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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Finland

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-first session from 7 to 18 November 2022. The review of Finland was held at the 6th meeting, on 9 November 2022. The delegation of Finland was headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pekka Haavisto. At its 16th meeting, held on 16 November 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on Finland.
2. On 12 January 2022, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Finland: Luxembourg, Mexico and Somalia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Finland:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Angola, Canada, Germany, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Finland through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Finland, led by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to discuss human rights, rule of law and democracy in a fruitful and forward-looking way, and welcomed the fourth review of Finland under the universal periodic review mechanism, which coincided with the country's Human Rights Council membership. Finland recognized a special obligation to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights.
6. The universal periodic review was an important tool in ensuring that all human rights commitments of States were implemented and put into action. The experiences of Finland in its previous reviews were nothing but positive. The recommendations received in the past three reviews had been valuable in the country's efforts to build a better and more just society for all persons living in Finland.
7. In preparing for the review, Finland had cooperated closely with the Finnish civil society at large. The Government was pleased to have – as observers – independent representatives from the Parliament of Finland, the Human Rights Delegation, which was a part of the national human rights institution, and the Advisory Board for International Human Rights.
8. Defending human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination formed the very basis of any democratic society. The delegation underscored the importance of the rules-based international system, its obligations and the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and binding nature of human rights. Every person has the right to full enjoyment of all human rights without discrimination.

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/41/FIN/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/41/FIN/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/41/FIN/3](#).

9. Those rights and principles remained cornerstones of Finnish society and were as timely as ever.
10. During recent years, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic had had serious and far-reaching repercussions on the enjoyment of human rights in all corners of the planet. In many regions, the pandemic was still an ongoing challenge.
11. The ongoing situation in Europe and globally was only underlining the fundamental importance of safeguarding the human rights of each and everyone, regardless of their background. The horrors and brutalities witnessed in Ukraine over the past year had also made the relationship and interlinkages between international human rights law and international humanitarian law more visible.
12. Crimes against humanity, war crimes and grave human rights violations must never be tolerated. More needed to be done to bring perpetrators to justice. Finland would continue to fight against impunity for the most serious international crimes, including crimes against humanity and war crimes.
13. Over the past years, the interdependence between human rights and the environment had become evident. Environmental urgency and climate crisis had severe impacts on the human rights of millions of people all over the world. Finland continued to engage actively on the interlinkages between human rights and the environment, biodiversity and climate change.
14. No country was perfect on human rights. According to independent monitoring reports, the overall human rights situation in general had been fairly good in Finland. However, Finland also had human rights challenges that needed urgent attention. Many of those challenges were under discussion at the session.
15. Fundamental and human rights, as well as legal protection, formed the very basis of Prime Minister Sanna Marin's government programme. Pursuant to the programme, the country's foreign and security policy and development policy were human rights-based. That had been reaffirmed in the human rights report the Government had submitted to Parliament late in 2021.
16. The long-term priority of Finland remained the advancement of the rights of women and girls, in all their diversity, as well as gender equality in all fields of life. The Government was paying particular attention to defending the rights of those in the most vulnerable positions. Those included, among others, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples and persons belonging to various minorities, including Roma.
17. The significance of civil society in monitoring and promoting the implementation of human rights had increased. The activities of human rights defenders had had positive effects on the development of fundamental and human rights locally, nationally, regionally and globally. Finland placed special emphasis on supporting civil society and human rights defenders all over the world. In 2022, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs had updated the national guidelines on human rights defenders.
18. The third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights, covering the period 2020 to 2023, had been adopted in June 2021. During the preparation of the action plan, the Government had cooperated broadly with stakeholders, including the national human rights institution and non-governmental organizations. Special consideration had been given to the recommendations issued to Finland by the various treaty bodies. The action plan was focused on developing human rights monitoring at the national level. National fundamental and human rights indicators had been developed as a key part of the action plan. They provided a new tool for monitoring fundamental and human rights in the short and long term.
19. Human rights treaties were crucial tools for holding governments accountable for the realization of the rights inherent to everyone. The Government had submitted a proposal to Parliament to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. The Government had proposed an amendment to the Criminal Code to criminalize enforced disappearance as a new offence. Since the previous universal periodic

review cycle, three human rights treaties of the Council of Europe had entered into force for Finland when they entered into force internationally.

20. Finland had received several questions about actions on combating and preventing violence against women. This was understandable, as violence against women remained one of the most persistent human rights problems in Finnish society. The Government had implemented several measures. In 2021, a total of 25 million euros had been allocated to 29 shelters. The shelters were open for anyone who had experienced or had been threatened by domestic violence. The Government had also appointed a special rapporteur on violence against women. It was clear that Finland needed to step up action to combat violence against women, including domestic violence as well as sexual and gender-based violence.

21. Finland had also received several well-founded questions about the rights of the Sami. Finland consistently and actively promoted the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including their right to participate in decision-making concerning themselves. The Government had been in regular dialogue with the Sami Parliament in matters affecting their rights. While there was room for improvement, Finland was fully committed to respecting and promoting the linguistic and cultural rights of all Sami persons, in line with international obligations. An important step had been taken when a truth and reconciliation commission had been established, in full cooperation with the Sami. Concerning the reform of the Sami Parliament Act, no final result had been achieved to date, but negotiations were ongoing.

22. The Government was also strongly committed to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, both online and offline. That commitment was reflected in the Government's action plan to combat racism and to promote good relations, adopted in October 2021. For example, in the action plan, the Government committed to providing training for the police on the prohibition of ethnic profiling. The training on hate crime and ethnic profiling was mandatory for all police officers and civil servants in police departments.

23. The existing legislation and the National Roma Policy for 2018 to 2022 provided a foundation to promote the equality of Roma. A new Roma policy for 2023 to 2030 was being prepared.

24. Regarding refugees and migrants, Finland stayed committed to respecting the principle of non-refoulement and to providing international protection for those in need. The legal protection of asylum-seekers had been strengthened by legislative amendments in 2021. In addition, the national asylum process had recently been evaluated. The Government had also submitted to Parliament a proposal aimed at simplifying the family reunification process.

25. In addition, the Government had coordinated particular measures to support the tens of thousands of Ukrainians in Finland who were in need of international protection because of the war of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

26. The Government was fully aware of the need to continue the work on addressing discrimination against persons with disabilities in all fields. The second national action plan in this area, for the years 2020 to 2023, had been published in 2021. There was an urgent need to find new solutions in order to overcome barriers and increase the participation of persons with disabilities in the labour market. Additionally, the legislation on disability services was currently being reformed.

