

# INTRODUCTION

The human rights situation in the Republic of Slovenia was subject to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Universal Periodic Review on 4 November 2014 at the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council's UPR Working Group.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia examined the UPR Working Group's recommendations; on 18 February 2015, it adopted Decision no. 51104-20/2014/12, expressing its position on the individual recommendations, and reported thereon at the 28th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2015 (document no. A/HRC/28/15/Add.1). The Government of the Republic of Slovenia made the commitment to submit its Voluntary Mid-term Report on the Implementation of the Accepted Recommendations. The Mid-term Report contains information on Slovenia's progress in implementing the recommendations that were accepted.

This Mid-term Report is a result of cooperation between all Slovenia's competent ministries and government offices; it was endorsed by the Interministerial Commission on Human Rights, Slovenia's coordination body responsible for reporting under the ratified international human rights conventions. The Interministerial Commission also coordinates reporting under the ratified international instruments on human rights and fundamental freedoms and reporting under other instruments, and monitors the implementation of human rights commitments. This Mid-term Report was adopted by Decision No. 51104-20/2014/15 of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia at the Government session on 24 May 2017.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia remains a staunch advocate of the Universal Periodic Review as a unique mechanism of review by UN Member States, which was designed to improve the human rights situation at all levels.

# II Implementation of the accepted recommendations

This Report concerns the recommendations accepted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, which are numbered as in paragraph 115 of the Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Slovenia (document no. A/HRC/28/15). It provides the latest information on activities that contribute to implementing the accepted recommendations.

Recommendation	Information on implementation
1. Take further steps for the ratification of several international treaties in the field of human rights that were signed by Slovenia since the first UPR cycle (Croatia).	At present, no activities are underway in response to this recommendation.
2. Expedite the process of ratification of the amendment to article 8 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Belgium).	At present, no activities are underway in response to this recommendation.
3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure (Portugal);	Slovenia is in the final phase of coordinating the competent ministries' positions, and is preparing to ratify the Optional Protocol.

Recommendation	Information on implementation
(Slovakia).	
4. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain); (Tunisia); (Portugal).	At present, no activities are underway in response to this recommendation.
5. Proceed with the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which was the object of a recommendation accepted by Slovenia during the first cycle (Spain).	The Slovenian Ministry of Justice is preparing an analysis to determine the procedures that are necessary to establish whether the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance is possible. Prior to ratification, it is necessary to establish whether the legislation in force is harmonised with the provisions of the Convention. Preliminary analysis shows that amendments to both the substantive and procedural provisions of Slovenian criminal law would probably be necessary for the ratification of the Convention. The analysis to establish whether, and to what extent, such amendments to Slovenian criminal law are possible and acceptable is expected to be concluded in 2017.
14. Ratify the International Convention on Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq).	See response to recommendation No. 5.
15. Ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay).	See response to recommendation No. 5.
16. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Belgium); (France); (Tunisia); (Sierra Leone); (Argentina).	See response to recommendation No. 5.
18. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, also known as the Istanbul Convention, which it signed on September	Slovenia has already implemented recommendation No. 18, as the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia ratified the Convention on 19 December 2014 and deposited the instrument of ratification with the Council of Europe on 5 February 2015; the Convention entered into force in Slovenia on 1 June 2015.
8th, 2011 (Turkey).	In April 2016, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia established the Interministerial Working Group for Monitoring the Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence to ensure the coordination, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies and measures for preventing and combating all forms of violence defined in the Istanbul Convention.
	To ensure that the Istanbul Convention is implemented

Recommendation	Information on implementation
	effectively, Slovenia also adopted amendments to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the Criminal Code of the Republic of Slovenia. The National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the Act amending the Domestic Violence Prevention Act on 25 October 2016, and it entered into force on 19 November 2016.
20. Draft a comprehensive law on children to incorporate in Slovenian domestic law all the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Viet Nam).	On 21 March 2017, Slovenia adopted the Family Code, which follows the recommendation on the measures ensuring child protection to the highest extent.
21. Ensure that Slovenia's national legislation is fully harmonised with international	Slovenia acts in compliance with its international legal obligations, including these conventions, and strives to ensure their effective implementation.
standards to comply with its commitments under international treaties, especially with regard to CEDAW, CRC and CERD (Bahrain).	To demonstrate this, Slovenia reports regularly on the implementation of the conventions. Since November 2014, Slovenia has presented its combined fifth and sixth periodic reports in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (on 30 October 2015), and on 1 and 2 December 2015, Slovenia presented its combined eighth to eleventh periodic reports in accordance with the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination before the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
22. Broaden the mandate and powers of the institutions tasked with guaranteeing the principle of equality and non-discrimination (Israel).	On 21 April 2016, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the Protection Against Discrimination Act to replace and amend the 2004 Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment Act. The Act entered into force on 24 May 2016; it establishes the Advocate for the Principle of Equality as an independent state body to combat discrimination. The Advocate is nominated by the President of the Republic and then appointed by the National Assembly.
	The Advocate provides independent assistance to victims of discrimination by means of awareness raising, inspection, and cooperation in judicial proceedings; conducts independent studies, research, and analyses, and monitoring; and publishes recommendations and independent reports. The Advocate was appointed by the National Assembly on 25 October 2016.
23. Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of women's and children's rights (Kuwait).	Slovenia carries out various measures and activities to promote the protection of women's and children's rights.  The priority measures to ensure empowerment are defined in the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal

Recommendation	Information on implementation
Necommendation	Information on implementation Opportunities for Women and Men for the 2015–2020
	period (more information about the Programme is included in the response to recommendation no. 59).
	The measures for the protection and development of children and youth are specified in the Programme for Children and Youth. The Programme for Children and Youth for the 2006–2016 period expired in 2016; the preparation of a new programme for the 2017–2021 period is currently in progress (more information about the Programme is included in the response to recommendation no. 40).
24. Continue its efforts with a view to the effective implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Human	Slovenia is seeking to ensure the implementation of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training at the national and international levels.
Rights Education and Training (Morocco).	In accordance with the Declaration, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia ensures that human rights education and training is accessible and available to all, taking into account the particular challenges and barriers faced by members of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. In addition, the Ministry adopts measures against marginalisation at all levels of education. The educational objectives defined in Article 2 of the Organization and Financing of Education Act include objectives that contribute to implementing the right of every person to education without discrimination or exclusion and to promoting equal opportunities in education.
	Moreover, the legislation regulating the levels and types of education also includes objectives that are directly relevant to human rights education (Elementary School Act; Grammar School Act; Vocational Education Act).
	The legislation in force (Article 81 of the Organization and Financing of Education Act) provides for the allocation of funds from the national budget for both Slovene language courses and mother tongue courses for immigrant students in regular primary and secondary education.
	The Ministry also continues to implement Article 6 of the Declaration, i.e. through cultural and arts education, which is treated as a cross-curricular theme and may be realised through interdisciplinary connections and activities in the comprehensive educational process in preschools and primary and secondary schools. In cultural and arts education, students learn about art forms, while art also serves as an important means of motivation (i.e. it enables the teaching of different subjects/topics). Furthermore, it is acknowledged that cultural and arts education has a social impact (cultural diversity, intercultural awareness and dialogue, social and civic competences).
	Slovenia also strives to continue to implement the second

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phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, i.e. through the training of civil servants.

The Administration Academy of the Ministry of Public Administration organises seminars for civil servants about the implementation of the right to access information of public nature (as part of the constitutional right to freedom of speech).

In addition, the Judicial Training Centre within the Ministry of Justice organises training for judicial officials. Its training programmes regularly include human rights protection issues.

The higher education course for police officers, which since 2013 has been conducted as the 6th level of education, provides police officers with specialist knowledge and qualifications for the performance of police duties, including the protection of human rights in police procedures. Also, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in police procedures is a compulsory subject in the regular training for police officers.

The Ministry is financing (until 2021) the project 'Strengthening social and civic competences of educational professionals' to train educational professionals to improve the integration of immigrant children into the Slovenian education system, and to provide them with training in seven thematic segments.

Slovenia also seeks to implement the Declaration and the World Programme through its foreign policy. It remains an active member of the Platform for Human Rights Education and Training. The Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to implement the project 'My rights'; since 2005, more than 185,000 children have participated in this rights education project, children's which information in 23 languages. Since 2014, the project has been conducted in Jordan, Morocco, Moldova, and India, and presented in Argentina, Australia, and Brazil. In 2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport prepared a worksheet on the rights of child refugees for distribution to Slovenian primary schools to raise awareness. English, French, and German translations of the worksheet are available.

25. Place a particular focus on the education and employability of Roma women in integration policies, since women and children are the most vulnerable groups within the Roma community (Norway).

The education and employment of Roma are among the priorities in the National Programme of Measures for Roma in the 2010–2015 period. The Slovenian Government is drafting the new National Programme of Measures for Roma for the following 5-year period, in which the education and employment of Roma will remain priorities.

As regards Roma education, the strategies for the education

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of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia dedicate special attention to the education of Roma adults with a view to increasing the educational level and promoting workforce development among them, and to establishing counselling centres or networks in areas where Roma live.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport creates the conditions for including Roma in the education system and the conditions for increasing the educational level among Roma with different approaches.

Roma children are given equal opportunities to access quality education. The legislation in force (Article 29 of the Preschool Institutions Act) provides for special norms and additional funding from the national budget for groups of Roma children in preschool institutions.

The principle of integration is implemented in all Slovenian educational institutions (without segregation), which use the methods of individualisation, differentiation in the classroom, flexible grouping, and ability grouping provided for by law for all students equally. Particular attention is devoted to teaching strategies, such as individualised and differentiated instruction on the basis of the planned observation and regular evaluation of progress achieved by individuals. Roma children are not segregated from non-Roma children. Schools attended only by Roma children exist only in Roma settlements (e.g. Stara Cerkev Primary School, Željne Affiliated Primary School, which is attended only by Roma children because the school is located in a Roma settlement).

The state devotes special attention to the education of Roma children, granting special concessions to schools that they attend. The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, for example, provides additional funding for individual and group activities for Roma schoolchildren. In addition, the Ministry has introduced more favourable standards for classes with Roma children; it provided funding for development and research studies concerning the integration of Roma children, and for the standardisation of the Roma language as a basis for teaching it.

The Ministry also provides indirect funding for numerous projects aimed at increasing social and cultural capital (i.e. empowerment) in Roma settlements, such as the project 'Together for knowledge – The development of a support mechanism of learning for Roma community members' which primarily focuses on education, so the multi-purpose centres that have been established as part of the project offer mostly educational activities, such as tutoring for Roma students of primary and secondary schools, as well as spare-time activities for schoolchildren, preschoolers, and their parents. Through these activities, the multi-purpose

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centres, and consequently Roma settlements, connect with primary schools, preschools, and other local institutions in the local environment. The project is also aimed at encouraging Roma children in primary schools to achieve standards of knowledge, increasing their secondary school enrolment, and raising the level of education among Roma assistants.

The Ministry provides support for the project 'Good-quality preschool programmes for Roma children and their parents', which took place between January 2014 and December 2016 and was financed by The Open Society Foundation—London. The project objective was to develop and put into practice different forms of educational work with a view to providing Roma children and their parents with access to good-quality preschool programmes.

In 2017, as a result of continued work in this field, 26 Roma assistants are active: 24 of them are women, 20 of whom are Roma community members; 6 of the latter are attending university courses, and 6 are concluding secondary education in preschool education. In addition to the female Roma assistants, the project has provided jobs for 6 other Roma community members.

Slovenia promotes greater inclusion and employment among Roma women. One of the objectives in the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the 2015–2020 period is to increase the employment of women, particularly young women with tertiary education and other vulnerable and marginalised groups of women by conducting analyses and, if necessary, establishing programmes to promote the employment of marginalised groups of women (Roma, disabled, and immigrant women) within the active employment policy and other programmes.

