



## SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Current status of recommendations addressed to the Slovak Republic in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of Universal Periodic Review submitted at the halfway point of the assessment cycle

November 2017

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Position of the Slovak Republic</b>	<b>Implementation</b> (Method of implementation)
<b>1.</b> <b>Reconsider the ratification of OP-CAT (Denmark)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>The ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) remains the subject of consideration. There are ongoing expert negotiations and discussions, and based on their results it will be possible to start preparing ratification.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<b>2.</b> <b>Ratify OP-CAT (Estonia) (Hungary)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 1.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<b>3.</b> <b>Ratify CPED and OP-CAT (Tunisia) (Chile)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>On 15 December 2014 the Slovak Republic deposited the instrument of ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance with the Depositary of the Convention, who is the UN Secretary General. The Convention entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 14 January 2015. The Slovak Republic in ratifying made a statement that under art. 31 and 32 of the Convention that it recognizes the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to assess complaints of violation of the Convention by the Slovak Republic submitted by other Contracting States or made on behalf of natural persons.</p> <p>Regarding the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) see response to Recommendation No. 1.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>4.</b> <b>Continue its efforts initiated to achieve ratification of CPED and accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 3.</p>

<b>Disappearances (Argentina)</b>		<i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>5. Ratify promptly CPED (Belgium)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	See response to Recommendation No. 3  <i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>6. Consider becoming party to ICRMW and to OP-CAT (Azerbaijan)</b>	<b>The Recommendation was not accepted by the Slovak Republic</b> for the reason that the ICRMW does not distinguish between legal and illegal residence of persons in the country.	Regarding the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) see response to Recommendation No. 1.
<b>7. Ratify ICRMW (Algeria) (Egypt)</b>	<b>The Recommendation was not accepted by the Slovak Republic</b> for the reason that the ICRMW does not distinguish between legal and illegal residence of persons in the country.	
<b>8. Consider the possibility of ratifying ICRMW (Ecuador)</b>	<b>The Recommendation was not accepted by the Slovak Republic</b> for the reason that the	

	ICRMW does not distinguish between legal and illegal residence of persons in the country.	
<b>9. Take a step further in the area of migrants' rights protection and consider ratifying the ICRMW and ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines)</b>	<b>The Recommendation was not accepted by the Slovak Republic</b> for the reason that the ICRMW does not distinguish between legal and illegal residence of persons in the country. <b>The Recommendation to ratify ILO Convention No. 189 was not accepted</b> for the reason that by ratifying this Convention the Slovak Republic would acquire obligations additional to those of the current internal state legislation, which it considers to be adequate.	
<b>10. Ratify ILO Conventions Nos. 169 and 189 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))</b>	<b>The Slovak Republic did not accept the ratification of ILO Convention No. 169</b> on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, as there are no	

	<p>such peoples in its territory. <b>It also did not accept the Recommendation to ratify ILO Convention No. 189</b>, as by ratifying this convention the Slovak Republic would acquire obligations additional to those of the current internal state legislation, which it considers to be adequate.</p>	
<p><b>11. Ratify those international instruments, which have not yet been ratified (Côte d'Ivoire)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic has ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure dated 19 December 2011 and on 3 December 2013 it deposited the ratification instrument of the Convention with the Depositary, who is the UN Secretary General. The Optional Protocol entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 14 April 2014.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic has ratified the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance dated 20 December 2007. The instrument of ratification was deposited with the Depositary of the Convention, who is the UN Secretary General, on 15 December 2014. The Convention entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 14 January 2015.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic has ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse. The instrument of ratification was deposited with the Depositary, who is the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on 1 March 2016. The Convention entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 1 July 2016.</p> <p>In 2011 at a regional level, the Slovak Republic was one of the first States to sign the</p>

		<p>Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention). At present the possibilities of its ratification are being analysed.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>12.</b>  <b>Favourably respond and react to future calls and recommendations of the Ombudswoman, particularly when it comes to the situation of Roma (Slovenia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities is cooperating with the Office of the Public Defender of Rights, which it informs about its activities. The same cooperation is also implemented with the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights, which is represented in the Steering Working Group for preparing the review and updating of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020, creation and implementation of the action plans, monitoring and assessment.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>13.</b>  <b>Implement recommendations made in the Office of the Ombudswoman's Extraordinary Report related to human rights complaints on access to education, procedural guarantees in the demolition of illegal dwellings and police conduct (Canada)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic has intensively communicated and cooperated with the Public Defender of Rights. The Recommendations contained in her report on the implementation of the right to education of children/pupils belonging to the Roma national minority with special educational needs and the effect of the practice of testing preparedness for school on the fundamental rights of a child from a non-stimulating environment with cultural, social and linguistic barriers, particularly from the Roma national minority have been incorporated into the Amendment to the Education Act, which came into force on 1 January 2016.</p> <p>The Recommendations of the Public Defender of Rights in the field of Roma integration in individual reports are implemented in the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020 and the Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020 (hereinafter also referred to as "strategy revision") and the new action plans for this Strategy within the competence of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma</p>

		<p>Communities in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic and the General Directorate of the Council of Europe for Roma issues organized a National Seminar for Lawyers on Non-discrimination of Roma Focusing on the Rights of Residents of Roma Communities to Housing.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>14.</b>  <b>Take all necessary steps to ensure that its national human rights institution is fully effective and independent in accordance with the Paris Principles (France);</b>  <b>Take appropriate measures to ensure that the national human rights institution functions in compliance with the Paris Principles (India);</b>  <b>Take further steps to ensure that its national human rights institution is aligned with the Paris Principles (Philippines);</b>  <b>Continue with its efforts for the establishment of independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Pakistan);</b>  <b>Undertake necessary steps to ensure that its national institution is fully consistent with the Paris Principles (Morocco);</b>  <b>Take the necessary measures to strengthen the independence and</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In March 2014, the accreditation of the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights was renewed with B status under the Paris Principles. At present the Government of the Slovak Republic is preparing an Amendment to the Act on the Centre to increase the effectiveness of the fulfilment of its mandate. In this connection a Working Group has been established with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic. The Centre has so far participated in several rounds of negotiations and is actively participating in the preparation of the Amendment to the Act. The Centre fully supports any initiative that will strengthen the position of its mandate as a national institution for the protection of human rights.</p> <p>One of the aims of the forthcoming legislation is to increase the transparency of the election of the Executive Director of the Centre by introducing a public selection process, increase the representation of non-governmental sector on the Governing Board of the Centre and introduce the obligation to submit an annual report on human rights to the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament).</p>

<p><b>mandate of the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights and ensure that it complies with the Paris Principles (Mexico); Strengthen the independence and mandate of its National Centre for Human Rights so as to enable it to function in compliance with the Paris Principles (Malaysia)</b></p>		<p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>15. Bring its National Centre for Human Rights in conformity with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Turkmenistan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 14.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>16. Continue working in order establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles taking into account the recommendations from the treaty bodies in this regard (Guatemala)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 14.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>17. Continue its efforts to re-accredit the National Slovak Human Rights Centre as the national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Algeria)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 14.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>18. Strengthen the independence and mandate of the National Slovak</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 14.</p>

<p><b>Human Rights Centre so that it operates in compliance with the Paris Principles and be given the necessary resources (Tunisia)</b></p>		<p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>19. Strengthen the independence and the mandate of its national human rights institution and provide it with adequate financial and human resources to assist it in meeting the standards required by the Paris Principles (Ireland)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>With consideration of the real possibilities for resources of the state budget, the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights was provided for the years 2014 (€ 518 242) and 2015 (€ 518 242) with adequate financial resources to fulfil the stated recommendations.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>20. Allocate appropriate resources to the Office of the Ombudswoman to facilitate equal access to justice for all citizens and further strengthen its monitoring and reporting capacity (Canada)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>With consideration of the real possibilities for resources of the state budget, the Office of the Public Defender of Rights was provided for the years 2014 (€ 1 165 048) and 2015 (€ 1 179 558) with adequate financial resources to fulfil the stated recommendations.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>21. Establish an independent mechanism to investigate complaints related to discrimination and segregation within the schooling system (Egypt)</b></p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic has rejected the stated Recommendation</b> for the reason that the stated issue is properly addressed at the legislative and institutional levels.</p>	
<p><b>22. Work with the EU and the UN for further participation of other important human rights mechanisms, including the protocols to the CRC (Viet Nam)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic as a State Party to the conventions on human rights at the universal and regional levels has an obligation to present reports on progress achieved in implementing the provisions of the various conventions to controlling or treaty organs at regular intervals. The Slovak Republic meets this commitment. In addition, the Slovak Republic has ratified in 2013 the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure. The instrument of ratification was deposited</p>

		<p>with the UN Secretary General on 3 December 2013. The Optional Protocol entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 14 April 2014.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>23.</b>  <b>That the Government Council for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality take steps towards the implementation of a nation-wide strategy for the promotion and protection of human rights (United Kingdom)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>As part of the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality, seven committees are established (Committee for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups, Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and other Forms of Intolerance, Committee on Research, Education and Training in Human Rights and Development Education, Committee for Persons with Disabilities, Committee for Gender Equality, Committee for Children and Youth, Committee on the Rights of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender and Intersex Persons), which are aimed at protecting the rights of children, disabled persons, promoting equality between men and women, prevention of racism, education, training in human rights, protection of the rights of the LGBTI persons etc. As part of the implementation of the Strategy a Report was prepared on the Implementation of the National Programme for Active Aging and Solidarity between Generations up to 2020. In 2015, the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Rights of Seniors and Adaptation of Public Policy to the Aging Process of the Population took note of the material Financial Capabilities of the State and the Regional Governments to Promote the Free-time Activities of Seniors - subsidy schemes for organizations involved, which also included a Report on the Support of Culture of Seniors from the grant system of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>In the framework of the implementation of the Strategy in January 2016 the Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and other Forms of Intolerance and Action Plan to Prevent all forms of Discrimination for the years 2016 - 2019 were approved. The Government of the Slovak Republic approved with Resolution No. 492 dated 26 October 2016 the Action Plan for Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities. In process of preparation is e.g. the Draft Action Plan for Education and Training for Human Rights.</p> <p>The Government of the Slovak Republic approved the National Strategy for Gender</p>

		<p>Equality and the Action Plan for Gender Equality 2014 - 2019. The National Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women for the years 2014-2019 was also adopted.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>24.</b> Speed up the preparation of a national human rights promotion and protection strategy (Uruguay)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic with Resolution No. 71 dated 18 February 2015.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>25.</b> Promptly put in place the national strategy for the promotion and protection of human rights that integrates the contributions arising from this review (Nicaragua)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 24.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>26.</b> Continue its efforts and momentum on the current human rights programme, with more focus on social inclusion, participation of the Roma in employment opportunity, adequate housing, gender equality and capacity building for national human rights institutions in the country (Viet Nam)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities is coordinating the implementation of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020, adopted by the Government Resolution No. 1 on 11 January 2012 as well as the Revised National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005 - 2015, updated for the period 2011 - 2015, which is part of this Strategy as its Action Plan.</p> <p>Since this Action Plan was designed for the period up to the end of 2015, in 2015 the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities prepared a Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020, new action plans in the areas of education, employment, health, housing, as well as action plans for cross-sectional topics in the area of financial inclusion, non-discrimination and access to majority society.</p> <p>In the area of housing, the Government Resolution No. 13 dated 7 January 2015 approved the “Conception of State Housing Policy up to 2020”. This is the framework</p>

		<p>document of the State in the area of housing. It also deals with the issue of housing for disadvantaged groups in the housing market and its solution. In the following period the aim is to increase the availability of housing for the most disadvantaged groups in the State, in particular the maintenance of housing development support through grants of the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic and subsidised loans from the Housing Development Fund. Other supportive instruments should be a system of temporary housing and also introducing a separate housing allowance under the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>27.</b> Continue efforts to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks to promote and protect human rights, including through the ratification of ICRMW, formulation of a national human rights plan of action, and expediting the amendment process to the law regulating the NHRI so that it is fully in accordance with the Paris Principles (Indonesia)</p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic rejected the Recommendation</b> in the section on ratification of ICRMW for the reason that the ICRMW does not distinguish between legal and illegal residence of persons in the country.</p>	<p>In the section of the Recommendation on creating a national action plan on human rights, see response to Recommendation No. 24. In section of these Recommendation relating to accelerated process of amending the acts governing national human rights institutions (NHRI) in order to be fully compliant with the Paris Principles, see response to Recommendation No. 14.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented in the accepted section.</i></p>
<p><b>28.</b> Continue its efforts particularly to ensure equal treatment in the education system and equal access to job opportunities (France)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Equal access to employment is guaranteed by the Act on Services to Employment. The application of this Act is aimed at facilitating entry of disadvantaged jobseekers into the labour market, including assistance and support for entering and staying in the labour market for a period of at least six consecutive calendar months. Citizens have the right to access to employment without any restrictions on employment and similar legal relations in accordance with the principle of equal treatment established in the Anti-Discrimination Act. In accordance with the principle of equal treatment, discrimination is prohibited on grounds of marital and family status, colour of skin, language, political</p>

		<p>or other opinion, trade union activity, national or social origin, disability, age, property, gender or other status. On the other hand, no one may misuse these rights and obligations to the detriment of another citizen. No one may, in connection with the exercise of the right of access to employment, be persecuted or otherwise punished for having submitted a complaint, action or request to start criminal proceedings against another citizen, government office or employer.</p> <p>The Act defines specific active measures for the implementation of specific programs and projects to improve the situation of unemployed people in the labour market, targeted at supporting increased employment and the employment of particularly disadvantaged groups (long term unemployed, older, younger, disabled persons etc.).</p> <p>In the field of education in 2015 significant legislative changes were made related to equal treatment. In particular, the Amendment to the Education Act, the Act on State Administration in Education and School Administration, the Act on Pedagogical Staff and Specialist Employees and the Act on Financing of Elementary Schools, High Schools and School Facilities.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic issues an annual pedagogical and organizational guidelines, which draw attention to the consistent application of the prohibition of all forms of discrimination and segregation, as well as the implementation of inclusive education of children and pupils in all kindergartens, elementary and high schools, i.e. public, private and church using specific teaching methods in line with the Recommendations of the Council of EU dated 9 December 2013 on Effective Measures for Roma Integration in EU Member States (2013/C 378/01).</p> <p>The Labour Code provides that the employer, in hiring an individual, must not violate the principle of equal treatment as regards access to employment.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>29.</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	The Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic established the Committee on the Rights

