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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Kazakhstan

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\* 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-eighth session from 20 to 31 January 2025. The review of Kazakhstan was held at the 7th meeting, on 23 January 2025. The delegation of Kazakhstan was headed by the Minister of Justice, Yerlan Sarsembayev. At its 16th meeting, held on 29 January 2025, the Working Group adopted the report on Kazakhstan.

2. On 8 January 2025, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Kazakhstan: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Gambia and Japan.

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 Kazakhstan:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Kazakhstan 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 Kazakhstan stated that during the reporting period, several important institutional changes had been introduced in the country, with the objective of creating a solid foundation for strengthening democracy and building a “Just Kazakhstan”.

6. In 2022, a constitutional reform had been carried out that had affected every Kazakh citizen and had strengthened human rights protection.

7. Kazakhstan had moved from a super-presidential form of government to a presidential republic with a stronger Parliament. The role of Parliament in forming the Government had also been strengthened. The procedure for registering political parties had been simplified and the registration threshold had been reduced from 20,000 to 5,000 people. Six political parties, including opposition parties, had entered Parliament for the first time. A 30 per cent quota for women, youth and persons with disabilities had been introduced in the distribution of the mandates issued by the lower house of Parliament, the Majilis.

8. In addition, the Constitutional Court had been re-established as the most important mechanism for protecting the rights and freedoms of citizens. The Constitutional Law had strengthened the mandate of the Commissioner for Human Rights and established ombudspersons for the rights of the child and for vulnerable groups, with offices in every region of the country.

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<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/48/KAZ/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/48/KAZ/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/48/KAZ/3](#).

9. Kazakhstan had ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights – banning the death penalty in all circumstances. The delegation reported that capital punishment was prohibited by the Constitution.

10. In addition, two Optional Protocols, to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, had been ratified in 2023.

11. The ongoing reform of the judiciary was aimed at improving access to justice and strengthening courts' and judges' independence in order to ensure fair and impartial proceedings. Court infrastructure was being upgraded for persons with disabilities. Digital services were also being developed for citizens.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

12. During the interactive dialogue, 103 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

13. Paraguay welcomed the inter-institutional plan of action to implement the universal periodic review recommendations, and the ban on the death penalty.

14. The Philippines welcomed the abolition of the death penalty and measures taken to combat violence against women and children.

15. Poland commended Kazakhstan for abolishing the death penalty and establishing the Constitutional Court.

16. Portugal welcomed the abolition of the death penalty and the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

17. Qatar appreciated the measures taken to support women's rights, combat human trafficking and empower the institution of the family.

18. The Republic of Korea commended the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court, and efforts to combat domestic violence and the provision of support to victims.

19. The Republic of Moldova commended the abolition of the death penalty by amending the Constitution.

20. The Russian Federation welcomed the "listening State" concept and efforts made to protect the rights of vulnerable groups.

21. Samoa commended Kazakhstan for reinstating its Constitutional Court and acknowledged the country's leading of initiatives at the Human Rights Council on domestic violence and free education.

22. Saudi Arabia commended the efforts of Kazakhstan to promote sustainable development and to support rural communities.

23. Senegal welcomed the institutional framework for the Sustainable Development Goals.

24. Serbia commended the cooperation of Kazakhstan with OHCHR and the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

25. Sierra Leone praised the constitutional guarantee of the right to free school education, including the provision of State funds for children.

26. Singapore commended the National Plan to Ensure the Rights and Improve the Quality of Life of Persons with Disabilities.

27. Slovakia commended the criminalization of domestic violence, but noted the low approval level for notifications requesting to hold peaceful assemblies.

28. Slovenia welcomed the abolition of the death penalty, the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court and the strengthening of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Commissioner for Children's Rights.

29. Spain commended the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.
30. Sri Lanka commended the establishment of the parliamentary commission to monitor goals and targets in regard to the Sustainable Development Goals.
31. Switzerland made recommendations.
32. Tajikistan praised the national action plan to implement the Security Council resolution on women and peace and security.
33. Thailand welcomed progress made towards a national action plan on business and human rights in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.
34. Togo noted the progress made in ensuring quality health care and services and the provision of universal health coverage despite regional disparities.
35. Tunisia praised the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.
36. Türkiye noted with appreciation the progress made in empowering the status of women and children.
37. Turkmenistan noted efforts to improve constitutional and legal mechanisms to protect human rights.
38. Ukraine welcomed the abolition of the death penalty, the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court, and the alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.
39. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland considered the criminalization of domestic violence to be an important step for Kazakhstan.
40. Uruguay welcomed the presentation of the national report and praised the efforts made by Kazakhstan.
41. Uzbekistan welcomed legislative efforts to protect human rights and the constitutional reform of 2022 to strengthen civil and political rights.
42. Vanuatu particularly welcomed the act of 2024 on women's rights and children's safety.
43. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted efforts made to ensure a comprehensive participation of citizens in political decision-making within the Responsive Government Framework.
44. Viet Nam praised the human rights action plan and the national development plan for promoting the rule of law, economic growth and sustainability.
45. Yemen made recommendations.
46. Afghanistan commended Kazakhstan on its progress in implementing recommendations from the previous review cycle.
47. Albania welcomed the amendment of the Constitution to prohibit the death penalty, and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
48. Armenia commended the efforts made to abolish the death penalty, and to appoint an ombudsman for children's rights and an ombudsman to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.
49. Australia praised the human rights action plan, yet expressed concern about reports of torture, excessive use of force and extrajudicial killings, and restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly.
50. Austria welcomed the prohibition of the death penalty. It expressed concern about widespread gender-based and domestic violence and the shrinking of civic space.

51. Kazakhstan reported that it had a “zero tolerance” policy on torture. Those convicted of torture could not be released from criminal liability under amnesty, the statute of limitations, repentance or reconciliation. A ban on suspended sentences for those crimes had been introduced in 2023.
52. Kazakhstan noted that the Criminal Code established liability for cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, and indicated that those who could now face prosecution included employees of educational and medical institutions.
53. Since 2023, the functions of investigating torture had been assigned exclusively to the Prosecutor’s Office, thereby excluding corporate interests from law enforcement.
54. Kazakhstan indicated that the collection of evidence, examinations and the medical documentation of injuries were carried out in accordance with the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol). Instructions on respecting citizens’ rights and organizing pretrial investigations into torture had been adopted.
55. The independence of medical workers from institutions’ administrations had been ensured by their transfer from the police to the Ministry of Health.
56. In line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), women prisoners were given medical examinations, medication and dynamic supervision.
57. Law enforcement and penitentiary institutions had around 70,000 video cameras and more than 600 electronic terminals for filing complaints.
58. Kazakhstan reported that 126 people had been convicted of torture over the past four years, and 51 law enforcement officials had been convicted of torture during the events of January 2022. Victims of torture received the largest payments from the Victims Compensation Fund. Work was under way to increase the amount of compensation.
59. The delegation underlined that the national preventive mechanism was fully independent and could access closed institutions at all times. Interference was punishable by law. There were also 16 public oversight commissions in all regions.
60. Azerbaijan applauded the efforts made to strengthen the role of women in socioeconomic development, and for persons with disabilities.
61. Bahrain appreciated the measures taken to strengthen human rights at the national level.
62. Bangladesh noted the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court and the establishment of the parliamentary commission to monitor the implementation of national goals in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
63. Belarus highlighted the results in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the active engagement with international human rights platforms.
64. Belgium commended the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court and the strengthening of the Ombudsperson’s Office, yet highlighted challenges concerning LGBTIQ+ rights and freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
65. Bhutan commended the efforts made to improve the standard of living and to ensure quality healthcare for the population.
66. Brazil praised the criminalization of violence against women, and advancing the human rights of ethnic minorities. It encouraged Kazakhstan to remove restrictive measures hindering freedom of assembly.
67. Brunei Darussalam positively noted the efforts of Kazakhstan towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
68. Burkina Faso commended Kazakhstan for its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms and its reporting efforts.

