy and presenting opinions to the Government concerning the compliance of national programmes</p>

	<p>with the obligation of gender mainstreaming. The Council met in November to discuss topics to concentrate on in the coming years, among which e.g. gender pay gap, gender balance in decision making, gender stereotypes in media, educational and court system and violence against women were mentioned.</p> <p>Development plan “Integrating Estonia 2020” addresses issues of cultural diversity of different nationalities in Estonia; the need to preserve this diversity. It is based on principles laid out in the Constitution. The measures in development plan will facilitate the integration of national minorities and the society to be more inclusive. The measures work to make all residents of Estonia to feel safely in Estonian society; to learn and to use Estonian language. The measures further facilitate national minorities to upkeep their native languages and cultures and grow knowledge of other national minorities. The development plan further aims to create platforms to help concentrate vital and useful information in different languages. This measure is also addressed to recent arrivals in Estonia – students, spouses, employees.</p> <p>See also 77.26 (on matters of equal treatment), 77.28 and 77.31.</p>
<p>77.30. Develop policies to increase gender equality to address the inequalities that persist despite legal guarantees (Australia);</p>	<p>See 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.</p>
<p>77.31. Develop policies and programmes to provide women with equal opportunities in the labour market, education and political and public representation, and take all necessary measures to guarantee the effective implementation of gender equality legislation, including by providing the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment with adequate resources (Netherlands) ;</p>	<p>The Ministry of Social Affairs continues working on the further implementation of Gender Equality Act also by developing the regulation for employers that will set the procedure of collection and a list of data that has to be collected in such a form as to enable presenting and analysing this data by sex. Collecting the data provides the employer with knowledge of gender dynamics in the company and gives a necessary overview of the situation in case there is a doubt of discrimination.</p> <p>In December 2011 the Government of the Republic adopted new „Rules for Good Legislative Drafting and Technical Rules for Drafts of Legislative Acts“ which foresees an obligation of impact analysis of draft legislation. According to these rules also a social</p>

impact has to be analysed which should include an analysis of an impact of the planned regulation on gender relations. An accompanying methodology of impact assessment was adopted in December 2012 and is applied also in case of preparing strategic documents.

In September 2011, Estonian Parliament adopted a decision with a proposal to the Government to prepare an action plan to reduce gender pay gap in Estonia. The action plan was prepared by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the plan and the topic of gender pay gap was discussed at the cabinet meeting of the Government in July 2012. The action plan was approved and in autumn 2012 introduced to the Parliament. The approved action plan is based on the assumption pointed out also in the gender pay gap study of 2010 that there is not one specific reason behind the gender pay gap in Estonia but its causes are diverse. The activities are mostly implemented with the financial support from the Estonian European Social Fund programme “Promoting Gender Equality 2011-2013” and the gender equality and work-life balance programme financed from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, executed in 2013-2015.

The Ministry of Social Affairs is currently implementing the Estonian European Social Fund programme “Promoting Gender Equality 2011-2013”.

Several studies and analysis (on topics such as gender-based and sexual harassment at workplace, flexibility in measures aimed at supporting reconciling work and family life and the work-life balance possibilities of national minorities, but also the fourth Gender Equality Monitor) have been recently carried out. In the framework of this programme also awareness raising events were organised on the topic of gender pay gap, a media campaign to tackle gender stereotypes was carried out and trainings have been held for legal professionals, employers, representatives of employees. Additionally, in spring 2014, around the Estonian Equal Pay Day in April, regional events are planned to take place that address the problem of gender pay gap.

The Ministry of Social Affairs is co-ordinating implementation of a gender equality and work-life balance programme financed from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, being carried out in 2013-2015. Under the programme three types of projects are being implemented – 2 pre-defined projects, 4 large-scale open call projects and small-grant

	<p>scheme projects. The pre-defined projects are carried out by the Statistics Estonia and by the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner, first of them aiming to develop a new concept for gathering and analysing gender pay gap statistics and the second to improve protection of victims of discrimination and implementation of gender mainstreaming strategy. Two of the projects chosen to be financed in the framework of open calls aim to integrate gender equality issues into higher education curricula, two to improve possibilities for reconciling work and family life. Small-grant scheme project competition will be carried out in Spring 2014.</p> <p>See also 77.28, 77.29 and 77.82.</p>
77.32. Continue its close cooperation and support for the activities of United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), among others (Malaysia);	Estonia continues its activities through core support and program support in various humanitarian crises areas via UN agencies (UNICEF, OCHA, UNDAC, WHO, UNDP) and also IFRC and ICRC. Also Estonia has sent 3 of its rescue experts through UNDAC on missions.
77.33. Reinforce the measures to fight against the sexist stereotypes affecting women in particular, and stress the promotion of equal opportunity, namely through the full implementation of the laws on gender equality and equal treatment (Morocco);	See 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.
77.34. Continue efforts to advance gender equality in all spheres, by both implementing existing legislation and developing new legal norms (Lithuania);	See 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.
77.35. Take further measures to reduce the problem	See 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.