27. The Government remained aware of the need to ensure that the rights of older persons were fully protected in all circumstances. A new ombudsman for older persons had taken office in 2022. The duty of the ombudsman was to promote and assess the realization of the fundamental and human rights of older people in relevant legislation and decision-making processes.

28. Many LGBTIQ+ persons living in Finland faced discrimination in their everyday lives. The Government was strongly committed to protecting the rights of sexual and gender minorities. An important step forward had been taken in September 2022, when the Government's proposal for an act on the legal recognition of gender that respected people's right to self-determination (referred to as the "trans act") had been submitted to Parliament.

29. The proposal for a new animal welfare act was before Parliament. The proposed new provision concerning religious slaughter would be further discussed by Parliament, including by its Constitutional Law Committee. Finland would continue discussions on that question with the religious communities in Finland. Their concerns were taken very seriously.

30. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs served as a focal point for recommendations under the universal periodic review mechanism and from the treaty bodies. Furthermore, the Government's Network for Fundamental and Human Rights reviewed all recommendations addressed to Finland and followed up on their implementation.

31. Human rights belong to all. Governments should not and must not allow any person or group to be left behind. To achieve that goal, all Governments, including Finland, needed to step up their work to realize universal human rights.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

32. During the interactive dialogue, 90 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

33. Uruguay welcomed the achievements made under the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.

34. Uzbekistan highlighted the attention being paid to the protection of human rights within the context of climate change, noting the adoption of the new Climate Change Act.

35. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela praised Finland for taking into account the recommendations of the treaty bodies.

36. Viet Nam commended Finland for its establishment of new domestic human rights structures.

37. Zambia praised the implementation of accepted universal periodic review recommendations and the progress Finland had made in many areas.

38. Algeria noted with appreciation that the Finnish institutional framework had been further expanded with an ombudsperson for older persons; a special rapporteur on violence against women; and the Rule of Law Centre, which operated under the auspices of the Faculty of Law at the University of Helsinki.

39. Argentina welcomed the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.

40. Armenia was pleased to learn that a number of important international instruments, such as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, were scheduled for consideration for ratification.

41. Australia welcomed actions taken by Finland to establish a national action plan to address domestic and family violence, and the recent amendment to the Criminal Code to strengthen protection against sexual crimes.

42. Bangladesh commended Finland for its continuous efforts to meet its official development assistance target of 0.7 per cent of its gross national income.

43. Belarus welcomed the delegation of Finland and presented recommendations.

44. Brazil was concerned about the high incidence of violence against women and discriminatory acts, particularly against the Sami population.

45. Bulgaria noted with appreciation that the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights continued to strengthen the monitoring of human rights set out in the previous plans.

46. Cambodia welcomed the adoption of various pieces of legislation, policies and action plans, and the establishment of institutional mechanisms, including in the areas of employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and protection of victims of trafficking in persons.

47. Canada encouraged Finland to take further measures to improve the availability of services for victims of domestic and gender-based violence.
48. Chile congratulated Finland for its third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights for the period 2020 to 2023, which was aimed at strengthening human rights monitoring.
49. China expressed concern about the violation of the rights of the Sami people in Finland and about discrimination and hate crime against groups such as people of African descent, Muslims, Roma, refugees and immigrants.
50. Colombia welcomed the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.
51. The Congo noted with appreciation progress in achieving the objectives of sustainable development and in implementing the principle of equal pay between men and women.
52. Costa Rica welcomed the modification of the definition of rape in the Criminal Code, undertaken following previous recommendations.
53. Côte d'Ivoire noted with appreciation the appointment of the ombudsman for older persons and of a special rapporteur on violence against women.
54. Croatia welcomed efforts in combating violence against women, including the conduct of awareness-raising campaigns.
55. Cuba noted with appreciation the commitment of Finland to the universal periodic review exercise.
56. Cyprus commended Finland for appointing an ombudsperson for older persons and a special rapporteur on violence against women.
57. Denmark welcomed the developments with regard to the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Finland, but remained concerned that not all necessary steps were being taken in relation to the Sami people.
58. Egypt called on Finland to strengthen its efforts to combat domestic violence and violence against women, and to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
59. Estonia welcomed in particular the enactment of an action plan for combating violence against women (2020–2023) and the establishment of an independent national rapporteur on gender-based violence.
60. Eswatini noted the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.
61. France welcomed the continued attention paid by the Finnish authorities to the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular fundamental freedoms, including freedom of the press.
62. Gabon welcomed the adoption, in 2021, of a national plan of action to combat racism and promote good relations among population groups.
63. The Gambia welcomed the action plans for the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention).
64. Georgia praised the adoption of the plan to combat racism, the national child strategy, structural reforms in the social welfare and health-care systems, and the efforts to combat violence against women.
65. Germany expressed concern about the rights of marginalized groups, particularly the Sami people, religious minorities, and sexual and gender minorities.
66. Greece commended Finland for its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and its efforts in attaining the Goals related to social and economic sustainability.
67. Iceland welcomed the national report of Finland and made recommendations.

68. India saluted the enactment of human rights-related legislation and programmes, particularly the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights and the government report on human rights policy.
69. Indonesia thanked Finland for its national report and made recommendations.
70. The Islamic Republic of Iran made recommendations.
71. Iraq commended Finland for the legislative reforms aimed at harmonizing policies with the country's international commitments, notably the establishment of the office of the ombudsman for older persons.
72. Ireland hailed progress on LGBTI+ issues, including a motion to amend the transgender legislation, and noted the assurance to amend the definition of rape in the Criminal Code.
73. Israel praised the steps taken to combat violence against women, including through awareness-raising campaigns, and the announcement that Finland would conduct a reform of legislation on sexual offences.
74. Italy welcomed efforts to address the issue of domestic violence and violence against women, including through the action plan for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.
75. Kazakhstan expressed appreciation for the efforts to protect the rights of migrants, refugees and ethnic minorities, in particular efforts made through the action plan to combat racism and the new action plan against trafficking in persons.
76. Lebanon commended Finland for its National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights and the government report on human rights policy, as well as the inclusive dialogue with civil society to prepare the national report.
77. Libya welcomed the positive engagement by Finland with the universal periodic review mechanism.
78. Liechtenstein thanked Finland for its strong commitment to the protection of human rights and for being a reliable partner in the Human Rights Council.
79. Lithuania welcomed implementation of the action plan for combating violence against women and the action plan for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.
80. Luxembourg thanked Finland for the presentation of its national report and made recommendations.
81. The delegation of Finland took the floor to address some of the issues raised, particularly in relation to the Istanbul Convention. Violence against women was an issue that the Government took very seriously, and Finland had implemented a number of positive steps to combat it.
82. Finland had recently completed comprehensive legislative reform regarding sexual offences, and had doubled the funds dedicated to shelters for victims of violence since 2016. However, more needed to be done to prevent and reduce violence against women in every part of the society.
83. The Government had stated that it would continue working towards the renewal of the Sami Parliament Act. A committee consisting of representatives of both the Sami Parliament and the government parties had drafted a revised act, which included proposed changes aimed at enhancing the right of the Sami people to self-determination. A truth and reconciliation commission had been established on 21 October, in collaboration with the Sami Parliament. The five members of the commission would be impartial and independent, would investigate and learn from events in history and would propose actions towards reconciliation.
84. The delegation also stated that Finland would look into the possibility of ratifying the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (ILO). An assessment on that matter would be finalized by the Ministry of Justice in early 2023.
85. The quota for refugees had been further increased to 1,500, in response to the situation in Afghanistan, and the 2023 refugee code would include a quota of 1,050 refugees.