With the funding from the European Social Fund, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities will hold an open call in 2017 for the project of establishing multi-purpose Roma centres. This 5-year project will cost EUR 1,680 million, and should produce 11 such centres to be located in Roma settlements and provide jobs for at least 11 Roma coordinators. They will coordinate and organise activities and programmes which are designed to promote the social integration and strengthen the socioeconomic situation of Roma community members, and which are conducted by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, and other interested implementing and non-governmental organisations. The purpose of the activities that will take place at the centres is to promote the empowerment, social engagement, and integration of all

Recommendation	Information on implementation
	generations and subgroups of Roma community members, including the most vulnerable, such as Roma women and children. The subjects addressed will include preventive healthcare and education and training possibilities for Roma girls and women.
	Special attention is devoted to journalism training courses for Roma, so in 2015 the national broadcasting service RTV Slovenija organised a speaking course for 4 Roma women, one of whom holds a permanent position at Radio Slovenija and is a producer of a radio programme for Roma, while the other three are contractors at TV Slovenija, producing a television programme for Roma.
	Every year, the Ministry of Culture holds an open call for cultural projects for the Roma in Slovenia, giving priority to projects that engage Roma children and/or women; they primarily involve creative workshops for children and their parents, round tables, consultations on the integration of women, tutoring for children in the form of workshops, etc.
29. Continue efforts towards the introduction of human rights training in the educational system and training programmes (Senegal).	See response to recommendation No. 24.
30. Continue the steps aimed at the promotion of human rights education at the national and international levels (Armenia).	See response to recommendation No. 24.
31. Broaden the mandate of its equality bodies and increase their human and financial resources (Australia).	See response to recommendation No. 22.
32. Take further steps towards strengthening the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman in order to ensure full compliance with the Paris Principles (Ireland).	Slovenia accepts the recommendations to strengthen the mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman and to ensure full compliance with the 1993 Paris Principles relating to the status of national human rights protection institutions. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Human Rights Ombudsman agree that, to this end, the Human Rights Ombudsman Act should be amended to strengthen the institute of Human Rights Ombudsman so as to ensure that all principles are applied for the granting of status A to the institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. As a result, on 23 December 2015, the Government adopted a decision tasking the Ministry of Justice with the preparation of amendment to the Act in cooperation with the Ombudsman. An amendment which will ensure compliance with the Paris Principles is being prepared and is expected to be adopted by the end of 2017.
33. Bring its Human Rights	See response to recommendation No. 32.

Recommendation	Information on implementation
Ombudsman's Office into	mornadon on implementation
compliance with the Paris	
Principles, including by	
providing it with adequate	
financial and human resources	
(Malaysia).	O
34. Strengthen the	See response to recommendations Nos. 22 and 32.
mandates of the Ombudsman	
for Human Rights and the	
Defender of the principle of	
equality and avoid any overlap	
in the execution of their	
respective mandates	
(Morocco).	
35. Accelerate the process	See response to recommendation No. 32.
of reform of the Ombudsman	
for Human Rights in order to	
comply with the Paris Principles	
(Tunisia).	
36. Bring the National	See response to recommendation No. 32.
Human Rights Institution into	
compliance with the Paris	
Principles and broaden its	
mandate to carry out	
investigations into allegations of	
torture and ill-treatment	
(Ukraine).	
37. Create the conditions	See response to recommendation No. 32.
that allow the Human Rights	
Ombudsperson to acquire the A	
status according to the Paris	
Principles, by enlarging its	
mandate to receive allegations	
of torture and abuse and by	
providing this body with the	
necessary resources to enable	
it to fulfil its functions (Chile).	
38. Ensure the compliance	See response to recommendation No. 32.
of its National Ombudsman with	
the Paris Principles (Egypt);	
Continue with the efforts to	
guarantee the compliance of	
the Human Rights	
Ombudsperson with the Paris	
Principles (Peru);Take more	
effective measures in order to	
bring the Ombudsman's Office	
in compliance with the Paris	
Principles (Azerbaijan).	
39. Take the necessary	See response to recommendation No. 32.
steps to include the human	
rights Ombudsman under the	
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Recommendation	Information on implementation
Group A of the Paris Principles relating to the status of National Human Rights Institutions (Greece).	
40. Implement the 2006-2016 Programme for Children and Youth (Israel).	An evaluation of the Programme for Children and Youth for the 2013–2016 period is underway, and a new Strategy for the Rights of the Child for the 2017–2021 period is being prepared based on the recommendations contained in the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child, adopted in spring 2016, and needs that are specific to Slovenia and concern children's needs and the quality of their lives.
42. Implement the child and youth program of 2013-2016 (Saudi Arabia).	See response to recommendation No. 40.
43. Increase cooperation with relevant UN treaty bodies, in particular, by submitting its periodic report to the Human Rights Committee overdue since 2010 (Uzbekistan).	Slovenia has implemented the recommendation by submitting the Third Periodic Report of the Republic of Slovenia under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in July 2014.  Slovenia presented the Report at the UN Human Rights Committee session on 15 and 16 March 2016.
44. Address discrimination by public and private sectors as a matter of priority (Israel).	See response to recommendations Nos. 46–54.
45. Step up efforts to prevent or limit hatred, racist and xenophobic acts and speeches, including on the Internet (Malaysia).	The prosecution of hate speech offences is regulated by Article 297 of the Criminal Code (Public Incitement to Hatred, Violence or Intolerance), as amended in 2011 (and adopted in 2012). The article was amended so as to provide a more detailed definition of the elements of the criminal offence in order to ensure its differentiation from minor offences under Article 20 of the Protection of Public Order Act; to harmonise Slovenian legislation with EU documents (Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law) and the criminal law means and provisions of Council of Europe documents (2003 Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems); the statutory elements because of which the criminal offences of public incitement to hatred are considered more serious, and thus subject to stricter sanctions, have been amended to include publications on the internet so as to dispel any doubts about the fact that publications in mass media also include websites as the public part of the internet, which provides for the sanctioning of editors or persons acting as editors.
	Hate speech in the media is also prohibited (Media Act; Audiovisual Media Services Act). The Ministry of Culture

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also continues to encourage the fight against hate speech through yearly calls for the co-funding of broadcasts. The national broadcasting service plays a major role in warning against hate speech and raising awareness of its prohibition. The RTV Slovenija Act stipulates that, through its broadcasts, the national broadcasting service RTV Slovenija promotes the raising of awareness about the different cultures that exist in the Republic of Slovenia and their members, promotes the culture of public dialogue, and provides a broad arena for public debate on social issues. Furthermore, the Act stipulates that, in the production of broadcasts, RTV Slovenija journalists must respect the principles of constitutionality and legality, including the prohibition on inciting cultural, religious, sexual, racial, national or other forms of intolerance.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia has recently noted an increased incidence of acts of intolerance and of hate speech, particularly in Web-based media.

In April 2016, the Act amending the Media Act entered into force, stipulating that a publisher who allows public comments in a given medium must establish a commenting policy and publish it appropriately in the medium. Comments violating the policy must be removed as soon as possible, or within one working day at the latest after they are reported.

Such regulation is an effective means of self-regulation and reduction of online hate speech and offensive language, which is also an objective in the Resolution on the National Programme of Crime Prevention and Suppression for the 2012–2016 period. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia is well aware that it is necessary to establish and support mechanisms of self-regulation to respond to hate speech, i.e. it is also necessary to support other ways of responding to hate speech and discussion on the topic.

Additional repressive measures are not possible due to the need to protect human rights (the issue of conformity with the constitutional order of the Republic of Slovenia).

Furthermore, in 2016, the Act amending the Minor Offences Act was drafted, with Article 24 allowing for interference with the right to privacy of correspondence (Article 37 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia) to enable the tracing of perpetrators of minor offences (natural persons) concerning hate speech; the Article primarily concerned online comments (the issue of acquiring data on IP address owners). At the Committee on Justice session of 6 April 2016, deputies sought to delete this draft provision (no votes against) because it was said to interfere unduly with the right to privacy of correspondence and freedom of expression or even to mean the introduction of censorship.

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	The Act amending the Minor Offences Act, without the draft provision, entered into force on 7 November 2016.
	Therefore, Slovenia believes that all arguments concerning the issue have been tested, and it has been established to what extent a state governed by the rule of law may use legislation to interfere with the right to privacy of correspondence (Article 37 of the Constitution) or the freedom of expression (Article 39, paragraph 1, of the Constitution).
46. Take necessary steps for criminalization of all acts of intolerance and hate speech (Pakistan).	See response to recommendation No. 45.
47. Strengthen measures to combat discrimination and facilitate victims' access to remedies (Senegal).	Slovenia has further strengthened its efforts to combat discrimination by adopting the Protection Against Discrimination Act (on 21 April 2016), which replaces and amends the 2004 Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment Act. The Protection Against Discrimination Act stipulates that a person who believes that they have been or are being discriminated against may file an action requesting the cessation of discrimination, the payment of compensation for discrimination or the publication of the ruling in the media. Notwithstanding the provisions of the act governing civil proceedings, a person subject to discrimination may authorise the Advocate or a non-governmental organisation working in the field of protection against discrimination and human rights protection to represent them in the judicial proceedings.
48. Establish a better coordination between the different institutional bodies competent in matters of non-discrimination (Spain).	The Protection Against Discrimination Act (adopted on 21 April 2016) more clearly defines the tasks and powers of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, thus enhancing the coordination of work between different institutions responsible for combating discrimination.
	The police and the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia closely cooperate on investigating and prosecuting all forms of intolerance, and such cooperation enables the exchange of positions, thus promoting initiatives for amendments to legislation, unified prosecutors' practices, and more effective investigation of minor offences and criminal offences.
	Examples of good practice include the Anti-Hate Speech Council, the Spletno Oko (Web Eye) hotline (of the Faculty of Social Sciences) and several other organisations. The police (Criminal Police Directorate within the General Police Directorate), independently and in cooperation with the Faculty of Social Sciences in Ljubljana via the Web Eye, deal with reports made under Article 297 of the Criminal Code on a daily basis. Also, great hopes are being placed

Recommendation	Information on implementation
	on the national Radicalisation Awareness Network platform, which is being established (the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) brings together experts on raising awareness of radicalisation); it forms part of an EU network of experts, and its purpose is to transfer established practices from the EU to the national level, to ensure the coordinated and effective identification, and prevention, of new forms of violent radicalisation leading to violent extremism. This project has been implemented successfully, and the police, among other bodies, conduct activities to identify violent radicalisation, of which hate speech and the expression of hatred are integral parts.
49. Intensify its efforts to fight discrimination and intolerance, particularly against Muslims, immigrants and people of African descent, and	Slovenia has further strengthened its efforts to combat discrimination by adopting the Protection Against Discrimination Act (on 21 April 2016), which replaces and amends the 2004 Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment Act.
encourage senior State officials and politicians to take a clear stand against racist or xenophobic political discourse (Tunisia).	Slovenia contributes to the fight against discrimination by protecting the cultural rights of minorities, and on the basis of this dynamic model of protection, develops various measures, not solely financial, against discrimination.
	The authorities responsible for the detection and prosecution of criminal offences closely cooperate in implementing measures for detecting criminal offences and identifying their perpetrators, which enables them to jointly develop good practices. The police and the District Public Prosecutor's Office establish dialogue if there is a suspicion of a criminal offence of discrimination and intolerance. The police adopt and implement all the required measures for the prevention, detection, and investigation of criminal offences and minor offences.
	The Ministry of the Interior provides continued co-funding for numerous programmes of assistance for the integration of third-country nationals in Slovenian society, and carries out campaigns and marks World Refugee Day to promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue among the Slovenian general public.
50. Adopt policies to ensure equality of rights for all persons, without discrimination of	The Protection Against Discrimination Act (adopted on 21 April 2016) determined the protection of every individual against discrimination, irrespective of their gender,

without discrimination gender, religion, race or sexual orientation, with line standards international (Uruguay).

ed on 21 ndividual gender, against discrimination, irrespective of their nationality, race or ethnic origin, language, religion or beliefs, disability, age, sexual orientation, sexual identity or expression, social position, property education or any other personal circumstance in various fields of social life when enforcing human rights and fundamental freedoms, exercising rights and obligations and in other legal relationships in political, economic, social, cultural, civil or other fields.