of gender inequality and strengthen the position of women within society (Bosnia and Herzegovina);	
77.36. Take all necessary measures to eliminate, combat and punish all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Ecuador);	As to recent measures taken to combat discrimination based on sex and to promote gender equality, see 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31. Moreover all forms of violent crimes are covered in the Penal Code, in the chapter of offences against the person. See more: https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/527022014002/consolide/current
77.37. Fully implement the laws on gender equality and equal treatment, in accordance with the commitment formulated in paragraph 153 of its national report (Chile);	With regard to raising awareness on the Equal Treatment Act and principles of non-discrimination, Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project of Tallinn Technical University since 2010. The project tackles all grounds of discrimination named in the Equal Treatment Act. In 2014 Ministry of Social Affairs starts the amendment of Equal Treatment Act to abolish the hierarchy of protection depending on the ground of discrimination. Currently ETA divides the protected areas depending on the basis of discrimination. It covers discrimination based on religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation only in the area of employment (as required by EU Directive 2000/78/EC), while discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin and colour is additionally covered in the areas of services and social security (as required by the EU Directive 2000/43/EC). As to the implementation of the Gender Equality Act, see 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.
77.38. Promote equal employment opportunities for women and all of its national minorities (Thailand);	Although Estonia is not a very popular destination country as regards employment mobility, Estonia is introducing adaptation trainings, support networks and integration programmes for new migrants in order to promote their equal employment opportunities. See also 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.
77.39. Continue its efforts to combat violations of women’s rights, including through raising public awareness (Azerbaijan);	See 77.28, 77.29 and 77.31.
77.40. Reinforce the fight against all forms of	Draft amendments to the Penal Code have been circulated for approval and will be presented

racism and discrimination (Algeria);	to the Parliament in 2014.
77.41. Continue its efforts to establish programmes and promulgate domestic laws aimed at combating all contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, linguistic discrimination and related forms of intolerance (Argentina);	See 77.26 regarding project “Diversity Enriches” and 77.40. See also 77.82, 77.83, 77.86 and 77.87
77.42. Consider taking necessary measures to prevent and combat discrimination towards minorities, and positively consider the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the prevention of segregation of Roma children in the field of education (Brazil);	There are 32 Roma children in Estonian Education system getting extra attention from local government and extra supportive measures are targeted for them at national level. See also 77.49, 77.82, 77.83, 77.86 and 77.87.
77.43. Take specific measures to eliminate discrimination based on ethnicity in the labour market and education sector (Russian Federation);	Estonia continues providing free Estonian language courses for third-country nationals and people with undefined citizenship, who are unemployed or with fewer opportunities (pensioners, persons with lower-income, young parents etc). During the Language Learning Development Programme 2011-2013 additional language studies for students of vocational education institutions and adult students of upper secondary schools continued. Refresher training for teachers of vocational educational institutions, development of counseling in the multicultural learning system for vocational education institutions, language studies for employees of public and third sector organizations also continued. Supported was language learning with a mentor and language clubs. Consistent career counseling at vocational education institutions and at information and counseling centers was provided. Career trainings were organised for employed adults in Tallinn, Narva, Sillamäe, Kohtla-Järve and Jõhvi. The purpose of these courses was to increase awareness of employees with lower level of education and insufficient knowledge of Estonian language about life long learning opportunities and labour market conditions.

	<p>Since February 2014 two counselling centres for third-country nationals were opened - in Tallinn and in Narva. The advisory centre of Tallinn is located in the National Library of Estonia. The Advisory Centre of Narva is located in the Information Service of the City Government of Narva. The Centre provides information about everything integration-related what might be of interest to the main target group, starting from rights, freedoms and limitations to labour market, education, public health service, free Estonian language studies etc.</p> <p>The language immersion programme is constantly gaining popularity. As of the beginning of the year 2014, 51 kindergartens and 35 schools, with the total of around 6000 pupils, participate in the programme.</p> <p>The support person service for new immigrants was established at the end of 2012. Within the frames of the service the target group is offered both web-based (http://el-counselling.blogspot.com/) and on-the-spot counselling. The support service is offered based on particular adaptation needs of each new immigrant.</p> <p>See also 77.84 and 77.87.</p>
<p>77.44. Introduce a prohibition in legislation on the functioning of racist organisations, bring the Criminal Code in line with article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), so as to criminalize incitement to hatred on racial grounds (Russian Federation);</p>	<p>Incitement to hatred on racial grounds has been criminalised earlier. Draft amendment to the Penal Code concerning criminal organisations is in the Parliament.</p>
<p>77.45. Take all necessary measures to combat discrimination against homosexuals (Belgium);</p>	<p>The issue still requires full attention of all stakeholders. Also the Chancellor of Justice has been active to point out the shortcomings in the matter. Meanwhile, with aim to raise awareness of the Equal Treatment Act the Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project of Tallinn</p>

