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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Georgia

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-seventh session from 18 January to 8 February 2021. The review of Georgia was held at the 13th meeting, on 26 January 2021. The delegation of Georgia was headed by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Khatuna Totladze. At its 17th meeting, held on 29 January 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Georgia.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Georgia: Czechia, Denmark and Namibia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Georgia:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Germany, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Georgia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Georgia stated that its review was taking place a few days after the European Court of Human Rights had adopted a judgement establishing that the Russian Federation had violated a number of articles of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Convention on Human Rights) during the war in August 2008. The Court had ruled that the Russian Federation was responsible for the mass violations committed against the Georgian population, as it exercised effective control over the Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia, and that the Court had confirmed that the Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia were integral parts of the territory of Georgia and were occupied by the Russian Federation.
6. Georgia attached great importance to cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms. It had developed an inclusive national reporting process to effectively implement its reporting obligations. All State reports were subjected to parliamentary scrutiny.
7. Recommendations of the human rights monitoring bodies were translated into national human rights action plans. Georgia had prepared the second human rights strategy for 2021–2030 with the active involvement of all stakeholders.
8. In 2019, the State Inspector's Service had been created for the independent and effective investigation of specific crimes committed by law enforcement officers and civil servants.

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/37/GEO/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/37/GEO/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/37/GEO/3.

9. Georgia continued to strengthen the Office of the Public Defender (Ombudsman) to ensure its effective monitoring of human rights protection, including under the anti-discrimination law.
10. Further measures had been taken to combat discrimination and hate crime and to address domestic violence and violence against women. The 2018 amendments to the Criminal Code made gender discrimination an aggravating criminal circumstance. The Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence had been established.
11. An inter-agency governmental commission on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child had been set up to coordinate a unified policy on the protection of the rights of children. In 2019, Parliament had adopted the Code on the Rights of the Child.
12. In 2020, the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities had been adopted, incorporating the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into national legislation.
13. Georgia had also implemented third and fourth waves of judicial reforms, increasing the independence, accountability and transparency of the judiciary.
14. The State Strategy for Civic Equality and Integration and the related Action Plan were important tools to ensure the integration of ethnic minorities.
15. The delegation expressed concern that international human rights organizations were constantly denied access to Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia. Georgia had been taking all available measures, including through the Geneva International Discussions. Georgia had also taken further steps with respect to long-term housing for and the socioeconomic conditions of internally displaced persons.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

16. During the interactive dialogue, 104 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.
17. The Republic of Korea expressed appreciation for the constitutional amendments to realize gender equality and took note of efforts to protect the rights of internally displaced persons.
18. The Republic of Moldova welcomed the constitutional amendments to ensure equality between women and men, as well as the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).
19. Romania commended Georgia for its progress in the field of judicial reforms, in reducing inequalities and in improving prison conditions.
20. The Russian Federation stated that references to the occupied status of Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the national report were unacceptable.
21. Senegal commended Georgia for its national human rights strategy and measures to combat racism and xenophobia and domestic violence.
22. Serbia welcomed measures taken to combat hate crime.
23. Singapore commended Georgia for its efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence.
24. Slovakia expressed appreciation for the adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child.
25. Slovenia was concerned that no agency had been designated for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
26. Spain welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the adoption of the law to combat discrimination.

27. Sri Lanka noted the constitutional amendments focusing on social rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, child rights and gender equality.
28. The Sudan made recommendations.
29. Sweden recognized the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.
30. Switzerland made recommendations.
31. The Syrian Arab Republic made recommendations.
32. Turkey shared the concerns of Georgia about the human rights situation in Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, and about the rights of internally displaced persons.
33. Turkmenistan welcomed the strengthened cooperation with the United Nations human rights treaty bodies.
34. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed significant progress on human rights and the creation of an independent agency to investigate human rights violations by law enforcement. It urged Georgia to take further reforms to ensure the protection of minorities and media independence.
35. The United States of America urged Georgia to take greater action to strengthen justice and accountability.
36. Uruguay recognized the efforts to improve gender equity.
37. Uzbekistan commended Georgia on its reforms to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities and children.
38. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed concern for the increase in and influence of homophobic groups.
39. Viet Nam welcomed reforms, including new laws on non-discrimination, juvenile justice, occupational safety, child rights and the protection of migrants and asylum seekers.
40. Afghanistan welcomed the adoption of the Law on the State Inspector's Service.
41. Albania welcomed measures taken for the independency of the judiciary, but stated that challenges remained.
42. Algeria made recommendations.
43. Argentina commended the inclusive education programmes for persons with disabilities.
44. Armenia commended the enhancement of the mandate of the Public Defender concerning the elimination of discrimination.
45. Australia reiterated its concerns over the human rights situation in the breakaway territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.
46. Austria encouraged Georgia to continue on the reform path, particularly with regard to the justice sector, and address outstanding issues.
47. Azerbaijan made recommendations.
48. The Bahamas commended Georgia for constitutional reforms on social rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, child rights and gender equality. It recognized significant progress in the area of combating corruption.
49. Bangladesh expressed appreciation for the implementation of the national human rights action plan.
50. Belarus noted steps taken to combat corruption.
51. Belgium made recommendations.
52. Botswana commended the continued cooperation with special procedures and other United Nations human rights mechanisms and monitoring bodies.

53. Brazil encouraged Georgia to intensify efforts to combat domestic violence and femicide. It expressed concern about reports of arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of children in police stations.
54. Bulgaria was concerned that the human rights situation in the occupied regions of Abkhazia, Georgia, and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, continued to deteriorate.
55. Canada welcomed the establishment of the human rights department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
56. Chile congratulated Georgia on the drafting of the Code on the Rights of the Child.
57. China noted that Georgia had made active efforts to promote its economic and social development and gender equality, to combat discrimination, hate crime and trafficking in persons, and to guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities.
58. Croatia encouraged Georgia to continue electoral reforms. It expressed concern about the insufficient social protection of children living in poverty.
59. Cuba made recommendations.
60. Cyprus welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and progress achieved towards the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
61. Czechia welcomed steps that had improved prison and detention conditions and that had helped to eradicate torture and ill-treatment as a systematic problem.
62. Denmark commended Georgia for providing prosecutors with training courses on hate crime. It expressed concern about the inadequate legal definitions related to sexual and gender-based violence.
63. Ecuador made recommendations.
64. Egypt commended Georgia for its efforts to combat violence against women.
65. El Salvador recognized advancements regarding children's rights.
66. Estonia regretted the deterioration of the human rights situation in the occupied regions of Georgia.
67. Ethiopia commended Georgia for the health-related support scheme for citizens.
68. Fiji commended Georgia for adopting the Code on the Rights of the Child and for its commitment to child protection and welfare.
69. France made recommendations.
70. Germany was concerned about hate speech against minorities and human rights defenders online and offline.
71. Ghana commended the adoption of the national human rights strategy for 2014–2020.
72. Greece welcomed judicial reforms, the adoption of a new law on the rights of persons with disabilities, and the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.
73. The delegation of Georgia stated that Georgia valued the regular cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the Office of the Public Defender. Georgia also placed particular emphasis on human rights education for civil servants.
74. During the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, Georgia had ensured that information on reporting cases of gender-based violence was available, including in minority languages.
75. State entities had begun establishing sexual harassment response mechanisms. Adopting quotas at the central and local levels was an important milestone in supporting women's political participation.
76. Building on the best international practices and values, Georgia had adopted and was implementing its first-ever policy document on rights related to sexual orientation and gender identity, as part of the national human rights action plan.