Recommendation	Information on implementation
51. Take the necessary measures to effectively fight against the discrimination by public and private actors (Belgium).	The Protection Against Discrimination Act (adopted on 21
52. Strengthen measures to ensure that there are effective remedies for potential victims of discrimination (Benin).	See response to recommendation No. 51.
53. Continue to formulate, implement and enhance public policies aimed at raising awareness of discrimination-related issues in society and ensure effective remedies to victims of discrimination and statelessness (Brazil).	With regard to legal remedies, see the response to recommendation No. 47.  Slovenia contributes to the fight against discrimination by protecting the cultural rights of minorities, and on the basis of this dynamic model of protection, develops various measures, not only financial, against discrimination.  To show greater tolerance towards immigrants and refugees, Slovenia annually observes World Refugee Day (20 April) by running media campaigns aimed to raise awareness among the wider Slovenian public of issues related to migration and integration. The campaigns cover the thematic area of migration and social development.  Slovenia is also implementing a project intended to enhance intercultural dialogue in the broadest possible sense, as it promotes the active integration of third-country nationals into civil society and open communication on the impact of cultural diversity on the development of society.  Through regular annual calls for applications, Slovenia cofinances activities related to "raising awareness and fighting
	discrimination against, and intolerance of, the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing activities of Roma associations in 2015) and to "raising awareness, preventing discrimination and eliminating prejudice and stereotypes with regard to members of the Roma community, within the Roma community and between various parts or groups of the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing programmes of Roma community organisations in 2016).
54. Pursue and strengthen policies against discrimination and intolerance (Côte d'Ivoire).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 49–51 and 53.
55. Ensure the follow-up of the legislative measures of protection and inclusion of foreigners (Côte d'Ivoire).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 49–51 and 53.
56. Take concrete	See response to recommendation No. 45.

Recommendation	Information on implementation
measures to prevent racially motivated crimes and investigate and prosecute all acts of political discourse against minorities (Egypt).	
57. Continue with the campaigns to eliminate all forms of discrimination, particularly from school age, and through human rights education (Mexico).	In accordance with the Protection Against Discrimination Act (adopted on 21 April 2016), state authorities, local communities, self-governing national communities and holders of public authorisations in their respective fields and within their competences must provide conditions for the equal treatment of all people, irrespective of any personal circumstances, by raising awareness and monitoring the situation in this field and with measures of a normative and political nature.
	The area of human rights education within the education system is systemically regulated. Human rights education falls within the general goals of the curricula, particularly for the following subjects: environmental education (1st to 3rd grade of elementary school – ISCED 1), social sciences, and natural and technical sciences (4th and 5th grade, ISCED 1), geography (6th to 9th grade – ISCED 1 and 2), civic education and ethics (7th to 8th grade – ISCED), and is included in the curricula for history (6th to 9th grade – ISCED 1 and 2) and in a number of mandatory elective subjects. Students can also attend extracurricular activities provided by schools based on the interests expressed.
	Furthermore, within the UNESCO ASP network, there are several other projects underway in which students learn to respect human rights (in 2017, 93 institutions were part of the network: 5 preschool institutions, 62 elementary schools and 26 secondary schools). The priority themes and tasks of the network include peace, human rights, intercultural learning, education for sustainable development and global citizenship.
58. Ensure a thorough implementation of the anti-discrimination legislation in order to prevent and combat the discrimination based on any criteria, notably racial and ethnic (Romania).	Slovenia strives for the effective implementation of anti- discrimination legislation.  The basic legislative act is the Protection Against Discrimination Act passed on 21 April 2016 (for more on the Act, see responses to recommendations Nos. 22, 47, 50 and 51).
59. Continue making efforts to achieve full social equality between men and women (Nicaragua).	Slovenia strives for the social equality of women and men, also by adopting strategic documents such as the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men. The Resolution for the period until 2020 was adopted in 2015; it defines goals and measures for enforcing the equality of women and men in all key areas. Eight priority areas of action are determined:

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	equal economic independence, coordination of professional and private or family life, knowledge-based society without gender stereotypes, social inclusion, women's and men's health, balanced representation of women and men at all levels of decision making, violence against women, and gender equality in foreign policy and development cooperation.
60. Adopt proactive measures to ensure access to equal opportunities and promote equal gender representation in decision-making positions, and implement non-discriminatory policies to ensure equal pay for women and men (Bahrain).	Slovenia strives to ensure equal opportunities and promotes a balanced representation of both genders in leadership positions. The Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the 2015–2020 Period contains the following objective: "Increase the share of women in leadership and managerial positions in the economy". To achieve this objective, Slovenia foresees the adoption of measures promoting the balanced representation of genders in decision-making positions in corporations.
61. Take appropriate measures to enable more women to hold elective offices (Benin).	Slovenia's electoral law already contains gender quotas. In candidate lists for European and local elections, at least 40% representation of genders is required. The percentage is slightly lower for elections to the National Assembly, namely 35%. If the Government opts to amend the National Assembly Elections Act, it will probably propose raising the required representation share of each gender.  During the last ten years, an upward trend has been observed in the representation of women in politics. In 2014, 32 women, or 35.6%, were elected in National Assembly elections; in the 2014 local elections, 31.8% of councillors were women; of Slovenian members of the European Parliament in the 2014–2019 mandate, 3 are women and 5 men.
62. Increase its efforts to combat against racial discrimination racist attacks, particularly against the Roma (Iran (Islamic Republic of)).	S Slovenia strives for the effective implementation of anti-discrimination legislation.  The basic legislative act is the Protection Against Discrimination Act passed on 21 April 2016 (for more on the Act, see responses to recommendations Nos. 22, 47, 50 and 51).  Hate speech and violence can also be prosecuted under Articles 131 (Violation of Right to Equality), 165 (Insult to the Slovenian People or National Communities) and 297 (Public Incitement to Hatred, Violence or Intolerance) of the Criminal Code as amended in 2011 (and enforced in 2012).
63. Introduce measures that will prevent discrimination against Roma and make further efforts to combat all forms of	Slovenia strives for the effective implementation of anti- discrimination legislation.  The basic legislative act is the Protection Against

Recommendation and region	Information on implementation
intolerance and racism (Nigeria).	Discrimination Act passed on 21 April 2016 (for more on the Act, see responses to recommendations Nos. 22, 47, 50 and 51).
	Comprehensive measures to prevent the discrimination of Roma were included in the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the Period 2010–2015 adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in March 2010, and will be included in the new national programme of measures for Roma for the following 5-year period, which is already being drafted. These measures cover various areas of social life (improving housing conditions, raising educational level, reducing unemployment, improving healthcare, eliminating prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination, preserving the Roma culture, language and identity, and promoting information and publishing activities of the Roma community). Their overall goal is to improve the situation of the Roma community, including with positive measures in areas where this is deemed necessary. The measures are designed both to prevent and eliminate the exclusion of Roma from the society, and to prevent and eliminate discrimination.
	Through regular annual calls for applications, the Office for National Minorities co-finances activities related to "raising awareness and fighting discrimination against, and intolerance of, the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing activities of Roma associations in 2015) and to "raising awareness, preventing discrimination and eliminating prejudice and stereotypes with regard to members of the Roma community, within the Roma community and between various parts or groups of the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing programmes of Roma community organisations in 2016).
	One of the measures to eliminate discrimination of the Roma community is ensuring their political participation. The Local Self-Government Act provides that, in areas where the Roma community autochthonously resides, Roma have at least one representative on the municipal council. The Act is being implemented.
	Slovenia has already formulated and introduced a number of measures for those key areas where Roma still face discrimination and where positive measures are needed, and will continue with these activities.
64. Continue its policy to establish a climate of trust, understanding and mutual respect between the different religions in the country (Morocco).	The Ministry of Culture holds consultations and receptions for representatives of registered religious communities, where these representatives constructively cooperate and communicate among themselves in the most dignified manner.

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	In 2015, the Government established the Council for Dialogue on Freedom of Religion with representatives of the four largest religious communities in the country and two elected representatives of all other religious communities.
65. Adopt non- discriminatory policies with regard to realization of civil, political, economic, social and	Slovenia strives for the effective implementation of anti- discrimination legislation.
cultural rights of all ethnic and religious communities without any discrimination (Pakistan).	The basic legislative act is the Protection Against Discrimination Act passed on 21 April 2016 (for more on the Act, see responses to recommendations Nos. 22, 47, 50 and 51).
	Slovenia has been systematically implementing measures for various minority ethnic communities since 1990. The Ministry of Culture ensures respect for cultural rights by making it possible for minority ethnic communities to preserve, develop and promote their own national, linguistic and cultural identities. Among its other activities, it publishes annual calls for applications for co-financing media programmes intended to support the media in creating and disseminating programmes enforcing the rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and the Roma community in Slovenia to public information and to being informed.
	Ensuring the right of members of minority and ethnic communities in the Republic of Slovenia to public information and being informed is consistent with the Radio and Television Corporation of Slovenia Act and is primarily a public service obligation of RTV Slovenia. As part of its public service, RTV Slovenia broadcasts a radio and television channel for the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities, respectively, and radio and television programmes for the Roma community.
	Local and regional radio and television stations of special importance are legally bound to broadcast programmes featuring the life and work of Slovenians abroad, members of the Hungarian and Italian national communities, and Roma, if they are receivable in areas where these communities live.
	Comprehensive measures to prevent the discrimination of Roma were included in the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the Period 2010–2015 adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in March 2010 (for more on the Programme, see response to recommendation No. 63), and will be included in the new national programme of measures for Roma for the following 5-year period, which is already being drafted.
	With relation to the Italian and Hungarian national communities, on 23 July 2015, the Government of the

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	Republic of Slovenia adopted the Programme of Measures for the Implementation of Regulations on Bilingualism for the 2015–2018 Period.
66. Continue to combat intolerance based on the ethnic origin and to ensure the full respect of the human rights of the so called "erased" people (Portugal).	In order to regulate the status of persons deleted from the register of permanent residents, in 2010, Slovenia introduced amendments to the Act Regulating the Legal Status of Citizens of Former Yugoslavia Living in the Republic of Slovenia, which took effect on 24 July 2010. The National Assembly adopted the Act with a view to finally regulating the legal status of persons who had been deleted from the register of permanent residents. According to the Act, persons deleted from the register of permanent residents who do not reside in Slovenia on reasonable grounds are also entitled to a permanent residence permit. As defined under the Amending Act, reasonable grounds for absence include departure from Slovenia due to the consequences of deletion from the register or due to the failure to acquire a residence permit, failure to return to Slovenia because of war in other successor states to the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia, expulsion from Slovenia, and refused entry.
	In 2013, Slovenia passed another special legislative act concerning people removed from the register of permanent residents, namely the Act Regulating the Compensation for Damage Sustained as a Result of Erasure from the Register of Permanent Residents, which entered into force on 18 December 2013 and took effect on 18 June 2014. As specified in the introductory provisions, the purpose of the Act is to remedy violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for persons erased from the register. The Act also executes the judgement of the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights of 26 June 2012 in the case of <i>Kurić and others v. Slovenia</i> . It regulates the right to pecuniary compensation and to other forms of just satisfaction as redress for damage sustained as a result of erasure.
	At its 1257th session held on 25 May 2016, the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers responsible for monitoring the execution of ECHR judgements adopted its final Resolution on <i>Kurić and others v. Slovenia</i> . Based on the action plan for the execution of the judgement, the Committee of Ministers decided that Slovenia has complied with the requests specified in the ECHR Grand Chamber judgement of 26 June 2012 and of 12 March 2014 by adopting both individual measures related to applicants and general measures. By passing the Act Regulating the Compensation for Damage Sustained as a Result of Erasure from the Register of Permanent Residents, Slovenia complied with the requests for general measures specified in the pilot judgement. Thus, the Council of Europe