	Technical University since 2010. Since 2010 LGBT issues have been one of the priorities of the project.
77.46. Develop public awareness and education programs that advance tolerance on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Netherlands);	With aim to raise awareness of the Equal Treatment Act the Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project of Tallinn Technical University since 2010. Since 2010 LGBT issues have been one of the priorities of the project.
77.47. Conduct awareness-raising programmes on gender identity and sexual orientation for civil servants, including the security forces and bodies (Spain);	Awareness-raising programs are embedded to education programmes of law enforcement officials. See also 77.46.
77.48. Review all necessary measures to reduce discrimination and particularly, stress the design of appropriate policies to prevent discrimination against children (Ecuador);	Both the present and the new Child Protection Act declare that the principles and actions of the act shall be taken for <i>all</i> children which mean all persons under 18.
77.49. Bring an end to segregation of Roma children in the field of education (Denmark);	There is need among the Roma for an identity that would embrace the two cultures (the Estonian and the Roma identity). Several projects which offer information about Roma community in Estonia have been supported by Estonian Government. Estonian Government has taken steps to improve knowledge about the Roma culture, the differences of their way of life and supports positive personal encounters with Roma to overcome the negative stereotypes. See also 77.42 and 77.86
77.50. Consider amending the Penal Code in order to formulate a definition of torture in conformity with article 1 of the Convention against Torture (CAT) (Czech Republic);	Draft amendment to the Penal Code is in the Parliament.

<p>77.51. Adopt the definition of torture used in article 1 of CAT (Hungary);</p>	<p>Draft amendment to the Penal Code is in the Parliament.</p>
<p>77.52. Take effective measures to safeguard the rights of prisoners and improve the living conditions for detainees (Sweden);</p>	<p>The rights and living conditions of detained persons in police facilities are gradually improved by building new detention facilities and amending current facilities.</p> <p>Safeguarding the rights of prisoners is very important throughout the sentence. Firstly, in reception phase prisoner is in the reception unit. He or she is briefed by the prison warden or other prison official about the rights and duties. The individual action plan is compiled by the prison psychologist, social worker, education administrator, and the person responsible for organizing detainee labour, the doctor and a department manager. As a rule, the individual action plan is reviewed once a year (once every six months with young detainees) and changed, if necessary. The individual action plan is the basis for deciding the prison or prison department to which the detainee will be assigned. The reception phase will end with the confirmation of the action plan. The chief purpose of the main phase, i.e. the everyday life in the prison, is to implement the detainee's individual action plan. An important part is the detainee's external communication - short and long-term meetings, written correspondence, phone calls, but also short-term leaves – that help avoid severing ties with the society. The prison director may grant a short-term leave of up to 21 days a year, if this is in accordance with the goals of the imprisonment. The most important question of the main phase and also the focal point of the implementation of re-socialization means is the employment of the detainee. As a result, the detainee is offered the chance to study and to work.</p> <p>The detainee may be transferred from the closed prison to the open prison on the basis of the decision by the open prison director or the direct of a prison with an open prison department and the vice prison chancellor of the Ministry of Justice. The open prison receives persons who have committed less severe crimes and the detainees whose containment in the close prison would be unsuitable, who have shown trustworthiness and legal obedience during</p>

	<p>their time in the closed prison and with whom there is sufficient reason to assume that the person will not commit new acts of crime.</p> <p>In order for the detainee to merge into the society with as little difficulty as possible, several preparations are carried out prior to the release. The most common are to offer social aid to the detainee and the transfer of the detainee to the open prison. The social worker will help the detainee to create contacts with the family and the social welfare agency. Actually, the whole work with the detainee during the imprisonment must serve the purpose of preparing the detainee for the release. Upon release, the detainee will receive the release support that has accumulated from the wages for his/her work.</p>
77.53. Improve conditions in prisons and detention centres (United States of America);	See 77.52, 77.54, 77.55 and 77.57.
77.54. Improve overall conditions of detention and ensure that all detainees are afforded, in practice, access to a lawyer and an independent medical examination, and are informed about their rights at the moment they are deprived of their liberty (Czech Republic);	<p>The Chancellor of Justice has monitored conditions of detention in his inspection visits to different closed institutions (prisons, police stations etc). Based on the results of inspection visits, the Chancellor of Justice has made several proposals and recommendations to the respective national authorities (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB), prisons, etc.). The Chancellor of Justice recommendations in question are mostly been related to the material conditions (f. ex. inspection visits of 2012 to Kuressaare detention chamber of the public order bureau of the West Prefecture of the PBGB and to Pärnu detention chamber of the public order bureau of the West Prefecture of the PBGB. See also Annual Report of the Chancellor of Justice on OPCAT matters, p 6, http://oiguskantsler.ee/sites/default/files/annual_report_2012.pdf) and medical services (f. ex. inspection visit of 2011 to Jõhvi detention chamber of the police detention centre under the public order bureau of the East Prefecture of the PBGB. See also Annual Report of the Chancellor of Justice on OPCAT matters, p 7, http://oiguskantsler.ee/sites/default/files/annual_report_2011_.pdf) in closed institutions.</p> <p>Overall conditions of detention in prison and police facilities are gradually improved because of the modern prison and police buildings opened in recent years and also due to the</p>