86. Finland sought to emphasize the resettlement of the most vulnerable refugees, including families, women and children at risk, and received emergency resettlement cases through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
87. The Government had recently submitted to Parliament a proposal aimed at simplifying the family reunification process. The proposal would waive the existing requirement for proof of sufficient resources for family members and children.
88. More than 13,000 children had fled from Ukraine to Finland owing to the ongoing war.
89. Finland was combating racism and discrimination in all their forms and in all sectors of society. Finland was not free from racism; however, the constitution provided strong protection of the dignity and integrity of individuals and was aimed at promoting a just society.
90. The Government had developed a mechanism for gathering data on hate crime and hate speech, particularly on antisemitism and Islamophobia, and had strengthened the capacity of various stakeholders that combated hate speech and crimes.
91. Regarding education, democracy and human rights were strongly represented in the core curriculum. The Government issued academic grants for pilot projects on democracy and human rights education. It had invested to ensure that persons with disabilities received more equal and equitable treatment. Everyone was valuable, and the Government aimed to ensure that persons with disabilities would be more aware of their rights, and to support the effective exercise of those rights in practice.
92. The delegation addressed several other concerns that had been raised during the review, including with regard to the military service and its alternatives, enforced disappearances, animal welfare, the environment and climate change, the rights of the Sami people, vulnerable groups and asylum-seekers.
93. Malawi commended Finland for its new Climate Act, which had entered into force in July 2022.
94. Malaysia commended Finland for the multi-stakeholder consultations for the preparation for the universal periodic review and the third National Action Plan for Fundamental and Human Rights.
95. Maldives commended Finland for its efforts to address climate change, environmental degradation and the loss of biodiversity, and welcomed the new Climate Change Act.
96. Malta welcomed the delegation of Finland and thanked it for the presentation of its national report.
97. Mauritius applauded the efforts to combat violence against women by increasing awareness campaigns and by creating a hotline service.
98. Mexico noted the reform to legislation on abortion, and the amendment regarding sexual crimes.
99. Montenegro welcomed the long-standing policy to protect and promote human rights, democracy and rule of law in national and international settings.
100. Morocco welcomed the implementation of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental Rights and Human Rights for 2020 to 2023.
101. Mozambique commended Finland for the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the third universal periodic review cycle, in particular the adoption of the national action plan to combat racism and promote good relations.
102. Namibia thanked Finland for the establishment of new structures, including the appointment of a special rapporteur on violence against women.
103. Nepal commended Finland for the development of its national child strategy, which was focused on a child rights-based approach.

104. The Netherlands commended Finland for the implementation of many of the previous recommendations, including the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.
105. The Niger welcomed the commitment of Finland to promoting and protecting the human rights of refugees, migrants and ethnic minorities through the adoption of an action plan to combat racism and promote good relations between population groups.
106. Nigeria positively noted the initiatives to address racism and racial discrimination, particularly the adoption of the action plan to combat racism and promote good relations.
107. Norway noted the important progress made through human rights monitoring programmes, and the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission to investigate injustices committed against the Sami people.
108. Pakistan noted the measures taken to promote the human rights agenda, and the progress made in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.
109. Panama expressed appreciation for the presentation of the national report and wished Finland success in the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review.
110. Paraguay expressed concern over the situation of migrants and Indigenous Peoples, and about the legal framework on statelessness.
111. Peru noted the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights.
112. The Philippines noted with concern reported incidents of ethnic profiling of, and hate speech and hate crime against, minority groups.
113. Poland encouraged Finland to continue to pay attention to the situation of migrant and seasonal workers, with a view to upholding their rights.
114. Portugal noted the establishment of an ombudsperson for older persons and a special rapporteur on violence against women.
115. The Republic of Moldova noted the national action plan to protect human rights, the framework for combating discrimination and efforts to promote gender equality.
116. The Russian Federation expressed concern over the ban on the issuance of tourist visas to, and over the seizing of real estate of, citizens of the Russian Federation.
117. Samoa noted the adoption of the third National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights and the Climate Change Act.
118. Saudi Arabia expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Finland to protect human rights, in particular to tackle inequality.
119. Sierra Leone welcomed the progressive developments achieved by Finland, including the establishment of an action plan to implement the Istanbul Convention.
120. Slovenia expressed concern about the growing number of cases of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the inaccessibility of support services for victims.
121. South Sudan thanked Finland for the presentation of its national report and expressed appreciation for the efforts made to protect human rights.
122. Spain expressed hope that the special rapporteur on violence against women could act in regions in which women might have fewer facilities to report violence.
123. Sri Lanka commended Finland for improving human rights in the country, and for actions taken to end violence against women and racism.
124. The State of Palestine commended Finland for the commitment of the Government to promoting and protecting human rights.
125. The Syrian Arab Republic acknowledged the national report of Finland and made recommendations.

126. Thailand expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Finland in improving the rights of migrant workers, combating trafficking and improving the realization of business and human rights.

127. Timor-Leste commended Finland for the progress made in the prevention of violence, radicalization and extremism, and for combating violence against women.

128. Togo commended Finland for improving the rights of older persons and for combating violence against women.

129. Tunisia thanked Finland for the submission of its report and presented recommendations.

130. Turkmenistan welcomed the inclusive approach taken by Finland towards the protection of human rights through the adoption of policies and the promotion of employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

131. Ukraine acknowledged steps taken by Finland to combat all forms of violence, particularly violence against women, and the recent proposal to ratify international conventions to which it was not yet a party.

132. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland recognized the exemplary human rights record of Finland, but noticed a need for improvement regarding violence against women and discrimination against persons with disabilities and religious minorities.