77. The Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities had increased the standards for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. Georgia was working towards establishing the national coordination mechanism under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

78. Georgia had established a human rights protection department within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. It was tasked with introducing new standards for human rights protection within the police and providing timely and effective responses to hate crimes, violence against women and domestic violence, among others. As a result, reporting to the police had significantly increased.

79. Georgia had swiftly reinforced its asylum system in full compliance with the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Rejections based on national security grounds had been low in number and could be appealed.

80. Legislative reforms had fully separated the Prosecutor's Office from the executive branch and had ensured greater transparency in electing the Prosecutor General. The Prosecutor's Office had taken significant steps for the establishment of transparent rules for the appointment and promotion of prosecutors and investigators.

81. A memorandum of understanding had been signed by the Prosecutor's Office, the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Internal Affairs to create and maintain joint, comprehensive and transparent hate crime statistics. With the support of the Council of Europe, policy guidelines on the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes had been prepared for prosecutors.

82. The State Inspector's Service was authorized to conduct independent investigations of crimes committed by law enforcement and civil servants. It was accountable before Parliament and had been cooperating closely with civil society and the Office of the Public Defender. Additional legislative guarantees were needed to grant it the power to conduct all investigative actions independently and have unimpeded access to information stored in other public agencies and to closed institutions.

83. Georgia fought trafficking in persons effectively. As a result of community policing and public outreach activities, the number of investigations and prosecutions had gradually increased. It continuously provided victims of trafficking with free services tailored to children.

84. Georgia was proud to highlight tangible results regarding its penitentiary and crime prevention systems, which focused on rehabilitation and resocialization. Moreover, Georgia had invested significant resources in developing the infrastructure of penal institutions.

85. As a result of the comprehensive mechanisms for birth registration, the risk of child statelessness was minimized.

86. The constitutional reform and four waves of judicial reform had significantly enhanced the individual independence of judges and the independence of the judiciary as a whole. Lifetime appointments for judges had been introduced, as well as a detailed procedure for the recruitment and appointment of judges. A system of electronic random allocation of cases had been introduced.

87. Guyana made recommendations.

88. Haiti made recommendations.

89. Honduras welcomed the adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child.

90. Iceland welcomed the legal amendments adopted by Georgia to further its efforts in tackling discrimination.

91. India appreciated measures taken during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the vulnerable population by ensuring the necessary health facilities.

92. Indonesia welcomed the adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child and the establishment of the Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

93. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended the establishment of the human rights protection department.
94. Iraq made recommendations.
95. Ireland expressed concern about the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, hate crimes and the administration of justice in Georgia.
96. Israel commended Georgia for adopting the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
97. Italy commended Georgia for ratifying the Istanbul Convention and welcomed the adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child and the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
98. Japan welcomed efforts to promote gender equality and improve women's participation in decision-making.
99. Jordan made recommendations.
100. Kazakhstan noted the accession by Georgia to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.
101. Kyrgyzstan commended measures to combat violence against women, advance the rights of children and combat trafficking in persons.
102. The Lao People's Democratic Republic welcomed policies to safeguard the rights of children and persons with disabilities.
103. Lebanon applauded the amendments to the law on discrimination and the national human rights strategy.
104. Libya made recommendations.
105. Lithuania commended Georgia on its efforts to provide decent conditions for internally displaced persons and refugees.
106. Luxembourg welcomed the establishment of the State Inspector's Service.
107. Malaysia looked forward to the second human rights strategy and the fourth human rights action plan of Georgia.
108. Maldives was encouraged by the establishment of the State Inspector's Service.
109. Malta welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the work carried out on anti-discrimination legislation.
110. The Marshall Islands welcomed efforts regarding gender equality and to safeguard environmental rights.
111. Mauritius commended Georgia for having put in place a human rights inter-agency council.
112. Mexico welcomed progress achieved in the reform of the judiciary.
113. Montenegro recognized the introduction of a legal definition of sexual harassment.
114. Morocco appreciated the establishment of the human rights protection department and the commission on gender equality.
115. Myanmar recognized the constitutional amendments focused on social rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, child rights and gender equality.
116. Namibia applauded Georgia for amending its laws in 2019 to regulate sexual harassment in labour relations and to further improve the realization of the rights of women and girls.
117. Nepal encouraged Georgia to continue with measures for the rehabilitation and social integration of children in street situations.
118. The Netherlands commended Georgia for its ratification of the Istanbul Convention and efforts to address domestic violence.

119. Nicaragua made recommendations.
120. Nigeria noted measures adopted by Georgia to combat trafficking in persons and protect victims.
121. North Macedonia commended steps taken towards gender equality, but noted that domestic violence remained a concern.
122. Norway welcomed the establishment of the State Inspector's Service.
123. Pakistan expressed appreciation for the focus on the human rights action plan and strategies to enhance national capacities.
124. Panama expressed appreciation for the adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child.
125. Paraguay acknowledged action taken to increase the composition and mandate of the inter-agency human rights council.
126. Peru appreciated the establishment of the State Inspector's Service.
127. The Philippines acknowledged efforts made to strengthen the protection framework for vulnerable groups, including regarding sexual and gender-based violence, children in conflict with the law, and the welfare of older persons.
128. Poland expressed appreciation for steps taken to uphold respect for human rights and for the country's cooperation with OHCHR.
129. Portugal noted the adoption of a chapter in the national human rights action plan to combat discrimination-based crime and hate crime.
130. Qatar commended Georgia for the adoption of action plans on human rights and on women and peace.
131. Timor-Leste highlighted the adoption of anti-discrimination legislation and the establishment of the State Inspector's Service.
132. The United Arab Emirates expressed appreciation of the constitutional amendments to protect vulnerable groups, and in respect of legal aid and social protection.
133. Ukraine commended Georgia for its human rights achievements, including in the fields of non-discrimination, gender equality, business and human rights and social protection.
134. Finland made recommendations.
135. The delegation of Georgia stated that the Code on the Rights of the Child had set high standards regarding the protection of child welfare and had been guiding the activities of public institutions. In particular, social rehabilitation and childcare programmes had been implemented to empower children and support families. Georgia actively supported programmes for children working or living on the streets. Forced labour, including child labour, had been monitored through labour inspections since 2016.
136. Georgia had made significant progress in adopting legislative changes and implementing policy reforms to promote safety at work and establish an effective enforcement mechanism. A full-fledged Labour Inspection Service had been in place since 1 January 2021.
137. Significant measures had been taken to fight stigmatization of and discrimination against persons with disabilities, and to promote their inclusion and participation in society.
138. Georgia continued to implement its durable housing programme for internally displaced persons, providing housing and livelihood support to internally displaced persons.
139. In 2017, a comprehensive long-term strategy for maternal and newborn health care had been approved. Georgia was also in the process of updating its legislation on mental health and harmonizing it with European Union standards.
140. Georgia was implementing a programme that provided a second opportunity at receiving education through social inclusion, which targeted children in street situations,