	<p>reduced number of detainees in Estonia. However, much is still to be improved in the field of medical care in police custody.</p> <p>In addition, the Chancellor of Justice has also found regarding to the police detention inadequate documentation about whether the detained person had been informed about his or her right and obligations. For example, the Chancellor proposed to the South Prefecture of PBGB to draw the attention of officers in Valga and Võru detention chambers to the fact that documents relating to detainees (in particular as regards informing detainees of their rights, notification of the detention, and recording of the person's health condition) should be filled out properly (see also the Annual Report of the Chancellor of Justice on OPCAT matters, p 8, http://oiguskantsler.ee/sites/default/files/annual_report_2011_.pdf). The situation concerning fulfilling documentation confirming that persons have been informed of their rights and obligations has improved in police arrest houses.</p>
<p>77.55. Improve prisoners' access to essential services, including health care and rehabilitation (Australia);</p>	<p>Medical services for prisoners are funded by state budget and arranged by the Ministry of Justice. Most of medical services are rendered at prison medical units by qualified staff. Prison medical units are accordingly licensed. The requirements for medical apparatus, equipment and medical staff at prison medical units are standard shared by all medical facilities in Estonia. All medical services, including rehabilitation, are guaranteed for prisoners. We note that even dental care for prisoners is guaranteed and paid by the state. In cases when prisoner requires treatment not available at prison medical unit he or she would be transferred to another medical facility to get the necessary treatment, costs covered by the Ministry of Justice.</p>
<p>77.56. Ensure that prisoners with disabilities have access to health care and rehabilitation on the basis of informed consent (Slovenia);</p>	<p>See 77.55.</p>
<p>77.57. Strengthen measures to contain the spread of infectious diseases in prisons and consider re-establishing substitution programs for intravenous drug users, as recommended by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (Austria);</p>	<p>According to § 17 of Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Act the measures fall in the scope of action of either Ministry of Justice (prisons) or Ministry of the Interior (police detention units). Prison medical units offer <i>Methadone</i> substitution treatment for prisoners according to Opiate Addiction Therapy Guide in the framework of National Health Plan 2009-2020. It can be found here (in Estonian):</p>

	http://www.kliinikum.ee/psyhhiaatrikliinik/images/stories/ravijuhised/Opiaat-fin-ver.pdf .
77.58. Adopt the necessary legislation, and prohibit any kind of violence against children, including corporal punishment (Finland);	New Child Protection Act will be submitted to the Government of Estonia in Spring 2014. The Draft of the new Child Protection Act prohibits <u>any</u> kind of violence against children, including corporal punishment. Violence against children, including corporal punishment is criminalised and punishable according to Penal Code The Chancellor of Justice made a public address to the Minister of Social Affairs on prohibition of corporal punishment of the child. Available at: http://lasteombudsman.ee/en/chancellor-of-justices-public-address-to-the-minister-of-social-affairs-on-prohibition-of-corporal .
77.59. Intensify its efforts in terms of prevention, sanction and eradication of all forms of violence against women (Argentina);	New strategy is in the process of formulation and it covers all the fields (prevention, protection of victims, prosecution, and rehabilitation). Strategy in force is found in here: http://www.just.ee/49973 .
77.60. Adopt specific legislation to combat domestic violence, provide protection for its victims, and swiftly prosecute perpetrators of such violence (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Draft amendment to the Penal Code is in the Parliament.
77.61. Consider elaborating a comprehensive national plan to prevent and combat violence against women, and consider the necessary legislative updates (Brazil);	Development Plan for the Reduction of Violence 2010-2014 covers also action to reduce the violence against women is being implemented. Please find it at http://www.just.ee/49973 . New development plan for post-2014 years is in the process of formulation and it will cover all the fields (prevention, protection of victims, prosecution, and rehabilitation). Draft amendment to the Penal Code is in the Parliament.
77.62. Accelerate efforts aimed at fully implementing the Development Plan for the Reduction of Violence 2010-2014, with a view to, among others, addressing violence against women (Malaysia);	See 77.61.

