

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO UZBEKISTAN (FIRST BATCH)

SWEDEN

1. Arbitrary detention

- Despite a number of positive developments, many political prisoners remain in custody, and torture and abuse against detainees are reported to be common in prisons, pretrial facilities, and local police and security service facilities. What measures is the Government of Uzbekistan taking in order to end the use of torture and abuse, and to create mechanisms for accountability for past abuses?

2. Freedom of expression

- What measures does the Government of Uzbekistan intend to take – on short and long term – to ensure that media and civil society organizations are able to carry out their legitimate activities without facing legal or administrative obstructions or fear or threat of reprisals?

3. Gender equality

- In addition to the law on violence against women, which is currently being developed, what measures is the Government of Uzbekistan planning in order to ensure gender equality and women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights?

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- What measures is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to bring its anti-torture law into compliance with Article 1 of the Convention Against Torture, and when does it intend to ratify the Optional Protocol?
- What action is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to simplify and make transparent the registration procedures for religious groups?
- What steps is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to ease registration procedures for independent political parties and for independent national and international NGOs within Uzbekistan?
- Does the Government of Uzbekistan intend to allow free access to prisons for independent NGOs and the International Committee of the Red Cross?
- What action is the Government of Uzbekistan taking to adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body Elections?