Roma, children with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. The Law on General Education had been harmonized with the education-related provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Ethnic minorities had access to all levels of education. The national curriculum and textbooks had been translated into the languages of the main ethnic minorities. It had implemented a “1+4” programme providing simplified enrolment procedures at higher education institutions for members of ethnic minorities. Also, in order to ensure access to higher education, the Ministry responsible for education had implemented students’ social support programme through which representatives of various vulnerable groups were financed by the State.

141. Georgia had established tailored and State-funded civic integration policy mechanisms. Through the mechanisms, a significant number of highly qualified ethnic minority young people with a good command of the State language and the necessary skills able to be actively involved in various spheres of public life.

142. Georgia had conducted several rounds of electoral reforms. International partners and other stakeholders would have an opportunity to participate in the process of the upcoming session of Parliament, where there would be discussion on plans and steps for addressing the recommendations of the international election observation mission and civil society, following the latest parliamentary elections.

143. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Georgia had been taking proactive measures to protect the socioeconomic rights of its population.

144. The Constitution of Georgia guaranteed freedom of religion. The State Agency for Religious Issues, under the Administration of the Government, and the Office of the Public Defender had advisory groups to ensure coordinated work with religious denominations in the country. A number of activities through both mechanisms were regularly conducted to raise awareness and build tolerance among various groups in society.

145. Prison overcrowding was not an issue for the penitentiary system in Georgia. Regarding juvenile justice, non-custodial measures had been applied by default for children in conflict with the law.

146. The delegation reiterated that the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights had confirmed the illegal occupation of sovereign territories of Georgia and the responsibility of the Russian Federation for mass violations, as it exercised effective control over the Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia.

147. In closing, the delegation stated that it was confident that Georgia would be able to accept many of the recommendations, and gave assurances that Georgia would proceed with the follow-up process in good faith and in close dialogue with all relevant stakeholders.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

148. **The following recommendations will be examined by Georgia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council.**

148.1 **Continue with all ongoing efforts to ratify outstanding core international human rights instruments (Ghana);**

148.2 **Continue the efforts in the area of ratification of international instruments and cooperation with human rights’ mechanisms (Morocco);**

148.3 **Ratify the main international human rights treaties that are still pending, in order to make progress on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay);**

148.4 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras) (Senegal);**

- 148.5 Consider ratifying the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh)**;
- 148.6 Take concrete actions towards the ratification of the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (El Salvador)**;
- 148.7 Ratify the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France) (Lithuania) (Senegal) (Slovakia)**;
- 148.8 Proceed with early ratification of the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan)**;
- 148.9 Consider the possibility of ratifying the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine)**;
- 148.10 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Croatia) (Estonia) (France) (Lithuania) (Luxembourg) (Slovenia)**;
- 148.11 Ratify the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol (Honduras)**;
- 148.12 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Honduras) (Luxembourg)**;
- 148.13 Consider the ratification of the **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (El Salvador)**;
- 148.14 Ratify and implement the **Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)**;
- 148.15 Ratify the **ILO Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) (Croatia)**;
- 148.16 Ratify the **European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (Germany)**;
- 148.17 Accede to the **Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Malta)**;
- 148.18 Ratify the **Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Panama)**;
- 148.19 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**);
- 148.20 Carry on with the work of submission of overdue reports to the **United Nations treaty bodies (Romania)**;
- 148.21 Strengthen the support for access by international human rights monitoring mechanisms and humanitarian and development organizations to areas not controlled by the Government, on the basis of a pragmatic approach and by consulting all relevant actors (**Switzerland**);
- 148.22 Continue cooperation with the **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures mandate holders (Kazakhstan)**;
- 148.23 Continue engaging the international community in the protection of human rights in the occupied regions of **Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia against the violations being committed by the Russian occupation regime (Ukraine)**;

148.24 Further mobilize efforts with the international community to ensure unimpeded access by international human rights and humanitarian organizations to the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali (Republic of Moldova);

148.25 Continue mobilizing the efforts of the international community to ensure unrestricted access by international human rights and humanitarian organizations to Georgia's occupied territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia (Romania);

148.26 Continue mobilizing efforts of the international community to ensure unrestricted access by international human rights and humanitarian organizations to Abkhazia, Georgia, and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, to monitor, report on and address the severe human rights and humanitarian situation of the conflict-affected population living in the occupied territories as well as in the vicinity of the occupation line (Bulgaria);

148.27 Continue with the efforts towards enabling unrestricted access of international human rights and humanitarian organizations to Abkhazia, Georgia, and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, to monitor, report and address the human rights and humanitarian situation of the conflict-affected population living in the breakaway regions as well as in the vicinity of the administrative border lines (Croatia);

148.28 Continue close cooperation with the international community in order to ensure unrestricted access by international human rights monitoring mechanisms and humanitarian actors to Georgia's regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali/South Ossetia to monitor the situation of the conflict-affected population (Lithuania);

148.29 Continue mobilizing efforts of the international community to ensure unrestricted access by international human rights mechanisms to the Georgian breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia in order to monitor and report on the human rights situation in these territories (Poland);

148.30 Continue ongoing efforts to review and bring legislation into line with the commitment to the international human rights obligations of Georgia (Turkmenistan);

148.31 Strengthen the representation of civil society in the decision-making processes of the country (Albania);

148.32 Further increase its efforts to improve the provision of public services, including by measures aimed at ensuring increased efficiency and accountability in public service delivery (Azerbaijan);

148.33 Develop the national human rights strategy on the basis of a transparent and participatory process involving civil society (Bulgaria);