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	Committee of Ministers closed the procedure in the case of
	Kurić and others v. Slovenia.
	On 17 November 2016, the European Court of Human Rights issued a judgement in the case of <i>Anastasov and others v. Slovenia</i> (Application No. 65020/13). The applicants, who were deleted from Slovenia's Register of Permanent Residents, lodged the application with the ECHR in October 2013. The ECHR decided to strike the application referring to 212 applicants from its list of cases and to close the pilot judgement procedure initiated in the case of <i>Kurič and others v. Slovenia</i> . The Court was satisfied with the system of compensation introduced by the Slovenian Government, and its functioning in practice. According to the ECHR, the 'erased' who had regularised their legal status (in this particular case, the 212 applicants) have reasonable prospects of receiving compensation for damage in the Republic of Slovenia. The ECHR concluded that the issue of compensation for the 'erased' had been resolved at the national level, and did not find any special circumstance regarding respect for human rights which required continued examination of the case.
67. Ensure that Roma children have equal opportunities in access to quality education at all levels (Slovakia).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24 and 25.
68. Strengthen efforts to combat discrimination against	With regard to the enforcement of the children's rights, see response to recommendation No. 40.
children belonging to national minorities, particularly Roma, and reduce the number of children living in poverty (Poland).	
(Folariu).	With regard to special measures related to the education of children, members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, see recommendation No. 86.
	The topics to be implemented in the framework of the multi- purpose Roma centres (MPRC) will be for all generations of the Roma community, including children and youth (for more information on MPRCs, see recommendation No. 25).
	The tasks of the Roma activators employed in MPRCs will include the implementation of activities and topics designed to eliminate prejudice and to build trust between Roma and the majority local population. By implementing the topics and activities intended to eliminate prejudice, MPRCs will contribute to the fight against discrimination, as prejudice as such is one of the most prominent bases for discrimination.

# Recommendation 69. Step up efforts to combat discrimination against national minorities, including Roma, and provide the victims of discrimination with access to effective legal protection (Russian Federation).

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Comprehensive measures to prevent discrimination against Roma were included in the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the Period 2010–2015 adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in March 2010 (see recommendation No. 63).

Slovenia has established a dynamic model for protecting the cultural rights of minorities, and on this basis develops different measures, not only financial, against discrimination. The Ministry of Culture guarantees the Roma community co-financing for their own cultural projects, and provides other services for Roma: counselling, workshops, expert assistance, etc.

Changes and amendments to the Roma Community Act are in preparation, as the Government of the Republic of Slovenia is aware that since the Act was adopted and during its implementation certain shortcomings have been noted, and consequently certain provisions should be redrafted, updated and amended.

With regard to the rights of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, see response to recommendation No. 65.

70. Criminalise all acts of discrimination directed against the Roma persons (Sierra Leone).

This issue is regulated by the Criminal Code, more specifically by Articles 131 (Violation of Right to Equality), 165 (Insult to Slovenian People or National Communities) and 297 (Public Incitement to Hatred, Violence or Intolerance).

71. Take further measures to combat all forms of discrimination against the Roma community, and ensure equal opportunities for their enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, including education, health, employment and housing (Sri Lanka).

By adopting the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the Period 2010–2015, Slovenia endeavoured to eliminate discrimination against the Roma community and improve its situation, which it will strive to do also in the future, namely by adopting the new national programme of measures for Roma for the following 5-year period, which is already in preparation (see information under recommendation No. 63).

With regard to the education of children, members of the Roma community, see recommendation No. 25.

The assessments carried out so far have shown that in order to ensure the integration of Roma children, it is necessary to increase the social and cultural capital of the Roma community, which can most easily be done by implementing activities within environments populated by Roma. To this end, in the framework of the project 'Increase in social and cultural capital in areas with a Roma population', Roma education incubators started to be established as early as 2010.

In some places, Roma education incubators or multi-

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purpose centres (hereinafter: centres) are organised as premises where substantive programmes are being implemented, while in other places, programmes are being implemented at schools or in the homes of particular students. These premises and programmes are designed to stimulate the personal growth and development of young people in various areas, from improving educational attainment through informal education to developing individual interests and quality leisure activities.

In the framework of the project, 8 Roma education incubators/centres were established at 15 locations; they were organised in keeping with the specific features of particular local environments. All centres provided additional learning assistance and leisure workshops every day. The content of the workshops was adapted to the interests of the children participating.

The project was implemented from 1 April 2014 to 30 November 2015. These activities at multi-purpose centres are continuing in the period from 2016 to 2021.

Slovenia has established a dynamic model for protecting the cultural rights of minorities, and on this basis also develops different measures against discrimination that are not only of financial nature. In addition to cultural project funding, organisations and individuals from the Roma community have access to counselling and assistance provided by civil servants when applying for projects and during their implementation.

Roma can participate equally in the labour market and use all the services provided by the Employment Service of Slovenia. Roma are one of the priority target groups for active employment policy measures and other services in the labour market, which improves their employment possibilities.

On the basis of the public debate, which was concluded in the early 2016, the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning prepared drafts of the new spatial planning and construction legislation. In the autumn of 2016, a new public debate on the new proposals was carried out and was concluded in November 2016; in March and April 2017, the legislative proposal underwent interministerial coordination and was submitted to the Government, which is expected to adopt it by the end of April. The legislative procedure will continue in the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, and the legislation is expected to enter into force on 1 January 2018.

The new legislation consists of three acts which are intended to ensure better spatial planning and comprehensive siting of buildings, as well as facilitate the

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	legalisation of residential buildings erected without the necessary permits. The proposed solutions concern above all two categories of buildings: those existing for a long period (20 years or more) and specific cases of illegal buildings where special circumstances (including social) need to be taken into account. This possibility of legalisation will also address the problems of legalising buildings in settlements populated by special social groups, such as the Roma community.
72. Further improve the living conditions of Roma and especially to ensure access to running water, electricity, housing, as well as to provide education, employment and health care for all members of Roma community (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia).	With regard to the general programme of measures for Roma, see response to recommendation No. 63.  The National Programme of Measures for Roma for the Period 2010–2015 also included measures in the areas pointed out in the recommendation, namely measures to improve the housing conditions of members of the Roma community, raise educational levels, increase employment and improve healthcare for all members of the the Roma community in Slovenia.
	With regard to adequate housing, see response to recommendation No. 71.
	With regard to education, see response to recommendations Nos. 25 and 71.
	Access to electricity is the same for all citizens in Slovenia, including Roma. The electricity distributor in Slovenia is a public service company, and its prices are determined by the Energy Agency. The conditions for connection to the power grid are set down and published in a general legal act approved by the Government. One of the critical conditions for connection is an issued building permit. Buildings without a permit may not be connected to the public power grid.
	No problems have been observed with regard to connecting buildings with valid building permits to the power grid. This is why we are of the opinion that no changes are needed to the legislation regulating connection to the power grid with regard to the access of Roma to electricity.
	In the framework of a European Social Fund project, a 5-year project involving the construction of multi-purpose Roma centres worth EUR 1,680 million in Roma settlements, the purpose of which will be to encourage the social inclusion of Roma. Some of the activities will focus on the social inclusion of Roma women and on preventive healthcare.
	As one of the few countries in the world, Slovenia amended its Constitution in November 2016 to make access to drinking water a fundamental right for all citizens. Regulations governing the drinking water supply in Slovenia

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Recommendation	are equally applicable to all citizens, irrespective of gender, race, skin colour, language, religion, political or other conviction, national or social origin, national minority status, material standing, birth or any other circumstance. All citizens have equal access to drinking water.
73. Measurably improve access to the legal system for Roma individuals and other individuals belonging to groups facing discrimination, and carry out a campaign to increase awareness among these	Slovenia has established a dynamic model for protecting the cultural rights of minorities, and on this basis develops various measures, not only financial, against discrimination. The Ministry of Culture guarantees the Roma community co-financing of their own cultural projects, and provides other services for Roma: counselling, workshops and expert assistance.
minorities of their rights and means of redress when infringements occur (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).	Between 2013 and 2014, a youth campaign, "No Hate Speech Movement", was implemented, initiated and run by the Council of Europe in order to raise the awareness of the root causes, forms and consequences of hate speech, particularly online, and to build the competences of the young and youth organisations needed to combat hate speech. In 2015, the campaign was extended for a further two years on the basis of the Action plan against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The purpose of the campaign is to combat racism and discrimination expressed as hate speech online, and build the competences which young people and youth organisations need in order to recognise this form of violation of human rights and to take the necessary action against it.
	In 2013, the implementation of the No Hate Speech Movement started in Slovenia, when the steering coordination of the campaign was taken over by the Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth. The Office set up a national campaign committee and invited relevant youth organisations and other institutions to sit on it.
	In 2014, a change occurred in the leadership and coordination of the national campaign committee, when this role was assumed by the National Youth Council of Slovenia, which it still holds in 2017.
74. Strengthen legislative and practical measures to prevent all forms of	Under the Criminal Code in force, discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin is a criminal offence (see response to recommendation No. 70).
discrimination against ethnic minorities and foreigners (Uzbekistan).	In Slovenia, measures to prevent discrimination against ethnic minorities were further regulated in the Act amending the Criminal Procedure Act transposing into criminal law two directives, Directive 2010/64/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings, and

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Directive 2012/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 on the right to information in criminal proceedings.

Directive 2010/64/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings was adopted at the EU level to ensure better protection of human rights in terms of a fair trial and to implement the principle of mutual recognition in criminal matters; furthermore, it regulates in more detail respect for the right to defence during pre-trial investigation and criminal proceedings for suspects and accused persons who do not understand the official language of the country where proceedings take place.

As the principle of mutual recognition of judgements and other decisions taken by judicial authorities has become one of the foundations for cooperation between EU Member States in criminal and civil matters, and with the aim of maintaining and developing an area of freedom, security and justice, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Directive 2012/13/EU of 22 May 2012 on the right to information in criminal proceedings. The Directive lays down common minimum standards to be applied in the field of information about rights and about charges to be given to suspects or accused persons.

The Act amending the Criminal Procedure Act also foresees the implementation of Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA. The purpose of Directive 2012/29/EU is to ensure that victims of crime obtain relevant information, support and the possibility to participate in criminal proceedings, as well as the necessary protection.

In accordance with the Aliens Act, third-country nationals are entitled to participate in programmes facilitating their inclusion in cultural, economic and social life in Slovenia (the Initial Integration of Immigrants programme (abbreviated ZIP)). The manner and scope of programmes are determined in the Decree on the ways and scope of providing programmes of support for integrating third-country nationals.

75. Guarantee the right of Roma people to adequate housing, water and sanitation, work, education, and their security of tenure of their settlements (Venezuela

See responses to recommendations Nos. 25, 63, 71 and 72.