<p><b>That a national action plan for the protection of the human rights of LGBTI persons in Slovakia is developed and implemented, within the context of the planned human rights strategy (Norway)</b></p>		<p>of LGBTI persons and in cooperation with this Committee prepared in 2015 the Draft of the Action Plan for LGBTI persons. The Slovak Republic is aware that human rights belong to every person, regardless of sexual orientation.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented partially.</i></p>
<p><b>30. Develop additional programmes, including a national action plan for children, to enhance the protection and promotion of the rights of women and children (Philippines)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>With the participation of NGOs an update to the cross-sectional inter-departmental document on the National Action Plan for Children for the years 2013 - 2017 was developed and proposed. The Government of the Slovak Republic approved the updated document by Resolution No. 145 of 1 April 2015.</p> <p>The Government of the Slovak Republic adopted by Resolution No. 24 dated 15 January 2014 the National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Violence, which is being fulfilled on the basis of interdepartmental cooperation and collaboration at national and local level, in cooperation with NGOs working to protect children from violence and provide services to child victims of violence.</p> <p>In December 2013 the Government of the Slovak Republic approved the National Action Plan for Prevention and Suppression of Violence against Women for the years 2014 – 2019.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>31. Further improve human rights records in the country (Azerbaijan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic is taking steps towards increasing the profile of human rights at the international level, in particular the ratification of international conventions on human rights, as well as active participation, particularly within the UN Human Rights Council. The Slovak Republic was a member of the UN Human Rights Council for the years 2008 - 2011 and it is again a candidate for this top human rights body for the period 2018 - 2020. In addition, at national level, it is taking active steps to promote policies aimed at raising the standard of human rights protection. The Slovak Republic, like other EU Member State has adopted a National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic, which was approved by the Government of the</p>

		<p>Slovak Republic on 18 February 2015.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>32.</b>  <b>Include in its National Strategy for Gender Equality 2009–2013 measures to promote the participation of women in decision-making bodies in the public and private sphere (Spain)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>On 20 November 2014 the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted the National Strategy for Gender Equality for the period 2014 - 2019 and the related Action Plan for Gender Equality for the years 2014 - 2019. Individual set activities and measures are being prepared in cooperation with NGOs and the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality. The Strategy and Action Plan are closely interconnected and represent a comprehensive policy framework for promoting equality between men and women.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out six strategic areas and priorities. Within Strategic Area 2 – Participation in decision-making in the public and economic life, Goal: 2 is Reducing the gender gap in participation of women and men in decision-making positions and within it there are the Operational Objectives: 2.1 To increase the representation of women in decision-making positions in political life, including motivation and ability of candidates to participate;</p> <p>2.2 Promote women's entrepreneurship by creating systemic measures, including the harmonization of work and family life;</p> <p>2.3 Increasing the representation of women in economic decision-making positions.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>33.</b>  <b>Expedite its implementation of the measures to ensure equality for men and women (Bangladesh)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The elimination of inequality between men and women requires a comprehensive approach. Changes in legislation and relevant policies have helped to create the necessary conditions for the implementation of systematic measures at the institutional level, which are a prerequisite for achieving equality between men and women.</p> <p>The National Strategy for Gender Equality for the period 2014 - 2019 and the related Action Plan for Gender Equality for the years 2014 - 2019 have been prepared in cooperation with NGOs and the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality. The Strategy and Action Plan are closely interconnected and represent a comprehensive policy framework for promoting equality between men and women. The Strategy sets out six strategic areas</p>

		<p>and priorities: 1. Economic independence and the labour market; 2. Participation in decision-making in public and economic life; 3. Education, science and research; 4. Dignity and physical integrity; 5. Institutional and legislative provision for gender equality; 6. International cooperation and development aid. The Action Plan further builds on the Strategy and sets out 64 specific tasks, including the determination of the authorities responsible for their implementation, the deadline for completing those tasks and sources of funding.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>34.</b>  <b>Take steps to ensure equality between men and women, that guarantee non-discrimination and gender equality (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See responses to Recommendation No. 32 and Recommendation No. 33.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>35.</b>  <b>Strengthen measures aimed at ensuring gender equality as well as preventing violence against women (Côte d’Ivoire)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Also see responses to Recommendation No. 32 and Recommendation No. 33.</p> <p>In the area of prevention and elimination of violence against women several measures have been adopted in accordance with the National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women for the years 2014 - 2019.</p> <p>Domestic violence is a criminal offence in the Slovak Republic. The interpretation of such offences covers all possible situations respecting the international definition of the crime. In addition to the crime of domestic violence, the Criminal Code specifically defines the crime of sexual violence, as well as the crime of rape, which includes spousal rape. Slovak law does not tolerate any form of rape during marriage.</p> <p>In 2015, Amendments to the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, and Act on Misdemeanours and the Act on the Police were made to ensure the effective protection of victims of domestic violence. One of the adopted Amendments provides that where the act of domestic violence is assessed as a misdemeanour and the same offender commits the same or a similar offence for the second time within the next 12 months, the second time it will automatically be investigated as a criminal offence.</p> <p>One of the measures to ensure the effective protection of victims of domestic violence is the exclusion of the abuser from the shared household. One of the Amendments provides</p>

		<p>for an extended duration of exclusion for 10 days, during which the abuser may not approach the victim closer to a distance of 10 metres.</p> <p>At present the possibilities of the ratification of the Convention on the Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the Fight against it (the Istanbul Convention) are being analysed. Amendment is underway of relevant legislation on combating violence against women and domestic violence, based on the Recommendations of international bodies and international organizations, especially the Council of Europe and the UN. A bill has been presented on the European Protection Order in criminal matters. In civil proceedings the project for the Electronic System of Monitoring of Persons (ESMP) will allow effective monitoring of compliance with court-ordered interim measures.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic has set up a free non-stop hotline for women experiencing violence, which provides long-term counselling for around 350 women and receives an average of 600 calls per month. In 2016 it is expected to open another 7 accommodation and 15 counselling centres for victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>The project to establish a Coordination-methodical Centre for Gender-based and Domestic Violence, which is coordinated by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, and aims to develop, implement and coordinate a comprehensive national policy for the area, was launched in April 2015 with support from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>36.</b> <b>Take measures to effectively implement the prohibition of discrimination enshrined in the Anti-Discrimination Act (Pakistan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The cross-sectional legislation in the fight against discrimination is the Anti-Discrimination Act, which includes special institutes of reparation for violations of equal treatment, including the provision of special legal protection. This Act also establishes the institute of temporary equalising measures that also considers the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 as well as the actual Framework Policy for the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020. The Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020 is a system of measures forming organizational, material, financial and other instruments</p>

		<p>for effective implementation of prohibition of discrimination.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak republic has established an Action Plan to Prevent and Eliminate all Forms of Discrimination. It aims to preserve the practice of the previous period aimed at raising public awareness about non-discrimination, as well as efforts to improve the implementation of anti-discrimination legislation in practice. In addition, one of its objectives is to improve the institutional framework for combating discrimination and raise awareness of professionals and the general public, but especially public administration. The Action Plan places great emphasis on education, using funds from the Operational Programme “Human Resources and Effective Public Administration.”</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>37.</b>  <b>Continue its efforts in effectively implementing the amendment to the Anti-Discrimination Act with a view to further combating discrimination in the country (Cambodia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 36.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>38.</b>  <b>Enforce the legal and institutional framework on combating discrimination (Romania)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 36.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>39.</b>  <b>Take steps to effectively implement the ban on discrimination contained in the antidiscrimination law and the law on schools (Belgium)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In the area of implementing prohibition of discrimination, the national project “Educating Pedagogical Staff on the Inclusion of Marginalized Roma Communities” was implemented. The Project also included a pedagogically inclusive model of a school with a full-day education system, which includes the creation of a school educational programme designed to work with pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. The national project “Inclusive Model of Education in Pre-primary Levels of Education” was targeted at kindergartens attended by children from marginalized Roma communities.</p>

		<p>The content of the national project “PRINED – Project of Inclusive Education” was to support the all-day educational system aimed at reducing the number of children enrolled in special schools and classes, improving the educational process and the work of teachers. The aim of the Project was the strong support of an inclusive environment in kindergartens and primary schools to prevent unnecessary enrolment of students in the special school system. Through acceleration programs the Project improves the diagnostic process in kindergartens. In primary schools they promote inclusive teams to acquire professional competencies for the development of specific educational needs of students from marginalized Roma communities.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>40.</b>  <b>Increase awareness raising programmes and campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for diversity among its population (Malaysia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Government of the Slovak Republic through its Resolution No. 71 dated 18 February 2015 adopted a National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic, where, under priority No. VI, it declared its commitment to adopt systematic and comprehensive measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of intolerance. To implement specific measures fulfilling priorities of the Strategy, the Government of the Slovak Republic has committed itself to adopt a number of action plans in the individual topic areas. In the field of racism, xenophobia and related expressions of intolerance there is the Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and other Forms of Intolerance, which was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic on 13 January 2016.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic is implementing measures in the fight against crimes motivated by racial, ethnic, religious or similar hatred on the basis of the Concept of Combating Extremism for the period 2015 - 2019, approved by Government Resolution No. 129 dated 18 March 2015. One of its priorities is to raise awareness of the manifestations and social consequences of extremism and radicalization. Under this priority, the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic is planning to implement a comprehensive public campaign aimed at explaining the positives and the values of democracy, as opposed to authoritarian and totalitarian ideologies that will be an instrument of strategic communication on the topic, and the active participation of various target groups</p>

		<p>including journalists is expected.</p> <p>Within the competence of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic a grant scheme has been created to promote and protect human rights and to prevent all forms of discrimination. Under the scheme, in 2015 € 769 500 was allocated. In the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, a grant scheme is created to support projects in the field of gender equality. In addition, under the responsibility of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities a grant scheme is established to promote, protect, preserve and develop cultural values of national minorities, as well as training in the field of intercultural dialogue and understanding between members of national minorities and majority society. In the competence of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities a special financial mechanism has been created to support Roma NGOs working in the area of integration and social inclusion of Roma.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>41.</b>  <b>Continue awareness raising programmes about racial and ethnic diversity in schools, strengthening the monitoring of the implementation of anti-discriminatory policies, especially in remote areas (Uruguay)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No.40.</p> <p>In addition, since 2012 the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic has called for development projects for “Promotion of a Positive Social Climate and Motivation in Multicultural Classes of Primary Schools” and the project “Support for Training and Education of Students from a Socially Disadvantaged Backgrounds in Primary Schools”. The priority areas of support are activities contributing to equalising the social disadvantage of pupils and to ensuring full equality in practice, consisting in supporting pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds in education.</p> <p>From 2005 to 2014 the Plan for Human Rights Education in the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic for the period 2005 - 2014 was implemented with a focus on regional education. The Plan was designed so that during this period institutional provision was made for education and human rights training in</p>

		<p>regional schools.</p> <p>In September 2015 an “Analysis of the Current State of Education and Training for Human Rights in Regional Schools” was prepared. The basis of the Analysis was the results of monitoring and evaluation of human rights in formal education in regional education in the context of the work performed and system of provision, but also using non-formal and informal education of children and youth outside of school and family.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>42.</b> <b>Step-up efforts to combat prejudices against ethnic minorities and to improve relations between the general public and minority communities (Malaysia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 40.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>43.</b> <b>Intensify measures aiming at promoting tolerance, intercultural dialogue and the respect of diversity, strengthening awareness raising campaigns (Spain)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Within the competence of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic a grant scheme has been created to promote and protect human rights and to prevent all forms of discrimination. Under the scheme, in 2015 € 769 500 was allocated. In the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, a grant scheme is created to support projects in the field of gender equality. In addition, under the responsibility of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities a grant scheme is established to promote, protect, preserve and develop cultural values of national minorities, as well as training in the field of intercultural dialogue and understanding between members of national minorities and majority society. In the competence of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities a special financial mechanism has been created to support Roma NGOs working in the area of integration and social inclusion of Roma.</p> <p>An effective tool of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic to perform tasks in promoting intercultural dialogue is the grant programme Culture of Disadvantaged Groups. In 2014 a total of 124 projects with a total value of € 375 300 were carried out</p>

		<p>and in 2015 it was 132 projects totalling € 375 500.</p> <p>An important role in the development, protection and promotion of cultural rights of marginalized groups and the dissemination of information in the field of intercultural dialogue is filled through the National Education Centre with the journal “Social Prevention”, which presents articles and studies on the prevention of discrimination and all forms of violence. It promotes multiculturalism and cultural diversity through its activities and contributes the Theatre Institute, which through its specialized department creates space and possibilities for presenting productions with the direct participation of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>On 1 September 2015 Act No. 189/2015 on Cultural and Educational Activities came into force, which in § 2 defines (this type of) educational activity as an activity that works by contributing to respect for human rights and diversity of cultural expressions, to forming a cultural way of life, to raising the cultural and educational level of the residents of the Slovak Republic. This provision also includes the protection and promotion of cultural rights, diversity of cultural expressions and their values at national, regional and local levels, especially the principle of equal dignity and respect for all cultures and the principle of equitable access, as defined in the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and ensuring the availability of cultural rights under Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Part of cultural and educational activities according to § 2 section 2 point f) is also the prevention of negative social phenomena, which includes general primary prevention undertaken principally through non-formal education focused, inter alia, to the field of prevention of all forms of intolerance and violence, including extremism.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>44.</b>  <b>Take actions to combat discrimination and prejudice by promoting intercultural dialogue in</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 40.</p> <p>The Act on Broadcasting and Retransmission provides that audiovisual media services, programme services and their components, in terms of their content must not interfere</p>

<p><b>cooperation with the media to prevent racist statements, hate speech and attacks against ethnic minorities and promote respect for cultural diversity (Thailand)</b></p>		<p>with the human dignity and fundamental rights and freedoms of others. Nor may they promote violence or in an open or hidden form incite hatred, disparage or defame based on sex, race, colour of skin, language, faith and religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, nationality or ethnic group. These obligations also apply to broadcasters via the Internet. Measures against discrimination in radio and television broadcasting have also been adopted by the public broadcaster Radio and Television of Slovakia (RTVS). In May 2011 Council of RTVS approved the Statute of Programme Staff and Collaborators with RTVS. Pursuant to that Statute, RTVS excludes any form of discrimination. In relation to racial, national, ethnic, religious, sexual, age and other social groups, RTVS is based on the principles of openness and tolerance; it refrains from spreading any hatred between people and groups with different status and orientation.</p> <p>From 1 of January 2011 the Code of Ethics of Journalists was approved by the Slovak Syndicate of Journalists. According to this Code, the journalist does not incite hatred or discrimination based on race, worldview, religion, ethnicity, age, social status, gender or sexual orientation. That a person belongs to a minority is only reported if this information is relevant in the context of the story.</p> <p>According to the Code of Ethics of Advertising Practice approved by the Council for Advertising, advertising shall not contain anything that would be offensive to the racial, ethnic, political or religious feelings of consumers. Advertising must not promote any form of discrimination, especially on grounds of race, nationality, religion, political affiliation, gender or age.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>45. Continue to take measures to combat intolerance based on ethnic origin, in particular against the Roma community (Portugal)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>At police stations in the regions there is a designated position of senior officer for work in communities. The largest numbers of these officers operate under the Regional Directorates of Police in Košice, Prešov and Banská Bystrica. Currently there is a system of 267 jobs for senior officers to work in communities in the Slovak Republic. Older officers work in communities and primarily deal with the management and organization of relations between the police and the Roma community. They also perform patrol</p>

