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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Slovakia

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



1. Slovakia submits its comments on the recommendations presented during its Universal Periodic Review (the "UPR") on May 6, 2024. The Slovak position on individual recommendations is shown in the following tables together with short comments and justifications.

2. Slovakia would like to express the thanks to all delegation and their recommendations raised. All texts have been thoroughly reviewed at national level, taking into account all relevant circumstances. Slovakia reviewed all 242 recommendations in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 27 and 32 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 16 of annex to Council resolution 16/21.

3. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by Slovakia and enjoy the support of Slovakia:

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
131.6	Supported
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>
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131.212	Supported
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131.236	Supported
131.237	Supported
131.238	Supported
131.240	Supported

4. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and on which a position had not been taken yet have been examined by Slovakia and have been noted by Slovakia:

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
131.1	Noted	Measures to protect the rights of foreign nationals and their family members who are

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
		employed or engaged in gainful activity in Slovakia are provided in the relevant legal regulations. In cases of actions of EU member states, EU law is primarily applied, i.e. the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights ("EU Charter"), which regulates the prohibition of slavery, forced labour and human trafficking. Pursuant to Article 31 of the EU Charter, every worker has the right to fair and reasonable working conditions. Adjustment of the conditions of employment of nationals of third countries in Slovakia is primarily based on the relevant directives of the European Parliament and the Council.
131.2	Noted	Same as 131.1
131.3	Noted	Same as 131.1
131.4	Noted	Same as 131.1
131.5	Noted	Same as 131.1
131.9	Noted	Currently, there are no registered requests from social partners, or practice in this area. With regard to the historical development of Slovakia and its legal system, general regulation of labour relations currently appears to be a sufficient general regulation of labour relations.
131.10	Noted	Same as 131.13
131.11	Noted	Same as 131.13
131.12	Noted	Same as 131.13
131.13	Noted	Slovakia opposes this recommendation. The National Council of the Slovak Republic requested not to continue the process leading to the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention). The Government of the Slovak Republic notified the Council of Europe about its decision not to become party to the Istanbul Convention. In this context, Slovakia would like to emphasize the adoption of the European Directive on combating violence against women, which pursues similar goals as the Istanbul Convention, and which will be transposed into the Slovak legal order by 2027.
131.14	Noted	Slovakia issues a personal document to every person who, as part of the procedure for granting a permanent residence for 5 years, proves that is a stateless person according to the Act on the Residence of Foreigners. This means that such a person has a high degree of protection in the form of a granted permanent residence in Slovakia even without meeting other conditions

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
		stipulated in the Act on the Residence of Foreigners.
		Slovakia takes note of the recommendation to consider developing a National Plan of Action on Statelessness since a total of 7 stateless persons with residence granted under the Act on the Residence of Foreigners were registered in Slovakia in the last 10 years. Based on the mentioned above, Slovakia considers the development of the proposed National Plan of Action on Statelessness for 7 persons to be ineffective.
131.15	Noted	Same as 131.14
131.16	Noted	Same as 131.14
131.17	Noted	Same as 131.14
131.56	Noted	In the asylum facilities in Slovakia, all applicants are treated based on the principle of non-discrimination and all services are provided equally regardless of race.
131.87	Noted	Slovakia registered no activities or notifications about activities leading to intimidation by the state as mentioned in the recommendation 131.87. All suspicions of a criminal offense are properly and consistently investigated by the law enforcement authorities.
131.131	Noted	The decision of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic on artificial termination of pregnancy states that the mechanism works against a woman's ill-advised and short-term decision on artificial termination of pregnancy. A woman must a) request an abortion in writing, subsequently, b) undergoes a medical examination, c) completes an interview with a doctor, d) which must also include instruction about the possible health consequences of artificial termination of pregnancy. It is indisputable that this instruction is also given with the aim of influencing the pregnant woman to reconsider her decision, thereby ensuring not only the protection of the woman's health, but also the protection of unborn human life.
131.148	Noted	The right to participate in cultural life is enshrined in the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, which guarantees freedom of expression, right to information, right to cultural development and access to cultural heritage and works of art. The Constitution also protects artists from censorship and intimidation.
131.149	Noted	Slovakia does not see added value in processing a document of this nature and proposes not to

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
		implement further steps based on the recommendation.
131.213	Noted	An analysis of the best means of ensuring redress will take place at the national level.
131.216	Noted	LGBTI+ rights will be included in the upcoming National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights.
131.217	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.218	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.219	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.220	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.221	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.222	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.223	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.224	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.225	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.226	Noted	same as 131.216
131.227	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.228	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.229	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.230	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.231	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.232	Noted	same as 131.216
131.233	Noted	Same as 131.216
131.239	Noted	Same as 131.56
131.241	Noted	Slovakia has the competence to influence the housing of refugees only in its state facilities dedicated to refugees.

5. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue are not supported in their entirety by Slovakia and have been supported in part and noted in part by Slovakia:

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
131.59 Take all necessary measures to eliminate obstacles in obtaining access to justice encountered by women and girls who faced intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination (Malawi);	Supported: Take necessary measures to eliminate obstacles in obtaining access to justice encountered by women and girls who faced intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.	Same as 131.13 (Istanbul Convention).

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
	Noted: all	
131.129 Implement a comprehensive national programme with sufficient allocation of resources to guarantee access for all women and girls to sexual and reproductive health and rights services in accordance with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and without discrimination of any kind (Costa Rica);	Supported: with sufficient allocation of resources to guarantee access for all women and girls to sexual and reproductive health and rights services in accordance with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and without discrimination of any kind Noted: Implement a comprehensive national programme	Slovakia covers important and necessary topics in the field of health care for women, safe motherhood and reproductive health, and will continue to ensure their resource coverage despite the lack of social agreement on the wording of a unified strategic document.
131.132 Remove all restrictions to access to safe abortion services and adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual and reproductive health and rights (Iceland);	Supported: Remove all restrictions to access to safe abortion services Noted: and adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual and reproductive health and rights	Same as 131.129
131.137 Intensify its efforts to increase enrolment in tertiary education in line with the needs of individuals and society, and continue its work to ensure non-discrimination in education and improve inclusive education, especially for minorities and children with disabilities (Dominican Republic);	Supported: Intensify its efforts to increase enrolment in tertiary education in line with the needs of individuals and society, and continue its work to ensure non-discrimination in education and improve inclusive education Noted: especially for minorities and children with disabilities	Slovakia currently implements measures to increase the number of students, e.g. scholarship schemes for students. The prohibition of discrimination is governed by the Act on Universities. The rights established by the Act are guaranteed equally to all applicants and students in accordance with the principle of equal treatment in education established by the Anti-Discrimination Act. Slovakia is currently implementing measures related to inclusive education.
131.139 Facilitate efforts to increase enrolment in tertiary education, as well as advocate for the enhancement of inclusive educational practices, particularly for minorities, girls, and children with disabilities (Maldives);	Supported: Facilitate efforts to increase enrolment in tertiary education, as well as advocate for the enhancement of inclusive educational practices Noted: particularly for minorities, girls, and children with disabilities	Same as 131.137
131.141 Redouble efforts to eliminate segregation of girls in vulnerable situations in	Supported: and give them equal access to quality education at all levels	There is no segregation in education based on gender in Slovakia. Slovakia takes

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
the education system and give them equal access to quality education at all levels (Algeria);	Noted: Redouble efforts to eliminate segregation of girls in vulnerable situations in the education system	steps to eliminate the segregation of Roma children in education. The target group is covered by recommendation 131.146.
131.146 Eliminate all forms of segregation in education, including segregated schools and classes for Roma children and adopt a plan for inclusive educational approaches in learning environments at all levels and for all children (Slovenia);	Supported: including segregated schools and classes for Roma children and adopt a plan for inclusive educational approaches in learning environments at all levels and for all children Noted: Eliminate all forms of segregation in education	Slovakia consistently applies the provisions of the UNESCO Convention on the Prevention of Discrimination in Education and continues to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Slovakia implements legislative and administrative measures to prevent and eliminate segregation of Roma children in education.
131.158 Introduce measures to promote better the participation of women in the political, social and cultural areas, as well as ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) and adapt international legislation to this regulation on gender-based violence (Spain);	Supported: Introduce measures to promote better the participation of women in the political, social and cultural areas, Noted: as well as ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) and adapt international legislation to this regulation on gender-based violence	Same as 131.13
131.205 Adopt effective measures to ensure full participation in public affairs by persons belonging to ethnic minorities, in particular Roma, in both decision-making positions and representative institutions (Ireland);	Supported: Adopt effective measures to ensure full participation in public affairs by persons belonging to Roma in both decision-making positions and representative institutions Noted: ethnic minorities	This issue is covered by legislation pursuant to the Act on Municipal Establishment of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and other related legal regulations. The achievement of results depends on the national legislation.
131.242 Guarantee birth registration and the right to a nationality to all stateless persons in the country, particularly those from the Roma community (Panama)	Supported: Guarantee birth registration and the right to a nationality to all persons in the country, particularly those from the Roma community	State citizenship/nationality is the legal bond between a person and a certain state, while the person's factual status, such as e.g. residence, belonging to a certain nationality, race or religion,

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>State position</i>	<i>Comments</i>
	Noted: stateless	is indecisive. Nationality is an internal matter of each state. This is an exclusive right of each state, subject to compliance with the principles of international law and the principle of state sovereignty.

6. Summary statement: In total, out of 242 recommendations received, 192 enjoy the support of Slovakia, and 40 are noted. Additional clarification is provided on another 10 recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations has been supported and which part has been noted.