148.34 Strive to allocate all the necessary human, technical and financial resources to the institutions in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, especially for the Office of the Public Defender (Serbia);

148.35 Consider allocating the necessary human, technical and financial resources to institutions in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, especially to the Office of the Public Defender (Algeria);

148.36 Take concrete steps to improve coordination between the Public Defender and the Ministry of Justice in an effort to advance progress on issues relating to criminal justice reform (Bahamas);

148.37 Allocate adequate resources to national institutions in charge of monitoring and implementing laws against all forms of discrimination (Botswana);

- 148.38 **Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources to institutions in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, especially to the Office of the Public Defender (Guyana);**
- 148.39 **Continue to take steps to strengthen national human rights institutions, including financial and administrative autonomy for the Office of the Public Defender and the State Inspector's Service (Pakistan);**
- 148.40 **Pursue implementation of the national strategy for the promotion and protection of human rights (Turkmenistan);**
- 148.41 **Continue efforts for the development of the fourth human rights action plan and strategy in a consultative manner (Republic of Moldova);**
- 148.42 **Continue to develop the second human rights strategy and implement the fourth human rights action plan to ensure everyday protection of human rights in Georgia (Viet Nam);**
- 148.43 **Continue taking the necessary measures to address concerns over the rights of vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons, refugees, migrants, and persons with disabilities, for their social cohesion (Republic of Korea);**
- 148.44 **Take further measures on strengthening the protection of the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities (Turkmenistan);**
- 148.45 **Step up efforts to combat discrimination, including based on gender, religion or belief, or disability (Uzbekistan);**
- 148.46 **Increase efforts to combat discrimination by combating stigma and hate speech through human rights education and awareness-raising (Afghanistan);**
- 148.47 **Promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue and cooperation (Albania);**
- 148.48 **Take all necessary measures to strengthen the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, particularly in the situation of extreme vulnerability they currently face in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (Argentina);**
- 148.49 **Further develop the framework of protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, and people with disabilities (Romania);**
- 148.50 **Adopt measures to eliminate and punish all forms of discrimination for any reason, including religion, gender and sexual orientation (Ecuador);**
- 148.51 **Take effective and transparent measures, both in the judicial processes and in the administrative system, to ensure the fundamental human rights of foreign residents in Georgia (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 148.52 **Implement effectively the anti-discrimination measures and policies to overcome negative stereotyping about women, persons with disabilities and religious and ethnic minorities (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 148.53 **Further enhance its educational, health-care and social security programmes to ensure that they are equally accessible for all (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 148.54 **Continue efforts to combat discrimination, including on grounds of gender, sexual orientation and disability (Nepal);**
- 148.55 **Continue efforts in ensuring the full enjoyment of human rights by all of its population without discrimination (Nigeria);**

- 148.56 **Ensure that social protection programmes for children also adequately benefit those from vulnerable groups (Philippines);**
- 148.57 **Implement educational and awareness-raising campaigns to combat discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Uruguay);**
- 148.58 **Guarantee the protection of rights for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community and other marginalized groups, including the freedoms of expression and assembly (Australia);**
- 148.59 **Continue to implement and expand measures to uphold the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals, including by ensuring full investigations into abuses and addressing hate speech (Canada);**
- 148.60 **Adopt specific policies to promote tolerance towards diversity in matters of sexual orientation and gender identity in educational settings, and document and prevent bullying and discrimination based on these grounds (Chile);**
- 148.61 **Undertake educational and awareness-raising campaigns to address stigma, dispel myths and combat stereotypes related to sexual orientation and gender identity (Denmark);**
- 148.62 **Fight against all forms of violence and discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation (France);**
- 148.63 **Promote public awareness through education and campaigns in order to eliminate discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity that leads to the harassment and bullying of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (Israel);**
- 148.64 **Establish permanent educational and awareness-raising campaigns on the prevention of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including within the judicial and police apparatus (Mexico);**
- 148.65 **Take measures to enable the safe and peaceful gatherings of LGBTIQI activists and to counter violence, hatred and discriminatory attitudes and behaviour against LGBTIQI persons, including by ensuring accountability (Netherlands);**
- 148.66 **Improve the legislative framework regulating hate speech to explicitly prohibit violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Portugal);**
- 148.67 **Combat social stigmatization, hate speech, discrimination and violence motivated by sexual orientation and gender identity (Finland);**
- 148.68 **Increase the capacity of law enforcement to adequately investigate reported hate crime across the country by intensifying preventive efforts and collaborating with organizations working on protecting the enjoyment of human rights by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Sweden);**
- 148.69 **Take measures to combat social stigmatization, discrimination, hate speech and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Argentina);**
- 148.70 **Step up efforts to combat all forms of discrimination, including on the grounds of gender, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and disability, by combating stigma and hate speech and pursuing human rights education and awareness-raising (Brazil);**
- 148.71 **Adopt measures to protect LGBTIQI people and eradicate discrimination by preventing and investigating related hate crimes (Cyprus);**
- 148.72 **Strengthen activities and laws aimed at the elimination of discrimination in society, other intolerance and hate speech against minorities**

and other groups, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);

148.73 Ensure the prevention, investigation and prosecution of hate crimes based on sexual orientation or gender identity and expression by establishing an effective hate crime investigation unit within the law enforcement system (Ireland);

148.74 Take further measures to combat hate speech and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Norway);

148.75 Consider devoting increased resources to combating hate crimes by improving investigation, prosecution and sanction of perpetrators (Sudan);

148.76 Take measures to combat discrimination, xenophobia and racism against ethnic minorities (Argentina);

148.77 Conduct a widespread public awareness campaign with a view to reducing rates of hate crime (Bahamas);

148.78 Step up the fight against discrimination, in particular on the grounds of gender, sexual orientation, religion or belief and disability, by combating stigmatization and hate speech and ensuring that related violations are thoroughly investigated (Belgium);

148.79 Investigate reports of physical attacks against members of ethnic and religious minorities and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Botswana);

148.80 Take further measures to protect religious and ethnic minority rights by combating hate speech and xenophobia (Cyprus);

148.81 Implement effective measures to eliminate the actions of extremist groups and the expressions of hate and intolerance of these groups (El Salvador);

148.82 Continue to strengthen efforts to combat discrimination, including on grounds of gender, sexual orientation, religion or belief and disability, including through public awareness campaigns combating hate speech and stigma (Fiji);

148.83 Continue to strengthen efforts to ensure that all instances of racist hate crimes are effectively and impartially investigated, that perpetrators of such crimes are prosecuted, and that victims are provided with adequate and appropriate redress (Fiji);