133. The United Republic of Tanzania welcomed the developments achieved since the previous review. It commended Finland for the reforms in social welfare and health care.

134. The United States of America welcomed the delegation from Finland and commended the State for its longstanding commitment to promoting human rights domestically and globally.

135. To conclude, the delegation of Finland took the floor to address a number of issues that had been raised during the latter part of the Working Group session.

136. The delegation expressed gratitude for the frank and open debate, and expressed its appreciation for all those who had participated. Finland looked forward, with an open attitude, to examining all the recommendations with the members of the troika.

137. The Government's Network for Fundamental and Human Rights, with representatives of all ministries and the supreme overseers of legality, would review all recommendations received, and would follow up on their implementation. Members of Finnish civil society would be invited to engage in the follow-up to the recommendations and identify recommendations that were expected to be prioritized by the Government.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

138. **The response of Finland to the following recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fifty-second session:**

138.1 **Ratify the remaining core human rights treaties (Samoa);**

138.2 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile) (Congo) (Côte d'Ivoire) (Egypt) (Libya) (Philippines);**

138.3 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Colombia) (Indonesia) (Malawi) (Niger);**

138.4 **Step up measures for protection of migrant workers, including through the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka); Consider ways forward for the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria); Consider taking further necessary measures to ensure**

adequate protection of the rights of migrants and refugees, including through the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Nigeria); Consolidate measures to protect migrants, with a view to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Morocco);

138.5 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, signed on 6 February 2007 (France);

138.6 Adopt the necessary measures to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina); Continue to strengthen efforts to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Italy); Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Malawi);

138.7 Continue to ratify international human rights treaties, such as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Slovenia);

138.8 Ratify the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), thereby committing to uphold the full measures of human rights and fundamental freedoms (Denmark); Ratify the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Germany);

138.9 Redouble ongoing efforts with a view to ratifying ILO Convention No. 169 (Peru);

138.10 Redouble efforts to ratify the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (South Sudan);

138.11 Ratify ILO Convention No. 169, on Indigenous Peoples' rights, and redouble efforts to ensure the realization of all of the human rights of the Indigenous Sami people, particularly to a healthy environment and to receive education, social care and health services in their own language (Brazil);

138.12 Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Paraguay);

138.13 Engage the Sami people in the ratification process of the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Norway);

138.14 Finalize the ratification process of ILO Convention No. 169, and strengthen measures to obtain the free and informed consent of the Sami people on projects that affect them (Mexico);

138.15 Ratify the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) (Namibia);

138.16 Consider accession to the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries (Armenia);

138.17 Review the reservations to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, with a view to lifting them (Zambia);

138.18 Withdraw the reservations to the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and strengthen its application system of the refuge institution, with international cooperation as one of the pillars for its implementation (Paraguay);

138.19 Strengthen the protection of human rights by ensuring cohesion and closer cooperation between relevant agencies and bodies (Australia);

138.20 Consider the nomination of national candidates for elections to the United Nations human rights treaty bodies through an appropriate selection process (Bulgaria);

- 138.21 Follow up on the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Committee to renew the Sami Parliament Act in dialogue with the Sami people and in accordance with the right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination (Norway);
- 138.22 Cooperate fully for the reform of the Sami Parliament Act as recommended by the Human Rights Committee, and strengthen the application of the principle of free, prior and informed consent in all legislation on Sami rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 138.23 Ensure that the right to self-determination is protected for the Sami, including through possible amendments to the Sami Parliament Act (Australia);
- 138.24 Proceed with the amendment of the Sami Parliament Act to strengthen the Indigenous Sami people's right to self-determination (Canada);
- 138.25 Amend the Sami Parliament Act in order to ensure the appropriate political rights for the Sami people (Denmark);
- 138.26 Review the Sami Parliament Act with a view to progressing the rights of Indigenous Peoples, specifically facilitating the right of the Sami people to self-determination (Ireland);
- 138.27 Continue systematically assessing the human rights impacts of legislative proposals (Cyprus);
- 138.28 Revise anti-discrimination laws and equal opportunity legislation to provide better and intersectional victim protection (Germany);
- 138.29 Take all necessary steps to review the Non-Discrimination Act and other relevant anti-discrimination laws to improve the effectiveness of the legal and institutional framework to combat discrimination (Viet Nam);
- 138.30 Review and amend the Non-Discrimination Act and other relevant anti-discrimination laws to further improve the effectiveness of the legal and institutional framework to combat discrimination (Timor-Leste);
- 138.31 Improve the legal framework and institutional measures to combat discrimination and enhance access to effective remedies for victims of discrimination (Sri Lanka);
- 138.32 Insert a provision in the Criminal Code criminalizing forced marriage (Iceland);
- 138.33 Continue to address sexual and gender-based violence, including by adopting specific legislation criminalizing forced marriage (Ireland);
- 138.34 Continue strengthening national laws on offences related to violence against women and girls (Sri Lanka);
- 138.35 Adopt legislation obligating regions and municipalities to establish effective preventive measures to combat violence against women (Indonesia);
- 138.36 Decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code in accordance with international standards (Kazakhstan);
- 138.37 Review criminal legislation to adequately identify and reflect the aggravating factors required under article 46 of the Istanbul Convention (Spain);
- 138.38 Ensure that government legislation, including the Animal Welfare Act, does not restrict individuals' ability to practice their religion or belief freely in a manner which is incompatible with international human rights law, including article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 138.39 Review and strengthen current policies and initiatives to combat societal discrimination against members of racial, religious and ethnic minority

groups, including by providing an exemption for religious minorities in the draft animal welfare legislation (United States of America);

138.40 Continue promoting a business and human rights agenda, for example by providing technical cooperation and capacity-building activities for interested States in developing their national action plans and conducting human rights due diligence (Thailand);

138.41 Establish a permanent national mechanism for the implementation, reporting on and follow-up of recommendations on human rights, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose, within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay);

138.42 Further strengthen the national human rights institution, including through greater resource allocation (Pakistan);

138.43 Continue implementing measures against discrimination by expanding focus areas (Georgia);

138.44 Take effective measures to prevent both online and offline hate speech, firmly and publicly condemn such speech and intensify efforts aimed at addressing online hate speech (Viet Nam);

138.45 Continue its good efforts to fight against discrimination, racism and hate speech (Algeria);

138.46 Enhance efforts in combating racism, xenophobia and hate crimes, especially those targeting migrants and asylum-seekers (Indonesia);

138.47 Continue its efforts to combat racism and hate speech and promote tolerance throughout the society (Bangladesh);

138.48 Take measures aimed at reducing hate speech and hate crimes, strengthen opposition to discrimination and violence that are carried out on racial, religious, ethnic and other grounds, and provide effective legal protection for victims of such crimes (Belarus);