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(Bolivarian Republic of)).	
76. Take necessary	See response to recommendation No. 45.
measures to fight all forms of intolerance and hate speech	
against persons belonging to	
minorities (Algeria).	
77. Strengthen its policy aimed at combating prejudices against minorities (Angola).	The Ministry of Culture funds various cultural projects intended for minority members; they are implemented by NGOs and individuals, and foresee the participation of minority members. These projects enable learning about different cultures and identities, and thus importantly contribute to eliminating prejudice about minorities.  Through regular annual calls for applications, the Office for National Minorities co-finances activities related to "raising awareness and fighting discrimination against, and intolerance of, the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing activities of Roma associations in 2015) and to "raising awareness, preventing discrimination and eliminating prejudice and stereotypes with regard to members of the Roma community, within the Roma community and between various parts or groups of the Roma community" (Public call for applications for co-financing programmes of Roma community organisations in 2016).
78. Take additional measures necessary to eliminate discrimination against the Roma community and other vulnerable groups in the country (Argentina).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 25, 63, 71, 72 and 74.
79. Strengthen its human rights framework, including access to human rights training, in order to increase protections for Roma people against violations of their rights (Australia).	See response to recommendation No. 24.
80. Combat discrimination against Roma and implement special measures in education, housing, health and employment spheres, as well as to investigate and prosecute all discriminatory acts directed at Rome children (Azerbaijan).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 25, 63, 71 and 72.
81. Adopt immediate and positive measures to combat all forms of discrimination,	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71 and 72.
xenophobia and related intolerance against the Roma	In order to reduce discrimination against and intolerance of Roma communities and other ethnic groups in quality
incorarioo against the Rollia	

December detion	Information on implementation
Recommendation communities and other ethnic	Information on implementation
groups, with regard to access to housing, quality education, employment and healthcare (Bahrain).	education, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport provides various forms of learning support for Roma children to improve their school performance, which is organised either at school or in Roma settlements. What is important is that learning assistance is also provided by educated Roma (those who have completed or are completing pedagogical study programmes). Thus yet another goal has been achieved, namely that young educated Roma were given jobs. At schools, learning assistance is provided by specially trained tutors. When no suitable premises are available in Roma settlements, learning assistance can be provided in mobile centres (so-called multi-purpose Roma centres).
	In addition to the regular inclusion of Roma children in pre- school institutions, which is more frequent in towns, an increasing number of Roma children are being included in pre-school education in Roma settlements in the framework of the above-mentioned projects funded by the European Social Fund and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.
	In this context, an important emphasis is on the training of professionals who need to obtain knowledge on teaching a second language and creating a stimulating bilingual environment which promotes the linguistic development of children and has a positive impact on pre-reading and preliteracy skills of the children whose mother tongue is not Slovene.
	In all the activities carried out by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the main emphasis is on familiarisation with both Romani and Slovene, and on instilling the basic discipline and group dynamics which facilitate pre-school children's transition to elementary school.
82. Take further measures to provide security of tenure and to promote access to water, sanitation, education, health and employment for all Roma communities (Brazil).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71 and 72.
83. Intensify its efforts to ensure that the Roma are not victims of discrimination, especially in areas such as access to housing and the right to drinking water and sanitation (Chile).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71 and 72.
84. Continue to increase input in the education for Roma and other minorities (China).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 71 and 160.  The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport is currently

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	implementing a new project (following up on earlier projects): 'Together for knowledge – activities related to support mechanisms for knowledge acquisition for Roma community members'. It builds upon earlier projects focusing on the motivation of Roma children for greater participation and better performance in education, either with the help of Roma assistants working in elementary schools, in the framework of the so-called Roma education incubators (now multi-purpose centres) established in particular Roma settlements in Slovenia or as part of extracurricular activities. The project is being implemented from 1 January 2016 to 31 August. 2021.
85. Strengthen the activities to raise awareness in society about the need to eliminate discrimination, intolerance and hate speech against minorities and other groups (Costa Rica).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 45 and 49.
86. Continue reinforcing measures to guarantee respect for the human rights of national	With regard to the core document on measures for Roma adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, see response to recommendation No. 63.
communities, Roma and other ethnic groups (Cuba).	With regard to measures aimed at ensuring bilingualism in areas where the Italian and Hungarian national communities reside, see response to recommendation No. 65.
	Slovenia will continue to create the financial conditions for the implementation of cultural projects and thus ensure respect for the right of minorities. Two important documents have been adopted: the Action Plan for Language Education 2014–2018, and the Action Plan on Language Reference Tools 2014–2018, which also devote special attention to minorities.
	Education for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities is an integral part of the education system in the Republic of Slovenia. The objectives of the system are defined in the Organisation and Financing of Education Act, while sector-specific instruments (Preschool Institutions Act, Elementary School Act, Grammar School Act and Vocational Education Act) determine the goals of particular parts of the education system. The Organisation and Financing of Education Act defines special objectives which enable members of national communities to preserve their linguistic and cultural identities, and promote the harmonious coexistence of people living in ethnically mixed areas.
	Specific features of the education system and the exercise of special rights of the national communities in education are governed by the Act Guaranteeing Special Rights to Members of the Italian and Hungarian National

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Communities in the Field of Education. This Act regulates in more detail the special education objectives for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, special organisational features, the network of pre-school institutions and schools, and adaptation of validated programmes, and specifies special conditions for professionals employed in pre-school institutions and schools, bilingual instruction and funding for the construction of pre-school institutions and schools.

In ethnically mixed areas populated by Slovenes and members of the Italian national community, instruction for members of the Italian community is provided in the Italian language. In this area, three secondary schools providing instruction in Italian have been established, in addition to elementary schools with Italian as the language of instruction. After graduating from secondary school, a small percentage of students seek employment, while most go on to study at higher education or university institutions in Slovenia, and some in Italy. In schools with Italian as the language of instruction, Slovene is a compulsory subject. In pre-school institutions with Slovene as the language of instruction, Italian is a compulsory subject.

In ethnically mixed areas in which the Hungarian national community resides, bilingual instruction in pre-school institutions and schools is provided in Slovene and Hungarian. These pre-school institutions and schools are attended by children of Slovenian and Hungarian nationalities. This arrangement enables the children to learn a second language in addition to their mother tongue and become familiar with the culture of the other nation. Educational activities are carried out in both languages. When learning the mother tongue and the second language, children are divided into groups, which enables them to learn their mother tongue at an advanced level.

For students who complete elementary school in the language of a national community or bilingual elementary school and who enrol in secondary schools outside ethnically mixed area, such schools, alone or together with other schools, must provide classes in the language of the national community as an optional subject. Courses in the language of the national community must be provided if at least five students wish to attend, and are tuition-free.

Classes in pre-school institutions and in schools providing instruction in Italian are given by education professionals fluent in Italian as the language of instruction. In bilingual educational institutions, education is provided by professionals fluent in both languages. When employing teaching staff, bilingual pre-school institutions and bilingual schools must ensure proportional representation of professionals of Slovenian nationality and those belonging

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to the Italian national community.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport ensures additional funds for improving the quality of minority education within two projects in the framework of the European Social Fund (1. Raising the quality of minority education for the Hungarian national community in Slovenia and for the Slovenian national community in Hungary; 2. Raising the quality of minority education for the Italian national community in Slovenia and for the Slovenian national community in Italy). The projects are being implemented from June 2016 to September 2020. Both are a logical continuation of already completed projects the aim of which is continuous support for the development and preservation of bilingualism in the education system in the areas where the two national minorities reside.

Between 2013 and 2015, the Ministry financed the project 'Improved minority language competence of teaching professionals in Italian schools in Slovenia, and Slovenian and bilingual schools in Italy'. The aim of the project was to establish professional and subject-related partnerships and cooperation between the participating Italian schools in Slovenia and Slovenian schools in Italy and universities in Italy and Slovenia, which provided teachers with numerous new insights and tools, also regarding the use of teaching aids, for their professional and personal development. These tools assisted teachers and students in classwork and in developing new forms of teaching. The project focused primarily on teacher training, the development of linguistic and teaching skills (competence) and new strategies for teaching in a bilingual environment using ICT tools in order to make them more appealing to students.

In addition, between 2013 and 2015, the Ministry financed the project 'Improved minority language competence of teaching professionals in bilingual education institutions in the Prekmurje and Raba regions'. The purpose of the project was to give teachers and managers of bilingual education institutions in the Prekmurje and Raba regions opportunities to learn the minority language and to modernise the education system in bilingual education institutions. The project was implemented in order to ensure between interconnectivity bilingual education institutions in the Prekmurje and Raba regions, help overcome stereotypes among the majority and minority populations and raise awareness of the importance of the Hungarian and Slovene languages and cultures. The project involved all bilingual education institutions in both regions.

The basic objective of the project was to raise the minority language competence of teaching professionals in bilingual education institutions in the Prekmurje and Raba regions, which in turn contributed to improving the skills of children

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	attending bilingual education institutions. The project's indirect aim was to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the respective education systems, especially in the teaching of Hungarian and Slovene as minority languages in the Prekmurje and Raba regions.
	In 2017, on the basis of the activities and analyses outlined above, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, in cooperation with the National Education Institute, is implementing a project promoting the use of the mother tongue, which targets members of the Hungarian, Italian and Roma national minorities outside their settlement areas.
87. Strengthen measures to combat discrimination, with special attention to the situation of minorities, by adopting laws and policies for the effective promotion and protection of their rights (Ecuador).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 63, 65 and 69.
88. Take further measures to combat marginalisation and discrimination against Roma (Greece).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71 and 72.
89. Accelerate the approval of the reforms of the Roma Community Act and strengthen the coordination with all actors involved to address the strategies of the National Programme of Measures for Roma (Mexico).	See response to recommendation No. 69.
90. Continue to improve Roma's conditions, access to housing, water, sanitation, education and employment and make further efforts to combat all forms of intolerance and racism against them (Thailand).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71, 72 and 74.
91. Strengthen efforts to reduce disparities in the enjoyment of rights between children of minority groups, particularly Roma children, and children of the majority of population (Austria).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 25 and 63.  One of the goals of training programmes for social workers in Slovenia is to increase the sensitivity of the profession for dealing with Roma children and raise awareness of the harmful consequences of early marriages of Roma girls and boys.
92. Harmonize the rights of homosexual couples with those of heterosexual couples (Spain).	In 2016, Slovenia adopted the Civil Union Act stipulating equal conditions for entering into a civil union of heterosexual and same-sex couples, except in the part relating to biomedically assisted procreation and joint adoption of children.

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93. Heed the Committee of the Rights of the Child's call to regularise the status of children of same-sex couples, and to ensure their protection against discrimination (Sweden).	In 2016, Slovenia adopted the Civil Union Act, which, however, does not specifically regulate the rights of children in same-sex unions. Under the Slovenian Constitution, all children enjoy special protection and care, and in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in all actions concerning children undertaken by all bodies, the best interests of the child must be a primary consideration.
94. Bring forward legislation	See response to recommendation No. 66.
providing a clear legal process for the restoration of rights for individuals affected by the erasure (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).	
95. Enact comprehensive legislation addressing the situation of the "erased", ensuring them appropriate assistance and protection (Uruguay).	See response to recommendation No. 66.
96. Immediately restitute permanent residence for the "erased" persons and adequately compensate them (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).	See response to recommendation No. 66.
97. Recognise fully the civil and political rights of 'erased' citizens and facilitate their complete social integration (Australia).	See response to recommendation No. 66.
98. Adopt the same sex partnership act in order to further improve the rights of the LGBTI persons (Croatia).	See response to recommendation No. 92.
99. Adopt further measures to facilitate effective access of the so-called "erased" to permanent residency and citizenship (Czech Republic).	See response to recommendation No. 66.  With regard to citizenship, the Citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia Act regulates adequately and broadly enough the possibility to obtain Slovenian citizenship for all persons, including the erased. Citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia by naturalisation may be acquired by any person who has actually been living in Slovenia for 10 years, of which for the past 5 years prior to the submission of the application continuously, and has the lawful status of an alien, provided that other statutory conditions have been met.  For certain categories of people, such as persons of Slovenian origin, persons married to Slovenian citizens,
	persons born in the Republic of Slovenia, persons with refugee status and minors, the legislation makes it possible

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	to acquire Slovenian citizenship under more favourable conditions.
100. Take all appropriate measures to enable and facilitate the acquisition of Slovenian citizenship by the "erased persons", paying particular attention to children of "erased persons" in 1992 who are still stateless. Ensure compensation for all "erased persons" and in this regard, review their compensation schemes, on the basis of the amounts and criteria established by the European Court of Human Rights; and ensure the implementation of measures to reintegrate "erased persons" (France).	"Erased persons" may acquire Slovenian citizenship by naturalisation pursuant to the provision of Article 10 of the Citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia Act stipulating that citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia may be acquired by any person that has actually been living in Slovenia for 10 years, of which for the past 5 years prior to the submission of the application continuously, and has the lawful status of an alien, provided that other statutory conditions have been met. A stateless person may apply for Slovenian citizenship after 5 years of living in Slovenia.  In cases when a minor does not meet all the statutory conditions for obtaining Slovenian citizenship and the failure to grant citizenship would result in statelesness, the minor is granted citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia in a direct application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, having regard to the child's best interest.
101. That the youth guarantee scheme is implemented without discrimination and sufficient budget allocated for its effective implementation (India).	Since 2014, Slovenia has implemented the Youth Guarantee scheme, proposing short- and long-term measures facilitating the labour market integration of school leavers. Young people of up to 29 years of age are eligible for measures under the scheme. In the new five year implementation period (2016–2020), some 300 million euros will be allocated for measures of the Guarantee, mostly in the first two years of implementation (70.1 and 62.7 million euros, respectively). Later on, the amount will gradually decrease in view of the improved economic forecasts. Youth unemployment in Slovenia has been decreasing since April 2015.
102. Take comprehensive measures to protect the rights of all national minorities including the so called erased people and promote their full integration into society (India).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 63, 65 and 66.
103. Take legal measures aimed at preventing ethnically motivated crimes (Iran (Republic Islamic of)).	See response to recommendation No. 70.
104. Establish a clear and comprehensive definition of violence against children, and prosecute all forms of violence, including domestic violence (Sierra Leone).	On 25 October 2016, the National Assembly passed the amended Family Violence Prevention Act, which enacted the explicit prohibition of corporal punishment and degrading treatment of children. The amended Act entered into force on 19 November 2016.
105. Take necessary	The Act amending the Family Violence Prevention Act,

measures for setting up a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and address all forms of violence against women and children (Iran (Republic Islamic of)).