77.63. Build on current efforts to address domestic and sexual violence by promoting training and public-awareness programmes, supporting the establishment of shelters for victims, and ensuring full implementation of judicial mechanisms that allow adequate investigations and punishment of perpetrators (Canada);	See 77.61.
77.64. Take additional measures to prevent, combat and appropriately sanction trafficking in human beings (Republic of Moldova);	See 77.14.
77.65. Reinforce protection against trafficking in persons by adopting specific legislative measures to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking (Canada);	See 77.14.
77.66. Adopt effective legal measures to combat human trafficking, and swiftly prosecute perpetrators of such crimes (Islamic Republic of Iran);	See 77.14.
77.67. Enact specific legislation regarding trafficking in persons (United States of America);	See 77.14.
77.68. Criminalize human trafficking (Hungary);	See 77.14.
77.69. Adopt effective measures to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking (Hungary);	See 77.14.

77.70. Reinforce legislation and adopt effective measures to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking (Poland);	See 77.14.
77.71. Cooperate further with the task force against trafficking in human beings of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (Norway);	Cooperation in this field is regarded as very important. Moreover, Estonia will be chairing the Council of the Baltic Sea States for a year from July 1, 2014.
77.72. Further increase its efforts to combat human trafficking (Azerbaijan);	See 77.14.
77.73. Ensure that persons with intellectual and psycho-social disabilities are informed about criminal proceedings and charges against them, and enjoy the right to a fair hearing, and to adequate and effective legal assistance (Slovenia);	Participation of counsel throughout criminal proceedings is mandatory if due to his or her mental or physical disability, the person is unable to defend himself or herself or if defence is complicated due to such disability (§ 45 of Code of Criminal Proceedings).
77.74. Investigate promptly, thoroughly and impartially all acts of brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement personnel (Czech Republic);	It is a rule that investigation is started if there is a suspicion of brutality or excessive use of force by law enforcement personnel. Victim of such brutality can make a complaint to the police (www.politsei.ee), Prosecutor's Office (www.prokuratuur.ee). In order to prevent possible abuse and brutality, these issues are systematically addressed by Chancellor of Justice (www.oiguskantsler.ee), also by means of visits of chancellor to police stations and detention facilities.
77.75. Conduct appropriate and impartial investigations of excessive use of force by security forces, prosecute and punish officers responsible, and provide proper compensation to victims and their families (Ecuador);	When there is a suspicion of the criminal offence, then the investigation is started. Victims receive help through victim support services and the system is regulated in Victim Support Act.
77.76. Investigate acts of brutality by law	When there is a suspicion of the criminal offence, then the investigation is started.

enforcement personnel (Islamic Republic of Iran);	
77.77. Ensure that the right of conscientious objection to military service is upheld, and clarify the grounds for acceptance or rejection of such claims (Slovakia);	The right of conscientious objection to military service is regulated by the Estonian constitution and the Military Service Act. A person who refuses to serve in the Defence Forces for religious or moral reasons has a duty to perform alternative service pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Military Service Act. Duration of the alternative service may be from 8 to 12 months and its nature is civilian. According to the Military Services Act the alternative service cannot be activities that require carrying a gun.
77.78. Take additional measures to more actively promote the full and equal participation of women in bodies where members are elected or nominated (Republic of Moldova);	<p>The Ministry of Social Affairs is currently implementing the Estonian European Social Fund programme “Promoting Gender Equality 2011-2013”.</p> <p>In the framework of this programme also awareness raising campaign to tackle gender stereotypes was carried out. Among the activities of the campaign video clips were developed to point out gender stereotypes in everyday occasions and their negative impact on lives of women and men. Among the clips two also targeted gender stereotypes concerning women in leadership positions.</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Affairs is co-ordinating implementation of a gender equality and work-life balance programme financed from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, being carried out in 2013-2015. Under the programme, in addition to other activities, a small-grant scheme project competition will be carried out. Among the possible activities suggested for project proposals also development and piloting of measures for improving the gender balance among the executives and top executives in the private and public sector is listed.</p>
77.79. Continue to adopt measures to effectively reduce the drop-out rate of students so as to ensure comprehensive realization of the right to education (China);	To support students, educational support services’ network has been developed (incl. special educational, psychological, social pedagogical and career counselling).
77.80. Take new measures to continue to reinforce human rights education and training (Republic of	Human rights as a topic are integrated into National Curriculum of Estonia. Both knowledge and competences about human rights are expected as a learning result.