138.49 Guarantee the application of more effective measures to combat racism, with adequate resources in all existing institutions and policies; ensure that the security forces receive mandatory training in human rights, especially in the fight against discrimination and hate speech; ensure that judicial authorities conduct prompt and impartial investigations and trials for hate crimes committed by police and security forces; and ensure a credible protection programme for victims (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

138.50 Ensure that training programmes for law enforcement officials at all levels include mandatory training on human rights, including anti-discrimination training, and training on combating hate speech and hate crime (Bulgaria);

138.51 Further take all necessary steps for addressing hate speech and hate crimes, including providing training to central and local authorities and law enforcement officials (Republic of Moldova);

138.52 Ensure that the law enforcement, security and judicial authorities have the necessary knowledge and skills to address hate crimes against asylum-seekers, refugees and immigrants, especially Muslims (Islamic Republic of Iran);

138.53 Take appropriate action towards the provision of human rights training to teachers, as a means of diminishing discrimination against students from migrant backgrounds (Greece);

138.54 Take effective measures to combat racial discrimination, xenophobia and hate crimes online and offline (China);

138.55 Step up measures to eradicate ethnic profiling by police forces and avoid discriminatory treatment (Costa Rica);

- 138.56 Continue to address the issue of racial and ethnic profiling, including among its enforcement officials (Malaysia);
- 138.57 Continue efforts in the fight against racial discrimination and hate speech (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 138.58 Continue strengthening laws that combat racism and hate crimes by ensuring effective and prompt investigations and prosecutions of hate crimes (Eswatini);
- 138.59 Step up efforts to combat discrimination, hate speech and incitement to violence based on race and ethnic group (Gabon);
- 138.60 Continue measures to combat hate speech and hate crimes (Georgia);
- 138.61 Ensure that effective efforts to combat racism are adequately funded and systematically implemented in existing structures, institutions and policies (Greece);
- 138.62 Pursue efforts undertaken in combating intolerance, hate speech and hate crimes against vulnerable and minorities (Lebanon);
- 138.63 Adopt a national plan to combat extremism, intolerance and hatred against vulnerable and minority groups (Libya);
- 138.64 Continue its efforts to combat, both online and offline, discrimination, hate speech and incitement to discrimination on the grounds of, inter alia, race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation and gender identity (Liechtenstein);
- 138.65 Take further efforts to combat discrimination, hate speech and incitement to discrimination or violence, particularly on the grounds of race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation and gender identity (Montenegro);
- 138.66 Continue efforts to combat racial discrimination by strengthening the prevention policy (Morocco);
- 138.67 Enhance the efforts against racial discrimination (Mozambique);
- 138.68 Take effective measures to combat, prevent and eliminate racial discrimination and hate speech and other related intolerances (Namibia);
- 138.69 Step up efforts to combat discrimination, hate speech and violence on the grounds of, inter alia, ethnicity, race and religion (Nepal);
- 138.70 Cease discrimination against persons on the basis of nationality, cancel unlawful decisions, and take effective measures to prevent such cases in the future (Russian Federation);
- 138.71 Continue efforts to improve its legal and institutional frameworks to protect against discrimination and inequality, in order to ensure the necessary legal protection, provided that it is constantly evaluated, so as to fully reflect its obligations under the law (Saudi Arabia);
- 138.72 Ensure prompt and thorough investigation for all cases of hate crimes (Sierra Leone);
- 138.73 Redouble efforts to combat discrimination, hate speech and incitement to discrimination or violence (State of Palestine);
- 138.74 Conduct a comprehensive review of the Government's action plan to combat racism to ensure that all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia are effectively addressed, and combat the ideas of so-called "racial superiority" and hate speech (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 138.75 Intensify its efforts to combat discrimination, hate speech and incitement to discrimination or violence on any ground (Timor-Leste);
- 138.76 Step up efforts to combat racial discrimination, hate speech and incitement to discrimination and violence based on race or religion, by

encouraging the reporting of hate crimes, and ensuring that such crimes are thoroughly investigated, and perpetrators prosecuted and punished (Tunisia);

138.77 Enhance efforts to promote tolerance and intercultural understanding with the aim of eliminating racism and discrimination in all sectors of society (Turkmenistan);

138.78 End the detention of conscientious objectors to military service and ensure that civilian alternatives to military service are non-punitive and non-discriminatory and remain under civilian control, as recommended during the third universal periodic review cycle (Uruguay);

138.79 Take measures to ensure that alternatives to military service are not punitive or discriminatory in terms of their nature or duration (Croatia);

138.80 Ensure that alternative solutions to military service are not punitive or discriminatory and remain civilian in nature, outside military command and fully accessible to all (Luxembourg);

138.81 Ensure that alternatives to military service are non-punitive and non-discriminatory in terms of their nature or duration and preserve their civilian character; and halt all prosecutions of people who refuse to perform military service on grounds of conscience and release those who are serving prison sentences for that reason (Panama);

138.82 Take measures to raise awareness among the public on the right to conscientious objection to military service, and extend the possibility to alternative service (Costa Rica);

138.83 Consider setting up a special protection mechanism for human rights defenders and their families (Eswatini);

138.84 Ensure that its counter-terrorism legislation, in particular the definitions it contains and the powers provided for therein as well as their limits, is compatible with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and with the principles of legality, legal certainty, predictability and proportionality (Luxembourg);

138.85 Encourage the reporting of hate crimes and ensure that hate crimes are thoroughly investigated, perpetrators prosecuted and victims provided with effective remedies (Zambia);

138.86 Continue efforts to ensure that hate crimes are thoroughly investigated, and bring perpetrators to justice, and provide effective remedies for victims (Iraq);

138.87 Provide victims of violence access to effective remedies and means of protection and assistance and continue its efforts to provide law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges and lawyers with appropriate training (Islamic Republic of Iran);

138.88 Ensure proper and timely investigation and access to justice, including by strengthening judicial procedures for trafficking in persons and gender-based violence related crimes (United States of America);

138.89 Ensure the effective and continuous assessment of crimes related to all types of violence (Ukraine);

138.90 Intensify efforts to repatriate all Finnish citizens and their children from areas of armed conflict (Iraq);

138.91 Intensify efforts to repatriate all Finnish nationals, and their children, who are currently in armed conflict zones, through a transparent and impartial procedure that respects the principle of the best interests of the child and, once they have been repatriated, provide them with adequate access to rehabilitation services and assistance (Panama);