69. Cameroon commended the efforts made to promote and protect human rights.
70. Canada welcomed the positive steps taken to criminalize domestic violence.
71. Chile commended Kazakhstan on ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and on removing the death penalty from its legislation.
72. China appreciated the cooperation by Kazakhstan with international organizations to protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.
73. Colombia welcomed the Action Plan on Human Rights and the Rule of Law.
74. The Congo highlighted the adoption of the national action plans on human rights and the rule of law and on combating human trafficking.
75. Costa Rica welcomed the full abolition of the death penalty.
76. Croatia welcomed the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court and the accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
77. Cuba recognized efforts to promote citizen participation and praised the commitment of Kazakhstan to the Paris Agreement.
78. Cyprus praised the ratification of key human rights optional protocols and the Action Plan on Human Rights and the Rule of Law.
79. Czechia appreciated the efforts made by Kazakhstan to address social rights issues.
80. The Dominican Republic praised the appointment of the ombudsperson for children and the ombudsperson for persons with disabilities.
81. Ecuador highlighted the approval of the Action Plan on Human Rights and the Rule of Law.
82. Egypt appreciated the efforts of Kazakhstan to promote and protect the rights of its citizens.
83. Eritrea welcomed the establishment of the council on inclusion for persons with disabilities and the initiatives to enhance the role of women in the country's socioeconomic development.
84. Estonia appreciated progress in abolishing the death penalty, re-establishing the Constitutional Court, and increasing the protection of women and children from domestic violence.
85. Ethiopia acknowledged the notable progress made in advancing human rights.
86. Finland welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.
87. France welcomed the complete abolition of the death penalty and progress made in combating domestic violence.
88. The Gambia commended the tremendous progress registered since the last review.
89. Georgia welcomed the strengthening of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, the prohibition of the death penalty and efforts made to support victims of domestic violence.
90. Germany welcomed the abolition of capital punishment and the recriminalization of domestic violence. It expressed concern regarding the situation of freedom of expression, media, thought, conscience, association and assembly.
91. Hungary noted progress in preventing torture, abolishing the death penalty and eliminating violence against women.
92. Iceland made recommendations.

93. India welcomed the Constitutional Court Act, the Commissioner for Human Rights Act and the electoral law that established quotas for women, youth and persons with disabilities.
94. Indonesia welcomed the introduction of quotas for women, youth and persons with disabilities.
95. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended the efforts of Kazakhstan in enhancing economic development and promoting sustainable growth and employment opportunities.
96. Iraq welcomed the developments and institutional reforms aimed at strengthening human rights in Kazakhstan.
97. Ireland welcomed the ratification by Kazakhstan of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and its abolition of the death penalty, yet expressed concern about restrictions on civic space.
98. Israel commended progress achieved by Kazakhstan, including the establishment of the standing working group on anti-discrimination legislation.
99. Kazakhstan reported that the amendments to the Law on Public Associations had reduced from 10 to 3 the number of persons required to create a public association.
100. In 2020, a new law on peaceful assemblies had introduced a notification procedure and eliminated the need for coordination with local authorities. The Constitutional Court had ordered State entities to offer an alternative place and time for holding a peaceful assembly if it was impossible to satisfy the application.
101. The Law on Public Control had created a single platform for legitimate online petitions and allowed citizens to participate in government. The National Kurultai was a platform for civil society, youth and academia to address social issues. Civil society initiatives had contributed to the adoption of over 100 laws.
102. The new Law on the Mass Media provided a special status for journalists and additional rights and protection for the performance of their professional duties.
103. The country's gender equality action plan included advisers in each administration and was aimed at achieving 30 per cent female representation in the workforce by 2030.
104. Kazakhstan reported that its laws did not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity and that LGBTQ+ persons had all the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It added that, following the consideration of the petition entitled "We oppose open and hidden propaganda of LGBTQ+ in Kazakhstan", the rights of LGBTQ+ persons had not been infringed.
105. The law on ensuring women's rights and child safety, of 2024, had toughened penalties for violence against women and children. Criminal liability was prescribed for assault and battery and sexual harassment of minors. Life imprisonment was the only penalty for rape of a minor, and the possibility of reconciliation was ruled out for crimes of violence against minors. The interior ministry had set up specialized units to combat domestic violence.
106. Kazakhstan indicated that those changes met the current demands of society and corresponded to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). The issue of joining the Istanbul Convention was being discussed with non-governmental organizations and legal scholars in the country.
107. In 2024, the Law on Combating Human Trafficking had been adopted, defining the rights and assistance for victims of trafficking, exempting migrants from liability for violating migration laws, preventing deportation, and simplifying the process for obtaining documents for legal residence.
108. Kazakhstan indicated that all newborns, regardless of their status, were registered in State databases from the moment of their birth, even before being discharged from hospital. Migrants had the right to obtain permanent residence permits and become citizens of Kazakhstan.

109. As part of the Social Code of 2023, a quarter of the State budget had been allocated to social assistance for the population. A new concept of inclusive policies for the period 2025–2030 had been adopted in 2024, with the aim of creating the necessary conditions for the full social integration of persons with disabilities into society. Following changes to the law on political parties and elections, 71 persons with disabilities had been elected as members of *maslikhats* and six to Parliament. The Senate’s Council for Inclusion was responsible for monitoring legislation concerning persons with disabilities. The delegation indicated that Kazakhstan provided targeted social assistance to families whose earnings were below the poverty line. In order for families to receive such support, the Digital Family Card had been introduced. More than \$94 million (50 billion tenge) worth of loans had been allocated to vulnerable groups, and some 9,000 grants worth more than \$24 million (13.1 billion tenge) had been provided for the implementation of new business initiatives.

110. The lower house of Parliament, the Majilis, was considering a draft law that reflected provisions of the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190).