Moldova);	
77.81. Continue the implementation of bilingual education with adequate resources (Latvia);	Quality in the implementation of bilingual education is well covered in national language immersion program. Special targeted national centre of language immersion is continuously supported by the Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia.
77.82. Take all necessary measures to continue the effective implementation of the Integration Strategy and increase involvement of representatives of minority groups and civil society throughout this process (Netherlands);	<p>At the end of 2012 the Estonian Government approved the commencement of drafting the new integration strategy for the new programming period (2014-2020). The Steering Group for the new strategy includes 8 Ministries, representatives of state institutions and local governments.</p> <p>Expert Committee are formed mainly of persons with immigrant background in order to engage different target groups¹ and stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of integration policy. Involvement was created through several discussion platforms, so that in the drafting process the strategic partners in the field of integration were reached a common understanding of strategic objectives and the roles and responsibilities in striving towards the objectives.</p> <p>Trilingual web portal² was created to inform and engage the wider public. The new Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion in Estonia will be completed by May 2014 and after its approval by the government it will be implemented and regularly monitored.</p> <p>Given the diversity of the target populations of the integration policy and the current socio-economic situation of Estonian society, three different broader lines of action may be differentiated in the field of integration. Firstly, improvement of all society's openness and shaping of attitudes to embrace integration. Secondly, continuing support to poorly integrated permanent residents of foreign origin in their active social integration. Thirdly, support for the adaptation and integration of new immigrants.</p> <p>As a horizontal field, integration requires cross-sectoral cooperation. Integration is addressed as a multi-way process, where the preservation of the ethnic identity and culture of ethnic groups is supported and more equal opportunities for subsistence and participation in social life are created through improving state language skills. There are no separate strategies for specific ethnic groups; the Integration Strategy is implemented to include all</p>

¹ http://www.praxis.ee/fileadmin/tarmo/Projektid/Valitsemine_ja_kodanikeuhiskond/MISA_raport_ENGL_.pdf

² <http://www.integratsioon.ee/en>

	<p>the ethnic groups in the society. Ministry of Education and Research supports systematically both formal and non-formal learning activities which lead to more coherence integration of society (language learning; multilingual activities etc). The activities are based on systematic analysis and scientific research of so far implemented activities.</p>
<p>77.83. Continue Estonia’s successful integration policy by, inter alia, implementing the State Integration Programme for 2008-2013 and continue efforts to improve the knowledge of the State language among the non-Estonian population (Latvia);</p>	<p>According to EIM 2011 (the integration monitoring of the society of Estonia), proficiency in the state language of non-Estonian speaking residents is improving slowly but definitely. In parallel with the transition of Russian-language upper secondary schools to the state language, knowledge of Estonian and the level of Estonian-language tuition has gradually improved in kindergartens and basic schools with Russian-language teaching. A positive trend, according to EIM 2011, is that compared to 2008, the number of people preferring no citizenship at all has dropped from 16% to 6%. Since 2013, all upper secondary schools with Russian-language tuition have transferred to the teaching of subjects in Estonian; in 2014, transition to Estonian-language tuition will begin at the vocational education level. However, about 20% of the Estonian school population is still in Russian schools at the basic education level. Hence, there are some distinct activities in the realm of education, which are directed towards integration: extension of integrated subject and language teaching (incl. the development of language immersion programmes), support to the teaching of Estonian language and Estonian-language tuition in Russian schools and to pupils in Estonian-language schools whose mother tongue differs from the tuition language. Integration is supported both by the planned training of teachers and school principals as well as other activities under the life-long learning programme. In future, more attention should be paid to the approximation of schools with different tuition languages through joint activities.</p> <p>The Language Education Policy Profile attempts to build on, and strengthen, reforms that are already underway in Estonia. There are constitutional guarantees of support for minority groups who wish to maintain their own language and culture. “Sunday schools” supported from the state exist for many of the ethnic minorities languages in Estonia.</p> <p>Observing the quality of state language learning among non-Estonian speaking pupils in public schools is one of the priorities of the Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia. If the quality is below national expectations (i.e. poor exam results, not qualified teachers</p>