- 138.92 **Assume its responsibilities towards its nationals who are foreign terrorist fighters and their families detained in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic, repatriate them in a manner that respects international law, and stop politicizing this issue (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 138.93 **Decriminalize attacks on the sanctity of religion and protect freedom of thought, conscience and religion as well as freedom of expression, in accordance with articles 18 and 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Luxembourg);**
- 138.94 **Ensure freedom of worship for all religious communities, including ritual practices (Israel);**
- 138.95 **Strengthen policies to support the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);**
- 138.96 **Provide adequate resources to combat the exploitation and trafficking of human beings (Gabon);**
- 138.97 **Further adopt effective legislation in order to prevent and combat human trafficking (Republic of Moldova);**
- 138.98 **Take effective measures to prevent and eradicate human trafficking (Russian Federation);**
- 138.99 **Continue efforts to provide equal employment opportunity to all (India);**
- 138.100 **Improve conditions for wage equity (Germany);**
- 138.101 **Continue making efforts and taking measures to ensure a clearer and more efficient social security system, as required by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Cambodia);**
- 138.102 **Continue addressing the shortage of affordable and quality residential care for older persons (Croatia);**
- 138.103 **Guarantee in its legislation the rights of older persons and allocate sufficient resources to monitor the residential care of older persons, in terms of both quality and quantity (South Sudan);**
- 138.104 **Guarantee in its legislation the rights of older persons to independent living and affordable and quality care, including residential care (Slovenia);**
- 138.105 **Ensure access to health services for everyone without discrimination (Pakistan);**
- 138.106 **Ensure access for everyone, without distinction, to appropriate care (Tunisia);**
- 138.107 **Consider strengthening primary health-care services to enhance their availability and accessibility throughout the country, with a view to ensuring equal access to all groups (Malta);**
- 138.108 **Provide accessible, affordable and equitable access to primary health services, thus achieving universal health coverage, in line with recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mauritius);**
- 138.109 **Take concrete steps to ensure that undocumented migrants have effective access to affordable and appropriate health-care services (Argentina);**
- 138.110 **Adopt measures to ensure that undocumented migrants have effective access to health-care services that are adequate and affordable (Costa Rica);**
- 138.111 **Improve the system of assistance to young people, migrants, persons with disabilities and other categories of citizens who are faced with unemployment in finding jobs, take measures to provide additional social support to vulnerable groups and increase the availability of health-care services (Belarus);**

- 138.112 **Strengthen efforts to protect people's right to life and health, especially the lives and health of older persons, persons with disabilities and women (China);**
- 138.113 **Increase the availability of affordable mental health-care services (Maldives);**
- 138.114 **Provide high-quality social and mental health services for children and young people and reinforce training in trauma and mental health for professionals working with children and young people (Estonia);**
- 138.115 **Increase the availability of mental health-care services in all regions and enhance services for preventive and early interventions, especially for children and youth (Panama);**
- 138.116 **Create equal access to mental health care across the country, especially for the physically challenged and children (Sierra Leone);**
- 138.117 **Review the Mental Health Act by aligning it with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the right-to-health framework, with a view to eliminate stigmatization, violence and coercion in mental health and increasing the availability of community-based services (Portugal);**
- 138.118 **Place human rights at the core of any response to fight the pandemic, through fair distribution of vaccines, medicines, tools and remedies to all, without discrimination (Cambodia);**
- 138.119 **Continue to ensure equal access to inclusive education for all children (India);**
- 138.120 **Ensure equal access to inclusive education for all children, including children with a migrant background (Viet Nam);**
- 138.121 **Take further measures that will centre on issues of inclusive education for children from vulnerable groups or at the risk of marginalization, such as Roma children (Armenia);**
- 138.122 **Continue to expand the opportunities for young people with disabilities to receive professional training and find employment within the framework of the ongoing reforms in vocational education (Bulgaria);**
- 138.123 **Take further steps to promote equal opportunities for the Roma community in education and employment (India);**
- 138.124 **Strengthen measures to ensure equal access to education for all girls and boys, including Roma and those with a migrant background (Peru);**
- 138.125 **Further support the work of the steering group for the development of democracy and human rights education, with an aim to advance human rights education (Turkmenistan);**
- 138.126 **Fully implement the new Climate Change Act and go beyond the emission reductions targets as set under the new Act (Samoa);**
- 138.127 **Ensure all stakeholders are consulted in climate-related legislative processes (Cyprus);**
- 138.128 **Continue to mainstream the rights of children and the rights of indigenous peoples in Finland's national work addressing climate change (Samoa);**
- 138.129 **Abandon the practice of using unilateral coercive measures that are contrary to international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that have an adverse impact on the enjoyment of human rights (Belarus);**
- 138.130 **Take effective measures to end the compliance with illegal unilateral coercive measures that are contrary to international law and international human rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

- 138.131 **Take and report on concrete policy measures to establish legislation that addresses the involvement of corporations in conflict-affected areas, including situations of foreign occupation, to prevent all violations (State of Palestine);**
- 138.132 **Enhance its efforts to increase women's participation in the public and private sectors and their representation at the highest level (Timor-Leste);**
- 138.133 **Continue the implementation of measures to tackle the salary gap between women and men and the segregation of professions for reasons of gender, which are particular challenges for all; actions adopted and useful experience will be of particular interest (Colombia);**
- 138.134 **Continue to close the pay gap between men and women by eliminating significant segregation on the basis of sex in the labour market (Russian Federation);**
- 138.135 **Promote gender equality and effectively combat violence against women (China);**
- 138.136 **Take further action to ensure the allocation of resources towards combating violence against women, in accordance with its obligations under international human rights institutions (Greece);**
- 138.137 **Encourage coordination among the various national structures in charge of assisting women and girls escaping violence (Costa Rica);**
- 138.138 **Increase the number of shelters and rape crisis centres in the country, especially in the remote rural areas (Croatia);**
- 138.139 **Continue working to eradicate domestic violence and manifestations of discrimination against women and girls, guarantee effective resources for reparation and reduce the duration of processes in legal proceedings (Cuba);**
- 138.140 **Prepare a national plan to combat violence and discrimination against women and provide access and financial aid to support services, and strengthen cooperation between different government agencies (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 138.141 **Continue efforts to prevent and combat domestic violence (Italy);**
- 138.142 **Continue active efforts to combat all kinds of violence, especially domestic violence, by expanding engagement and cooperation between different authorities and other relevant stakeholders addressing this issue (Lithuania);**
- 138.143 **Continue strengthening measures to end domestic violence, including by improving the process for legal recourse for victims (Malaysia);**
- 138.144 **Continue its efforts towards preventing all kinds of violence, including domestic violence (Nepal);**
- 138.145 **Take additional effective measures to prevent domestic violence (Russian Federation);**
- 138.146 **Take measures aimed at strengthening the capacity of national human rights mechanisms, especially in protecting victims of domestic and gender-based violence (Uzbekistan);**
- 138.147 **Guarantee victims of domestic violence and of violence against women access to sufficient, multiprofessional services that are adapted to individual needs, accessible and distributed geographically (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 138.148 **Continue its efforts to prevent violence against women (Algeria);**
- 138.149 **Take the necessary measures to ensure the reporting of cases of violence against women, the trial and conviction of its perpetrators, to increase the number of shelters and assistance centres in case of rape, especially in rural**

areas, and to eliminate court fees for unsuccessful restraining order applications (Argentina);