111. Kazakhstan noted that it had taken legislative measures to simplify the conditions for establishing trade unions and to reduce liability for illegal strike activity.

112. The delegation indicated that, starting from 2023, 50 per cent of the National Fund’s investment income was allocated to all children and could be spent on education and on housing at the age of 18. The education budget had increased since 2019, allowing for teacher pay rises and the construction of over 1,000 schools. The “Comfortable School” project, of the President of Kazakhstan, ensured equal educational opportunities. All children, including migrants and refugees, received free education. All primary school students received free hot meals and children from low-income families received discounted travel, school uniforms and supplies. Kazakhstan had also implemented projects to increase the potential of rural schools through the use of digital technologies. In 2021, the Law on Inclusive Education had been adopted, enshrining the creation of special conditions for the education of children with special educational needs. More than 90 per cent of schools had the necessary conditions for inclusive education, including a barrier-free environment and the availability of specialized teachers. The delegation indicated that the country’s legislation forbade forced and early child marriages and, for the first time, had incorporated the concept of “bullying a child” and introduced administrative liability for such bullying.

113. The delegation stressed that all Kazakh citizens had the right to healthcare without discrimination. Persons with disabilities were covered by the State insurance system. Some 150 mobile clinics and a medical train were operating in remote areas to improve access to healthcare. The “Modernization of Rural Healthcare” project included plans for the construction of over 600 primary healthcare facilities and the modernization of more than 30 rural hospitals. In 2021, Kazakhstan had adopted a new Environmental Code to prevent negative impacts of climate change, to reduce industrial emissions into the atmosphere and to minimize harmful discharges into water and soil.

114. Italy appreciated the ratification by Kazakhstan of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

115. Jordan welcomed the adoption of the National Development Plan valid until 2029.

116. Kuwait commended the cooperation by Kazakhstan with United Nations mechanisms on human rights, and its Family Support Project.

117. Kyrgyzstan acknowledged the commitment of Kazakhstan to advancing human rights.

118. The Lao People’s Democratic Republic appreciated the progress made on economic reform, which had contributed to maintaining strong economic growth.

119. Latvia noted the adoption of the third human rights plan and of the Women’s Rights and Child Safety Act.

120. Lebanon noted the “listening State” approach.

121. Lithuania welcomed the legislative initiatives to improve the openness of the electoral process and to promote dialogue with civil society.

122. Luxembourg congratulated Kazakhstan on the abolition of the death penalty.

123. Malaysia welcomed the re-establishment of the Constitutional Court and the enactment of the Commissioner for Human Rights Act.
124. Maldives welcomed the implementation of the National Development Plan and the adoption of the Women's Rights and Child Safety Act.
125. Malta welcomed the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
126. The Marshall Islands commended the efforts made in advancing gender equality and women's rights.
127. Mauritius commended the efforts made in promoting an inclusive education system.
128. Mexico celebrated the abolition of the death penalty and efforts to combat domestic violence.
129. Mongolia commended the commitment of Kazakhstan to gender equality and poverty reduction and to improving the legal framework for the protection of children's rights.
130. Montenegro welcomed the establishment of offices of the Commissioner for Human Rights in all regions, and of institutions for children's rights.
131. Morocco welcomed the adoption of the national plan of action to strengthen human rights and the rule of law.
132. Nepal welcomed the adoption of the Constitutional Court Act and the Commissioner for Human Rights Act. It also welcomed the abolition of the death penalty and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
133. New Zealand welcomed the signing by Kazakhstan of the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also welcomed the legal protection for women victims of domestic violence.
134. Norway welcomed the persecution of perpetrators of torture in police custody and prisons.
135. Oman commended the efforts of Kazakhstan to promote economic development and support small and medium-sized enterprises.
136. Pakistan appreciated the efforts by Kazakhstan to reform legislation, to diversify the economy and to combat domestic violence.
137. Bulgaria highlighted the Constitutional Court Act, the Commissioner for Human Rights Act, and the Action Plan on Human Rights and the Rule of Law of 2023.
138. The Kingdom of the Netherlands commended the efforts to combat domestic violence but also noted that the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code were not yet in accordance with general recommendation No. 19 (1992) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.
139. In its concluding remarks, Kazakhstan noted that the country had introduced several effective mechanisms to interact with civil society on human rights issues, including the Consultative and Advisory Body's Dialogue Platform on the Human Dimension, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Kazakhstan stated that it would develop a plan with specific tasks and deadlines to implement the recommendations received. The delegation reaffirmed its commitment to fulfil its international obligations to protect human rights and its readiness to cooperate with all international partners.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

140. **The following recommendations will be examined by Kazakhstan, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council:**

- 140.1 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Congo) (Gambia);**
- 140.2 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, in accordance with recommendations from the previous cycle (Paraguay);**
- 140.3 **Continue to further strengthen its legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights by ratifying in particular: the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Burkina Faso);**
- 140.4 **Promote the importance of aligning the protection of migrants with international standards, including through ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);**
- 140.5 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Yemen);**
- 140.6 **Conclude the legal and internal administrative processes to carry out the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Spain);**
- 140.7 **Accede to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Austria);**
- 140.8 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Latvia);**
- 140.9 **Accelerate the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Cyprus) (Estonia) (Montenegro);**
- 140.10 **Continue the ongoing efforts in combating domestic violence through the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (France);**
- 140.11 **Further advance towards the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Georgia);**
- 140.12 **Continue its efforts to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Germany);**
- 140.13 **Continue the national process to accede to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Malta);**
- 140.14 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia) (Luxembourg);**
- 140.15 **Ratify the Rome Statute (Croatia);**
- 140.16 **Accede to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Ecuador);**

- 140.17 **Ratify the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) and reform the labour legislation to include a definition of sexual harassment in the workplace (Mexico);**
- 140.18 **Accept pending visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Chile);**
- 140.19 **Continue its cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and prioritize transparent engagement with civil society (Armenia);**
- 140.20 **Continue ongoing efforts to expand institutional mechanisms for the protection of human rights (Turkmenistan);**
- 140.21 **Continue to improve the national human rights mechanisms in order to contribute to the effective implementation of the human rights commitments and the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (Qatar);**
- 140.22 **Further strengthen national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in order to be effective in fulfilling their full mandates and to ensure their independence (Serbia);**
- 140.23 **Bring the definition of torture in line with international standards, as per the recommendation issued by the Committee against Torture (Cyprus);**
- 140.24 **Align the definition of rape in accordance with the international standards (Slovenia);**
- 140.25 **Amend the definition of rape in the Penal Code to make it gender-neutral, applicable to all ages, and based on the absence of consent rather than the presence of force (Costa Rica);**
- 140.26 **Revise the definition of rape in the Criminal Code to be gender-neutral, applicable to all ages, and based on the element of lack of consent rather than the use of force (Gambia);**
- 140.27 **Amend the Criminal Code to define rape as the lack of freely given consent (Iceland);**
- 140.28 **Build on recent advancements and amend the Penal Code to criminalize all forms of gender-based violence, including marital rape (Iceland);**
- 140.29 **Revise the Criminal Code to ensure a consent-based definition of rape that aligns with general recommendation No. 19 (1992) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Ireland);**
- 140.30 **Continue to bring national legislation in line with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 140.31 **Continue efforts for the effective implementation of the Action Plan on Human Rights and the Rule of Law (Hungary);**
- 140.32 **Continue strengthening the plan of priority measures on human rights, which identifies the main national challenges (Cuba);**
- 140.33 **Develop a national action plan on the safety of journalists to ensure respect for their rights, the freedom of their work and their protection against all forms of harassment (Switzerland);**
- 140.34 **Continue working on implementing the comprehensive national plan to protect children from violence, prevent trafficking, and ensure children's rights and well-being (Jordan);**
- 140.35 **Continue its effort to fully implement the national plan to ensure the rights and improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities (Thailand);**
- 140.36 **Continue the strengthening of the Commissioner for Human Rights in line with the Paris Principles (Philippines);**