148.84 Prevent hate speech and strengthen efforts to properly enforce legislation prohibiting agitation, particularly against racial, religious and ethnic minorities (Germany);

148.85 Consider enacting comprehensive legislation that provides full and effective protection against hate speech, in particular in the social media (Ghana);

148.86 Take stronger measures in tackling racism and intolerance, in particular in the forms of xenophobia and Islamophobia (Indonesia);

148.87 Further implement the measures adopted to fight against crimes related to discrimination and hate motives, including by promoting peaceful coexistence between all groups of the population, and combat discrimination, intolerance and violence targeting minorities (Indonesia);

148.88 Continue efforts to fight against hate speech in the media and online targeting ethnic and religious communities (Iraq);

148.89 Adopt steps to combat acts or advocacy of racial or religious hatred, including by bringing those responsible to justice and envisaging the adoption of a national action plan against racism (Jordan);

- 148.90 Continue intense efforts to counter discrimination-based and hate crimes (Lebanon);
- 148.91 Reject hate speech disseminated in the mass media and online (Libya);
- 148.92 Ensure that all crimes motivated by racial hatred are thoroughly investigated (Luxembourg);
- 148.93 Develop a policy and a strategy to combat and prevent crimes motivated by racial or ethnic intolerance, and ensure an immediate and effective response to hate crimes based on origin, race or ethnicity (Mexico);
- 148.94 Combat incidents of hate speech and attacks against ethnic and religious minorities, including through legislative measures (Pakistan);
- 148.95 Expand training and capacity-building activities for judicial officers to better implement anti-discrimination and anti-hate crime measures (Philippines);
- 148.96 Consider integrating social protection policy for vulnerable groups within the framework of implementing the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (United Arab Emirates);
- 148.97 Continue to promote economic and social development in accordance with the national development plan, and better promote and protect human rights (Algeria);
- 148.98 Include environmental standards in all development projects (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 148.99 Consider shifting resources from hydropower to more sustainable solutions such as solar power (Marshall Islands);
- 148.100 Continue efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks that address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change adaptation and mitigation frameworks, and ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups and local communities are meaningfully engaged in their implementation (Fiji);
- 148.101 Take concrete and sustainable measures to combat the negative effects of climate change, in particular in the agricultural sector (Haiti);
- 148.102 Ensure prompt and impartial investigations into all incidents of excessive use of force by law enforcement authorities against protesters and journalists (Austria);
- 148.103 Strengthen the State Inspector's Service, including by ensuring its independence in the investigation of crimes by law enforcement officials (Australia);
- 148.104 Strengthen mechanisms for accountability of law enforcement abuses, including by equipping the State Inspector's Service with the necessary resources and support to effectively implement its mandate (Canada);
- 148.105 Ensure effective functioning of the State Inspector's Service in order to prevent torture (Japan);
- 148.106 Strengthen the State Inspector's Service both institutionally and functionally to enable it to effectively investigate human rights abuses by all types of state employees (Norway);
- 148.107 Maintain actions aimed at reducing the incidence of organized crime in prisons (Cuba);
- 148.108 Continue measures to prevent and fight against trafficking in persons (Azerbaijan);
- 148.109 Step up efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including by improving law enforcement practices with a view to bringing to justice and

punishing the perpetrators, as well as providing victims of trafficking with comprehensive protection and rehabilitation (Belarus);

148.110 Continue national efforts aiming at combating trafficking in persons, especially of women and children, and provide victims with the necessary support and protection (Egypt);

148.111 Continue its efforts in combating trafficking in persons and ensuring appropriate protection for the victims (Greece);

148.112 Continue taking measures to ensure the protection of victims of trafficking in persons (Kyrgyzstan);

148.113 Pursue efforts in combating trafficking in persons (Lebanon);

148.114 Continue taking measures to ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with appropriate protection, legal services and remedies (Malaysia);

148.115 Accelerate efforts in the fight against trafficking in persons, as well as with regard to the right to privacy and personal data protection (Morocco);

148.116 Continue its endeavours in fighting against trafficking in persons, including by protecting and rendering support to the victims of trafficking (Myanmar);

148.117 Adopt further measures in combating trafficking in persons, and ensure the protection of the rights of victims, as well as the rights of migrants (Nigeria);

148.118 Continue efforts in the direction of a gradual return of the cult buildings to the religious communities that belonged to them before Sovietization, and take further measures for the preservation and restoration of such heritage (Armenia);

148.119 Continue its efforts to guarantee full enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief, in particular by persons belonging to religious minorities (Poland);

148.120 Continue efforts to ensure freedom of the media on the basis of international standards (Uzbekistan);

148.121 Promote editorial independence in major print and online publications (Australia);

148.122 Ensure effective and efficient investigations, prosecutions, sanctions and remedies in relation to all attacks against journalists or media workers as well as in relation to the excessive use of force by law enforcement agencies (Belgium);

148.123 Ensure full enjoyment of freedom of expression and media pluralism, including full independence of public broadcasting, for example by developing specific regulations and by-laws to avoid the restriction of broadcasters' editorial independence; further strengthen guarantees of access to information (Czechia);

148.124 Ensure that journalists and media workers can exercise their profession in a free and secure environment (Ecuador);

148.125 Guarantee media freedom and media pluralism (France);

148.126 Protect and uphold freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including by respecting and supporting free and independent media, in line with international human rights standards (Iceland);

148.127 Take the necessary steps to allow journalists and media professionals to work in a safe and free environment (Libya);