138.150 Harmonize its action plan for combating violence against women and its action plan for implementation of the Istanbul Convention (Australia);

138.151 Ensure the effective enforcement of the Istanbul Convention and the implementation of the action plan for 2022–2025 to eradicate all types of violence against women and support victims of such crimes (Brazil);

138.152 Continue the effective implementation of the national plan (2022–2025) to implement the Istanbul Convention, further facilitating access by women and girls to justice and the reporting of violence against them (France);

138.153 Consider adopting legislation obligating regions and municipalities to establish effective preventive measures to reduce and eliminate violence against women (Cambodia);

138.154 Implement public policies to eradicate all forms of violence against women (Chile);

138.155 Continue determined actions to end gender-based violence and violence against women and girls, including domestic violence (Cyprus);

138.156 Take further measures to address violence against women, by both encouraging the reporting of and improving the identification of the cases of violence against women and domestic violence (Estonia);

138.157 Ensure that all law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges and lawyers receive systematic mandatory training on fundamental and human rights, including appropriate training on how to effectively deal with cases of violence against women (Estonia);

138.158 Increase resources for efforts against violence against women, including legal accountability, and offer trauma-responsive care (Germany);

138.159 Ensure adequate resources to respond to gender-based violence in line with the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Iceland);

138.160 Continue efforts to strengthen measures to combat domestic and gender-related violence (India);

138.161 Take further measures to combat violence against women and support victims and survivors of such violence (Israel);

138.162 Continue its good efforts to address violence against women (Kazakhstan);

138.163 Strengthen efforts to encourage the reporting of cases of violence against women, and ensure the safety of women who come forward, that cases of violence against women are thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate sanctions (Liechtenstein);

138.164 Provide victims of sexual and gender-based violence, in particular those living in remote rural areas, with access to effective remedies and means of protection and assistance, including to accommodation and shelters in all parts of the country (Liechtenstein);

138.165 Allocate sufficient resources to effectively respond to gender-based violence and increase the number of shelters and crisis centres, especially to those in rural remote areas (Maldives);

138.166 Ensure that crimes of violence against women are effectively investigated and prosecuted without undue delay (Malta);

- 138.167 **Implement regional and international obligations addressing violence against women, including by ensuring proper coordination between authorities at the local, regional and national levels (Netherlands);**
- 138.168 **Continue efforts to combat domestic violence, including providing support to victims of gender-based and “honour”-based violence, and enhance competence in preventing, and supporting victims of, female genital mutilation (Norway);**
- 138.169 **Continue with actions to end domestic violence and violence against women and to combat racial discrimination (Pakistan);**
- 138.170 **Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat the persistent problem of violence against women and girls by facilitating access to effective remedies, especially by victims in rural areas (Philippines);**
- 138.171 **Allocate sufficient resources in order to ensure the full implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Slovenia);**
- 138.172 **Given the high costs of the legal system, adopt pertinent measures to ensure access to justice for victims of gender-based violence, as well as to provide adequate resources to the prosecution office to be able to investigate these cases (Spain);**
- 138.173 **Intensify decisive actions to end domestic violence as well as gender-based violence (Turkmenistan);**
- 138.174 **Further strengthen current policies and initiatives aimed at protection against domestic violence, gender-based violence and violence against women (Ukraine);**
- 138.175 **Continue to focus on combating violence against women, particularly intimate partner violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 138.176 **Expand access to safe houses and resources for victims of domestic and gender-based violence, including for the Indigenous Sami people (Canada);**
- 138.177 **Continue efforts to prevent and eradicate violence against women and children, including by increasing the resources available to the care network for victims of sexual or gender-based violence (Uruguay);**
- 138.178 **Take measures to improve legislation in order to increase the effectiveness of protecting women and children from violence (Belarus);**
- 138.179 **Ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all immigration decisions that affect them, including family reunification procedures, in order to facilitate the reunification of children with their families in a humane and expeditious manner (Uruguay);**
- 138.180 **Reform the immigration law, seeking to safeguard the best interests of the child, put an end to the detention of minors, and facilitate family reunification (Mexico);**
- 138.181 **Stop the detention of immigrant children and protect their rights (China);**
- 138.182 **Ensure that children are not detained for immigration-related purposes and explore alternatives to detention that are appropriate for their age and specific circumstances (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 138.183 **Prohibit the detention of children in migration, by developing alternatives to detention for children and their family members (Zambia);**
- 138.184 **Consider a general ban on the detention of minors (Philippines);**

- 138.185 **Prohibit the detention of children for breach of immigration law and provide alternatives to detention (Sierra Leone);**
- 138.186 **Consider limiting the placement of children in alternative care and giving priority to keeping them in the care of their families or returning them to their families (Iraq);**
- 138.187 **Respect the rights of parents to raise and educate their children, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Nigeria);**
- 138.188 **Prioritize efforts to keep children in, or return them to, the care of their family and to ensure families' access to forms of support in the caregiving role (Poland);**
- 138.189 **Address the widespread sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in care institutions (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 138.190 **Actively promote the rights and the participation of persons with disabilities in society, including in the labour market, and guarantee effective legal protection against discrimination against persons with disabilities (Cuba);**
- 138.191 **Safeguard the diversity of cultural expressions, promote intercultural and intracultural dialogue and support traditional practices and creative productions by all persons in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities (Cyprus);**
- 138.192 **Continue strengthening laws that will realize the full implementation of the rights of persons living with disabilities (Eswatini);**
- 138.193 **Actively promote the participation of persons with disabilities in the labour market (Gabon);**
- 138.194 **Ensure in law and in practice that workers with disabilities enjoy the right to just and favourable conditions of work on equal basis with others (Gambia);**
- 138.195 **Strongly consider repealing legislation that permits the sterilization of women with intellectual disabilities (Greece);**
- 138.196 **Enhance its good efforts to increase women's participation in the public and private sectors and their representation at all levels, especially for women with disabilities or ethnic minority backgrounds (Kazakhstan);**
- 138.197 **Make further progress in prohibiting discrimination against persons with disabilities in all fields, including in the provision of government services (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 138.198 **Improve access for persons with disabilities to public information and transportation and ensure effective legal protection against discrimination and exploitation in the labour market (United States of America);**
- 138.199 **Advance the principle of free, prior and informed consent in all laws, and political as well as official decisions regarding the rights of the Sami people (Germany);**
- 138.200 **Step up efforts to ensure the quality of life of the Sami people and the Roma people; in particular, solve issues related to the return of land, employability, salaries, stigmatization and others (Chile);**
- 138.201 **Protect the Sami culture and ensure that the Sami people have access to social services in the Sami language (China);**
- 138.202 **Continue to implement actions to prevent exclusiveness (Mozambique);**
- 138.203 **Pursue the efforts to protect the right of minorities, including adequate access to goods and services (Lebanon);**