- 140.37 **Continue its efforts to ensure the compliance of the Commissioner for Human Rights and other national human rights institutions with the Paris Principles (Thailand);**
- 140.38 **Bring national human rights institutions into compliance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);**
- 140.39 **Bring the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights into line with the Paris Principles and ensure its independence (Colombia);**
- 140.40 **Strengthen measures to ensure the full independence and effectiveness of the Commissioner for Human Rights in compliance with the Paris Principles (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 140.41 **Bring national human rights institutions in line with the Paris Principles and provide the Commissioner for Human Rights with the necessary resources to carry out its mandate (Luxembourg);**
- 140.42 **Continue to improve national human rights mechanisms in line with the Paris Principles for the effective implementation of human rights obligations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Iraq);**
- 140.43 **Take steps to strengthen the human and financial capacity of the Commissioner for the Rights of Socially Vulnerable Categories of the Population to fulfil its mandate effectively (Republic of Korea);**
- 140.44 **Provide the Human Rights Commissioner with a broad mandate to address discrimination against persons with disabilities, including with the human, technical and financial resources necessary to perform its functions across the State (Serbia);**
- 140.45 **Ensure that the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights and the Commissioner for the Rights of Socially Vulnerable Populations regularly receive budgetary allocations (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.46 **Continue strengthening the institution of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights (Lithuania);**
- 140.47 **Consider the establishment of a permanent national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up, with the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose, in accordance with recommendations from the previous cycle (Paraguay);**
- 140.48 **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, and amend article 145 of the Criminal Code to explicitly and separately include gender, and sexual orientation and gender identity, as protected categories (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 140.49 **Adopt comprehensive legislation prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity (Canada);**
- 140.50 **Continue its work to ensure that the rights of socially vulnerable groups are protected in law and in practice (Russian Federation);**
- 140.51 **Continue to commit to promoting gender equality and take measures to increase women's participation in public and political life (Kuwait);**
- 140.52 **Continue to strengthen legislative frameworks and policies to achieve equality between men and women, especially in access to economic, social and cultural rights, as well as in political participation (Lebanon);**
- 140.53 **Continue allocating sufficient financial resources for the implementation of national policies and programmes to further promote gender equality across sectors (Mauritius);**
- 140.54 **Continue to implement measures aimed at protecting the rights of women, children, family values and preventing gender discrimination in line**

with the provisions of the Concept of Family and Gender Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 (Belarus);

140.55 Continue to strengthen the legislative framework and policies on gender equality, especially in the context of women's access to economic, social and cultural rights (India);

140.56 Take effective measures to further combat discrimination against women and ensure their full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights (China);

140.57 Align the use of solitary confinement with international standards, in particular the Nelson Mandela Rules, limiting it to exceptional cases and the shortest possible duration (Costa Rica);

140.58 Ensure a zero-tolerance approach to torture, in accordance with the 2023 amendments to article 146 of the Criminal Code and obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Australia);

140.59 Continue the zero-tolerance approach to torture by ensuring that all complaints are properly entered into the Unified Register as well as thoroughly investigated (Republic of Moldova);

140.60 Ensure the comprehensive implementation of the national preventive mechanism against torture and ill-treatment (Hungary);

140.61 Ensure that all allegations of torture and ill-treatment are investigated promptly, transparently and independently, aligning with international human rights standards (Indonesia);

140.62 Take further measures to prevent torture and other degrading treatments, in particular in prisons, investigate allegations of excessive use of force against inmates and comply with the Istanbul Protocol (Italy);

140.63 Ensure that all complaints of torture and ill-treatment are correctly recorded in the Unified Registry of Pretrial Investigations, and guarantee a prompt, impartial and effective investigation by an independent body (Paraguay);

140.64 Devote all efforts to clarify persistent allegations concerning torture and ill-treatment of detained persons, and effectively investigate, prosecute and punish such acts (Poland);

140.65 Relaunch the bill to reform the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Penitentiary Code concerning cases of torture (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

140.66 Ensure accountability for acts of torture in line with international law, and guarantee that acts of torture as well as acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment are investigated by an independent body, and enact a separate law on the national preventive mechanism (Finland);

140.67 Provide comprehensive redress and rehabilitation to the victims of torture and ill-treatment (Poland);

140.68 Take measures to address prison overcrowding and living conditions, in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment recommendations (Malta);

140.69 Address consistent reports of torture and ill-treatment of detainees by police and prison guards, and investigate these allegations when reported (New Zealand);

140.70 Amend the Penal Code to improve the conformity of the definition of terrorism with international standards (Luxembourg);

- 140.71 **Revise the definition of extremism in national legislation and remove those convicted of non-violent crimes from the Financing Terrorism List, in line with the 2019 recommendations from the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 140.72 **Conduct transparent and comprehensive investigations of human rights violations during the 2022 protests and prosecute those found responsible (Australia);**
- 140.73 **Conduct an independent investigation of the uprising in January 2022 and free political prisoners (Norway);**
- 140.74 **Reinforce democratic principles by conducting free, fair and transparent elections (Czechia);**
- 140.75 **Publish the results of the elections that took place in every polling station in order to guarantee more transparency of electoral processes and combat irregularities (France);**
- 140.76 **Continue to promote the development of legislative and institutional mechanisms to combat corruption (Dominican Republic);**
- 140.77 **Continue raising public awareness of anti-corruption initiatives through educational campaigns and create secure and accessible channels for reporting corruption (Malaysia);**
- 140.78 **Ensure that the use of mobile or temporary courts complies with Kazakhstan's international obligations under article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Switzerland);**
- 140.79 **Take the necessary measures to ensure the availability of effective legal aid in all areas of the country (Mongolia);**
- 140.80 **Strengthen the construction of the judicial system and continuously improve the level of judicial protection of human rights (China);**
- 140.81 **Strengthen the role and extend the power of investigative judges in criminal procedures (Czechia);**
- 140.82 **Pursue the reforms aiming at strengthening the judicial and law enforcement systems (Morocco);**
- 140.83 **Take adequate measures to fully ensure freedom of association and assembly (Albania);**
- 140.84 **Continue taking measures to promote and protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and consider reviewing relevant legislation in view of international human rights norms and standards (Republic of Korea);**
- 140.85 **Further strengthen the legal framework to ensure the robust protection of fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Ukraine);**
- 140.86 **Ensure the full implementation of the Law on Peaceful Assemblies and other relevant legal acts, especially the obligation of competent authorities to propose alternative places or routes to the organizers of peaceful assemblies in case the original location cannot be provided (Germany);**
- 140.87 **Amend the law on organizing and conducting peaceful assemblies by simplifying notification procedures and protecting the right to hold spontaneous assemblies (Austria);**
- 140.88 **Revise the 2020 law governing the organization and conduct of peaceful assemblies, in order to bring it in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, by, inter alia, removing onerous administrative**