148.128 Continue to allow and safely facilitate peaceful protests without discrimination (Australia);

- 148.129 **Intensify the prevention of attacks and defamation against human rights defenders in collaboration with civil society and ensure that such violations, when they occur, are promptly, independently and effectively investigated (Switzerland);**
- 148.130 **Further develop measures to ensure a safe environment for human rights defenders, including protection measures, as part of the national human rights action plan (Uruguay);**
- 148.131 **Guarantee that attacks against human rights defenders, in particular defenders of the rights of minorities, are investigated, punished effectively, and receive public condemnation from State officials (Chile);**
- 148.132 **Ensure that attacks on human rights defenders are effectively investigated and, in consultation with civil society, identify best practices in policy protection for human rights defenders (Czechia);**
- 148.133 **Protect human rights defenders (France);**
- 148.134 **Increase the efforts of political leaders to publicly acknowledge and protect the important role of human rights defenders and independent human rights institutions in the democratization process (Norway);**
- 148.135 **Continue to pursue the reform of the judiciary (Timor-Leste);**
- 148.136 **Strengthen the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and law enforcement institutions to ensure the right to a fair trial in line with international human rights standards (Finland);**
- 148.137 **Strengthen respect for rule of law by fostering judicial independence through reforms to empower individual judges and prevent informal governance by an influential group of judges known as the “clan”, by depoliticizing the justice system, and by merit-based appointments (United States of America);**
- 148.138 **Continue justice reform efforts with the goal of a fully independent and transparent judicial system, including the devolution of competencies and powers from the High Council of Justice to lower levels as well as further improvements in the selection procedures of judges to ensure transparency and merit-based appointments (Austria);**
- 148.139 **Continue efforts to strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the transparency of judicial procedures (Belgium);**
- 148.140 **Enhance the independence of the judiciary and ensure that the legislative framework and procedures governing the appointment of judges comply with international human rights standards (Brazil);**
- 148.141 **Improve mechanisms to ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary to encourage greater public trust in the rule of law, including by prioritizing transparent and fair guidelines in judicial appointments (Canada);**
- 148.142 **Ensure equal access to an independent, transparent and fair judiciary system; on the institutional level, strengthen independence and impartiality of judges, introduce a comprehensive system of evaluation and promotion of judges as well as a de-concentration of powers of the judicial council to other bodies (Czechia);**
- 148.143 **Strengthen the impartiality of judicial bodies (France);**
- 148.144 **Enhance the independence of the judiciary by continuing to reform the legal framework and system for the appointment and promotion of judges to ensure an open and merit-based approach, including at each point of entry to judicial training (Ireland);**
- 148.145 **Continue and strengthen the reform and democratic development agenda, in particular with regard to the judicial system (Italy);**

- 148.146 Continue efforts aimed at improving the judicial system and guaranteeing its independence (Libya);
- 148.147 Strengthen the independence of the judiciary by ensuring the transparency of the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court (Lithuania);
- 148.148 Guarantee the independence of the judiciary by reforming the system of appointment of judges, ensuring justification of decisions and merit-based appointments in line with the reforms under the Association Agreement with the European Union (Netherlands);
- 148.149 Adopt and implement without delay the recommendations from the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) related to reforms in the system for appointments of judges (Norway);
- 148.150 Consider undertaking reforms to strengthen the independence of the judiciary (Peru);
- 148.151 Continue to implement its anti-corruption reforms rigorously (Slovakia);
- 148.152 Credibly investigate the abduction and rendition of Afgan Mukhtarli, hold to account those responsible for these acts, and enact reforms to prevent a recurrence (United States of America);
- 148.153 Establish a rapid, accessible and transparent procedure, based on the principle of self-determination of the person, that eliminates the requirement of surgical intervention for individuals who wish to change gender in their official identification documents (Spain);
- 148.154 Implement all the recommendations of the recent election report of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as soon as possible to restore public confidence in democratic institutions and processes (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 148.155 Enhance public confidence in the integrity of electoral processes, including by fully implementing the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights recommendations, and by reforming election-related institutions, in cooperation with opposition parties, civil society and other stakeholders (United States of America);
- 148.156 Address the issue of the digital divide present in the country, highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic (Estonia);
- 148.157 Build on success in improving the standards of living of the Georgian population by particularly focusing on vulnerable groups (Ukraine);
- 148.158 Strengthen the capacity of the justice system to provide access to justice for children, and improve the standards of living of children, paying particular attention to housing, water and sanitation (Sri Lanka);
- 148.159 Further improve the standard of living of children, including housing, water and sanitation (Poland);
- 148.160 Establish a regulatory framework to guarantee the effectiveness of the right to adequate housing, through action plans and government strategies for the homeless and internally displaced persons (Paraguay);
- 148.161 Continue efforts to improve food security for all, with an emphasis on the 20 per cent of rural populations living below the poverty line (Sudan);
- 148.162 Prioritize the implementation of strengthened policy measures to reduce poverty and increase food security, particularly among rural populations (Bahamas);

- 148.163 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, reduce the size of the population in poverty and improve the living standards of its people (China);
- 148.164 Put forward measures to increase the standard of living of its people aiming at reducing the poverty level, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Mauritius);
- 148.165 Develop national action plans to focus on the reduction of poverty, in particular extreme poverty in rural areas, with a human rights approach and focusing on Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 10 (Paraguay);
- 148.166 Develop sufficient employment policies to reduce the unemployment rate and provide equal job opportunities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 148.167 Address the occupational safety and health of workers (Sri Lanka);
- 148.168 Ensure health workers are protected from stigma and abuse in relation to their employment (Indonesia);
- 148.169 Ensure the right to just and fair conditions of work by strengthening the Labour Inspectorate to enable it to implement its expanded role under the recently amended Labour Code (Norway);
- 148.170 Ensure that the right to freedom of association, trade union rights and human rights in the world of work are protected (Sweden);
- 148.171 Take further steps to improve the level of well-being and social protection of the population, and improve the quality of and access to medical services (Belarus);
- 148.172 Ensure universal access to quality sexual and reproductive health and rights services, including for vulnerable women, people living with HIV and young people (Luxembourg);
- 148.173 Improve access to and distribution of public sexual and reproductive health services, including free or subsidized contraceptive methods, especially for vulnerable groups, and criminalize the sexual exploitation of children under the age of 18 in line with the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) (Spain);
- 148.174 Enhance efforts to minimize maternal mortality, infant mortality and stillbirths (Sri Lanka);
- 148.175 Develop and implement comprehensive education curricula on sexual and reproductive health and rights, in line with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) guidance and standards (Uruguay);
- 148.176 Enhance implementation of the National Maternal and Newborn Health Strategy, with a view to reducing maternal and newborn mortality (Ethiopia);
- 148.177 Guarantee access for women and girls to sexual and reproductive rights and health, in particular through access to comprehensive education, and combat child and forced marriage (France);
- 148.178 Develop and implement comprehensive curriculum on sexual and reproductive health and rights, in accordance with UNESCO guidelines (Iceland);
- 148.179 Develop and implement a comprehensive educational plan on sexual and reproductive health and rights for adolescents and adults, including family planning and contraceptive methods, in accordance with UNESCO guidelines and standards (Mexico);