- 138.204 Make progress on a gender identity law that recognizes the free development of people, including children and adolescents, and that guarantees their dignified treatment (Argentina);
- 138.205 Introduce legislation to allow legal gender affirmation for persons under 18 (Canada) (Iceland);
- 138.206 Develop a comprehensive action plan for the protection of the fundamental and human rights of LGBTQI+ persons and ensure sufficient resources for its implementation (Iceland);
- 138.207 Establish a comprehensive action plan for the protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and that the new regulations on gender identity include the situation of minors (Spain);
- 138.208 Establish a comprehensive action plan for the protection of the rights of LGBTQI+ persons, including the bodily integrity of intersex persons (Netherlands);
- 138.209 Adopt measures to guarantee the physical integrity and bodily autonomy of intersex people, and prohibit unnecessary medical procedures without their free and informed consent (Mexico);
- 138.210 Respect intersex children's right to self-determination and ban unnecessary surgeries (Iceland); Respect intersex children's right to self-determination by introducing effective legal and other measures to prohibit unnecessary surgeries (Israel);
- 138.211 Conclude the reforms so that the legal recognition of the gender identity of transgender persons is based on self-determination, eliminating requirements such as sterilization and medical treatment to change legal status (Mexico);
- 138.212 Reform legislation to remove the requirement of infertility or sterilization as a condition for the legal recognition of gender reassignment (Australia);
- 138.213 Enable automatic co-parent recognition and recognition of trans parenthood (Iceland);
- 138.214 Continue further efforts to ensure the rights of migrants (Uzbekistan);
- 138.215 Enhance efforts for the protection of the rights of migrants and vulnerable groups (Pakistan);
- 138.216 Pay particular attention to the children of undocumented migrants and unaccompanied minors (Congo);
- 138.217 Improve protection mechanisms for migrants, especially children and adolescents, in accordance with international standards (Paraguay);
- 138.218 Undertake actions to promote access to employment for migrant women and women of immigrant origin, without discrimination (Peru);
- 138.219 Effectively implement relevant laws and strategies that promote non-discrimination and better integration of migrants into Finnish society (Philippines);
- 138.220 Continue efforts to ensure the full protection of the rights of migrant workers and immigrant groups vulnerable to exploitation (Poland);
- 138.221 Develop training programmes to enhance the capabilities of law enforcement and security authorities in line with human rights principles on how to deal with migrant children (Saudi Arabia);
- 138.222 Make further efforts to ensure the effectiveness of legal protection for migrant workers, especially women migrant workers and seasonal migrant workers in the agricultural and forestry sector, including by advancing its

employment law and complaint mechanism, and assisting victims in obtaining appropriate redress (Thailand);

138.223 Take urgent and specific measures in order to remove obstacles that remain regarding the rights of refugees and migrants to family reunion, in addition to the September 2021 law on this issue (Togo);

138.224 Provide the necessary protection for asylum-seekers, ensuring their access to legal aid, facilitating procedures for the family reunification of immigrants, and providing them with social security (Egypt);

138.225 Remove legal, practical and financial obstacles to family reunification for refugees and other beneficiaries of international protection (Montenegro);

138.226 Facilitate family reunion measures for refugees and other persons under international protection, and limit legal, practical and financial barriers to family reunion (Tunisia);

138.227 Amend the Aliens Act by reintroducing residence permits on humanitarian grounds, by lifting income requirements for refugee family reunification, and by ensuring that asylum-seekers have effective access to affordable and quality health services (Portugal);

138.228 Guarantee the right of asylum-seekers to a fair asylum determination process, as well as the non-immigration detention of children and families with minors (Spain);

138.229 Take measures to improve the legal assistance provided to asylum-seekers (Mozambique);

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

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Finland was headed by H.E. Mr. Pekka HAAVISTO, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Kirsti KAUPPI, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Johanna SUURPÄÄ, Director General; Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Erik LUNDBERG, Deputy Director General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Tarja KANGASKORTE, Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Johanna LUKKARILA, Diplomatic Adviser to the Minister, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Laila CLYNE, Diplomatic Adviser to the Minister, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Janina HASENSEN, Legal Counsellor, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Ann-Mari FRÖBERG, Counsellor, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Suvi TUOMINEN, Counsellor, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Mia SPOLANDER, Legal Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Johanna HOSSA, Legal Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland;
- Ms. Hanna RÖNTY, Senior Specialist, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Jouko HUHTAMÄKI, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of the Interior;
- Ms. Emma PATOVUORI, Senior Specialist, Ministry of the Interior;
- Mr. Timo TUURIHALME, Senior Officer for Legal Affairs, Ministry of Defence;
- Ms. Anna MIKANDER, Councillor of Education, Ministry of Education and Culture;
- Mr. Tuomas KAIVOLA, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Legislative Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Communications;
- Ms. Anna BRUUN, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment;
- Ms. Jenna UUSITALO, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health;
- Ms. Karin CEDERLÖF, Specialist, Ministry of the Environment;
- Ms. Anu KONTTINEN, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Marjatta HIEKKA, Legal Counsellor, Special Adviser (Human Rights), Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Karoliina HEIKINHEIMO-PÉREZ, First Secretary (Human Rights), Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Katja FOKIN, Legal Officer (Human Rights), Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Karin BACKMAN, Adviser (Human Rights), Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Sissi MIETTINEN, Intern, Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Ms. Elisa VUORILEHTO, Intern, Permanent Mission of Finland, Geneva;
- Mr. Mikko KINNUNEN, Member of Parliament, Constitutional Law Committee;

- Mr. Yrjö MATTILA, Member of the Human Rights Delegation;
 - Mr. Krister KARTTUNEN, Member of the Advisory Board for Human Rights.
-