	<p>etc.), national level case-based measures are implemented.</p> <p>See also 80.20 and 77.82.</p>
<p>77.84. Continue to implement appropriate, efficient policies to facilitate the integration of all its ethnic communities (Slovakia);</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Research implement special integration measures for foreign background immigrants, who have lived in Estonia less than 3 years. Also learning of ethnic language and culture is supported.</p> <p>See 77.82.</p>
<p>77.85. Resolve the problem of persons without citizenship, and prevent such cases from arising in the future (Ecuador);</p>	<p>The citizenship policy of the Republic of Estonia has been stable since the restoration of its independence, supporting the protection of statehood and constitutional order of Estonia. The principles of Estonian citizenship policy are enacted in the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia and the Citizenship Act. Section 1 of Article 8 of the Constitution enacts that every child of whose parent's one is an Estonian citizen has the right to Estonian citizenship by birth. The Citizenship Act regulates in more detail the general principles of the Estonian citizenship enacted in the Constitution.</p> <p>Currently the main trend of the state policy is to minimize the number of persons with undetermined citizenship. Encourage long term residents to become Estonian citizens. The main target group is children with undetermined citizenship under 15 years of age.</p> <p>A minor under 15 years of age who was born in Estonia after 26 February 1992 shall acquire Estonian citizenship by naturalisation if the parents have legally resided in Estonia for at least 5 years, the parents are not citizens of any other state, a minor is staying in Estonia permanently and a minor is not citizen of any other state. It means that children born to persons with undetermined citizenship residing permanently in Estonia do not acquire Estonian citizenship automatically. An application on their behalf needs to be launched by their parents.</p> <p>Since February 2008 the parents of a child with undetermined citizenship are informed when registering the birth of the child of the possibility to apply Estonian citizenship for the child. They are handed out information materials and afterwards the Police and Border Guard Board will get in touch with the parents and provide more detailed personal counselling. Since November 2011 Police and Border Guard Board receive daily information from</p>

	<p>Population Register through <i>X-tee</i>³ about new-born children and their parents. To determine person's Estonian citizenship certain procedures will be followed by Police and Border Guard Board, using the data received. If the new-born child did not acquire Estonian citizenship by birth, Police and Border Guard Board will send to the parents a letter, where parents are informed of the need to apply for a residence permit for the child, and also are informed of the possibility to apply Estonian citizenship for the child.</p> <p>Also the Prefectures of Police and Border Guard Board are informing the persons with undetermined citizenship that they have the possibility to apply Estonian citizenship for themselves and their children.</p> <p>We are of the opinion that relevant prerequisites have been created in the Citizenship Act for the avoidance of statelessness of children.</p> <p>The Government of Estonia continues to support projects on civic education that support the building of a common state and citizenship identity and that inform people of foreign origin without Estonian citizenship about the opportunities provided by this citizenship. People of undetermined citizenship have been informed (by mail, e-mail and in spoken communication) about options to gain Estonian citizenship for themselves and their children.</p>
<p>77.86. Take effective steps to ensure greater participation of minorities in public life, and review available remedies for victims of racial discrimination and incitement to hatred, in particular against Roma communities (Austria);</p>	<p>The sectoral development plan „Integrating Estonia 2020“ supports practical contacts between people, especially young people, living in different regions and having different linguistic and cultural backgrounds, and involves people with foreign background and their organisations (incl. folk culture societies) in active social life (incl. through involvement at the local level). Furthermore, support is provided to cooperation, training and media activities of organisations, which have contacts with the target group in local governments with a high number of residents with different ethnic backgrounds, where such activities support the perpetuation in society of values and attitudes oriented at openness and mutual understanding.</p>

³ X-tee in Estonian, X-Road in English – Data Exchange Layer, a platform-independent secure standard enables trustworthy communication between Estonian public sector information systems., see also <https://www.ria.ee/en/>

	<p>Estonian Ministry of Culture had formed the informal national Roma working group of the officials from several ministries, local governments and Roma representatives. The aim of the working group is to discuss the problems related to Roma and offer solutions to these problems. Two main tasks are underlined: first, information and data gathering and research about the Roma people and raising public awareness about Roma, their culture, living conditions, etc. Ministry of Education and Research and research has launched a research project to gather information about the amount of Roma students and their problems in education system. Main problems are teachers' insufficient preparation for supporting Roma students in education system and low involvement of parents.</p> <p>The exhibition about Roma was launched in 2012 which gives an overview of Estonian Roma history, culture and everyday life in by word and image. The material and information collected during the exhibition preparation process is very valuable to create better awareness about Roma and have thus longer term social impact.</p> <p>See also 77.82.</p>
<p>77.87. Pay special attention to the rights of Roma children to education, and implement the relevant policy instruments to ensure their enjoyment of the rights as enshrined in the Estonian Constitution (Finland);</p>	<p>The development plan „Integrating Estonia 2020“ is based on the Estonian Constitution under which everyone has the right to preserve his or her ethnic identity, and no one may be discriminated against on the basis of nationality, race, colour, sex, language, origin, religion, political or other views, property or social status, or on other grounds.</p> <p>See also 77.42, 77.49 and 77.82.</p>
<p>77.88. Continue its efforts to improve the reception conditions of asylum seekers, including the provision of free legal aid, in particular to those who apply for asylum at the border, and those in detention (Slovakia);</p>	<p>Estonia continues to improve the reception conditions of asylum seekers. Accommodation centre for asylum seekers was moved from Illuka parish to Väike-Maarja parish at the beginning of 2014. At the new location, asylum seekers have better access to public services like health care services, school, leisure activities, public transportation and etc. Also better conditions for asylum-seekers with special needs are ensured. See their website at http://www.hoolekandeteenused.ee/vk/pages/eng/accommodation-centre.php. We would like to note that we plan to use support of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund in order to improve competence of the persons providing the state legal aid in the particular field, thus improving the quality of services.</p>