requirements for notification and allowing for appropriate protection of spontaneous assemblies (Belgium);

140.89 Adopt effective measures to ensure freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly in line with international standards (Czechia);

140.90 Ensure freedom of expression and peaceful assembly for all, including by removing excessive controls on the registration of associations such as for political parties and organizations representing sexual and gender minorities (Finland);

140.91 Adopt measures to ensure that the rights to freedom of assembly and association are respected, by facilitating authorized peaceful demonstrations and ensuring a favourable environment for civil society (Portugal);

140.92 Protect the right to freedom of expression and assembly, and immediately end intimidation, harassment and detainment of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society representatives (Norway);

140.93 Guarantee an enabling environment for civil society organizations and the media (Poland);

140.94 Ensure the meaningful participation of civil society organizations and human rights defenders in political and legislative debates at all levels (Costa Rica);

140.95 Guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association for all, in accordance with international human rights standards, and protect civil society organizations from any form of intimidation or reprisals (Switzerland);

140.96 Take the necessary measures to ensure that human rights defenders can work safely and exercise their right to freedom of expression (Spain);

140.97 Ensure the meaningful participation of civil society in political and legislative discussions, and foster a safe and enabling environment for civil society (Ireland);

140.98 Guarantee freedom of expression and media freedom, especially by eliminating the practice of accreditation for journalists by government bodies in laws and other regulatory legal acts (Germany);

140.99 Guarantee a safe space for the work of journalists and the operation of media outlets for the effective exercise of freedom of expression (Chile);

140.100 Take immediate action to guarantee the independence of the media and the protection of media workers, bloggers and journalists – both online and offline – from any form of harassment and undue prosecution (Czechia);

140.101 Ensure that the new media law does not curtail freedom of expression, including by creating an independent media regulator with clearly defined powers (Austria);

140.102 Amend legislation to establish clear criteria and procedures for State media subsidies, ensuring protection of editorial independence in line with the 2023 recommendations of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

140.103 Establish a national protection mechanism for journalists and human rights defenders (Mexico);

140.104 Abolish legislation and regulations that restrict foreign funding of non-governmental organizations (Norway);

140.105 Abolish the “foreign funding register” and refrain from considering “foreign agent”-style legislation and other measures that will hinder or obstruct the work of independent civil society organizations, activists and media (Lithuania);

- 140.106 **Repeal restrictions on freedom of expression, including legislation that penalizes the “dissemination of false information”, and strengthen protections for journalists (New Zealand);**
- 140.107 **Specify the notion of the spreading of false information contained in the administrative code by specifying the evident willingness to disrupt public order, and the notion of attacks against the interests of physical or moral persons (France);**
- 140.108 **Increase efforts to respect, protect and promote the right to freedom of expression and media freedom, both offline and online, and remove restrictive legislation in this regard (Belgium);**
- 140.109 **Strengthen the promotion and protection of freedom of expression, both online and offline, while implementing necessary measures to uphold the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly (Italy);**
- 140.110 **Fully implement international standards protecting human rights defenders online and offline (Estonia);**
- 140.111 **Fully protect freedom of expression and peaceful assembly online and offline, ensure thorough investigations of all acts of intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, civil activists and media workers, and hold accountable all those responsible (Latvia);**
- 140.112 **Guarantee freedom of thought, conscience and association for all citizens as laid down in its Constitution, including for human rights defenders and LGBTIQ+ persons (Germany);**
- 140.113 **Implement the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, and adopt legal provisions to guarantee the safety of journalists, with particular focus on women journalists (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 140.114 **Ensure that any engagement with the Taliban de facto authorities is contingent on and centred around their respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Afghanistan, especially those of women, children, persons with disabilities, and minorities (Afghanistan);**
- 140.115 **Introduce legislation to strengthen legal protections for personal data, including by establishing an independent oversight mechanism to ensure the accountability of public and private bodies in their approach to handling data (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 140.116 **Promote and protect the right to privacy and data protection, and the freedoms of expression and association, by enacting a law with human rights safeguards that transparently regulates the use of spyware (Costa Rica);**
- 140.117 **Adopt legislation to criminalize stalking (Canada);**
- 140.118 **Prohibit child marriages (Albania);**
- 140.119 **Amend the domestic legislation to ensure that the minimum age for marriage is 18 years, without exception (Chile);**
- 140.120 **Amend the Marriage and Family Code to eliminate all exceptions to the legal minimum age of 18 for marriage, for both women and men (Colombia);**
- 140.121 **Enforce laws prohibiting forced marriage, including bride kidnapping, and strengthen measures to prevent marriages of individuals under the age of 18 (Gambia);**
- 140.122 **Repeal the provisions of the Marriage and Family Code that restrict the right to marriage of persons with disabilities (Togo);**
- 140.123 **Continue to enhance the work of the family support centres and provide them with the necessary resources to carry out their tasks effectively (Qatar);**

- 140.124 Continue the effective work of family support centres (Sri Lanka);
- 140.125 Provide full support for the institution of the family (Russian Federation);
- 140.126 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons and ensure the protection of victims (Tunisia);
- 140.127 Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect the rights of victims (Afghanistan);
- 140.128 Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in humans and take further measures to protect the rights of the victims (Pakistan);
- 140.129 Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect the rights of victims (Bangladesh);
- 140.130 Ensure access to integrated support, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for victims of trafficking (Sri Lanka);
- 140.131 Redouble efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect the rights of victims (Dominican Republic);
- 140.132 Continue implementation of the Act on Combating Trafficking in Persons and the Migration Policy Framework for a longer period (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 140.133 Fully implement the new law on combating human trafficking, including through creating solid referral mechanisms for victims (Lebanon);
- 140.134 Build the capacity of the judiciary and law enforcement officers to effectively identify and protect victims of human trafficking (Maldives);
- 140.135 Expedite the process to adopt the draft law on combating human trafficking (Mongolia);
- 140.136 Intensify efforts to increase job opportunities for young people, thus enhancing their active participation in economic and social development (Saudi Arabia);
- 140.137 Strengthen the “Zhas Maman” programme, which aims to provide young people with technical and vocational training, by ensuring the necessary resources and inputs for its implementation (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 140.138 Intensify efforts to increase employment opportunities for young people (Oman);
- 140.139 Strengthen efforts to remove existing restrictions on women’s labour rights (Sri Lanka);
- 140.140 Ensure that the prohibition of workplace discrimination against women established in the Labour Code includes indirect discrimination and can be effectively enforced in the public and private sectors (Ecuador);
- 140.141 Remove restrictive union registration requirements and allow full freedom for independent unions to operate (Canada);
- 140.142 Strengthen the social security system to ensure broader and more equitable access to support, for all citizens (Indonesia);
- 140.143 Continue the development of the national social protection system relating to social benefits for persons with disabilities (Senegal);
- 140.144 Continue effective implementation of national programmes to support all socially vulnerable segments of the population (Uzbekistan);
- 140.145 Continue implementing national programmes and policies aimed at improving education, health and social security systems (Bahrain);

- 140.146 Continue its work aimed at improving the standard of living of citizens, increasing the number of social benefits and ensuring women's participation in the work of government bodies (Russian Federation);
- 140.147 Continue targeted efforts to reduce poverty rates and to address regional disparities, with a focus on vulnerable groups (Bhutan);
- 140.148 Ensure that all citizens benefit from economic progress and family support initiatives (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 140.149 Reinforce access to tap water, especially in rural areas and places vulnerable to climate change challenges (Vanuatu);
- 140.150 Continue development efforts aimed at improving the educational, health and living conditions of the population in order to further promote and protect human rights (Kyrgyzstan);
- 140.151 Increase efforts to prevent teenage pregnancy, including measures to provide comprehensive sexuality education (Colombia);
- 140.152 Enhance education programmes to counter early pregnancy in the educational system at all levels and in all regions (Malta);
- 140.153 Continue improving access to universal healthcare through evidence-based approaches (Georgia);
- 140.154 Enhance access to quality healthcare services by increasing allocations for rural healthcare infrastructure and training healthcare professionals (Malaysia);
- 140.155 Continue to improve access to universal health coverage, particularly for those in vulnerable situations (Thailand);
- 140.156 Further improve access to universal healthcare through evidence-based approaches and in coordination with vulnerable groups and NGOs (Bulgaria);
- 140.157 Intensify efforts to protect and promote the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, and enhance efforts to ensure the right to education and the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health (Egypt);
- 140.158 Continue implementing the strategy to ensure the rights of children to healthcare, especially children with disabilities (Lebanon);
- 140.159 Promote the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, and continue to promote education and health development (Iraq);
- 140.160 Step up efforts to guarantee quality inclusive education for all children, including children with disabilities (Qatar);
- 140.161 Continue to strengthen access to education for all, and to quality teaching (Senegal);
- 140.162 Intensify efforts to promote and ensure the right to education for all (United Arab Emirates);
- 140.163 Continue to support legislative and institutional mechanisms to ensure the right to education for all children (Ethiopia);
- 140.164 Ensure inclusive quality education for all children and take effective measures to end segregation in schools (Togo);
- 140.165 Guarantee inclusive education for all children regardless of impairment, and take measures to end segregated education settings (Cyprus);
- 140.166 Strengthen measures to ensure quality and inclusive education and take effective steps to end segregated educational settings for children with disabilities (Lithuania);

- 140.167 Continue its efforts to promote and protect the right to education for all children, including through legislative reforms (Marshall Islands);
- 140.168 Ensure comprehensive sexuality education for all children (Estonia);
- 140.169 Expand and strengthen the implementation of comprehensive sexual education at all educational levels (Uruguay);
- 140.170 Consider incorporating human rights education in school curricula (Philippines);
- 140.171 Enhance human rights education for the public, in particular gender equality, the rights of persons with disabilities and the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Samoa);
- 140.172 Conduct regular campaigns to address gender stereotypes, including by removing gender stereotypes from educational materials used at schools and higher education institutions (Estonia);
- 140.173 Intensify the implementation of sociocultural rights, in particular by opening up the possibility for all citizens to acquire new professional knowledge in universities (Cameroon);
- 140.174 Take further steps to protect the rights of persons belonging to ethnocultural communities, including their right to self-identification, the right to learn their mother tongue, and to preserve their culture and traditions (Bulgaria);
- 140.175 Work to strengthen the protection of the economic, social and cultural rights of the people of Kazakhstan (Oman);
- 140.176 Improve climate resilience in communities vulnerable to climate change, and ensure access to safe and clean drinking water (Samoa);
- 140.177 Provide access to drinking water, especially in rural areas and places vulnerable to climate change (Sri Lanka);
- 140.178 Strengthen efforts to align its nationally determined contributions with the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels (Marshall Islands);
- 140.179 Follow up on the adoption of measures to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals included in the 2030 Agenda (Cuba);
- 140.180 Strengthen efforts in the field of social, economic and cultural rights in the context of the implementation of relevant long-term State programmes, with particular attention to measures aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 140.181 Enhance efforts in the field of social, economic and cultural rights in the context of the implementation of relevant long-term State programmes, with particular attention to measures aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (Bangladesh);
- 140.182 Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and the improvement of human development indicators (India);
- 140.183 Continue to support human development indicators (Tajikistan);
- 140.184 Continue the implementation of measures to promote social, economic and cultural rights, and further improve the welfare of the population, and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including within the framework of the National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2029 (Belarus);

- 140.185 Continue its efforts to implement the National Development Plan of Kazakhstan and promote sustainable economic and social development to ensure that all Kazakh nationals enjoy their human rights (Mauritius);
- 140.186 Continue to support business development, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (Qatar);
- 140.187 Continue to support the development of commercial businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (Kuwait);
- 140.188 Encourage the continued strengthening of efforts to increase women's participation in public life (Sierra Leone);
- 140.189 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and increase women's participation in public and political life (Bahrain);
- 140.190 Continue its efforts to increase women's representation in public and political life (Singapore);
- 140.191 Accelerate the efforts to promote gender equality and increase women's participation in public life (Morocco);
- 140.192 Strengthen efforts to empower women and girls and continue to take measures to increase women's representation in public and political life (Vanuatu);
- 140.193 Continue to ensure that mechanisms and programmes for gender equality and women's empowerment are adequately resourced (Philippines);
- 140.194 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women (Tunisia);
- 140.195 Take necessary measures to ensure that women have full and meaningful access to all economic, social and cultural rights, including representation in decision-making positions (Türkiye);
- 140.196 Strengthen efforts to increase women's participation in decision-making in the political, economic and social spheres of life (Tajikistan);
- 140.197 Continue and expand the efforts to further empower women, in particular by increasing their participation in decision-making processes across the political, economic and social spheres (Eritrea);
- 140.198 Continue efforts to empower women and ensure their participation in society, especially in all aspects of political life, decision-making processes and leadership positions (Bangladesh);
- 140.199 Continue its efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and increase women's participation in decision-making processes (Albania);
- 140.200 Maintain support for women candidates, including by providing mentoring and training programmes, to ensure better representation in leadership positions (Ethiopia);
- 140.201 Strengthen its legal framework and measures in addressing gender-based violence, including domestic violence, and ensure effective assistance for the victims (Thailand);
- 140.202 Continue implementing legal safeguards to combat domestic violence (Czechia);
- 140.203 Criminalize domestic violence as a stand-alone offence and ensure sufficient access to support services (Austria);
- 140.204 Combat all forms of gender-based violence and violence against women, by criminalizing domestic violence as a separate offence and ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Portugal);

- 140.205 Undertake further efforts to combat domestic violence, including by expediting ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), and to offer proper assistance to the victims (Republic of Moldova);
- 140.206 Further strengthen protection from violence for women, including through actions aimed at combating domestic violence (Poland);
- 140.207 Classify domestic violence as a separate crime and introduce age-specific and victim-centred protection measures (Paraguay);
- 140.208 Amend relevant legislation to include domestic violence as a criminal offence, criminalize all aspects of gender-based violence and introduce age-specific and victim-centred protection measures (Malta);
- 140.209 Further strengthen legal protection for women and girls, including criminalization of domestic violence as a stand-alone offence (New Zealand);
- 140.210 Continue to strengthen efforts to provide legal protection against all forms of abuse of women, children and the elderly within the family (Oman);
- 140.211 Continue the efforts for the full implementation of a law contributing to the criminalization of domestic violence, in order to assure effective prevention, and systematic protection of vulnerable groups, such as women and children, and to provide practical support to the victims (Slovakia);
- 140.212 Take steps to criminalize domestic violence and strengthen victim support services (Malaysia);
- 140.213 Criminalize all aspects of gender-based violence, including rape understood as lack of consent, as well as against LGBTIQ+ persons and persons with disabilities (Luxembourg);
- 140.214 Strengthen efforts to address all forms of violence against women, including by increasing access to justice, and amending the Penal Code to criminalize all forms of gender-based violence (Samoa);
- 140.215 Continue and improve the efforts to combat all forms of violence against women, also considering amendments to the Penal Code aimed at criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence (Italy);
- 140.216 Consider expanding the scope of criminal clauses in its Women's Rights and Child Safety Act to cover more diverse forms of domestic violence, including psychological violence (Republic of Korea);
- 140.217 Provide more support to crisis centres that provide special social services to victims of domestic violence (Jordan);
- 140.218 Continue efforts to expand social services for victims of domestic violence, including through preventive measures and victim support services (Bhutan);
- 140.219 Strengthen the availability and accessibility of long-term shelters, medical and psychological services, and legal assistance for women victims of gender-based violence (Switzerland);
- 140.220 Ensure that women facing abuse, especially in rural areas, have access to crisis centres and shelters, while providing adequate training for all competent authorities in order to respond effectively to all reports of domestic violence (Croatia);
- 140.221 Continue efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women and girls, especially domestic violence (United Arab Emirates);
- 140.222 Thoroughly investigate and prosecute all acts of sexual and gender-based violence, including domestic violence and violence against children (Canada);

- 140.223 **Ensure the quality of investigations into violent crimes against women, girls and boys, through permanent operational and investigative teams in all police departments (Cuba);**
- 140.224 **Intensify efforts to combat violence against women and children, ensuring that such cases are rigorously investigated and perpetrators are held accountable under the law (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 140.225 **Continue efforts to provide legal protection against abuse of women, children and the elderly in families (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 140.226 **Ensure the provision of comprehensive sexuality education in and out of schools (Iceland);**
- 140.227 **Continue to protect and promote children's rights, in line with the principle of the best interests of the child (Saudi Arabia);**
- 140.228 **Strengthen programmes that promote the rights of children, adolescents and youth (Morocco);**
- 140.229 **Further strengthen measures to protect the rights of children and ensure their well-being (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 140.230 **Continue efforts to protect and promote the rights of the child (Tunisia);**
- 140.231 **Further strengthen the national child protection system to enhance prevention, detection and response (Bhutan);**
- 140.232 **Continue fulfilling obligations to protect the rights of children, including children with disabilities (Bahrain);**
- 140.233 **Continue its efforts to protect children's rights, including persons with disabilities, as well as their broad involvement in education programmes (Uzbekistan);**
- 140.234 **Prioritize children's rights by expanding access to quality education and healthcare services (Viet Nam);**
- 140.235 **Continue efforts to promote children's rights, especially in the areas of education and healthcare (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 140.236 **Continue efforts to advance children's rights, particularly in the critical areas of education and healthcare, ensuring that all children benefit from these fundamental services (Eritrea);**
- 140.237 **Continue efforts to promote children's rights, especially in the areas of education and healthcare (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 140.238 **Strengthen the national child protection system to enhance the prevention, detection and response to child abuse, ensuring a robust, multisectoral, victim-centred support for survivors (Maldives);**
- 140.239 **Continue efforts aimed at protecting children from all forms of violence and exploitation (Kuwait);**
- 140.240 **Take specific measures to ensure that children are protected from violence (Sri Lanka);**
- 140.241 **Strengthen efforts to protect children from all forms of violence, including sexual violence and child, early and forced marriage (Azerbaijan);**
- 140.242 **Redouble efforts to protect children from all forms of violence, including sexual violence and child, early and forced marriage (Dominican Republic);**
- 140.243 **Continue its efforts to further ensure access to affordable legal aid for children with disabilities, regardless of the type of disability (Burkina Faso);**

- 140.244 Continue to fulfil obligations to protect the rights of children, including children with disabilities (Iraq);
- 140.245 Continue efforts to protect children's rights, particularly against pornography, especially on the Internet (Cameroon);
- 140.246 Continue to work hard to safeguard the rights and interests of children, especially to protect them from pornographic materials (China);
- 140.247 Criminalize forced sterilization of and forced abortion for women with disabilities (Spain);
- 140.248 Prohibit legally forced and coerced sterilization, with explicit protections for women with disabilities (Costa Rica);
- 140.249 Improve and implement systems aimed at increasing access to education, healthcare and judicial services for children and adults with disabilities and their families (Tajikistan);
- 140.250 Pursue further actions aimed at promoting the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities (Turkmenistan);
- 140.251 Continue to adopt comprehensive measures to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (United Arab Emirates);
- 140.252 Strengthen support for persons with disabilities by improving accessibility in public spaces, promoting inclusive education and ensuring equitable employment opportunities (Viet Nam);
- 140.253 Take further steps to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities and promote their inclusion (Republic of Moldova);
- 140.254 Continue its efforts to support the integration of persons with disabilities in society (Singapore);
- 140.255 Enhance efforts to ensure the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in society, particularly in the areas of education, empowerment and legal capacity (Armenia);
- 140.256 Take further action towards full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all sectors of life, particularly in education and work (Marshall Islands);
- 140.257 Continue efforts to increase the access of persons with disabilities to education, employment and social protection (Nepal);
- 140.258 Continue to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to promote educational initiatives (Pakistan);
- 140.259 Continue efforts towards full social inclusion of persons with disabilities, in particular in the areas of education, labour and social services (Bulgaria);
- 140.260 Continue to ensure the effective implementation of social policies and programmes, including the improvement of social services and institutions for persons with disabilities and persons with mental disorders (Azerbaijan);
- 140.261 Continue the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Azerbaijan);
- 140.262 Strengthen efforts to implement policies benefiting persons with disabilities, focusing on measures to enhance accessibility, ensure free mobility and promote inclusive education (Brazil);
- 140.263 Adjust legislation to ensure that no person is deprived of their legal capacity due to a disability (Colombia);
- 140.264 Pay special attention to the rights of persons with disabilities, in accordance with international standards (Congo);

- 140.265 **Allocate sufficient resources to train educators and provide reasonable accommodations to all children with disabilities who wish to study in mainstream schools (Croatia);**
- 140.266 **Continue strengthening legal frameworks to protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination and ensure better enforcement of these laws (Ethiopia);**
- 140.267 **Redouble efforts to mainstream the rights of women and children with disabilities (Nepal);**
- 140.268 **Continue efforts to promote social protection for vulnerable groups, such as persons with different abilities (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 140.269 **Take concrete measures to combat discrimination against ethnic minorities (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.270 **Continue to maintain inter-ethnic harmony and interreligious understanding (Cameroon);**
- 140.271 **Continue government efforts to ensure harmonious inter-ethnic and interreligious relations (Egypt);**
- 140.272 **Continue its good practice in strengthening interfaith dialogue and freedom of religion or belief (Türkiye);**
- 140.273 **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination strategy in order to safeguard and protect the rights of ethnic and religious minorities (Israel);**
- 140.274 **Ensure fair and equitable representation of ethnic minorities in public decision-making bodies and in the civil service (Montenegro);**
- 140.275 **Continue reinforcing measures to maintain inter-ethnic and interreligious harmony (Pakistan);**
- 140.276 **Adopt and implement the working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in order to combat antisemitism and Holocaust distortion in all its manifestations (Israel);**
- 140.277 **Respect the human rights of LGBTI persons, by rejecting the petition calling for legislation that violates freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Portugal);**
- 140.278 **Adopt legislation which explicitly guarantees protection against discrimination and violence towards members of the LGBTIQ+ community and which provides for full enjoyment of their rights (Uruguay);**
- 140.279 **Adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Australia);**
- 140.280 **Amend article 145 of the Criminal Code on “Violations of the Equality of People and Citizens” to include sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (Belgium);**
- 140.281 **Amend article 145 of the Criminal Code to explicitly protect persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (Iceland);**
- 140.282 **Fully enforce legislation against domestic violence and adopt anti-discriminatory legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Norway);**
- 140.283 **Repeal the so-called LGBT propaganda law (Iceland);**
- 140.284 **Enact a comprehensive anti-discrimination law explicitly prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);**
- 140.285 **Explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and recognize the LGTBI community in legislation (Spain);**

- 140.286 Consider carrying out campaigns to prevent discrimination based on people's sexual orientation or gender identity and to protect the personal safety, privacy and right to non-discrimination of LGBTIQ+ people (Chile);
- 140.287 Advance the protection of the human rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals, including by training law enforcement on LGBTQIA+ rights and anti-discrimination principles (Brazil);
- 140.288 Prevent and criminalize violence based on gender identity and sexual orientation (Slovenia);
- 140.289 Criminalize and prevent violence motivated by gender identity or sexual orientation (Colombia);
- 140.290 Ensure proper investigation of hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ persons (Cyprus);
- 140.291 Abolish the requirements for mandatory sterilization and psychiatric evaluations for legal gender recognition and implement a process based on self-determination (Iceland);
- 140.292 Guarantee the right to seek asylum and ensure that no person is expelled, extradited, rejected or otherwise returned to a country where they are at risk of persecution (Uruguay);
- 140.293 Amend national legislation to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers have access to State social security programmes (Ecuador);
- 140.294 Review and amend the law on citizenship to ensure that its application does not result in statelessness for foreigners wishing to naturalize (Gambia).
141. 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 Kazakhstan was headed by the Minister of Justice, H.E. Yerlan SARSEMBAYEV, and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Roman VASSILENKO, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Yerlan ALIMBAYEV, Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Bolatbek NAZHMETDINULY, Member of Majilis (Lower Chamber) of the Parliament;
- Mr. Kenzhegul SEITZHAN, Member of Majilis (Lower Chamber) of the Parliament, a person with disability;
- Ms. Yuliya KUCHINSKAYA, Member of Majilis (Lower Chamber) of the Parliament;
- Mr. Gabit SADYRBEKOV, Deputy Prosecutor General;
- Mr. Sanzhar ADILOV, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs;
- Mr. Akmadi SARBASSOV, First Vice-Minister of Labour and Social Protection of the Population;
- Mr. Timur SULTANGAZIYEV, First Vice-Minister of Health;
- Ms. Botagoz ZHAXELEKOVA, Vice-Minister of Justice;
- Mr. Yevgeniy KOCHETOV, Vice-Minister of Culture and Information;
- Mr. Assylbek MUSRALINOV, Deputy Head of the Court Administration;
- Ms. Lyazzat KALTAYEVA, Advisor of the Minister of Justice on Inclusion, a person with disability;
- Ms. Alua NADIRKULOVA, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Renat ZULKHAIROV, Deputy Chairperson of the Administrative Police Committee, Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- Ms. Yuliya OVECHKINA, Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for the Protection of Children's Rights, Ministry of Education;
- Mr. Yeldos KILYMZHANOV, Deputy Head of the Service for Supervision of Pre-Trial Investigation and Criminal Prosecution, Prosecutor General's Office;
- Mr. Dauren YENSEBAYEV, Head of the Division of Strategic Development, Information and Analytical Work, Court Administration;
- Mr. Arsen OMAROV, Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the UNOG;
- Mr. Bauyrzhan ABENOV, Deputy Head of the Investigative Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- Ms. Lyazzat UTESHEVA, Deputy Director of the Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Gulmira ISKAKOVA, Head of Division, Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Baurzhan KURMANOV, Counsellor, Embassy of Kazakhstan in Switzerland;
- Ms. Dilnoza MINBAYEVA, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the UNOG;

- Ms. Anna LEBEDEVA, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the UNOG;
  - Mr. Abay KAMBARBEK, Third Secretary, Department of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
  - Mr. Almas ABDIKARIM, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the UNOG;
  - Mr. Olzhas ZHUMABAYEV, Expert, Ministry of Justice.
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