- 148.180 **Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development, to include contraceptives in the basic benefits package as part of the universal health coverage (Panama);**
- 148.181 **Make further efforts to improve the quality of education and eradicate discrimination in schools (Republic of Korea);**
- 148.182 **Step up measures to improve access to education for all children and increase the enrolment rate of vulnerable children, including girls (Bangladesh);**
- 148.183 **Take measures to increase school enrolment among children with disabilities and children belonging to ethnic minorities (Cyprus);**
- 148.184 **Ensure that the needs of adolescents and youth are reflected in designing national educational curricula (Kazakhstan);**
- 148.185 **Consider developing programmes to promote the enrolment and retention of Roma children in the education system (Peru);**
- 148.186 **Implement policies, plans and programmes to modify entrenched stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and society (Argentina);**
- 148.187 **Keep up with the efforts to ensure gender equality and women's economic empowerment (Romania);**
- 148.188 **Further promote gender equality and better guarantee women's rights (China);**
- 148.189 **Take steps to ensure the empowerment of women in Georgia by considering ensuring that women are well represented in senior and high-level decision-making positions and political bodies (Ghana);**
- 148.190 **Improve the participation of women in decision-making positions and their representation in political and public life (Iraq);**
- 148.191 **Ensure equal employment opportunities between men and women and take further steps to prevent gender-based violence (Japan);**
- 148.192 **Continue its efforts to eliminate the inequality of men and women in both public and private sectors, especially regarding women in rural areas (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 148.193 **Increase women's representation in political and public life, especially at senior and decision-making levels (Namibia);**
- 148.194 **Take effective measures to ensure women's representation at the decision-making level in the political and public life (Nepal);**
- 148.195 **Address the impact of conflicts on women and girls and strengthen the participation of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, as part of its fourth national action plan on women, peace and security for the years 2021–2024 (Portugal);**
- 148.196 **Adopt adequately coordinated and funded outreach activities and programmes – targeting men and boys – aimed at changing attitudes and promoting positive masculine norms, to combat violent behaviour, particularly by using social media (Haiti);**
- 148.197 **Adopt maternity, paternity and childcare leave and compensation policies that provide guaranteed compensation and promote a division of childcare responsibilities between both parents (Iceland);**
- 148.198 **Build on the national action plan for 2018-2020 and the national communication strategy to address additional challenges facing women and girls, including possible increased domestic violence, due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Singapore);**

- 148.199 Continue strengthening and supporting institutions and services to effectively assist victims of gender-based violence, such as shelters and crisis centres (Austria);
- 148.200 Take legislative and policy measures to further improve the situation regarding the elimination of violence against women and domestic violence (Azerbaijan);
- 148.201 Amend the definition of rape in the Criminal Code to ensure compliance with the Istanbul Convention (Denmark);
- 148.202 Ensure that all cases of gender-based violence are thoroughly investigated and that victims have access to medical, social, legal and other support services (Estonia);
- 148.203 Continue to implement measures to combat all forms of gender-based violence (Malta);
- 148.204 Step up efforts to combat all forms of violence against women, including through public-awareness campaigns and protection mechanisms (Marshall Islands);
- 148.205 Enhance the ongoing efforts in combating violence against women and protecting children from any form of abuse (Myanmar);
- 148.206 Further strengthen measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence, including domestic violence, sexual harassment and early marriage (Philippines);
- 148.207 Increase the number of vacancies in shelters and improve the quality of related services to assist survivors of domestic and gender-based violence (Portugal);
- 148.208 Step up its efforts to prevent gender-based violence, including domestic violence in particular, to ensure that relevant laws and practices comply with international human rights standards (Republic of Korea);
- 148.209 Intensify its efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence and femicide (Timor-Leste);
- 148.210 Take effective preventive measures to combat violence against women and domestic violence (Finland);
- 148.211 Amend the Criminal Code and the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection and Support of Victims of Domestic Violence to ensure that the rights of victims are protected without discrimination on any ground, including sex, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, as well as civil status (Sweden);
- 148.212 Extend the application of the national action plan to combat violence against women and domestic violence and on the protection of victims for 2018-2020, taking into account the appropriate adjustments based on the socio-sanitary situation generated by the COVID-19 pandemic (Cuba);
- 148.213 Adopt, without delay, national legislation on domestic violence and create public institutions that offer assistance and protection for victims of domestic and sexual violence (Germany);
- 148.214 Keep up its efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence and femicide (Greece);
- 148.215 Intensify efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence and femicide (Guyana);
- 148.216 Continue to take measures to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence (India);

- 148.217 **Develop more effective policies and measures to combat domestic violence against women and children (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 148.218 **Continue its measures towards strengthening the legislation on domestic violence and violence against vulnerable groups (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 148.219 **Strengthen its efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence (Maldives);**
- 148.220 **Intensify efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence and femicide (Montenegro);**
- 148.221 **Strengthen efforts to combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence and femicide (Namibia);**
- 148.222 **Take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of women and children who are victims of domestic violence (North Macedonia);**
- 148.223 **Redouble efforts to eliminate violence against women, in particular domestic violence and femicide (Peru);**
- 148.224 **Carry out a comprehensive study to assess the scope, nature and root causes of the presence of children in street situations in the country in order to develop a national prevention policy (Algeria);**
- 148.225 **Target the root causes of child and forced marriage through education, training and public awareness campaigns and provide support services to the survivors of such marriages (Australia);**
- 148.226 **Strengthen the efforts aimed at protecting the rights of children, particularly those with disabilities (Egypt);**
- 148.227 **Consider forming a special group under the inter-agency commission for implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child that will work on preparing necessary measures, a strategic vision and an action plan for the prevention of suicide (Malta);**
- 148.228 **Prohibit corporal punishment in all education institutions (Montenegro);**
- 148.229 **Provide, in accordance with its international human rights obligations, effective protection to the family, as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Bangladesh);**
- 148.230 **Continue to provide protection to the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);**
- 148.231 **Promote the legislative and regulatory amendments necessary to protect children from sexual exploitation (Ecuador);**
- 148.232 **Ensure that all acts and activities referred to in the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography are fully covered under Georgia's criminal law, including all forms of the sale of children (Guyana);**
- 148.233 **Organize awareness-raising campaigns for the tourism sector and the general public on the prevention of sexual exploitation of children (Luxembourg);**
- 148.234 **Consolidate the child protection mechanism, in particular for homeless children or children involved in child labour (Slovakia);**
- 148.235 **Establish necessary regulations to prevent child marriage and combat child trafficking (Mauritius);**
- 148.236 **Conduct awareness-raising campaigns with the participation of the media and other stakeholders to prevent radicalization and recruitment of children by terrorist groups, as well as to prevent child sex tourism (Panama);**