79.1. Sign and ratify CED as soon as possible, and fully recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (France);	See 77.10.
79.2. Consider ratifying OP-CEDAW (Brazil);	Estonia is preparing for the national procedures for ratifying the OP-CEDAW.
79.3. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR), OP-CEDAW, OP-CRPD, and CED (Spain);	Estonia is considering the recommendation to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR). See also 77.1, 79.1 and 79.2.
79.4. Ratify OP-CEDAW (Argentina);	See 79.2.
79.5. Sign and ratify OP-ICESCR, and OP-CEDAW (Ecuador);	See 79.2 and 79.3.
79.6. Recognize the competence of the Committee against Torture as provided for in articles 21 and 22 of CAT (France);	The analysis on the recognition of the competence of the Committee against Torture as provided for in Articles 21 and 22 of CAT, is still underway. Estonia will report to the Committee on the Implementation of the Convention against Torture later this year.
79.7. Establish a human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee (Algeria);	See 77.15.
79.8. Establish a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee (Denmark);	See 77.15.
79.9. Make efforts to obtain accreditation for a national human rights institution that complies with	See 77.15.

the Paris Principles from the International Coordinating Committee (Poland);	
79.10. Expedite action to establish the Gender Equality Council (Ghana);	See 77.29.
79.11. Increase the resources allocated to the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment as a matter of priority (Norway);	See 77.25.
79.12. Speed up the process to adopt the Development Plan for Children and Families 2011-2020 (Azerbaijan);	<p>Estonian Government adopted in the end of 2011 the Strategy of Children and Families 2012-2020. The main objective of the Strategy is to improve the well-being and quality of living of children and families, thereby promoting the birth of children. Five strategic objectives have been set for the achievement of the main objective:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Estonian child and family policy is knowledge-based and uniform in order to support the sustainability of society; 2. Estonia is a country that supports positive parenting and offers the necessary support to raising children and being a parent in order to improve the quality of living and future of children; 3. The rights of children are guaranteed and a functional child protection system is created in order to value each child and the kind of safe environment that supports the development and welfare of children. 4. Estonia has a system of combined benefits and services that support the adequate economic coping of families in order to offer constant security to families; 5. Men and women have equal opportunities for reconciliation of work, family and private life in order to promote a quality everyday life that meets the needs of each family member.
79.13. Develop comprehensive policy instruments based on the Yogyakarta Principles to combat discrimination against sexual minorities (Finland);	With regards to raising awareness on the Equal Treatment Act the Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project of Tallinn Technical University since 2010. Since 2010 LGBT issues have been one of the priorities of the project.

<p>79.14. Pay special attention to acts of violence against homosexuals (Belgium);</p>	<p>Estonia is committed to taking measures to enhance the level of public awareness and protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons. Estonia pays attention and condemns all forms of violence, and has in place the respective legislative and policy instruments (national Development for Reduction of Violence). With regards to raising awareness on the equal treatment the Ministry of Social Affairs has been co-financing the European Commission PROGRESS programme “Diversity Enriches” project Tallinn Technical University since 2010. Since 2010 LGBT issues have been one of the priorities of the project.</p>
<p>79.15. Adopt a National Plan of Action as well as a specific Law to combat the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Islamic Republic of Iran);</p>	<p>Fight against crimes against children is a priority issue in the national Guidelines for Development of Criminal Policy until 2018. This is a framework document approved by a decision of the Parliament. It includes long term goals which the ministries and other authorities have to follow in their decision-making. Further, the Estonian government has also approved the Development Plan for Reducing Violence for years 2010–2014. One of the aims of this plan is the reduction and prevention of violent crimes committed against children - including sexual crimes. This development plan holds a holistic approach to fighting various forms of violence – it also includes the objectives to fight and prevent human trafficking and domestic violence.</p> <p>Estonia is of the opinion that it is not necessary to adopt a specific law, as the current Penal Code already includes all the mentioned acts as punishable pursuant to criminal procedure: namely provisions on sale or purchase of children, child stealing, disposing minors to engage in prostitution, aiding prostitution involving minors, use of minors in manufacture of pornographic works and manufacture of works involving child pornography or making child pornography available.</p>