Take further steps to implement the National Programme of Family Violence Prevention (Netherlands): Ensure implementation of the National Programme of Family Violence Prevention (2009 -2014) and prevent all forms of violence against women and including domestic children, violence (Bahrain).

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enacted on 25 October 2016, provides for the obligation to adopt a Resolution on a national plan for the prevention of family violence and violence against women for a period of six years. The Resolution must include guidelines on working with sexually abused children. It is currently being drafted.

See response to recommendation No. 105.

Following the passing of the Act amending the Family Violence Prevention Act, a Resolution on a national plan for the prevention of family violence and violence against women will cover the prevention of, and dealing with, all forms of violence against women and children and family violence.

On 14 March 2017, the Act amending the Police Tasks and Powers Act entered into force and took effect on 12 April 2017. In the new Act, the provision on restraining orders was amended with a view to enhancing the protection of victims of family violence and increasing the relevance of information held by NGOs and other organisations dealing with family violence and preparing victims for further judicial procedures. The extension of restraining orders from 10 to 15 days will facilitate the process of apprising the victim of all available options (including filing a motion for extension).

When dealing with the issue of violence in society, the family, and violence against individuals, the Commission for Petitions, Human Rights, and Equal Opportunities of the Slovenian National Assembly took the position that the collection of statistical data should be harmonised and aggregated by gender to make apparent the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, and that it should be publicly available. This would quarantee greater systematisation, and simplify monitoring the occurrences of violence against women and family violence. The amended Article 125, item 2, of the Act amending the Police Tasks and Powers Act will provide for the statistical processing of personal data regarding the relationship between the perpetrator and the injured party, e.g. spouse or former spouse, civil partner, or former civil partner, registered same-sex partner, or former partner in a civil union or partnership, blood relative, adoptive parent or adopted child, foster parent or foster child, etc.

The amendment also provides for the police or the investigating judge to inform the injured party, in a documented format, that they may, in cases of relocation to, or stay in, another EU Member State, before leaving the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, apply for a European Protection Order under the act governing cooperation between EU member states in criminal matters.

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107. Concentrate attention on domestic violence (New Zealand).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 104 and 105.
108. Adopt a national strategy on combating domestic violence (Russian Federation).	See response to recommendation No. 105.
109. Strengthen the measures undertaken to combat domestic violence in general and violence against children in particular (Algeria).	See response to recommendation No. 105.
110. Broaden the definition of violence in the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence, according to international standards, with the view of eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls (Mexico).	See response to recommendation No. 105.
111. Establish an institutional mechanism to combat discrimination and violence against women and children, particularly children from minority peoples (Viet Nam).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 104 and 105.
112. Adopt a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children (Iraq).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 104 and 105.
113. Continue to strengthen normative frameworks for the protection of children from violence and abuse, and develop awareness-raising programs aimed at educating the public about the harmful effects of corporal punishment and enhancing capacities of educators and the media to promote good practices and more positive methods of childrearing (Philippines).	Slovenia carries out activities and awareness-raising campaigns for the general public in this area.  With a view to protecting children from violence and abuse, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport drafted the Act amending the Organisation and Financing of Education and Training Act, which was passed by the National Assembly on 16 June 2016. The amendments include a clearer definition in Article 2a of the Act on a safe and stimulating learning environment. The Article stipulates that "in accordance with the goals of the previous Article, in kindergartens, schools and other educational institutions for children and young adults with special needs, a safe and stimulating learning environment shall be provided, where the corporal punishment of children is prohibited, as well as any other form of violence against and among children, and unequal treatment based on gender, sexual orientation, social and cultural background, religion, racial, ethnic, and national affiliation, or particularities in physical and mental development."
	In the period from 13 May 2016 to 30 September 2021, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport is financing the project 'Strengthening the social and civic competences of

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	teaching professionals', focusing on two thematic segments, i.e. 'Challenges of intercultural coexistence', and 'Only (with) others are we'. The 'Only (with) others are we' segment will include five professional training seminars, including a seminar entitled 'Zero tolerance of violence'; its programme offers an interdisciplinary and cross-cutting approach to the matter of zero tolerance of violence. During the training, teaching professionals will learn about different manifestations of violence in modern society (the media, school, peers, family, broader society, etc.) and about an approach to the issue of violence in all its complexity and directness. Particular emphasis will be given to examples of good practice and related solutions in securing a safe learning environment.
	Aided by external experts, in 2014–2015 the Education Institute drafted a 'Protocol for dealing with peer violence detected in the education system', which was based on the applicable 'Guidelines on Analysing, Preventing and Suppressing Violence in Schools'. The Protocol includes a handy list of procedures to undertake in cases of violence.
114. Ensure that legislation is drafted and enacted to prohibit all corporal punishment of children, including in the home (Sweden).	See response to recommendation No. 104.
115. Legally prohibit the abhorrent practice of corporal punishment against children, and adopt an Integral Law on Children, which compiles the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 40 and 104.
116. Explicitly prohibit in national legislation corporal punishment in all settings, including at home (Austria).	See response to recommendation No. 104.
117. Take appropriate measures to prevent forced labour of children in the country (Azerbaijan).	Slovenia has ratified two fundamental conventions on forced labour, i.e. the ILO Forced Labour Convention (No. 29) and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105). In addition, it has ratified Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Therefore, it believes this area to be appropriately regulated.
	The Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities commissioned a study on child labour, which has been completed and published. Its findings will inform further measures to prevent child labour.
118. Adopt a comprehensive	See responses to recommendations Nos. 104 and 114.

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legal framework on the rights of	
the children aiming also at	
completely outlawing the	
violence against children	
(Romania).  119. Intensify its work to	Professional training for investigators, prosecutors and
provide specialised training for investigators, prosecutors and judges in applying the human trafficking statute (Norway).	judges is part of preventive activities envisaged by the action plans on the fight against trafficking in human beings. Since the last Review, the Government has adopted two such action plans, for 2015–2016 (adopted on 8 January 2015) and 2017–2018 (adopted on 26 April 2017), respectively.
	Training for investigators and prosecutors is held annually at the Gotenica police training centre, most recently on 23 and 24 February 2016. Training for judges is organised periodically; in accordance with the action plan, the last session, organised by the Judicial Training Centre, was held on 10 May 2016.
120. Further provide protection to victims of trafficking in human beings, on the basis of a human rights-based approach, and ensure that they are systematically informed on the possibility of a recovery and reflection period (Republic of Moldova).	Under the legislation in force (Act Ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings), victims of trafficking enjoy complete protection and are provided support under biannual contracts concluded on the basis of calls for applications with NGOs involved in victim support care programmes. Moreover, victims are informed of their rights also in the period of reflection and recuperation in accordance with the new Handbook for identifying, protecting and assisting victims of trafficking, which was approved by the Government on 5 May 2016. The handbook defines the procedures of individual bodies, including NGOs, with regard to all victims of trafficking. The procedure concerning third-country nationals is detailed in the Aliens Act.
121. Step up efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, including broadening international cooperation on this matter (Russian Federation).	Slovenia has also been engaged in this area at the international level, particularly regarding coordination and implementation policy within the EU and the region of South Eastern Europe/the Western Balkans. At the operational level, international cooperation is carried out between competent authorities (police forces and prosecutor's offices) and in individual cases at hand. In 2011, Slovenia began implementing an EU project to establish joint investigation groups to provide further impetus for operational cooperation between law enforcement agencies in the Western Balkan region. The project concluded in December 2015; the results have yet to be published.  Particular attention is also devoted to training diplomatic and consular agents. Accordingly, in 2015 and 2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued its regular training courses for staff being posted abroad, constantly raising their awareness of potential dangers and warning signs of

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	human trafficking. Future consular agents have had individual training at the Ministry of the Interior. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' staff are apprised of the potential dangers of human trafficking at annual consular consultations.
	The Ministry is involved in detecting and reporting this issue through its diplomatic and consular agents, who also participate in promotional and awareness-raising activities in host countries.
	Within international organisations, Slovenia is involved in drafting statements and resolutions on combating trafficking. In May 2017, the country presented to the Council of Europe a report on the implementation of recommendations by the supervisory mechanism under the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.
122. Combat trafficking, punish perpetrators, and compensate and rehabilitate victims (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).	The police, prosecutor's offices and courts are engaged in the prosecution of perpetrators in accordance with criminal procedures. The rehabilitation of victims is guaranteed through reintegration programmes as a follow-up to victim support care programmes. Although several plans have included the task of 'Reintegrating victims of trafficking', this has not yet been implemented, and is again envisaged in the current action plan.
	Regarding compensation for victims of trafficking, additional initiatives by the judiciary would be required. Although efforts in this direction enjoy policy support, actual compensation has not yet been paid out, as no claims have been filed by injured parties.
123. Further strengthen the steps taken in regard to trafficking, particularly in reference to women and	As indicated, comprehensive measures for combating trafficking in human beings are stipulated in biannual action plans. Slovenia devotes additional attention to women and children as especially vulnerable groups.
children (Afghanistan).	Care for women victims of trafficking has been provided and improved in the last decade. The system of comprehensive care for children victims of trafficking is not clearly defined, particularly in terms of competence for custodianship, accommodation and expert assistance, as well as medical and psychosocial assistance. At the moment, such care is provided by a humanitarian organisation on the basis of a call for applications. The competent Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities is seeking a more appropriate and comprehensive solution.
	The service provider selected through a call for applications for co-financing the project 'Care for victims of trafficking – crisis accommodation' undertakes to inform and raise awareness of the dangers and pitfalls of human trafficking among children and adolescents and staff working with

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	them, as well as other target population groups. In addition to publishing informative material and organising workshops in Slovenian schools, the service provider must also organise a workshop for statutory representatives of unaccompanied minors.
124. Continue the efforts directed towards combating trafficking in human beings (Armenia); Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, by prosecuting the perpetrators (Costa Rica); Take effective measures to prevent trafficking in persons, including women and children (Uzbekistan); Combat trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, as well as to prosecute and investigate all perpetrators of these crimes (Azerbaijan).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 122 and 123.  The following programmes are outlined in the action plan for combating trafficking in human beings: raising awareness of the general public and risk groups of potential victims of trafficking (youngsters and migrant workers); training for the professional public (police officers, state prosecutors, judges, inspectors, consular and diplomatic agents, etc.); and awareness raising of users of services/consumers. Raising the awareness of the general public is one of the regular tasks of the national coordinator at the governmental level (symposia, roundtables, communication with the media, radio and television features). These programmes are quite broad, as prevention is deemed to be the most effective method and must be implemented continuously.
125. Invest in the human and financial resources of the secretariat of the Working Group and the National Coordinator dealing with trafficking in human beings so that they can effectively carry out the full range of tasks within their mandate (Czech Republic).	The recommendation reflects the GRETA recommendations under the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and Article 19 of the Directive 2011/36/EU, both of which are binding on Slovenia. At the national level, a position on the topic of this recommendation was published in the reply to an initiative from a deputy of February 2014 and in the aforementioned action plan for 2015–2016 in the chapter on support activities.
	The implementation of the recommendation is subject to a decision of the Ministry of the Interior as the seat of the national coordinator and of the Government, which appointed the national coordinator. In 2015, a post of national coordinator for combating trafficking in human beings was opened at the Ministry of the Interior, making the mechanism better regulated. Further activities are necessary to provide adequate continuous professional and technical support for the national coordinator, which would also support the secretariat of the working group.
126. Redouble its efforts regarding trafficking with a special focus on trafficking in children (India).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 122 and 123.
127. Take appropriate steps to ensure effectiveness of its Inter-Ministerial Working Group for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings and of the	See responses to recommendations Nos. 124 and 125.