		<p>services in the territorial part of the district with a higher concentration of citizens of Roma/minority communities; they are active in the field of legal education and crime prevention with a focus on the intended target population and cooperating with field social workers and community centres, NGOs and interest groups, legal and natural persons dealing with issues of Roma/minority communities, as well as with representatives of Roma/minority communities.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>46.</b>  <b>Take the necessary measures to continue promoting a culture of tolerance and non-discrimination among Slovak society (Nicaragua)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 40.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>47.</b>  <b>Intensify efforts in the field of ethnic diversity, including by strengthening the inclusive and multicultural education system (Indonesia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The State School Inspectorate aims its inspections at the state of inclusive education for children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and the levels of school integration in elementary schools.</p> <p>Opposition to segregation, in addition to being the generally applicable law is expressed in educational and organizational instructions on the appropriate school year, starting with the school year 2012/2013. Inclusive education of children and students is carried out in all kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, irrespective of ownership hierarchy, i.e. all public, private and church schools using specific teaching methods.</p> <p>Another important tool for direct support of education and training on the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and ethnic diversity in the field is the subsidy programme “Culture of National Minorities”, which is under the auspices of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities. Subsidies are provided annually, primarily to support the preservation, expression, protection and development of the identity and cultural values of national minorities, education and training on the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. The objectives of Programme of Culture of National Minorities is the promotion of interethnic and intercultural dialogue and understanding between the ethnic majority and</p>

		<p>national minorities and ethnic groups, promotion of mutual understanding and rapprochement between ethnic groups and between the national minorities themselves, support for the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance towards minority languages and cultures in the system of education, and exposure to mass media. In 2015, the Programme Culture of National Minorities, was assigned the sum of € 3 879 250.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>48.</b>  <b>Take more resolute legal and practical measures to combat intolerance based on ethnic origin and take further steps to promote mutual understanding and respect between persons belonging to various groups (Iran (Islamic Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 40.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>49.</b>  <b>Adopt effective measures to prevent any manifestation of discrimination and racism (Uzbekistan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>To improve the identification of individuals or groups inciting racial hatred against minorities and foreigners, several campaigns and projects were financially supported which clearly specified forms and the types of hate speech. The project “nehejtuj.sk”, financially supported by the provisioning mechanism of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic has also been joined by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. The Project aims at learning through facts and emotions. Its output is 12 media films, each of which represents one of the themes of hatred. A great benefit is the active presentation of both state and non-state actors, as well as media celebrities who have become the object of hate speech. The Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in 2013 and 2014 actively participated in the Europe-wide campaign called “beznavisti.sk”, aimed at raising public awareness about the issue of hate speech, especially on the Internet. The Regional Directorates of Police conducted several information lectures and projects related to the issue of racial discrimination and extremism aimed at elementary school students. One example is the nationwide project “Behave Normally” on the topics of prejudice, discrimination, racism and tolerance and the worksheet “Everyone is Different!”. In 2014, the Project involved 379 schools with</p>

		<p>over 12 500 pupils. In 2015 it was 270 schools with 8 700 pupils.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>50.</b>  <b>Intensify efforts to combat discrimination against ethnic minorities, particularly Roma and migrants (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Within the competence of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic a grant scheme has been created to promote and protect human rights and to prevent all forms of discrimination. Under the scheme, in 2015, € 769 500 was allocated.</p> <p>An important tool to support the fight against discrimination constitutes of the grant programme “Culture of Disadvantaged Groups”, which, as a priority, defines support for cultural activities in the elimination of barriers to access to culture for disadvantaged groups. Its basic aim is to promote the integration of disadvantaged groups in society in terms of culture, to create equal opportunities and better conditions for a dignified life for people who find themselves on the margins of society. The Programme serves to promote and develop the cultural needs of disadvantaged groups, as well as to promote equal opportunities in culture, compensate for disadvantage and facilitate the access of marginalized groups to culture. The Programme aims to promote cultural activities of persons with disabilities, disadvantaged children and youth, the elderly, the homeless, to support projects in the fields of culture contributing to the implementation of equality between men and women, as well as projects aimed at cultural integration of migrants and projects supporting the sustainability of cultural activities of disadvantaged groups of residents.</p> <p>The University Library in Bratislava organizes the project “Remote Close Destinies” in which different nations present their culture, traditions and customs. This Project pays particular attention to the issue of intercultural dialogue by applying the ideas of understanding among different cultures and mutual respect for cultural diversity.</p> <p>The Museum of Jewish Culture, in addition to presentation of spiritual and material culture of the Jewish minority and documentation of the Holocaust in Slovakia significantly focuses on the non-formal education of youth on the prevention of racism, xenophobia, extremism. It regularly holds a Remembrance Day of the Victims of the</p>

Holocaust and Racial Violence.

In 2015, the Holocaust Museum in Sered', which was created in former labour and concentration camp, was opened to the public. The museum displays historical documents, photographs and objects related to the persecution of Jews in Slovakia during World War II. One of the exhibited artefacts is a cattle railcar in which Jews were deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. The museum is an educational centre that provides educational events and seminars aimed at familiarizing the public with Jewish culture and the impact of the Holocaust on Jewish life in our country. The aim of these programs and events is the life of Jews in Slovakia and to help to acquire basic knowledge about the Jewish community with regard to the period of the Holocaust.

The Museum of the Slovak National Uprising ( "the SNP Museum") in Banská Bystrica is a nationwide central specialized museological, scientific, technical, educational and information organization with the specialized public Archive of the SNP Museum, which aims systematically to collect, preserve, process, scientifically evaluate, use and make available the documents of museum, archive and gallery value related to the history of Slovak society in the years 1938 - 1945 with an emphasis on documentation and evidence of national liberation and the anti-fascist struggle and the Slovak National Uprising as an important part of European anti-fascist resistance during the World War II. It documents the postwar trials, rehabilitation of insurgents, but also contemporary manifestations of neo-fascism, racial hatred and intolerance. The museum carries out scientific research, professional and methodical activities, exhibitions, educational, training, editorial and information collecting on the above historical events with its own programme of research, collecting, presentations and educational activities in the field of its specialization. The museum also carries out educational activities for high school students in the Slovak Republic. It has a nationwide scope of activity with international reach. As part of continuous teacher training, the SNP Museum prepared, for teachers of history, civics, social studies and ethical education, an accredited education programme on Ethnic Cleansing, Genocide, Racial Intolerance in History, which not only brings new expertise to the solution of the Jewish question in Slovakia in 1939 - 1945, the solution of the Jewish question in Europe in the time of the World War II, persecution of the

		<p>Roma in Slovakia, but also reflects on contemporary manifestations of racism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>51.</b>  <b>Continue to intensify the necessary actions to eliminate discrimination as well as the trend and/or media dissemination of stereotypes, which may encourage discrimination against minorities, particularly against Roma and Hungarians. (Argentina)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 43 and 44.</p> <p>One of the most important tools for direct support of education and training on the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and ethnic diversity is the subsidy programme “Culture of National Minorities”, which is under the auspices of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities. Subsidies are provided annually primarily to support the preservation, expression, protection and development of the identity and cultural values of national minorities, education and training on the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. An objective of programme Culture of National Minorities is also the promotion of interethnic and intercultural dialogue and understanding between the national majority and national minorities and ethnic groups, promotion of mutual understanding and rapprochement between national groups and between the national minorities themselves and also to support respect, understanding and tolerance towards minority languages and cultures in the system of education, as well as exposure to mass media. In 2015 the sum of € 3 879 250 was earmarked for the Culture of National Minorities programme.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>52.</b>  <b>Eradicate stereotypes and widespread abuse of Roma (Bangladesh)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities in 2015 on the basis of Recommendations of the External Evaluation of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020 and tasks resulting from Slovak Government Resolution No. 1 of 11 January 2012 began revising Strategy and preparing a new action plans. Decree of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities No. 6 dated 18 December 2014, subsequently amended by Decree No. 2 dated 13 February 2015, includes the establishment of an Advisory Committee of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities for preparing the review and updating the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020, creation and</p>

		<p>implementation of action plans, their monitoring and evaluation. In preparing the Action Plan for Non-discrimination there follows the revised objectives of the Strategy, the Anti-Discrimination Act and Action Plan for the Prevention of Discrimination for the period 2016 - 2018.</p> <p>In a “Call to Promote Social and Cultural Needs and Solutions to the Extremely Unfavourable Situation of Roma Communities in 2013” under activity “Support for Shaping Public Opinion, Alleviation of Stereotypes and Prejudices against Roma Population”, a project called “Reducing Stereotypes and Prejudices against the Roma Population” was financially supported with € 35 000, and implemented by the Open Society Foundation. The project builds on the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Inclusion up to 2020 and part of it focuses on communication and working with public opinion. The Strategy outlines a number of possible approaches that aim to reduce the level of prejudice in the various target groups of Slovak society against Roma. The main objective of the Project is to establish a framework communication strategy for the long-term public educational campaign. The aim of such a long-term public campaign is to promote the integration of Roma into society in conjunction with the implementation of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>53.</b>  <b>Take concrete steps to further develop and implement initiatives targeting not only the Roma minority but also the majority population, including children and adults, in order to increase mutual understanding and respect with a view of combating the nourishment of societal discrimination against Roma (Denmark)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Government of the Slovak Republic by approving the “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020” took over the role as the instigator of the public debate and public policy and public opinion towards Roma, including increased public awareness about the Roma. The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities, as an advisory body of the Government of the Slovak Republic for issues of Roma communities prepared an “Action Plan on Approaches towards Mainstream Society through Communication” as part of the revision of the Strategy. The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities developed initiatives in sensitizing public opinion in order to eliminate stigmatization of the Roma population, education, awareness raising and a multicultural approach of the majority population to contribute to the objective learning about the Roma population and, consequently, their acceptance</p>

by the majority population.

A significant contribution to the awareness of the majority of Roma culture is the national project “Documentation and Information Centre of Roma Culture” in the State Scientific Library in Prešov, which contributes to the elimination of prejudices and stereotypes. The Project aims to establish a digital database of Roma culture. The task of the Documentation and Information Centre of Roma Culture is to concentrate comprehensive information about Roma culture, history, language, traditions and other areas of life of the Roma community in one place and create unique access to the necessary and required information on all things related to Roma issues.

In the State Scientific Library in Košice there is a specialized database in the Slovak Republic named ROMANO, which is accessible online at the web site of <https://www.svkk.sk/bibliografia-v15-77/linky-romovia.html>, where there are also contacts to other institutions dedicated to the Roma community. The database captures information from all disciplines, legislative regulations and directives, organizational, socio-political and cultural activities of the community, including the prevention of discrimination and racism. The database forms the basis of periodic records, including journal articles and newspaper printing, but also the study of anthologies. Documents held by the library predominate. From the linguistic perspective it processes information sources, especially in Slovak, Roma, Czech, but also in English, French, Hungarian and German.

The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities supported the Open Society Foundation project “Reducing Stereotypes and Prejudices against Roma Population: a Communication Strategy and its Implementation in Selected Occupations of First Contact in a Selected Region of the Slovak Republic”. The main objective was to establish a framework communication strategy for a long-term public education campaign. The aim of such a long-term public campaign is to promote the integration of Roma into society. Following the Recommendations of this Project the publication of a magazine “Romane Nevipena - Roma Newspaper” was

		<p>carried out, aiming to build mutual positive relations with the majority society.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities is an organizer of the socio-cultural event “Amaro Džives - Our Day”, held during the International Roma Day. The purpose of the Event is to raise public awareness on the situation of Roma in the Slovak Republic, commemorate historical facts and to establish and promote their positive perception.</p> <p>As part of activities aimed at the elimination of stereotypes a national seminar was held for lawyers on non-discrimination of Roma, focusing on the right of residents of Roma communities to housing.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>54. Make all necessary efforts to address discrimination against Roma, including in employment, education, health care, housing and loan practices (Australia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In the area of employment, the Recommendation is implemented by Act No. 5/2004 on Services to Employment and on Amending and Supplementing Certain Acts, as amended (the “Act on Services to Employment”). The right to employment in Slovak legal system is defined on a citizenship rather than ethnic, religious or other principle. The effort of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic is to use effective policies to influence the ability of citizens of Roma ethnicity to participate in the labour process and by their personal activities to improve their living conditions. Jobseekers provide their personal data voluntarily. In the event that the jobseeker does not report a particular ethnic group or nationality, they may not be recorded or monitored as part of the identification group.</p> <p>The Act on Services to Employment regulates active labour market measures, as well as possibilities to implement programs and projects to improve the position of jobseekers in the labour market aimed at promoting enhancing employability and employment, with emphasis on the integration of disadvantaged groups, which also addresses Roma jobseekers.</p> <p>The tools for promoting long-term unemployed citizens through active labour market measures include particularly an activation allowance in the form of small community services for the municipality or through small services for the regional government, activation allowance in the form of voluntary service or allowance to support the</p>

		<p>development of local and regional employment.</p> <p>The policy solutions for social inclusion of marginalized Roma communities is addressed from the position of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic on the civic principle as persons living in deprived conditions in an economically marginalized environment and is based on a strategy for their social inclusion and the promotion of participation and partnership with civic society. At the same time, an anti-discrimination policy on the basis of race or ethnicity is rigorously enforced.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities is updating its “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of the Roma up to 2020”, including the development of action plans for education, employment, health and housing. The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic together with non-governmental organizations is working intensively with the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities in the field of inclusive education.</p> <p>In the area of housing, the Government of the Slovak Republic on 7 January 2015 adopted Resolution No. 13 “Conception of State Housing Policy up to 2020”. This is the framework document of the State for the area of housing law, which also addresses the issue of housing for disadvantaged groups and its solution. In the coming period in the area of increasing availability of housing for the most disadvantaged groups of the State is primarily to preserve the support for housing development through direct subsidies from the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic and subsidised loans from the Housing Development Fund. Other supportive instruments should be the system of temporary housing and also introducing separate housing allowance under the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>55.</b> <b>Create effective administrative and</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Anti-Discrimination Act, in the version adopted in 2004 by transposition of EU Directives established the principle of equal treatment and the means of legal protection</p>

<p><b>judicial mechanisms to remedy discriminatory acts against Roma and other minorities (India)</b></p>		<p>in the case of any infringement. It also provides for exceptions to the principle of equal treatment and the details of the right to pursue an action in court in case of non-compliance. The Amendment to this Act, which came into force in April 2013, significantly expanded the possibility of adopting “temporary equalising measures”. These are measures pertaining to certain disadvantaged groups with a view to levelling off existing inequalities. Temporary equalising measures can be taken in the areas of employment, education, health care, social security and in the provision of goods and services, including commercial housing. The measures aim to reduce or eliminate inequality. Public authorities or other entities may adopt temporary equalising measures aimed at eliminating handicaps imposed on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, association with a national minority or ethnic group, gender or sex, age or disability, which aims to ensure equal opportunities in practice. The Civil Proceedings Code for Adversarial Proceeding approved in the recodification of civil procedural law in 2015 harmonized the obligation of reversed burden of proof in a proceeding in direct reference to the provisions of the Anti-Discrimination Act.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>56. Strengthen measures on combating discrimination against women and Roma, as well as eliminate stereotypes of Roma and indigenous people through awareness-raising campaigns (Azerbaijan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic is intensifying the fight against discrimination against women, in particular by adopting the “National Strategy for Gender Equality”, “Action Plan for Gender Equality for the years 2014 – 2020” and also the “Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women up to 2019”.</p> <p>In the Slovak Republic a grant scheme has been created by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic to support projects in the field of gender equality. In addition, the creation of a grant scheme under the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities to promote, protect, preserve and develop cultural values of national minorities, as well as training in the field of intercultural dialogue and understanding between members of national minorities and the majority society. In addition, under the responsibility of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities, a special financial mechanism has been created to support Roma NGOs</p>

		<p>working in the field of integration and social inclusion of Roma.</p> <p>Within the framework of the “Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the Integration of Roma up to 2020,” new action plans are being prepared for major areas: education, employment, health and housing, as well as three cross-sectional areas: financial inclusion, non-discrimination and access to mainstream society whose measures and activities are directed towards the elimination of discrimination against Roma.</p> <p>The grant programme of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic “Culture of Disadvantaged Groups” also serves to support projects in the field of equality between men and women. It creates conditions for the strengthening of equality between men and women and to promote the adoption of temporary equalising measures in the area of culture.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>57. Strengthen its efforts to combat racist attacks committed by law enforcement personnel, particularly against the Roma, by among others, providing special training to law enforcement personnel aimed at promoting respect for human rights and tolerance for diversity (Austria)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities organized a “National Seminar for Police Officers” in the area of anti-discrimination against Roma in the framework of which there have been a number of training activities in raising awareness on human rights and non-discrimination among members of the Police Force.</p> <p>In 2015 there was an increase in police officers involved in the project aimed at police officers working directly in areas inhabited by the Roma community. At present in these locations are 267 police officers - senior officers working with the Roma community. Their role is to work with field social workers and community centres, NGOs and interest groups, legal and natural persons dealing with the problems of Roma communities, as well as cooperation with the representatives of these communities and guide the relationship between Police Force and the Roma community.</p> <p>The President of the Police Force is in continuous cooperation with the General Prosecutor's Office and the Section of the Control and Inspection Service of the Police</p>

		<p>Force to create preventive measures, and also for the consistent application of control activities and activities of the Police Force in the field of detection of offences, finding perpetrators and prosecution of the perpetrators of criminal acts.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>58.</b>  <b>Unequivocally and publicly condemn attacks against Roma and other minorities whenever they occur and effectively investigate all reported cases of harassment of members of the Roma by the police forces (Austria)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Persons who believe they have been harassed by police personnel or by the action or inaction of police officers, that their legally protected interests have been violated may seek protection of their rights under Act No. 9/2010 on Complaints as amended by Act No. 289/2012, which stipulates the procedure for the submission, receipt, recording, investigation and written notification of results of investigation of a complaint or checking a complaint. The Control and Inspection Service of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic properly reviews and investigates submissions or communication regarding the alleged inhuman treatment or use of violence against arrestees, detainees or accused persons by police personnel. Compliance with the law before the commencement of a prosecution and in the preparatory phase is supervised by the prosecutor. Any decision issued by the police investigator or authorized police officer in the matter is investigated by the competent Prosecutor's Office.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented</i></p>
<p><b>59.</b>  <b>Increase its efforts to combat racist attacks committed by law enforcement personnel, particularly against the Roma (Iran (Islamic Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 58.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>60.</b>  <b>Do all the necessary to prevent and effectively and thoroughly investigate all violent attacks against the Roma, including those committed by the police forces (Slovenia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 58.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>

<p><b>61.</b>  <b>Enhance its efforts to curb hate speech in the media while investigating and appropriately sanctioning the perpetrators for such hate speeches (Bangladesh)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 44.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>62.</b>  <b>Modify the criminal codes to clearly address hate speech and racial and religious incitement in the context of elections' campaigns (Egypt)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Among the elements of the Criminal Code aimed against expressions of racism and racial intolerance are genocide, support and promotion of groups aimed at suppressing fundamental rights and freedoms, production of extremist materials, distribution of extremist materials, possession of extremist materials, denial and approval of the Holocaust and crimes of political regimes, defamation of nation, race and belief and incitement to national, racial and ethnic hatred, incitement, defamation and threats against persons because of their belonging to a race, nation, nationality, colour of skin, ethnic group, gender origin and inhumanity. The Criminal Code also provides for a "special motive". A crime is committed with special motive, among other things, when it is with the intention of public incitement to violence or hatred directed against a group of persons or an individual because of their belonging to a race, nation, nationality, colour of skin, ethnic group, gender origin or because of their religious belief because of national, ethnic or racial hatred, hatred based on skin colour or hate for sexual orientation. The special motive has been identified in various crimes as a basis for the imposition of a heavier penalty. The offence of extremism was enshrined in the law by transposition of the Council of EU Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on Combating Certain Forms and Expressions of Racism and Xenophobia by means of criminal law in 2009. The penalties in this area also reflect in particular the Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>63.</b>  <b>Investigate and prosecute allegations of all hate speech and political discourse against</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 62.</p>

minorities (Malaysia)		<i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>64.</b> <b>Investigate and punish all instances of racist statements or of intolerance of ethnic minorities in speeches by politicians and public officials (Mexico)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 62.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>65.</b> <b>Step up its efforts towards advancing the specific courses of action taken in its struggle against discrimination such as programmes to fight poverty and social exclusion, the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 and the endorsement of the Committee for the Rights of LGBTI persons, and launch campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for diversity aimed at all segments of society (Brazil)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>The Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic established the Committee on the Rights of LGBTI persons and in cooperation with it, in 2015 processed the Action Plan for the Rights of LGBTI persons. The Slovak Republic recognizes that human rights belong to every person, regardless of their sexual orientation.</p> <p>In accordance with the approved “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020” measures and activities have been implemented to improve the situation of Roma in education, employment, health and housing. The process of the preparation of new action plans for the areas of financial inclusion, non-discrimination and access to mainstream society is underway. The new action plan on non-discrimination aims to increase the effectiveness of the protection against discrimination of Roma by effective use of anti-discrimination legislation.</p> <p>Within the framework of the “National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic” a specific framework has been prepared for action on the rights of people living in poverty, which describes the area of improving the living conditions of Roma communities.</p> <p>An effective measure in the area of social inclusion is a national project “Involving the Unemployed in the Restoration of Cultural Heritage”, which is financed by the European Social Fund and the state budget. It creates employment opportunities for marginalized groups in the fields of culture and supports the process of social inclusion. The long-term measures that lead making culture of disadvantaged groups accessible include the subsidy programme “Cultural Vouchers”, which makes culture and cultural institutions also accessible to children from primary and secondary schools in marginalized regions</p>

		of the Slovak Republic.  <i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>66.</b> <b>Adopt effective measures to combat extremism and prevent all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, including amending its legislation so as to forbid and prevent activities of extremist organizations (Belarus)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>The Government of the Slovak Republic on 18 February 2015 adopted “National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic” by Resolution No. 71, which under priority No. VI declared its commitment to adopt systematic and comprehensive measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of intolerance. Because of the need of implementation of concrete measures fulfilling the priorities of the Strategy, the Government of the Slovak Republic has committed itself to adopting a number of action plans in the individual topic areas. In the field of racism, xenophobia and related expressions of intolerance it is the “Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and other Forms of Intolerance”, which was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic in December 2015.</p> <p>The Slovak legal order does not allow any organization carry out its activities if it publicly and knowingly identifies with the ideas of extremism. If it is proven that the activity of such organization which is officially registered as a political party or civic association is apparently dangerous to society, it may be wound up or banned by judicial decision. The Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, from 2014, has implemented the project “EMICVEC - Effective Monitoring, Investigation and Countering of Violent Extremism in Cyberspace”, aimed at making the monitoring, detection and investigation of extremism in the Internet environment more effective. Within the project a specialized IT tool will be created for police officers specialized in issues of extremism as well an independent education course aimed at increasing abilities in the area of the fight against extremism on the Internet.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>67.</b> <b>Increase the monitoring of extremist organizations that act in a discriminatory manner, take</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	See response to Recommendation No. 66.

<p><b>effective measures against them, and criminalize and prosecute the financing and participation in those organizations (Spain)</b></p>		<p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>68. Ban in law and prevent activities of the extremist organizations (Uzbekistan)</b></p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic partially accepted the Recommendation.</b> The question of “banned organizations” is addressed directly in domestic legislation, which inter alia contains a provision for dissolving an organization. If it is shown that an extremist organization which is active in the Slovak Republic and is officially registered as a political party or civic association and its activities are dangerous for society, it is possible to close or ban such an organization by court judgement.</p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 66.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>69. Step up its efforts to clamp down on racism and acts of extremism in line with its Concept of Combating Extremism for 2011–2014 (China)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 40.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>

<p><b>70.</b>  <b>Continue to support the rights of the LGBTI community through its human rights framework (Australia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 29.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>71.</b>  <b>Consider adopting measures to prevent gender-based violence, including amending legislation to include such an offence (Thailand)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 35.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>72.</b>  <b>Take steps for the comprehensive prohibition of corporal punishment, including when exercising parental rights (Estonia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>An explicit prohibition of corporal punishment was implemented in conditions of social and legal protection of children and social guardianship by Amendment to the Act on Social and Legal Protection of Children and Social Guardianship from 1 January 2009. The Act is exhaustively regulated so there is zero tolerance of corporal punishment and other forms of rough or degrading treatment of children.</p> <p>The child has the right to ask for help in protecting their rights from the organ of social and legal protection of children and social guardianship or other public body which is competent to protect the rights and legally protected interests of the child, the facility, municipality, regional government, accredited entity, school, school facilities, provider of health care, all of which entities are required to provide the child with immediate assistance for the protection of life and health, take steps to secure their rights and legally protected interests, including by arranging such assistance. This also applies if the child cannot, considering its age and mental development, request the assistance itself, but through a third party.</p> <p>The provision of § 30 section 3 of the Act on the Family provides that parents have the right to use, in child-rearing, appropriate means of discipline that do not to jeopardize the health, dignity, mental, physical and emotional development of the child. Given the fact that physical punishment in its ordinary sense is capable exactly of jeopardizing health,</p>

		<p>dignity, mental, physical and emotional development of the child, the legislation in force does not tolerate it now. It follows that the rights of parents in the upbringing of children in the Act on the Family are regulated so as to provide protection against risks to health, dignity, mental, physical and emotional development of the child and at the same time for it to be possible in upbringing to use appropriate means taking into account specificities and needs of individual families. The Act on the Family in this provision does not specifically govern these means of discipline, but leaves them the choice of the parents so that the child is acquires moral consciousness and moral values. However, the choice of appropriate means of discipline applied by parents under the Act on the Family may not be boundless. The statutory limitation is based on the proportionality of these means of discipline. After exceeding this level, sanctions can be imposed for means of discipline under the Act on the Family. The current Amendment to Act 372/1990 on Misdemeanours, as amended, defines the specific offence for infringement of the integrity of a close person (including a child) and of a person, the care or education of whom had been entrusted to the perpetrator (§49, section 1 point. e)). Among punishable actions in this regard include threats of personal injury, minor injury, spiteful and other abusive behaviour. Repeated commission of such an offence within 12 months, in accordance with the Amendment of Act no. 300/2005 the Criminal Code as amended is qualified as the criminal offence of abuse of a close or entrusted person (§ 208 section 2). The rules on the basic elements of the offence (“Who causes physical or mental suffering to a close person or a person who is in his care or charge”) also removed the interpretative grounds for the irregularities that occurred in practice. One reason for the Amendment of those provisions was the intention to provide adequate tools to penalize excessive use of disciplinary means that threaten the health, dignity, mental, physical and emotional development of the child. The system of protection of children's rights should be seen comprehensively in respect of all branches of law (civil, administrative or criminal). Considering that infringement of the integrity (mental and physical) of children in cases of excessive use of disciplinary means are not only inadmissible but also punishable under the Act on Misdemeanours (or the Criminal Code), we believe that the amended legislation on administrative and criminal rights in relation to the current legislation of the Act on the Family creates sufficient legal guarantees of children's rights</p>
--	--	--

		<p>in this area.</p> <p>Another important change introduced by the Amendment of Act No. 36/2005 on the Family, which was approved by National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament) in 2015 is that it proposes a new integrated process mechanism for executing authority in the area of childcare. It also includes a draft of clear rules for an effective mechanism for protecting the rights of the child in cases where it is not possible to verify the level of protection of life and health of the child and the child's exposure to inhuman or mistreatment using current legal institutions. The court may permit an organ of social and legal protection of children and social guardianship to verify information on threats to the life, health of the child and the child's exposure to inhuman or ill-treatment directly at the residence of the child.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>73.</b>  <b>That legislation on the ban of corporal punishment in the exercise of parental rights be approved (Portugal)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 72.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>74.</b>  <b>Reinforce preventive measures for combating trafficking in women and girls for purposes such as sexual exploitation (Sri Lanka)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Information Centre for the Fight against Human Trafficking and Crime Prevention at the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic carries out training within the project “Strengthening of Joint Measures for the Prevention of Forced Labour of the Roma Community and the Development of the Reference Mechanism”. The main purpose of the training was to increase knowledge in the context of human trafficking and to develop a reference mechanism so that the victims of human trafficking can be provided with adequate support and to facilitate the detection of the crime of human trafficking. During 2014 a total of 286 people were trained, primarily from entities working with Roma communities. In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic, the issue of human trafficking was also scheduled into the cycle of training for members of the armed forces posted at missions abroad. Human trafficking is included in the training programme for selected employees of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic in connection with their activities at the consular sections</p>

of diplomatic missions abroad. The Information Centre also works together in the area of prevention with non-governmental and international organizations. In cooperation with the Slovak Catholic Charity and with the organizations STOP THE TRAFFIK and UN.GIFT, was carried out a campaign called “People are not for Sale – GIFT Box Slovakia”.

The International Organization for Migration with the support of the International Visegrad Fund and in cooperation with La Strada organizations in the Czech Republic and Poland carried out the campaign “Don’t Become a Slave”, which aimed to make more visible the telephone lines to prevent and assist victims of human trafficking in these countries. Information on assistance was located in places that people most often use when travelling abroad. In the Slovak Republic, the campaign focused on towns in Košice region.

The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Judicial Academy organized a pilot seminar on human trafficking.

The Slovak Republic is participating in the international project “HESTIA – Preventing Human Trafficking and Forced Marriages – Multidisciplinary Solutions”, funded by the EU. The Slovak Republic will be part of this project to carry out research in the field of human trafficking focusing specifically on the issue of forced marriage. The Slovak Republic also participated in the project “TACT – Transnational Action – Safe and Sustainable Return and Reintegration of Victims of Human Trafficking”. The main objective of the project is to contribute to improving the safe return and conditions for reintegration of victims of human trafficking who are returning from France, Greece, Italy, Poland and Spain to Albania, Morocco and Ukraine.

The Slovak Republic also joined the project “TeamWork!” Strengthening Multidisciplinary Cooperation in the Fight against Human Trafficking for Forced Labour, which aims to promote joint efforts to combat human trafficking for forced labour.

		<i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>75. Implement effectively the National Plan of Action on Combating Human Trafficking (Turkmenistan)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>The Government of the Slovak Republic on 4 February 2015 approved the “National Programme to Combat Human Trafficking for the years 2015 – 2018”, which aims to provide for a comprehensive and effective fight against human trafficking. The implementation of this programme is expected to be allocated of € 1 236 100. It aims to combat the fight against human trafficking, thus reducing the risk to potential victims of human trafficking, as well as to ensure the provision of direct assistance to victims in accordance with international and European standards and commitments of the Slovak Republic in this area. The programme also includes the “National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking for the years 2015 – 2018”. Its goals and activities are in line with European standards focusing on four basic areas in the fight against human trafficking, based on partnership, prevention, protection of victims and criminal prosecution.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>76. Provide adequate resources to fully implement its National Programme to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, paying particular attention to combating trafficking of children (Philippines)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 75.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>77. Step up efforts in the area of combating trafficking in human beings, including measures on the protection, reintegration and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking (Belarus)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>Assistance and support for victims of human trafficking is provided for by the “Programme of Support and Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking”. Care, rehabilitation and reintegration in order to facilitate the inclusion of victims into society through this programme are provided by contracted NGO partners. For every victim plans of care are drawn up based on their situation and needs. Care can be provided to a victim to the extent necessary to provide essential emergency care, emergency care, reintegration or integration and assisted voluntary return.</p> <p>The integration of foreigners, including victims of human trafficking is provided for by the Act on Service to Employment, under which an employer may employ a third-country national, to whom tolerated residence has been extended for the reason that they</p>

		<p>are a victim of human trafficking. For this third country national, confirmation is not required of the possibility of filling a job vacancy corresponding to highly qualified employment or confirmation of the possibility of filling a vacancy or a work permit.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>78.</b> Pay a special attention to the adoption of comprehensive measures to address the aggravating problem of trafficking in children. Consider the possibility of sending an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (Belarus)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 74.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>79.</b> Continue to strengthen its policy to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking, particularly by providing assistance to victims, regardless of their nationality (Cyprus)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 74.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>80.</b> Adopt measures to identify the root causes for the exploitation of children, including through prostitution and pornography, and implement adequate mechanisms for prevention and protection (Ecuador)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In 2015, the Slovak Republic ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation, whereby the preparation for the ratification of this regional international treaty significantly strengthened the relevant legislative and institutional framework for protection of children's rights, particularly the transposition of the relevant EU legal acts into the criminal law of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>81.</b> Continue to fight human</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 74.</p>

<p><b>trafficking in all its forms paying special attention to the situation of the victims (Romania)</b></p>		<p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>82. Ensure that the assistance is provided to all victims of human trafficking and that the authorities devise specific programmes aiming at the reintegration of victims of human trafficking into the labour market and education system (Iran (Islamic Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 77.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>83. Ensure close cooperation between the police and the NGOs which provide assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings (Slovenia)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the civic association “It’s Worth Defending Slovakia” (Brániť sa oplatí Slovensko) prepared a preventative educational campaign entitled “Everyone Can Become a Slave ... Even Today!” aimed at combating human trafficking. In order to remind people of the reality of modern slavery the Slovak Catholic Charity in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic organized the film festival “Together against Human Trafficking”. At the same time in 2015 activities continued on the campaign “GIFT BOX SLOVAKIA – People are not for Sale”, which was presented in seven cities in the Slovak Republic, as well as the activities of the campaign “TWO LITTLE GIRLS”. The Slovak Catholic Charity also organized a prayer meeting for victims of human trafficking linked to raising awareness of this phenomenon. The meeting was part of the first International Day of Prayer and Awareness of Human Trafficking declared by Pope Francis. From October 2014 until the end of January 2015, the International Organization for Migration conducted an information campaign “Don’t Become a Slave!” held in the towns of the Košice region and also through cooperation with partners in the regions of the Czech Republic and Poland, from which most victims of human trafficking come. The campaign informed the public about assistance to victims of human trafficking drew attention to forced labour and the threat of human trafficking. In Autumn 2015 the “National Coordination Centre to Address the Issue of Violence against Children” began a campaign with nationwide scope aimed at raising awareness about the issue of</p>

		<p>violence against children. The issue of human trafficking is closely linked to physical abuse and sexual abuse and for that reason this campaign also has content linked to the issue of human trafficking. The campaign aimed to mobilize the public in dealing with cases of violence against children. The campaign was held in the form of television and radio spots that substantively focused on three key forms of violence against children with the final link to a website. The spots were distributed through the RTVS channels and selected radio stations media (RTVS – Rádio Slovensko, Fun rádio, Rádio Jemné melódie a Rádio Expres). The National Coordination Centre to Address the Issue of Violence against Children has set up a website “detstvobeznasilia.gov.sk”, which provides a wide range of contacts help within individual regions consisting of state and non-state actors. At the same time also it contains direct links to advice on the telephone helpline and the online counselling “IP”. This advisory organization provides broad guidance to children and young people who are in different crisis situations. Advice is provided by trained volunteers who have undergone training accredited by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. The National Coordination Centre to Address the Issue of Violence against Children also created its own Facebook profile and its own Youtube account “Protecting Children from Violence” on which are shown the public TV spots of the campaign. The campaign also included paid online tools as YouTube advertising as promotion spots, Google search with links to websites, Google content network, and remarketing and Facebook ads.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>84.</b>  <b>Improve identification of the victims of trafficking of human beings by setting up a coherent national mechanism of identification and referral of such cases (Republic of Moldova)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The procedure for identifying victims of human trafficking and their possible inclusion in the programme of protection and reintegration is adapted to the National Reference Framework. This contains the structure of cooperating entities through which public authorities fulfil their obligations in relation to the protection and promotion of human rights of the victims of human trafficking. Its ultimate aim is to ensure respect for the human rights of victims of human trafficking and the provision of effective availability of services for them. Secondly, the National Reference Framework may assist the development of national policies and procedures, such as providing protection to victims of human trafficking and legislation in the field of legalizing their stay and resettlement.</p>

		<i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>85.</b> <b>Ensure that child victims of offences under OP-CRC-SC are provided with assistance, including social reintegration and physical and psychological recovery (Republic of Moldova)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	In the area of prevention, the area of early identification of minor victims of crime has been supplemented by the content of the minimum standards of theoretical knowledge for healthcare professionals who in the exercise of their profession come into contact with children in healthcare facilities.  <i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>86.</b> <b>That the Government of Slovakia work to raise awareness amongst vulnerable communities of the dangers of human exploitation and to ensure these communities receive adequate support (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	See response to Recommendation No.74.  <i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>87.</b> <b>Ensure full independence of the judiciary system (Turkmenistan)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	Based on the wording of Article 46 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter “Constitution”), anyone use the legally established procedure to enforce their rights in an independent and impartial court. The judiciary of the Slovak Republic operates in accordance with Article 141 of the Constitution as independent and impartial courts. The judiciary at all levels is separate from other state bodies and judges in the exercise of their functions are independent and in judging bound by the Constitution, constitutional laws, international treaties which in accordance with Article 7 section 5 of the Constitution prevail over law and laws. In accordance with Article 145a of the Constitution, if an appointed judge is a member of a political party or political movement, he must surrender his membership prior to taking the oath. Performing the duties of a judge is incompatible with a function in any other public authority, including as Chair of the Judicial Council, in the civil service, with an employment relationship, with a similar working relationship, with a business, with membership in the governing or control body of a legal entity engaged in business activity or with other economic or gainful activity, except for managing one’s own property, scientific, pedagogical, literary

		<p>or artistic activity and membership in the Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>88.</b>  <b>That necessary reforms to ensure proper functioning and legitimacy of the judiciary are undertaken, in a transparent and inclusive process with all stakeholders including the civil society (Norway)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>During the years 2014 – 2015 legislative and other conditions were created for the swift and effective implementation of a project of electronization of the judiciary (eJustice projects), which aims, among other things, to strengthen its independence and transparency, as well as to streamline judicial procedures in order to avoid the delays and improve law enforcement.</p> <p>One of the first major projects undertaken during the electronization and informatization of the judiciary is “Development and Technological Innovation of the Judicial-Criminal and Judicial-Civil Agenda of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic”; a significant part is focused on the creation of the electronic judicial case file. The basic objective and benefit of the project is to increase the efficiency of work with the judicial case files and the establishment of an effective means to eliminate the risk of illegal handling. Furthermore, the project includes a vast complex of interconnected services. This includes, for instance, completing the “eŽaloby” service portal, building “InfoSúd” (informing parties about the progress the hearings and information on court proceedings in different judicial agendas, official information board), the development of the “Electronic Newspaper Expert”, building a module of “Central Register of Enforcements (CEEx)”, building a module of digitalized judicial statistics and sector reports, building of “Universal Safe Storage of Judiciary” (archive) and of course the mentioned services in the field of videoconferencing. Another project is “SLOV-LEX”. Its aim is primarily to create a so-called “Electronic Collection of Laws of the Slovak Republic”, which will include electronic consolidated text of all the laws of the Slovak legal order. The second part of the project is to create a new system for the legislative process where the whole preparation stage of Acts from the intention to the declaration will be clearly traceable on a modern portal. The project also includes a comprehensive modernization of legislative rules, under which important part is to improve conditions for monitoring and commenting on the process of making Acts and Decrees by the public. Another important project is “Development of Electronic Justice Services (RESS)”. This project continues the Project of Development and Technological Innovation of the Judicial-</p>

		<p>Criminal and Judicial-Civil Agenda of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic. It mainly introduces the use of electronic communication with the parties and electronic delivery, the possibility to enable remote consultation of parties with the case file and the use of videoconferencing technology in court proceedings.</p> <p>With effect from 1 January 2015 in accordance with the Amendment to the Civil Procedure Code all court hearings are compulsorily recorded and recordings of court hearings form are part of the judicial case file.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>89.</b>  <b>Take effective measures to ensure full independence of the Judicial Council, and the independence of the Judiciary (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic is taking measures to make legal proceedings more effective. It introduced a system of monitoring of the decisions of the Constitutional Court where excessive length of proceedings was stated and ordered further action without delay. In this project, the Constitutional Court and several other authorities (Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic and Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic, General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, the Slovak Bar Association and the Slovak Chamber of Mediators) commit themselves to collective action to eliminate delays. The Constitutional Court maintains a register of cases in which proceedings are unduly long and are still pending before the ordinary courts. These cases are then monitored by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic and court presidents. Disciplinary proceedings can be initiated. The Constitutional Court is informed at regular intervals about the state of the proceedings concerned.</p> <p>The most important legislative project of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic has been the recodification of civil procedural law, which National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament) approved on 21 May 2015. It is the most fundamental reform of civil process since the independence of the Slovak Republic. The structural change is the separation of three types of proceedings: disputed, non-disputed and administrative and developing separate Codes. The aim of the recodification was to create better opportunities for an effective judiciary, increase law enforcement, eliminate judicial delays and make space for better judicial decisions, which will create the preconditions for increasing public confidence in the justice system and thus to improve the economic</p>

		<p>environment in the Slovak Republic. Among the main changes brought by the recodification were the thorough concentration of court proceedings and the related higher procedural activity of parties in the proceedings. The reform also introduced mandatory legal representation in proceedings at the second stage and in some cases at first stage.</p> <p>Electronization and informatization of the judiciary is an important support tool which, in synergy with the above-mentioned measures, has great potential to solve key problems of the judiciary. As regards technical measures designed to make the judiciary in the Slovak Republic more effective, work is underway on the projects “Electronic Case File”, “Register of Bankrupts”, “Register of Disqualified Persons”, “Electronic Collection of Laws”, “e-Learning for the Courts”, “Economic Information System”. In Comparative Review, the Slovak Republic is among the countries with the best online access to judicial decisions. The Slovak Republic also placed in relation to the monitoring of courts and availability of evaluation of courts.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>90.</b>  <b>Take measures to strengthen the full independence of its legal system and shorten the time it takes for cases to go through the courts in order to boost the population’s confidence in the legal system (France)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 89.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>91.</b>  <b>Fully implement the European Commission’s 2013 recommendations related to the reform of public administration and the efficiency of the judicial system (United States of America)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 89.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>

<p><b>92.</b> <b>Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma (Azerbaijan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The criminal offence of extremism was enshrined in the Criminal Code by the transposition of the Council of EU Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on Combating Certain Forms and Expressions of Racism and Xenophobia. Criminal penalties in this area also reflect in particular the Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The Criminal Code also provides for a “special motive” meaning, among other things, the crime is committed with the intention of public incitement to violence or hatred directed against a group of persons or an individual because of their belonging to a race, nation, nationality, colour of skin, ethnic group, gender origin or because of their religious belief or because of national, ethnic or racial hatred, hatred based on skin colour or hate for sexual orientation. The special motive has been identified in various crimes as a basis for the imposition of a heavier penalty.</p> <p>The Police Force has intensified its activity in the prevention of violence against Roma, Jews and migrants from outside the EU, which was also reflected in the close monitoring of public meetings that were convened by nationalistic persons. For each public meeting a police coordinating body was convened in which city representatives who were trained in when and under what legal conditions the public meeting is ended. To eliminate the crime of extremism “The Conception of the Fight against Extremism” has been developed which effectively coordinates the flow of information from the various sectors involved towards the police and creates conditions for informing civil servants and the general public about the impact of dangerous extremism on society. In order to make the identification more effective of individuals or groups of inciting racial hatred against minorities and foreigners, they were supported by several campaigns and projects which clearly specified the forms and types of hate speech. One example is the project “nehejtuj.sk”, which includes the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. The benefit of the project is the active implementation by both state and non-state actors, as well as media celebrities who have become the object of hate speech.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
---	------------------------	---

<p><b>93.</b>  <b>Ensure appropriate investigation of all acts of violence committed on racial motives and punish those responsible for them (Uzbekistan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 92.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>94.</b>  <b>Take all necessary measures to prevent illegal treatment by law enforcement bodies, ensure impartial investigation of all reports of torture and ill-treatment in order to bring the offenders to justice (Uzbekistan)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 58.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>95.</b>  <b>Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma and amend the Criminal Code so as to introduce and adopt stronger punishments for racially motivated crimes committed by police officers (Iran (Islamic Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 58.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>96.</b>  <b>Conduct immediate and impartial investigation of all reports on torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, bring those found guilty to justice and provide compensation to victims (Belarus)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>One of the measures adopted within the Police Force in relation to the prevention of torture and ill-treatment of persons deprived of their liberty was the issue of the Order of the Chair of the Police Force No. 4/2015 dated 26 January 2015. This Order, among other things, imposes the obligation on superiors of police officers, during any inspection activities to focus properly on the approach of the Police Force in carrying out police actions against individuals, further after individual evaluation of each case to arrange the placing of persons deprived of their liberty into “designated areas of the Police Force for</p>

		<p>temporary placement of persons deprived of their liberty” and for handcuffing persons to suitable objects only for an unavoidably necessary time. Each such placement and handcuffing to an object along with the timescale must be recorded using in the relevant administrative assistance and form.</p> <p>As regards the hearing at District Court Košice II, in which the ten police officers were accused of abuse of public authority, on 27 February 2015 that court handed down an acquittal by reason of the inadmissibility of video evidence of the incriminating act as proof lawfully obtained. Against the first instance judgment the prosecutor filed an appeal and for that reason the judgment did not enter into force.</p> <p>Police action on 19 June 2013 in two Roma settlements in Moldava nad Bodvou (Budulov and Drienovec) aroused the interest of representatives of various international organizations. The Slovak Republic provided necessary clarifications on this issue and information on the circumstances of the above-mentioned procedure for police intervention. In January 2014 prosecutions were initiated on suspicion of having committed several offences in connection with that police intervention. Six offences were prosecuted of cases of the suspected crime of abuse of public authority, assault and violating the home freedom and were stopped in all cases, either for the reason that the actions were not criminal offences or for the reason that the acts did not occur.</p> <p>In this respect, the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities in January 2014 issued an Internal Regulation under which the commander of raiding units of the Police Force arranges for visual, audio and other recordings to be made of a raid which deploys a larger number of forces and resources of the Police Force.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>97.</b>  <b>Make sure that all victims of discrimination have access to effective remedies and the means to</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic has developed an “Action Plan to Prevent and Eliminate all Forms of Discrimination”. It aims to preserve the experience from the previous period aimed at raising public awareness about non-</p>

<b>obtain them (Belgium)</b>		<p>discrimination, as well as efforts to improve the implementation of anti-discrimination legislation in practice. In addition, one of its objectives was to improve the institutional framework for the fight against discrimination and to raise awareness of professionals and the general public, but especially public administration. The Action Plan places great emphasis on education, using funds from the Operational Programme “Human Resources and Effective Public Administration”.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>98. Ensure effective legal protection for victims of discrimination (Pakistan)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 97.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<b>99. Consider establishing an independent body with the right to undertake unannounced visits to all places of deprivation of liberty, including police stations and pretrial detention facilities, with a view to an early ratification of OP-CAT(Czech Republic)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>The question of ratification of OP-CAT by the Slovak Republic remains under consideration. Currently expert discussions and debates are being held and on the basis of the results it will be possible to start preparing for ratification. According to Article 149 of the Constitution the Prosecutor's Office protects the rights and legally protected interests of natural and legal persons and the State. As per §18 of Act No. 153/2001 on the Prosecutor's Office, the prosecutor oversees that in places of detention, imprisonment, serving disciplinary sentences of soldiers, protective treatment, protective education, institutional treatment or institutional education ordered by the court, as well as in police cells, persons are held only based on a decision of a court or other competent state authority on the deprivation or restriction of personal liberty and that in these places the laws and generally binding regulations are observed. The Slovak Republic considers that legislation is sufficient and the establishment of another independent authority is not currently considered necessary. The prosecutor is a sufficiently independent authority with the right to inspect all facilities where persons are deprived of their liberty, including police stations and custodial institutions.</p> <p><i>Recommendation is being implemented.</i></p>
<b>100. Continue to take all necessary steps to combat corruption, ensure</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>For the issue of independence of the judiciary see responses to Recommendations No. 87 and No. 89.</p>

<p><b>judicial independence and promote a fair and transparent legal system for all Slovak citizens (Australia)</b></p>		<p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>101. Sustain and promote the family, based on the stable relationship between a man and a woman, as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Holy See)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In June 2014 Constitutional Act No. 161/2014 amending the Constitution was passed. In the light of that legislative change the marriage union is considered uniquely between a man and a woman. Marriage, parenthood and family are protected by law. It guarantees the special protection of children and adolescents. Details relating to the protection of the principles of family as the fundamental unit of society are protected particularly by the Act on the Family in force, which regulates marriage and relations between spouses, relations between parents and children and other relatives, including parental responsibility, issues of maintenance, as well as the determination of maternity and paternity and adoption, as well as other related legal regulations.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>102. Continue to strengthen efforts to eliminate discrimination in employment and occupation faced particularly by women and Roma persons, pursuant to the recommendations of ILO supervisory bodies (United States of America)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Recommendation is implemented through the Act on Services to Employment and the Act on Equal Treatment in Certain Areas and Protection against Discrimination (Anti-Discrimination Act). Citizens have the right to access to employment without any restrictions, in accordance with the principle of equal treatment in employment and similar legal relations, provided for by the Anti-Discrimination Act. In accordance with the principle of equal treatment, discrimination is forbidden on grounds of marital and family status, colour of skin, language, political or other opinion, trade union activity, national or social origin, disability, age, property, gender or other status.</p> <p>To reduce a multiple discrimination against Roma is one of the objectives of the “Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020”. Reducing disparities in the employment of the Roma to the average of the Slovak Republic is to be achieved by linking education and training with the labour market, promoting non-discriminatory access to and the application of temporary equalising</p>

		<p>measures in practice. Decisions about career choices are to be improved by providing information and advisory services, to school pupils and their legal representatives. Measures are also taken to support the transition of disadvantaged jobseekers from marginalized Roma communities to the open labour market through “step employment”.</p> <p>An important tool for increasing employment and income levels of women was the National Project Family and Work, which aims to promote the reconciliation of work and family life and the possibility of careers for mothers with young children. Time away from work because of maternity is one of the factors that have long been reflected in the lower income levels of women. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in the new programming period under the Operational Programme Human Resources will support flexible forms of work and flexible forms of childcare, as well as other measures leading to the elimination of discrimination in the labour market.</p> <p>The Labour Code provides that the employer in hiring a natural person may not breach the principle of equal treatment if it concerns access to employment.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>103.</b>  <b>Implement measures that guarantee the right to work to its citizens, in particular to youth under the age of 25 and women (Cuba)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The specific concept of providing services for young people is also to support job creation by employers for young people aged up to 29 years through national projects.</p> <p>With effect from 1 January 2015 the Slovak Republic introduced a new administrative measure for the labour market, which is a contribution to support the creation of jobs for first regular paid employment. The contribution may be granted by the Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family to an employer who creates a job and hires a jobseeker who is a citizen under 25 years of age who has been on the register of jobseekers for at least three months, or who is younger than 29 years of age and has been on the register for at least six months. The condition is that before taking the job created these young people had not had regular paid employment, i.e. they had never had a job that lasted at least six consecutive months. The contribution is provided for at least six and a maximum of twelve calendar months, whereby the amount is differentiated according to the average</p>

		<p>rate of recorded unemployment.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>104.</b> <b>Bridge the wage gap between men and women (Libya)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In accordance with the Labour Code, the employer must treat with employees in accordance with the principle of equal treatment established for the field of labour relations by the Anti-Discrimination Act. In labour relations it prohibits discrimination against employees on grounds of sex, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, race, colour of skin, language, age, unfavourable health condition or disability, genetic characteristics, beliefs, religion, political or other opinion, trade union activity, national or social origin, belonging to a national or ethnic group, property, birth or other status or because of information on criminality or other antisocial activities. In accordance with the principle of equal treatment in employment for the area of remuneration based on sex, the employee's right to equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, regardless of the gender of employees is specifically reflected in the Labour Code. This provision has been transposed in the Labour Code and Article 4 of the European Parliament and Council of the EU Directive 2006/54/EC on Implementing the Principle of Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment of Men and Women in Matters of Employment and Occupation.</p> <p>On the basis of data on the average earnings of men and women in the same job position with the same employer, the wage gender gap in the Slovak Republic is calculated and analysed in detail. The results of these analyses from 2005 to 2015, while confirming the persistence of the wage gender gap, also show a positive trend, which is its systematic reduction.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic continuously adopts measures to reduce the gap in earnings between men and women. The most important include an educational campaign, which not only alerted people to the lower valuation of women's work, but also offered specific advice at <a href="http://www.kedvyrastiem.sk">www.kedvyrastiem.sk</a> on how to defend against labour market discrimination.</p> <p>Another important measure for reducing the wage gender gap is the gradual increase in</p>

		<p>minimum wage, as women work more often in low income jobs than men.</p> <p>An equally important tool for increasing employment and income levels of women was the National Project Family and Work, which aims to promote the reconciliation of work and family life and the possibility of careers of mothers with young children. Time off work because of maternity is one of the factors that have long been reflected in the lower income levels of women. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in the new programming period under the Operational Programme Human Resources will support flexible forms of work and flexible forms of childcare, as well as other measures leading to the elimination of discrimination in the labour market.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>105.</b>  <b>Better ensure the effective enforcement of laws against sexual harassment and adopt additional preventive and protective measures to combat sexual violence in the workplace (Netherlands)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The concepts of discrimination and harassment in the legal order of the Slovak Republic are defined in the Anti-Discrimination Act. According to the Labour Code, the rights and obligations arising from labour relations must be exercised in accordance with good manners. No one shall such rights and obligations misused to the detriment of another party to an employment relationship or co-employee. If an employee believes that their rights have been violated, they have the right to submit a complaint with the employer and the employer is obliged to respond to such a complaint without undue delay, perform restitution, abstain from such conduct and eliminate the consequences. An employee who believes that his rights or legally protected interests have been affected may also go to court and seek legal protection provided for under the Anti-Discrimination Act. If the employer's conduct is such that it can be considered a criminal offence, the employee can submit a criminal complaint with law enforcement agencies. No one in the workplace may be persecuted or otherwise punished for submitting a complaint, lawsuit or petition for the initiation of criminal proceedings against or other report of criminality or other anti-social activity against another employee or the employer.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic is preparing a national survey on the prevalence of sexual harassment in the workplace. The results</p>

		<p>should be known in 2017. The Labour Inspectorates monitor discrimination in the labour market and evaluate possible discrimination cases. A Methodology for Labour Inspectorates is being prepared that will ensure effective monitoring of discrimination cases. After the adoption of the Methodology, seminars and training session are planned for relevant professions.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>106.</b> <b>Take measures to guarantee access to safe drinking water for all its population (Chile)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation is implemented in the Slovak Republic based on the four basic conditions laid down at the United Nations – availability, adequacy, quality, accessibility. The Slovak Republic has a sufficient number of quality water resources, which are used to supply the population with drinking water from the public water supply. Drinking water supply stands at 92.6%.</p> <p>As part of the programming process for the period 2014 – 2020 in the area of housing policy in the Operational Programme “Human Resources” specific actions were defined to improve access to drinking and utility water for villages with the presence of marginalized Roma communities.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>107.</b> <b>Increase inputs to help to improve the living standards of people living in poverty and create more job opportunities for women, youth and other special groups (China)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Sustainable reduction of poverty and social exclusion in the Slovak Republic is addressed by measures, the key ones including the provision of income support, promoting access to employment, education and integration in the labour market, access to public services and human capital development, both for individuals and social groups excluded or at risk of social exclusion, as well as policy makers and service providers. Active inclusion policies can significantly enhance the promotion of social inclusion of the most disadvantaged persons and their integration into the labour market and help reduce gender inequalities. The basic objective of social policy in the Slovak Republic is to create for residents such a legislative and institutional framework and to identify and implement measures to ensure the sustainable development of human, economic, social and cultural rights and resources aimed to ensure decent living conditions for all, promoting equality between men and women, ensuring equal opportunities and the elimination of all forms of discrimination.</p>

The main objective of social inclusion in order to reduce the risk of poverty is “To Remove at least 170 000 People from the Risk of Poverty and Exclusion up to 2020”. In 2015, the main measures to reduce poverty and social exclusion were developed within the 2015 National Reform Programme of the Slovak Republic (“NRP 2015”) and detailed in the Action Plan for NRP 2015. The Slovak Republic is trying to reduce the risk of poverty and social exclusion by fostering and promoting social inclusion measures. This particularly includes making more effective the instruments of aid in material distress tied to measures aimed at improving access to the labour market, as well as other measures aimed at an adequate income, improving the quality of social services, measures of social and legal protection of children, supporting families, particularly in reconciling their work and family life etc.

With effect from 1 January 2015 the Slovak Republic introduced a new administrative measure in the labour market, which is a contribution to support the creation of jobs for the first regular paid employment. The contribution may be granted by the Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family to an employer who creates a job and hires a jobseeker who is a citizen under 25 years of age who has been on the register of jobseekers for at least three months, or who is younger than 29 years of age and has been on the register for at least six months. The condition is that before taking the job created these young people had not had regular paid employment, i.e. they had never had a job that lasted at least six consecutive months. The allowance is provided for at least six and a maximum of twelve calendar months, whereby the amount is differentiated according to the average rate of recorded unemployment.

An important tool for increasing employment and income levels of women is the National Project Family and Work, which aims to promote the reconciliation of family and working life and the possibility of careers for mothers with young children. Time off work because of maternity is one of the factors that have long been reflected in the lower income levels of women. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in the new programming period under Operational Programme Human Resources will support flexible forms of work and flexible forms of childcare, as well as

		<p>other measures leading to the elimination of discrimination in the labour market.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>108.</b>  <b>Adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual health and reproductive rights based on human rights and WHO standards, and allocate sufficient financial and human resources for their implementation (Belgium)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Government of the Slovak Republic has instructed the Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic to develop a “National Programme for Women, Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health”. At present, discussions are being conducted with expert stakeholders on aspects of those issues, such as addressing the issues of hormonal contraception, artificial insemination, introduction of the abortion pill, limiting the conscientious objection of health workers and health facilities, implementation of eugenic practices, expansion of prenatal diagnosis in order to search and terminate pregnancies with disabilities of the foetus and the associated allocation of funds to implement these tasks in the national health programme. The preparation of the National Programme and its submission to the Government of the Slovak Republic is expected during 2017.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>109.</b>  <b>Increase access to contraceptive methods for all women as required by the CESCR (Belgium)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>According to data from the database of registered medicines from the State Institute for Drug Control, in the Slovak Republic there are registered and thus available 387 kinds of hormonal contraceptives and 13 kinds of contraceptives for local use, which can be prescribed by a woman’s healthcare provider. Contraceptives and other methods of contraception are available in the Slovak Republic. If their use is medically justified they may be reimbursed by health insurance from public health insurance.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>110.</b>  <b>Continue to safeguard the choice of health care workers to have recourse to the principle of conscientious objection (Holy See)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Conscientious objection of health workers in the provision of health care is governed by the Act on Healthcare Provision, the Act on Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Workers and Professional Organizations in Healthcare. The rights of health professionals to exercise conscientious objection is explicitly provided for in the Code of Ethics of the Healthcare Professional annexed to the Act on Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Workers and Professional Organizations in Healthcare.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>

<p><b>111.</b>  <b>Maintain the protection of the right to life from conception to natural death following article 15 of the Slovak Constitution that states: “Human life is worthy of protection even prior to birth” (Holy See)</b></p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic partially accepted the Recommendation</b> in the sense of the finding of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic in judgement PL ÚS 12/01.</p>	
<p><b>112.</b>  <b>Ensure women's access to quality sexual education as well as to condoms and other means necessary for the practice of an informed and responsible sexual health (Mexico)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Sex education is a cross-sectionally reflected in the curriculum of education of all students in full-time and external medical care who acquire professional qualification to perform professional work activities under Government Regulation No. 296/2012 on Professional Competence for the Performance of Healthcare Professions, the Method of further Education of Health Professionals, System of Specialized Branches and the System of Certified Working Activities. Access to condoms is guaranteed by their unrestricted sale in retail chains.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>113.</b>  <b>Adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual and reproductive health and rights, based on international human rights and WHO standards, and involve non-governmental organizations working on women’s rights and on reproductive rights in the preparation and implementation of this programme (Netherlands)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 108.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>

<p><b>114.</b>  <b>Continue pursuing appropriate and efficient policies aimed at further improving access to education for socially disadvantaged children and consider, if necessary, the adoption of additional measures (Czech Republic)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In 2015, significant legislative changes were made relating to racial discrimination by amending the Education Act. In addition to the Education Act, Amendments were also made to the Act on State Administration in Education and School Government, the Act on Pedagogical Staff and Specialists and the Act on Financing of Elementary Schools, High Schools and School Facilities.</p> <p>Apart from this, several conceptual and legislative solutions were prepared aimed at improving circumstances in this area. Free pre-primary education has been introduced from the fifth year of age, the zero year in primary schools and specialized classes in primary schools with a compensatory and development programme. The institute of the teaching assistant was also established. In the field of material support, an allowance was introduced for pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, the subsidies support their food and subsidies to support education to meet school obligations (Act No. 544/2010), the allowance for a dependent child with the benefit in material need designed to support education, training and general development of the child in the home, who properly fulfils the obligation for compulsory education (Act No. 417/2013).</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>115</b>  <b>Continue efforts to develop capacities of the institutions that deal with disabled persons (Oman)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>An important step assisting in the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the Slovak Republic in 2015 was particularly the approval of Act No. 176/2015 on the Commissioner for Children and on the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. The main activity of Commissioners will, unlike other institutions protecting rights, be the specialized public defence of rights. The specialization lies in the fact that the Commissioner for children deals exclusively with children's rights and the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities deals exclusively with the rights recognized for this group in the UN Conventions, regardless of whether they are defined in the Constitution. The legislation creates conditions for the independent operation of Commissioners (separate exercise of the privileges of other bodies with responsibilities for human rights, the election of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament), excluding conflict of interest, financed by grant). The Draft Act also addresses the issue of acceptance of the Commissioner by representative organizations through their statements on the person of Commissioner prior to selection.</p>

		<p>It is also proposed that the Commissioner be assigned responsibility to submit notifications to the relevant UN committees on behalf of a child (of children) under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Procedure of Notification and on behalf of persons with disabilities (a group of persons with disabilities) under the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Act on the Commissioner for Children and the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities entered into force on 1 September 2015.</p> <p>The tasks in the field of protection of cultural rights of persons with disabilities are implemented as part of the national strategic document "National Programme for Development of Living Conditions of Persons with Disabilities for years 2014 – 2020", based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and are fulfilled as part of the grant programme "Culture of Disadvantaged Groups" and organizations under the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. As part of this Programme, 75 projects were conducted in 2014 for people with disabilities with a total value of € 246 500. In 2015, under this Programme 78 projects were supported totalling € 239 900.</p> <p>An exceptional role in the development of the cultural rights of people with disabilities is played by the Matej Hrebenda Slovak Library for the Blind in Levoča, the main activity of which is to promote the culture of people with visual and other disabilities. The library's annual increase represents an average of 1 240 titles. From 2014 it has made available a digital library archive of blind magazines in text format with full-text searching of more than 7 600 articles.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>116.</b>  <b>Improve legislation in the area of the protection of the rights of the national minorities (Russian Federation)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Strategy of Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in the Slovak Republic approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic on 18 February 2015 also included basic material for the section of the Strategy on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Ethnic Groups. The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for National Minorities created space for the preparation of an Action Plan for the Protection of Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Ethnic Groups for the years 2016 – 2020. The Action Plan identifies the</p>

main objective, which is to secure an efficient, transparent and accountable system for the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and ethnic groups, including the strengthening of institutional provisions. Further to this end, the Action Plan defines the first of the operational objectives as “Securing a Comprehensive Approach to Legislation on the Rights and Status of National Minorities and Ethnic Groups”.

In accordance with the Act on Radio and Television of the Slovak Republic the broadcast of content and regionally balanced programs in the languages of national minorities and ethnic groups living in the territory is provided for. The public broadcaster is obliged to ensure that at least one of the four radio programme services is assigned to broadcast balanced content and regional programs in the languages of national minorities and ethnic groups living in the Slovak Republic.

An effective tool to perform tasks in the field of social inclusion of marginalized groups is the subsidy programme of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic “Culture of Disadvantaged Groups“. The Programme aims to protect the cultural rights of persons with disabilities, the elderly, marginalized Roma communities, vulnerable groups of children and young people, women, homeless, unemployed people, migrants, minorities, etc. to create conditions for their visibility in society and present their specific culture and also to prevent discrimination and all forms of violence.

In the Slovak National Museum (the “SNM”) which is an organization founded by the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, there are specialized documentary departments focusing on the history and culture of national minorities living in Slovakia (Museum of Czech Culture in Slovakia in Martin, Museum of Croatian Culture in Slovakia in Bratislava, Museum of Carpathian Germans in Bratislava, Museum of Culture of Hungarians in Slovakia in Bratislava, Museum of Roma Culture in Slovakia in Martin, Museum of Ruthenian Culture in Prešov, Museum of Ukrainian Culture in Svidník, Museum of Jewish Culture in Bratislava). These museums are specialized documentary, scientific research and methodical workplaces that systematically seek, receive, store and professionally process material and intangible documentation of the

		<p>history, culture and traditions of the relevant ethnic groups on the territory of Slovakia and present the results of their work to the public through publications, educational activities, exhibitions and cultural events designed to introduce the public this rich cultural heritage.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>117.</b> Continue improving the protection of national minorities in Slovakia, such as through institutional and legislative developments (Montenegro)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 116.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>118.</b> Support the preservation and development of the cultures of national minorities (Sri Lanka)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 116.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>119.</b> Adopt positive policies to include representatives of minorities at various levels in national and local government (Uruguay)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The platform of participation of representatives of national minorities and ethnic groups in policy-making in this area in the national level is Committee for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups as a permanent expert body of the Government Council of the Slovak republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality. The Committee, among other things, serves as a consultative body on matters of participation of national minorities and ethnic groups in addressing matters concerning national minorities and ethnic groups within the meaning of Article 34 section 2 point c) of the Constitution. The Committee has representation of 13 national minorities (Hungarian, Roma, Ruthenian, Bohemian, Ukrainian, Polish, Moravian, Russian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Jewish and Serbian).</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>120.</b> In line with the suggestions of the Council of Europe, improve efforts</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>An equal and integral part of the education system of the Slovak Republic is the education of national minorities in their mother language and in their mother language, including the institutional provision of this with schools and educational institutions with</p>

<p><b>to provide adequate opportunities for children belonging to minorities to learn their mother tongue and to study in their mother tongue in schools (Hungary)</b></p>		<p>education and teaching language as the minority language and the teaching of minority languages. Children of citizens belonging to national minorities and ethnic groups are guaranteed, besides the right to master the state language, also the right to education in their own language. In the education of children belonging to national minorities the education system applies the democratic right of parents to choose the language of instruction of their school. Schools where education is carried out in another teaching language other than Slovak are run bilingually, this means in the state language and in the language of the national minorities; in schools where education is carried out on the basis of bilateral agreements it is conducted in both languages or teaching is in the state language and the foreign language. Education in elementary and high schools with a different teaching language from the state language also includes compulsory courses in Slovak language and literature to the extent necessary for it to be acquired. Funding of schools with minority language and the teaching of minority languages is based on normative predetermined volume of funds for individual schools within the scope of the organization it belongs under. The wage standard and standards for the educational process at schools per pupil is 108% of the corresponding standard with a teaching language other than Slovak and for bilingual studies it is 125% of the corresponding standard. The right to education in the mother language is exercised by members of the Hungarian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, German and Roma minorities.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>121. Fully implement its National Roma Integration Strategy to combat socioeconomic marginalization and discrimination and continue to condemn all acts of violence against Roma persons (United States of America); Continue to implement the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 (Angola);</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities coordinates the implementation of the “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020”, adopted by the Government of the Slovak Republic on 11 January 2012. Part of that Strategy was the “Revised National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005 – 2015” updated for the years 2011 – 2015. In 2015, the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities prepared a “Revision of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020”, new action plans in the areas of education, employment, health, housing, as well as action plans for cross-sectional topics in the area of financial inclusion, non-discrimination and attitudes towards the majority society. In the programme period 2014 – 2020 from the European Social Funds will support activities</p>

<p><b>Reinforce the provisions of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma (Chile);</b>  <b>Take all necessary measures to implement the National Roma Integration Strategy. This includes the provision of financial means regarding the efficient implementation of this Strategy (Austria)</b></p>		<p>to promote the fields of social work, pre-primary education, health education, and assistance in dealing with legalization of land under Roma dwellings and employment of the Roma.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>122.</b>  <b>Strengthen its obligations under the Strategy for Roma Integration with a view to effectively combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other interrelated forms of intolerance (Cuba)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 121.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>123.</b>  <b>Continue with activities towards implementing the revised National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion for 2011–2015 and the adopted Strategy for the Integration of Roma up to 2020 (Montenegro)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 121.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>124.</b>  <b>Assess the implementation of the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 annually and keep Roma NGOs, including women’s and children’s organizations, actively</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In the process of “Revision of Strategy and Creating Action Plans” a topic Working Group was created for monitoring and evaluation, the main task of which is to monitor the implementation of the objectives of the Strategy through action plans and make recommendations for improving the process of implementation.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma</p>

<p><b>involved in the implementation and assessment of the strategy (Finland)</b></p>		<p>Communities prepared a guidance document for monitoring and evaluation of Strategy, which is a single process, principles and procedures for monitoring, reporting and information on the status and progress towards meeting the integration of Roma and evaluation of their impact on the objectives of the plan or for possible strategy review.</p> <p>Monitoring the implementation of the Strategy will take the form of an annual monitoring report which, in addition to the description of the key information concerning the Strategy will include an overview of physical and financial implementation of the objectives, measures and activities in a predefined form.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>125. Promote a more effective policy aimed at integrating Roma on issues related to education, employment, housing and health, that will produce positive results (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of))</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>Support for Roma integration through the labour market is implemented using measures of active labour market policy in accordance with the Act on Services to Employment which are designed on the principle of access to employment without any restrictions, in accordance with the principle of equal treatment in employment and similar legal relations provided for by the Anti-Discrimination Act. In area of accommodation, Slovak Government Resolution No. 13 dated 7 January 2015 approved the “Conception of State Housing Policy up to 2020”. This is the framework document of the State for the area of housing law. It also deals with the issue of housing for disadvantaged groups in the housing market and its solution. In the area of increasing the availability of housing for the most disadvantaged groups in the coming period the objective is particularly maintaining support for housing development subsidies through the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic and subsidised loans from the Housing Development Fund. Other supportive instruments should be system of temporary housing and also introducing a separate housing allowance under the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>126. Focus on education as the most important part of a long term</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Education Act prohibits all forms of discrimination and segregation in particular. No provisions in the Education Act No. 245/2008 leads to the exclusion of Roma children from the standard school system and their placement in special educational and training</p>

<p><b>sustainable solution for the Roma population, and have patience and perseverance with this work. Roma children must be given the same opportunities and not put in schools aimed at mentally challenged students (Sweden)</b></p>		<p>establishments and hence persistent segregation. A pupil completes their compulsory education in the elementary school in the school district where they have residence if the legal guardian for the child chooses no other elementary school. This applies to all children regardless of nationality, gender, race, religious beliefs and so on. The legal guardian has the right to choose their child's school, corresponding to their abilities, health status, hobbies and interests of the child, his faith, worldview, national and ethnic origin. These rights stipulated by the Education Act apply equally to everyone in accordance with the principle of equal treatment in education provided for under the Anti-Discrimination Act. Roma children and pupils in the school education system of the Slovak Republic have equal status with the same guaranteed rights and obligations as all children and pupils.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic in a long-term and responsible manner addresses the provision of equal access for members of all nationalities, ethnic groups and disadvantaged groups living in the Slovak Republic, to education, thereby enhancing their social inclusion. The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic for a long time has been working on legislation in the areas of segregation and discrimination in order to achieve an application of the Education Act which does not allow the confusion of special educational needs based on a health disability with special educational needs arising solely from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. This is because slow development of children in socially disadvantaged backgrounds does not necessarily imply a health problem, which plays a decisive role in the placement of a child or pupil in special schools or special classes. This means improvement of education for pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, where the significant proportion is children from marginalized Roma communities. On 30 June 2015 the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament), approved a Draft Amendment to Act no. 245/2008 on Education and Training (Education Act) and on the Amendment of Certain Acts as amended, and to other acts with legislative measures aimed at improving the educational situation of pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, where a significant proportion are children from marginalized Roma communities. § 107 directly establishes as a legal norm that a child or pupil whose special educational needs derive solely from its</p>
---	--	---

		<p>development in a socially disadvantaged backgrounds cannot be accepted in special schools or special classes of kindergartens, special primary school classes or a special class of high school. In practice this means that the reason for the inclusion in a special school cannot only originate only from a socially disadvantaged background. Explicitly and directly it provides for inclusion of children and pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds in classes with other children and pupils. This measure clearly prevents segregation. The provision also applies to the operation of a special class – for pupils who could not complete their education in the relevant year to “swot up” and “catch up” on the missing knowledge. This class included students on the suggestion of the teacher, after obtaining the view of the educational counsellor and with the consent of the parents (guardian) for a maximum of one year. Changes apply to the allowance for students from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. It is received only by students from socially disadvantaged backgrounds who are placed in “normal class”, with effect from 1 September 2016.</p> <p>The Amendment to the Education Act also tightened the control mechanism of the State over the activities of school facilities, educational counselling and prevention, as well as enabling the relevant bodies to revise diagnostic procedures and proposals for inclusion of the child or student in a particular form of education and training. It enabled the State Schools Inspectorate to consider more serious deficiencies in the activity of special educational facilities and school educational counselling and prevention also including performing incorrect diagnosis.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>127.</b> <b>Strengthen efforts to include Roma children in mainstream education (Sri Lanka)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 126.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>128.</b> <b>Introduce a clear duty on all schools to desegregate education</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic publishes annual pedagogical and organizational guidelines, which highlight the consistent application of the prohibition of all forms of discrimination and segregation,</p>

<p><b>and end discrimination against Romani children (Israel)</b></p>		<p>as well as the implementation of inclusive education of children and pupils in all kindergartens, elementary and high schools, i.e. public, private and church using specific teaching methods in accordance with the Recommendations of Council of EU of 9 December 2013 on Effective Roma Integration Measures in EU Member States (2013/C 378/01).</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>129.</b>  <b>That further steps are taken in order to review existing policies and practices that lead to segregation of Roma children in schools (Portugal);</b>  <b>Adopt a concrete plan and measures leading to the abolition of segregated settings and achievement of better education outcomes for children from Romani communities (Austria)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendations No. 126 and No. 128.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>130.</b>  <b>Take measures that ensure that children of ethnic minorities can remain within the school system. In this regard, it is suggested that these measures are implemented at the level of local governments with an important number of Roma or Hungarian population residing there and that adequate follow-up of the progress is carried out in this regard (Uruguay),</b></p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic did not accept the recommendation</b> for the reason that in the Slovak Republic there is a developed legal and institutional system to ensure compulsory education, including instruments of enforcement in the interests of the child.</p>	

<p><b>131.</b>  <b>Adopt and implement a sound legal framework and appropriate policies to address the issue of discriminatory practices against Roma in the education system, utilizing the definition of segregation provided by the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and of the Regional Court in Prešov, including measures to ensure that the Court's definition of ethnic segregation in education is disseminated and promoted to the relevant stakeholders (Ireland)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 126.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>132.</b>  <b>Further increase its efforts to end the segregation of Roma children in schools by tasking an appropriate authority with the clear responsibility of identifying segregation and giving schools binding guidelines to end segregating practices (Finland)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 126.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>133.</b>  <b>Establish a task force of relevant ministries and civil society organisations to develop a plan to desegregate Roma education and to ensure the necessary resources are available to begin implementation</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 126.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>

(Canada)		
<p><b>134.</b>  <b>That appropriate steps are taken to ensure inclusive education in Slovak schools and to desegregate students that have been placed in special classes or special schools on other grounds than mental disability (Norway)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendation No. 126.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>135.</b>  <b>Intensify efforts to increase the rate of registration and participation in the educational system of Roma children (Albania)</b></p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic did not accept the recommendation in the part relating to the participation of Roma children in the educational system.</b>  The legislative order and system of implementation of school attendance makes available sufficient tools to enrol the child, including criminal sanctions for non-compliance. Compulsory education is established by law. The internal law of the State contains measures that connect award of state benefits to fulfilment of compulsory</p>	

	school attendance.	
<b>136.</b> <b>Adopt a national strategy and plan of action to ensure access to adequate and acceptable education for the Roma children (Uzbekistan)</b>	<b>The Slovak Republic partially accepted the Recommendation.</b> The Slovak Republic has adopted and is implementing a Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Integration of Roma up to 2020 and a Revised National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005 – 2015 for the years 2011 – 2015. Education is an integral part of both strategy documents.	See response to Recommendation No. 126.  <i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i>
<b>137.</b> <b>Pay particular attention to the provision of adequate basic services to the Roma population, such as drinking water, sanitation, electricity and systems of sewage and waste disposal (Spain)</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	In the area of housing, Government Resolution No. 13 dated 7 January 2015 approved the “Conception of State Housing Policy up to 2020”. This is a framework document for the State for the area of housing law. It also deals with the issue of housing for disadvantaged groups in the housing market and its solution. In the following period the aim is to increase the availability of housing for the most disadvantaged groups in the State, in particular the maintenance of housing development support through grants of the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic and subsidised loans from the Housing Development Fund. Other supportive instruments should be a system of temporary housing and also introducing a separate housing allowance under the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.  In 2015, the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic gave subsidies for the acquisition of rental housing and technical infrastructure of € 31 182 190, which supported 1 900 rental apartments intended for

		<p>social housing.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities coordinates the activities of the “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020” to improve access to drinking water in Roma communities, for example drilling and digging wells, and reducing the number of communities that use non-standard drinking water supplies or are without drinking water supplies. € 3 339 843 was allocated to these activities were for the period 2016 – 2018.</p> <p>The action plans adopted on the basis of the Strategy include measures that are aimed at improving housing policy, such as the construction and reconstruction of housing; support for micro loan programmes aimed at promoting self-construction of dwellings; promoting access to drinking and utility water, supporting the construction of utility networks; supporting the completion of basic technical infrastructure (sewers, asphalt roads, paved roads); support for the building or completion of the system of separate collection and removal of municipal waste.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>138.</b>  <b>Ensure that housing policies are motivated by the integration of Roma and other marginalized and vulnerable groups and that they avoid all forms of exclusion or forced segregation (Mexico)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In connection with the financial arrangements for the “Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration up to 2020” the general government budget supported the area of project documentation and self-building. Support in this area has been primarily focused on projects to improve the living standards of members of marginalized Roma communities, their social status in order to contribute to the achievement of equality and the dignity of living conditions in Roma settlements.</p> <p>The increased rate of interventions in favour of socio-economic integration of marginalized Roma communities takes into account in particular the multi-fund Operational Programme “Human Resources”. The structure of the measures under this Programme represents a broad spectrum of investment that will enable the improvement of conditions for social integration of people from marginalized Roma communities through a functional system of step housing and also the introduction of a financial mechanism (microloans) to support self-build, including the installation of utility</p>

		<p>networks, construction of access roads, and municipal waste removal.</p> <p>In 2015, the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic gave subsidies for the acquisition of rental housing and technical infrastructure of € 31 182 190, which supported 1 900 rental apartments intended for social housing.</p> <p>One of the basic legal problems in housing is also the settlement and legalization of land in villages with settlements of marginalized Roma communities. By implementing pilot projects aimed at settling ownership of dwellings and land managed to settle ownership to the land on which the Roma dwellings stand in the villages of Čierny Balog, Studienka and Tichý Potok. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic, State Forests of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Land Fund have established a Working Group for settlement and legalization of land.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>139.</b>  <b>Put an end to forced evictions and demolition of Roma settlements without previous notice and, if such cases take place, offer alternative housing solutions (Spain)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The State Building Administration is not aware of any building project, on the basis of which housing of members of marginalized communities, especially Roma communities would be directly threatened, and especially not in a way that would result in immediate loss of their homes. None of the current Slovak legislation allows construction, the primary purpose of which would be the segregation of certain population groups.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities in every case provides, together with the Legal Aid Centres, help in fulfilling all the requirements and standards processes of forced eviction.</p> <p>Act No. 443/2010 on Subsidies for Housing and Development of Social Housing as amended by Act No. 134/2013 regulates the scope, conditions and modalities of funding in the form of subsidies for housing development, and the definition of social housing. The Act establishes one of the purposes of subsidies as providing for the procurement of rental flats for the purpose of social housing, and also provides for subsidies for the acquisition of technical infrastructure and subsidies for the removing systemic failures of</p>

		<p>apartment buildings. The stated legal norms are current instruments for ensuring alternative solutions whose consistent use eliminates the risk of starting a procedure of forced evictions.</p> <p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities implemented the programme “Self-building of Rental Houses”. The aim of initiating self-building is to encourage greater participation of Roma themselves in renovating Roma settlements, which reduces the financial cost of the project. Another positive result is anticipated the acquisition of working skills of Roma themselves, increasing their potential application in the labour market. The houses will build will be taken by Roma involved in the project for 10 years as tenants. This form of housing that prevents any subsequent sale and in addition it cannot be subject to court enforcement orders.</p> <p>The issue of settlement of land was targeted in the activity “Working Group for the Pilot Project of Land Settlement”, composed of representatives of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic, State Forests of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Land Fund in order to address land ownership in the area of the “Roma settlement” in the village of Krásnohorské Podhradie.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>140.</b>  <b>Make sure to strike a balance between the need to give Roma a chance to own their own land and the risk of cemented segregation that might bring. Giving the Roma the chance to buy out the now, sometimes illegal, lands of settlements would create better possibilities also to claim the need</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic provides, under Act No. 226/2011 on Subsidies, Funds for the Processing of Spatial Planning Documentation of Municipalities on the basis of requests from municipalities for processing spatial planning documentation. Municipalities in whose territory a marginalized Roma community is found according to the “Atlas of Roma Communities in the Slovak Republic” are favoured in the process of obtaining the subsidy. The aim is to provide subsidies to legalize the settlements of members of marginalized Roma communities and help build adequate infrastructure in these settlements.</p>

<p><b>for sanitation and municipal services (Sweden)</b></p>		<p>The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities implemented a pilot projects to settle the ownership of dwellings and land. It managed to settle ownership to the land on which the Roma dwellings stand in the villages of Čierny Balog, Studienka and Tichý Potok. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic, State Forests of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Land Fund have established a Working Group for settlement and legalization of land. Addressing ownership to the land in Roma communities is one of the priorities of the “Programming period 2014 – 2020”. It will be implemented under the “Programme of Assistance in Dealing and Legalization of Land in Villages with the Presence of the Marginalized Roma Communities” through a national project that will be implemented in 150 villages and towns with the most serious socio-economic situation.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented</i></p>
<p><b>141. Stop the land segregation that has fomented the building of walls and barriers in areas such as Prešov, Michalovce, Partizánske or Trebišov (Spain)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>None of the current Slovak legislation allows construction, the primary purpose of which would be the segregation of a certain population group. So called “Anti-Roma” walls or fences were not permitted by state building administration (Construction Offices) as segregation walls. In the case that after construction it is shown that its existence demonstrably prevents any group of citizens to apply to their legal rights and freedoms and causes segregation of a group of residents, Slovak legal order allows these affected residents to effectively protect their rights by referral to the Public Prosecutor's Office or litigation in the civil court. In this way, the affected group of citizens have obtained, for example, the elimination of such segregation structures.</p> <p>In the area of prevention, the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities participated in drafting Methodological Manuals for Roma Civil Patrols. The objective of these patrols is the protection of public order, protection of private and public property, protection of children and youth against negative phenomena. Projects of individual towns and villages in which civil patrols operate in background of a marginalized Roma community reached 67 in 2015. The activity of such patrols has had a significant positive impact on the elimination of negative phenomena and thereby also to the formal need for objectification of reason for</p>

		<p>introducing separation structures.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>142.</b>  <b>Take steps to facilitate access to education, health and housing for the Roma community (India)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>In the area of housing, Government Resolution No. 13 dated 7 January 2015 approved the “Conception of State Housing Policy up to 2020”. This is a framework document for the State for the area of housing law. It also deals with the issue of housing for disadvantaged groups in the housing market and its solution. In the following period the aim is to increase the availability of housing for the most disadvantaged groups in the State, in particular the maintenance of housing development support through grants of the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic and subsidised loans from the Housing Development Fund. Other supportive instruments should be a system of temporary housing and also introducing a separate housing allowance under the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>The Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic provides, under Act No. 226/2011 on Subsidies, Funds for the Processing of Spatial Planning Documentation of Municipalities on the basis of requests from municipalities for processing spatial planning documentation. Municipalities in whose territory a marginalized Roma community is found according to the “Atlas of Roma Communities in the Slovak Republic” are favoured in the process of obtaining the subsidy. The aim is to provide subsidies to legalize the settlements of members of marginalized Roma communities and help build adequate infrastructure in these settlements.</p> <p>In the 2015 budget, the chapter on the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic allocated funds for subsidies for additional building, construction and reconstruction of facilities for the needs of kindergarten and school dining facilities for these kindergartens. The aim is to contribute to the expansion of capacity of kindergartens in order gradually to 2020 to reach a 95% participation rate of children aged 4 - 5 years in pre-primary education in kindergartens.</p>

		<p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with other ministries, local offices of the central government and local government is intensively addressing the provision of equal access of students to education in completing their compulsory education, the construction of modular schools in areas where the situation is critical in ensuring compulsory education and not only in municipalities with high concentrations of students from marginalized Roma communities.</p> <p>Due to lack of space capacity in elementary schools, the State is devoting intense attention to their construction for all pupils in the Slovak Republic. Building modular buildings or superstructures, renovations do not apply to new primary schools, but to those that are already included in the network of primary schools and are expanding their capacity. It follows that the State does not in any way support segregation or isolation of any part of the population.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>143.</b> Take further measures for the sustainable development of the Roma community with a focus on their integration into mainstream society (India)</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>See response to Recommendations No. 52, No. 53, No. 54, No. 55 and to Recommendation No. 56.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>144.</b> Step up its efforts in order to improve the participation of the Roma minority in the Parliament, having in view the fact that no Roma candidate was elected on the parliamentary elections in 2010 (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)</p>	<p><b>The Slovak Republic does not accept the Recommendation</b> for the reason that by the Constitution, the method of creation of the legislature is established on the basis of citizenship not ethnicity.</p>	<p>In the Slovak Republic, the legislature is created based on the principle of citizenship, which does not restrict access to elected offices for national minorities. Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities during the election period 2012 - 2016 was also a parliamentarian in the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament).</p>
<p><b>145.</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Slovak Republic proceeds in this matter under current EU legislation. Whereas</p>

<p><b>Put in place mechanisms to identify at an early stage children among refugees and asylum seekers who might have been involved in armed conflict in order to ensure their protection, recovery and reintegration (Bulgaria)</b></p>		<p>unaccompanied minors are potential victims of human trafficking, or could have been involved in armed conflicts, police departments in cooperation with the social protection of children and social care at the stage of determining the basic facts about the identity of an unaccompanied minor pay increased attention to the assessment of indicators of whether such an unaccompanied minor is not a victim of human trafficking or has been involved in an armed force. If there is a reasonable risk of such a state, specific measures may be taken to protect them and ensure appropriate assistance.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>
<p><b>146. Implement laws and policies that protect and promote the civil, political, social and economic rights of migrants, Roma people, refugees and asylum seekers, especially the rights to health, to education and to work (Holy See)</b></p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The Act on Services to Employment governs the entry into the labour market of vulnerable groups of migrants, refugees and vulnerable people, so that a foreigner, who is an applicant for asylum who has been granted asylum, who is granted subsidiary protection, who has been granted temporary protection which has been extended to tolerated stay for the reason that they are a victim of trafficking, and who has been granted tolerated stay due respect for his private and family life, does not require confirmation of the possibility of filling a vacancy corresponding to highly qualified employment, confirmation of the possibility of filling a vacancy, or a work permit.</p> <p><i>Recommendation has been implemented.</i></p>