- 148.237 Continue implementing policies to reduce the rates of incarceration of minors in conflict with the law, within the framework of the Juvenile Code adopted by the country (Cuba);
- 148.238 Develop a strategy to protect children living and working on the streets and increase investigations and prosecution for trafficking of children (Marshall Islands);
- 148.239 Make further efforts to increase the access of all children to inclusive education (Qatar);
- 148.240 Establish a national mechanism for the rights of persons with disabilities and that addresses their issues (Qatar);
- 148.241 Guarantee the equal rights of children with disabilities to health, education, protection, justice, participation and family life (Algeria);
- 148.242 Consider undertaking awareness-raising campaigns aimed at government officials, the general public and families in order to combat the stigmatization of and prejudice against children with disabilities (Greece);
- 148.243 Ensure effective means of implementation to address structural problems in providing social care services to persons with disabilities and access to quality education and employment to persons with disabilities (India);
- 148.244 Take significant steps towards implementing the obligations and principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Israel);
- 148.245 Strengthen the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including by removing architectural barriers, promoting an authentic culture of inclusion, and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Italy);
- 148.246 Develop a comprehensive and concrete programme in consultation with persons with disabilities so as to effectively implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Japan);
- 148.247 Take the necessary measures to raise awareness regarding cases of stigmatization and negative stereotyping of children with disabilities (Jordan);
- 148.248 Work to expeditiously establish a national mechanism to ensure the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities and to provide full access to all services, with the full involvement of all relevant government agencies and non-government stakeholders, including persons with disabilities' representatives themselves (Singapore);
- 148.249 Continue its work towards effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Kyrgyzstan);
- 148.250 Continue and strengthen its efforts to focus on the rights of persons with disabilities (Maldives);
- 148.251 Undertake awareness-raising campaigns aimed at combating prejudices against children with disabilities (Poland);
- 148.252 Advance in the national implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);
- 148.253 Strengthen the participation of national minorities in state decision-making processes at the national and local levels, including in crisis situations, by establishing consultation procedures (Switzerland);
- 148.254 Take further measures to address the difficulties of returnees in acquiring Georgian citizenship, language learning, education and employment (Turkey);
- 148.255 Better ensure equal and full participation of ethnic minorities in civic and political life and protect their cultural identity (Viet Nam);

- 148.256 Promote the representation of minorities in political and public life (Albania);
- 148.257 Take additional measures to ensure access by national minorities to literature in their mother tongue and the training of minority-language teachers (Armenia);
- 148.258 Improve conditions for teaching Georgian as a second language among persons belonging to national or ethnic minorities (Romania);
- 148.259 Ensure the equal rights of ethnic minorities based on the “no one left behind” principle (Czechia);
- 148.260 Renew the commitment to protect persons belonging to minorities by promoting their greater involvement in public institutions, as well as by preventing and pursuing episodes of intolerance on the ground of religion or belief more effectively (Italy);
- 148.261 Intensify efforts to ensure full implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly by ethnic minorities, including in areas relating to education and employment (Malaysia);
- 148.262 Further enhance the access by ethnic minorities to State services and opportunities to participate in civil and political life (Philippines);
- 148.263 Ensure that all persons in need of international protection have access to a fair and efficient asylum procedure free of charge and that any decision not to grant asylum is properly justified and is properly communicated to the individuals concerned (Afghanistan);
- 148.264 Strengthen efforts to improve the human rights conditions of refugees and internally displaced persons (Sudan);
- 148.265 Strengthen the protection of the economic and social rights of internally displaced persons and asylum seekers (Canada);
- 148.266 Ensure that all stateless persons, including children born in the territory, can acquire Georgian nationality without discrimination (Chile).
149. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Georgia and have been noted by Georgia:
- 149.1 Conduct a thorough investigation into all facts of crimes and human rights violations committed by the Georgian authorities before and during the 2008 conflict in the territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia (Russian Federation);
- 149.2 Ensure effective investigations into hate crimes (Russian Federation);
- 149.3 Intensify efforts to strengthen the independence of the judiciary by reforming the procedure for the appointment of judges (Russian Federation);
- 149.4 End the practice of maintaining “black lists” of Russian citizens from the Kazbek district of Georgia who are deprived of the possibility to visit their homes, relatives and ancestral graves (Russian Federation);
- 149.5 Promptly develop and implement an action plan for the implementation of the 2014 strategy for the repatriation of the Meskhetians (Russian Federation);
- 149.6 Adopt a comprehensive national approach to combat hate speech and ideas of racial superiority and ensure that all associated discriminatory practices are prohibited and eradicated (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 149.7 Take effective measures, without any delay, to address cases of trafficking in children, especially their exploitation in prostitution and pornography (Syrian Arab Republic);

149.8 Take immediate and concrete measures to ensure the effective and transparent investigation and prosecution of racially motivated crimes, and ensure that there is no impunity for these crimes (Syrian Arab Republic);

149.9 Put an end to the increase in racism, xenophobia, acts of violence against minorities, refugees and migrants, and hate speech by far-right groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.10 End the excessive use of force against peaceful demonstrators and acts of torture and ill-treatment by the police (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.11 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.12 Put an end to overcrowding and poor conditions in detention centres (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.13 Guarantee the right to adequate housing for homeless persons and internally displaced persons (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.14 Adopt concrete measures against the increase in femicide and to combat violence against women (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.15 Repair the deteriorated school infrastructure, improving the delivery and quality of water in educational establishments (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

149.16 Guarantee the implementation of measures to combat discrimination, racism, intolerance and violence against religious minorities (Nicaragua);

149.17 Adopt measures to improve the standard of living of children, especially with regard to housing, safe drinking water and education (Nicaragua);

149.18 Guarantee equal rights for persons with disabilities in health and education (Nicaragua);

149.19 Intensify its efforts to combat gender-based violence (Nicaragua).

150. Georgia does not accept recommendations from the Russian Federation, since it is responsible for grave human rights violations in Georgia's sovereign territories which remain under the Russian Federation's illegal occupation and effective control as ruled in the judgement of 21 January 2021 by the European Court of Human Rights. Georgia also does not accept recommendations from those countries which support the Russian Federation's illegal occupation of the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia with recognition of their so-called independence in blatant violation of the fundamental norms and principles of international law.

151. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Georgia was headed by H.E. Ms. Khatuna Totladze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Alexander Maisuradze, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the UN office and other International organizations in Geneva;
 - Ms. Lela Akiashvili, Adviser to Prime-Minister of Georgia on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues;
 - Ms. Nino Tsatsiashvili, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia;
 - Mr. Irakli Chilingarashvili, Head of Department of International Relations and Legal Support of Prosecution Service of Georgia;
 - Ms. Ketevan Sarajishvili, Head of Public International Law Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia;
 - Ms. Tamila Barkalaia, Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;
 - Ms. Shorena Mezurnishvili, Head of the Department of International Relations of High Council of Justice of Georgia;
 - Ms. Tamar Zubashvili, Head of International Relations, Analytics and Strategic Development Department of the State Inspector's Service of Georgia;
 - Ms. Ekaterine Dgebuadze, First Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia;
 - Ms. Lia Gigauri, First Deputy State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality;
 - Ms. Ana Buchukuri, Member of Parliament Committee on Human Rights Defense and Civic Integration.
-