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National Coordinator on human trafficking and continue to improve public awareness about this issue (Indonesia).	
128. Increase the efficiency of court case management, thereby ensuring access to trial without undue delay (United States of America).	Slovenia considers that trial without undue delay is no longer a systemic issue in the county. All the latest indicators, both by the Slovenian judiciary and independent control mechanisms (such as the European Commission's 2016 EU Justice Scoreboard, the 2016 CEPEJ Report by the Council of Europe, and Doing Business 2017 by the World Bank), show that in 2010 the trend of resolving court cases effectively turned positive, and that Slovenia is now catching up with the best countries in Europe in terms of trial without undue delay. Indeed, it ranks 12th in the world in resolving insolvency cases.
	On 6 December 2016, the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers adopted its final resolution on the ECHR judgment in the case of <i>Lukenda Group v. Slovenia</i> , and thus closed its examination of the execution of this group of cases (264 in total) concerning the excessive length of domestic judicial proceedings and the lack of an effective remedy.
129. Adopt a Professional Code of Conduct for judges and prosecutors (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).	Based on the GRECO recommendations proposing the adoption of a code of business conduct, a code of ethics binding on all the judges, the last amendment to the Courts Act (passed on 13 March 2015) enacted a new competence of the Judicial Council, i.e. the competence of adopting a code of judicial ethics. The Code, which was then adopted in June 2015, enshrines the most important principles of judges' conduct. At its sessions on 3 September and 19 November 2015, the Judicial Council appointed 5 members to the Ethics and Integrity Committee for the period until 2 September 2021, of whom 4 were proposed by courts as such, and 1 member appointed from among the members of the Judicial Council. In December 2015, the Ethics and Integrity Committee assumed its duties, primarily performing an advisory role on judicial ethics and integrity issues in the form of recommendations and principled opinions, which are also published on the Judicial Council website. The code is a major contribution to the general awareness of the ethical behaviour of judges.
	Pursuant to the provisions of the State Prosecutor's Office Act (passed on 20 March 2015), within six months of its entry into force, the State Prosecutors' Council adopted a Code of ethics of state prosecutors and appointed an Ethics and Integrity Commission.
	Indeed, both the Judicial Council and the State Prosecutors' Council adopted their respective codes of ethics and established ethics and integrity commissions already in 2015.

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130. Address the lack of special provisions for children in Slovenian Criminal Code and bring its juvenile justice system fully into compliance with international standards (Poland).	A dedicated act on criminal offences committed by minors, as announced by paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Criminal Code, is in preparation. The Ministry of Justice will be responsible for additional professional and interministerial coordination of the bill dealing with juvenile offenders, so that the Government could forward it to the National Assembly for adoption tentatively in 2017.
	It will be based on suggestions received and a reassessment of the situation and, as proposed by the expert public, will not include minor offences. The draft act will deal with matters presently regulated by the Criminal Code, the Criminal Procedure Act, and the Enforcement of Penal Sanctions Act, which all include chapters and provisions on juvenile offenders. It will be based on generally established and internationally recognised principles for dealing with juvenile offenders. These include: the principle of non-discrimination (enshrined in Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child); the best interests of the child (Article 3); right to life, survival and development (Article 6); right to be heard (Article 12); and dignity (Article 40, paragraph 1). The principles specifically stipulated by the basic provisions of the draft act will include: the principles of subsidiarity, proportionality, and best interests of the child or minor (as per the definition of the offenders in the draft act).
131. Provide protection to the family as the basic and fundamental unity of the society (Egypt).	All measures necessary to protect the family as the basic and core unit of society are included in the Family Code (see also respons to recommendation No. 20).
133. Consider the ratification of ILO Convention 189 concerning decent work for domestic workers (Nicaragua).	Slovenia considers that protective provisions of the convention concerning domestic workers have been included in, and implemented by, the national legislation in force.
134. Enact and fully implement the necessary laws to ensure protection against interference in the establishment, functioning, and administration of worker organisations, consistent with the recommendations of the ILO (United States of America).	Slovenia has ratified the ILO Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98).
	Moreover, Slovenia has to abide by the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, both of which have been ratified.
	These instruments underlie the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, which stipulates in Article 76, in the chapter on Economic and Social Relations, that the freedom to establish, operate and join trade unions is guaranteed.
135. Improve the social	A study on the minimum cost of living is under review,

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protection and living conditions of the most vulnerable groups of the population (Algeria). based on which a new sum for minimum living costs will be fixed and social legislation amended accordingly.

In December 2016, the Act amending the Social Protection Benefits Act entered into force, for the purpose of ensuring more fair restrictions on succession and notes on the prohibition of alienation and encumbrance of real estate for beneficiaries of social assistance benefits in cash and income support, taking into account the basic principle of providing means of subsistence only to those really in need.

Amendments to the Exercise of Rights to Public Funds Act are pending, more specifically the introduction of provisional decisions. These will be issued automatically, making obsolete the filing of applications for a prolongation of benefits and thus relieving social services from granting such decisions ex officio; consequently, social workers will have more time for professional work with clients. The draft act has been submitted to public debate.

136. Apply more effective actions to face the negative effects of the economic crisis on the population (Cuba).

During the economic and financial crises, the Government sought to adopt austerity measures which did not encroach on human rights and the financing of institutions monitoring their realisation.

On 1 January 2016, the basic minimum income rose from EUR 270.40 to EUR 288.81 (following re-balancing, it is now EUR 292.56). Regular and extraordinary social assistance benefits in cash, as well as funeral and bereavement payments, which all depend on the above amount, were raised accordingly. The threshold for income support for single persons was raised to EUR 470.76 (currently EUR 476.87).

At the beginning of 2016, some austerity measures introduced by the Public Finance Balance Act were abolished in the area of family and social policies. Families in the 5th and 6th income brackets are now allocated the full amount of child benefit. This year, 97,000 families thus received higher child benefit. There are now over 3,200 beneficiaries of state scholarships, which have become available for part of the 5th bracket.

Moreover, the amount allocated for subsidised school meals was raised and the administrative procedure for beneficiaries simplified. Subsidised school lunches are now available to pupils from families in the 1st (100%), 2nd (70%) and 3rd (40%) income brackets. Despite fiscal cuts, more than 33 million euros were additionally allocated for improving the situation of families. Since 1 February 2017, pupils from families in the 1st to 3rd income brackets benefit from fully subsidised school lunches.

Social activation programmes will be launched in mid-2017

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	to raise the level of social and employment competences of the most vulnerable groups and improve their employability.
137. Continue its positive efforts in reducing the numbers of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2020 (Malaysia).	See response to recommendation No. 135.
138. Provide legal protection against forced evictions (Nigeria).	The Execution of Judgments in Civil Matters and Insurance of Claims Act, which regulates the procedure for forced execution by courts, also contains provisions on remedies available to the debtor (objection or complaint against the decision on execution). Pursuant to Article 169 of the Act, the debtor may also propose that the court allow another means of execution, and not execution on real property if the claim can be settled within a reasonable time (of one year). Article 210 further stipulates that the debtor has the right to reside in a house or apartment sold during execution for three years from the date of sale on condition of payment of market-value rent.
139. Implement recommendations by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Water and Sanitation regarding access to water for Roma (Israel).	See response to recommendation No. 140.  Regardless of the answer below, with a view to improving the situation in Roma settlements, in September 2016 the Government provided exceptional funds to ensure the human right to drinking water for those inhabitants of Roma settlements who lacked access to existing water sources.
140. Continue to take measures in order to guarantee universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Portugal).	On 17 November 2016, the National Assembly passed a constitutional act enshrining the right to drinking water in the Slovenian Constitution. The constitutional act entered into force on 25 November 2016.
(i ortagal).	Within 18 months of the constitutional amendment, the relevant legislation will be adapted accordingly.
	Regulations governing the drinking water supply in Slovenia are equally applicable to all citizens, irrespective of gender, race, skin colour, language, religion, political or other conviction, national or social origin, national minority status, material standing, birth or any other circumstance. All citizens have equal access to drinking water.
	At the EU level, the discharge and treatment of urban waste water is regulated by Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste-water treatment. Slovenian legislation is aligned with the requirements of EU legislation. In the Slovenian legal order, conditions for the discharge and treatment of urban waste water are regulated by laws and by-laws on emissions of substances in the discharge of waste water, as well as by-laws on environmental protection public services (Environment

December detion	
Recommendation	Information on implementation  Protection Act, Public Utilities Act, Decree on the emission of substances and heat when discharging waste water into waters and the public sewage system, Decree on the discharge and treatment of urban wastewater, Rules on sensitive areas, Rules on initial measurements and operational monitoring of wastewater, and Operational programme for the discharge and treatment of urban waste water).
	Regulations governing the discharge and treatment of urban waste water in Slovenia are equally applicable to all citizens, irrespective of gender, race, skin colour, language, religion, political or other conviction, national or social origin, national minority status, material standing, birth or any other circumstance. All inhabitants have access under equal conditions to services of the obligatory public utility service of discharge and treatment of urban waste water and run-off rain water.
141. Accelerate its efforts to finalize the National Mental Health Programme, with the aim of reducing the suicide rates (Costa Rica).	The protection of mental health is one of the axes of the new national healthcare programme, i.e. the Resolution on the National Health Care Plan 2016–2025 'Together for a Healthy Society', which was adopted on 29 March 2016. With regard to the mental health of the elderly, a particularly vulnerable group in terms of suicidal behaviour, in April 2016 the Ministry of Health adopted a Strategy for dealing with dementia in Slovenia by 2020; a relevant action plan is pending. The procedure for adopting a Resolution on the National Programme of Mental Health is also under way.
142. Consider appropriate means to reach out to achieve universal access to health services and to consider expanding the coverage of health services under the compulsory health insurance schemes to include appropriate secondary and tertiary services	Under the legislation in force, Slovenia provides access to health care for the entire population.  Access to all levels of health care (primary, secondary, and tertiary), as stipulated by Article 2 of the Health Services Act, and comprising services under Article 23 of the Health Care and Health Insurance Act and Article 22 of the Rules on compulsory health insurance, is guaranteed to all inhabitants of Slovenia through compulsory health insurance.
(Thailand).	As already stated, health services in Slovenia are organised at the primary (primary health care and pharmacy services), secondary (out-patient clinics and hospitals), and tertiary levels (specialist clinics, clinical institutes, or clinical departments and other authorised health institutions). Social-medical, hygienic, epidemiological, and health-ecological services are performed as specialist services at the secondary and tertiary levels.
	Under the Health Care and Health Insurance Act, all categories of persons are included in the obligatory health insurance scheme (Art. 15), with employees being the largest category, followed by retired persons. Other major groups of insured persons (i.e. insurance holders and their

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	family members – spouses and children – under articles 20–22 of the Act) include the materially deprived and jobless.
	Pursuant to Article 7 of the Act, funds are allocated in the state budget for the emergency treatment of those not insured or aliens in need of medical treatment who cannot bear the costs. Healthcare for migrants and asylum seekers is provided pursuant to the International Protection Act (Articles 38, 78, 84, 89, 90, and 94), and the Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons Act (Articles 23, 27, and 38).
	Pursuant to the Resolution on the National Health Care Plan 2016–2025 'Together for a Healthy Society', which was adopted in March 2016, Slovenia intends to further improve access to healthcare by:  - further activities to strengthen primary health services / primary healthcare;  - introducing a holistic approach to treatment and long-term care;  - measures to optimise patient waiting times and the quality of healthcare and patient safety;  - education and training for health professionals,  - further digitising the healthcare system (e-health) and introducing new telemedicine models.
143. Ensure that Slovenia's facilities regarding compulsory Health Insurance Scheme are available at the secondary and tertiary levels (Nigeria).	See response to recommendation No. 142.
145. Allocate sufficient resources to promote the rights of persons with disabilities (Viet Nam).	No less than EUR 1.2 billion annually are allocated to rights exercised exclusively by persons with disabilities. It is impossible to give the exact figure on the total amount of funds allocated to persons with disabilities and the realisation of their rights, as a quarter of social transfers and benefits to persons with disabilities are available to both persons with disabilities and other beneficiaries. For these cases, the competent services do not keep separate records for persons with disabilities.
146. Continue to strengthen protection of persons with disabilities through increasing employment opportunities to fundamentally improve their living conditions (China).	Slovenia has an active employment policy for persons with disabilities. In recent years, it has carried out a number of measures and activities to provide disabled with better opportunities; these include rehabilitation measures, financial incentives for employers and people with disabilities, etc. In the future, policies and measures will be evaluated on a regular basis, with a view to amending them.
147. Review the current practice of participatory rights of persons with disabilities in	On 21 April 2016, the National Assembly passed an amended National Assembly Elections Act. The main objective of the amendment was to bring electoral

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elections with the aim of identifying the necessary changes in consultation with relevant stakeholders and implementing measures to ensure the voting rights of persons with disabilities (Hungary).

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legislation in line with two decisions of the Constitutional Court, one of which also concerned the exercise of the right of persons with disabilities to vote. The amending act stipulates that all polling stations must allow disabled access and, in addition, provides for the possibility of postal vote for persons with disabilities. According to the legislator, this improves the possibility for persons with disabilities, regardless of the category of disability, to cast their vote with lower costs and in an easier manner (without having to come in person to a polling station). Pursuant to the existing legislation and the newly adopted amendment, even more voting methods will be available to persons with disabilities: (i) vote assisted by another person; (ii) vote at home; (iii) vote using an aid for the blind or visually impaired – an adapted ballot; or permanent vote by post, if this is notified to the National Electoral Commission together with a decision by the relevant authority granting disabled status. In addition, all polling stations will be made accessible to persons with disabilities.

The amended National Assembly Elections Act will enter into force on the fifteenth day after its publication in the Official Gazette, tentatively in May 2017.

148. Continue improving the accessibility to transports and infrastructure for persons with disabilities (Spain).

Slovenia has adopted a number of measures to improve access to buildings for persons with disabilities. The latest measure is the (co)financing of vehicle adaptation for persons with reduced mobility. The authorities also engage in awareness-raising and informational campaigns for the expert and general public on the need for accessibility for all. For example, within the ZMOREMO project, accessibility of several public buildings was assessed in 2015.

Since 2015, the Government has been implemented the integrated public passenger transport project, providing for a single ticket for all bus and rail transport. However, the system has not yet been adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities, particularly in terms of the provision of software and hardware for ticket machines and information displays. This will be included in the new public tender on regular passenger transport (SGEI), which should be published by the line ministry by 2 December 2019. Certain carriers (1–2 concessionaires) use adapted vehicles (ramp – lift); however, this entails quite high investment costs.

The positive legislation on adaptations of transport for persons with reduced mobility stipulates the following: Article 16 of the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Act provides for the accessibility of public transport for persons with disabilities. It stipulates that buses accessible for persons with reduced mobility and persons with impaired sensory functions must be available, along with information in adapted formats on the possibility of using public transport. However, the implementation of this provision is limited in terms of actual ability to purchase

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adapted vehicles, which carriers usually lack. The Act also provides for the option of guaranteeing alternative transport, unless this would be a disproportionate burden. In such cases, less costly means of transport should be ensured. In addition to vehicles, the unhindered boarding and alighting of passengers should be possible, as well as information in adapted formats. The deadline for such adaptations is 11 December 2020 for road transport, and 11 December 2025 for rail transport.

This area is also regulated by Regulation (EU) No. 181/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 concerning the rights of passengers in bus and coach transport and amending Regulation (EC) No. 2006/2004. Its articles 9 and 10 stipulate that, in order to meet health and safety requirements or in cases where the design of the vehicle or the infrastructure makes it physically impossible to meet all the requirements, carriers may refuse to accept a reservation from, to issue or otherwise provide a ticket to, or to take on board, a person on the grounds of disability or of reduced mobility; however, they shall inform the person concerned about any acceptable alternative service operated by the carrier. Alternative transport is available in the form of transport-on-demand, stipulated by Article 57b of the Road Transport Act, at the national or local level.

The activities and legislation regarding airline passenger transport are as follows: The relevant legislative act is Regulation (EC) No. 1107/2006 concerning the rights of disabled persons and persons with reduced mobility when travelling by air, providing for the right to non-discrimination based on disability or reduced mobility. Disabled persons and persons with reduced mobility have the same right to travel as all other passengers (right to non-discrimination regarding the reservation and purchase of a ticket, right to travel at the same level of quality as any other passenger, right to information on safety rules used by air carriers, etc.). The purpose of Regulation (EC) No. 1107/2006 and the relevant European Commission guidelines, as well as of Document 30 (Part I) of the European Civil Aviation Conference providing quality standards and good practices in this area and Annex 9 (Facilitation) to the Chicago Convention of the International Civil Aviation Organisation is to facilitate air travel for persons with reduced mobility.

The activities to improve accessibility and legislation regarding passenger transport by sea and inland waterways are as follows: Adaptations to transport are regulated by the Rules on passenger ships, which, in accordance with Directive 2009/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 on safety rules and standards for passenger ships (last amended by Commission Directive 2010/36/EU of 1 June 2010 amending Directive 2009/45/EC

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	of the European Parliament and of the Council on safety rules and standards for passenger ships), also impose safety requirements for persons with reduced mobility; the provisions of the Decree for the enforcement of Regulation 1177/2010/EU concerning the rights of passengers when travelling by sea and inland waterway, which provides for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1177/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 concerning the rights of passengers when travelling by sea and inland waterway and amending Regulation (EC) No. 2006/2004, including provisions on violations, concern persons with reduced mobility. The relevant legislation in this area has been implemented, and no new regulations are envisaged.
	In the area of rail passenger transport, rules for persons with reduced mobility apply as stipulated by Commission Regulation (EU) No 1300/2014 of 18 November 2014 on the technical specifications for interoperability relating to accessibility of the Union's rail system for persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility. The Regulation is binding and has been implemented. The transport operator Slovenian Railways provides transport of persons with reduced mobility and assistance to persons requiring mobility aids.
149. Ensure the full enjoyment of the political, civil, economic and social rights of "erased" people, including health, social security,	See response to recommendation No. 66.  Employment rights with retroactive effect are dealt with in individual court cases.
education and employment by regulating the status of the remaining "erased" persons and providing adequate reparation to those affected (Ireland).	Article 10 of the Elementary School Act stipulates that children who are foreign citizens or stateless persons and reside in Slovenia have the right to compulsory elementary education under the same conditions as citizens of the Republic of Slovenia.
150. Implement the recommendations accepted by Slovenia during its first UPR on the subject of discrimination against Roma (Israel).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 71, 74, 78, 80 and 81.
151. Continue to devote great attention to the effective implementation of the existing legislative framework on the use of the minority languages (Italy).	See response to recommendation No. 65.
152. Adopt the necessary measures in order to better comply with the recommendations on the use of minority languages released by	See response to recommendation No. 65.

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the Council of Europe, with particular reference to the rights of the autochthonous Italian minority (Italy).	
155. Continued efforts in addressing and protecting the rights of ethnic minorities, including in particular the situation of Roma living in Slovenia (New Zealand).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 24, 25, 63, 65, 71, 74, 78, 80 and 81.
158. Continue increasing the allocation of additional resources to improve the living conditions of the Roma population in the informal settlements, by strengthening the security in tenancy, and ensuring the human right to drinking water and sanitation and access to electricity (Spain).	See responses to recommendations Nos. 65 and 139.  By offering financial incentives through calls for applications of the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, the Republic of Slovenia guarantees the provision of basic public utility infrastructure in Roma settlements, namely the construction, reconstruction or modernisation of water distribution systems and sewerage, connection to power grids, construction and reconstruction of local roads, and purchase of plots for better planning of Roma settlements. In March 2016, a call for applications was published for projects related to basic utility infrastructure in Roma settlements for 2016 and 2017, with a total budget of 1 million EUR for 2016 and 1 million EUR for 2017. Roma settlement projects eligible for financing can include: (a) water distribution systems, including water collector wells and pipelines connecting Roma settlements to the distribution system; (b) sewage systems where needed in order to protect water sources or to meet other environmental requirements; (c) electric power supply systems in built-up Roma settlements; (d) construction or reconstruction of local roads and public paths; (e) purchase of plots for better planning of Roma settlements.
159. Involve Romani organisations and communities in the development and implementation of the strategy for Roma inclusion (United States of America).	Article 12 of the Roma Community in the Republic of Slovenia Act stipulates that national authorities, self-governing local community authorities and other authorities must obtain the prior opinion of the Roma Community Council for the purposes of adopting and issuing regulations and other general legal acts relating to the status of the Roma community; likewise, the Roma Community Council may present proposals, initiatives and opinions in matters of its competence to the National Assembly, the National Council, the Government, self-governing local community bodies, and other authorities.  Through its representatives, the Roma community was involved in all stages of drafting the National Programme of Measures for Roma for the 2010–2015 period. Roma community organisations were responsible for, or participated in, the implementation of measures envisaged therein. Representatives of the Roma community are also members of the governmental working body (the

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	Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Community), which is tasked with monitoring the implementation of the National Programme. The Roma community was actively engaged throughout the process of drafting the new National Programme of Measures for Roma for the following 5-year period. Its representatives were regularly consulted by individual ministries, and both the Roma community and broader civil society were invited to submit proposals. The draft programme was open for public debate between 19 January and 20 February 2017. According to established practice, the Roma community will be involved in implementing the measures of the new National Programme and monitoring its implementation.
160. Continue working to safeguard the human rights of the minorities in the country (Guatemala).	See response to recommendation No. 86.
161. Regularise the status of all erased persons of origin from other former Yugoslavian republics (Sierra Leone).	See response to recommendation No. 66.  The Act amending the Act Regulating the Legal Status of Citizens of Former Yugoslavia Living in the Republic of Slovenia sets out the requirements to be met by a foreign national who was citizen of another republic of the former SFRY on 25 June 1991 and who has not yet obtained a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Slovenia to obtain the permit regardless of the provisions of the Aliens Act. Persons deleted from the register of permanent residence who do not reside in Slovenia on reasonable grounds are also entitled to a permanent residence permit. As defined under the Amending Act, reasonable grounds for absence include departure from Slovenia due to the consequences of deletion from the register or due to the failure to acquire a residence permit, failure to return to Slovenia because of war in other successor states to the SFRY, expulsion from Slovenia, and refused entry.
162. Take additional measures to tackle the problem of assimilation and to reduce the gap that exists between the legislative framework and its implementation with regard to the use of minority languages in public services (Hungary).	See response to recommendation No. 65.  At the local level, municipalities in ethnically mixed areas have taken an active approach to eliminating the gap between the legislative framework and the actual situation by providing translations of forms and publishing them online. Municipal regulations are also published in the languages of the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities.