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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Latvia

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

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its fifty-second session from 4 to 15 May 2026. The review of Latvia was held at the 12th meeting, on 11 May 2026. The delegation of Latvia was headed by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Andžejs Viļumsons. At its 15th meeting, held on 15 May 2026, the Working Group adopted the report on Latvia.

2. On 8 January 2026, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Latvia: Dominican Republic, France and Pakistan.

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 Latvia:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);[1]

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

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).[3]

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, on behalf of 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, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Latvia 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. Latvia reiterated its strong support for the universal periodic review and the Human Rights Council and emphasized its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights at both the national and international levels. It highlighted its cooperation with the treaty bodies and special procedure mandate holders and noted that recommendations from international human rights mechanisms were integrated into national policy planning and action plans.

6. Latvia stated that developments since the previous review should be viewed in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the regional security situation in the context of the war by the Russian Federation against Ukraine. Measures had been taken to strengthen democratic resilience, including in the areas of cybersecurity, electoral security, media literacy and civic participation.

7. Latvia highlighted several developments in the area of human rights protection, including accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the assumption by the Ombudsman's Office of its role as the national preventive mechanism. It also referred to the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence

[1] A/HRC/WG.6/52/LVA/1.
[2] A/HRC/WG.6/52/LVA/2.
[3] A/HRC/WG.6/52/LVA/3.

against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and ongoing efforts to strengthen the prevention of violence against women and domestic violence, accountability and victim support services.

8. Latvia reaffirmed its commitment to gender equality, including through measures aimed at reducing gender stereotypes and integrating gender equality into policy planning. It also referred to the implementation of its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and preparations for a second action plan.

9. Latvia emphasized that the principle of non-discrimination was enshrined in its constitutional framework. It referred to measures taken following the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in *Hanovs v. Latvia* concerning the investigation of hate crimes, including against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. Latvia also highlighted the introduction of civil partnerships for same-sex couples.

10. Referring to previous recommendations concerning non-citizens and statelessness, Latvia recalled the historical context following the restoration of independence and stated that non-citizens in Latvia were not considered to be stateless persons under international law. It highlighted measures taken to facilitate naturalization, including the automatic granting of citizenship to children born in non-citizen families since 2020.

11. Latvia stated that it continued to promote social integration while supporting the preservation of minority languages and cultural identity. It also referred to efforts aimed at strengthening the use of the Latvian language in education and public life.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

12. During the interactive dialogue, 80 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

13. Togo welcomed the measures taken to ensure gender equality, protect children, provide access to essential social services and combat trafficking, torture and ill-treatment.

14. Tunisia noted the efforts made by Latvia to promote and protect human rights and expressed appreciation for the legal and structural reforms undertaken in that area following the third universal periodic review cycle.

15. Türkiye acknowledged the efforts made by Latvia in strengthening democratic institutions, supporting persons fleeing from the war in the region and addressing hate speech and discrimination.

16. Ukraine commended Latvia for the progress made in strengthening its human rights framework, including ratifying the Istanbul Convention, adopting the plan for preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence and promoting gender equality, child protection and inclusion for vulnerable groups.

17. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland recognized the security challenges faced by Latvia and welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the introduction of civil partnerships.

18. Uruguay welcomed the measures adopted to prevent and combat violence against women, including the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.

19. Uzbekistan commended Latvia for its human rights engagement, its strategic frameworks on social cohesion and inclusion, its ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the measures adopted on media freedom.

20. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed regret regarding the lack of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, gaps in the criminalization of hate speech, prison violence, border asylum restrictions and the situation of stateless persons.

21. Albania welcomed the strengthened legislative framework of Latvia, its ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the measures adopted to promote equality, social inclusion and the protection of vulnerable groups.

22. Algeria made recommendations.

23. Armenia appreciated the efforts made by Latvia to strengthen normative, policy and institutional frameworks, including in relation to social inclusion, and welcomed the active cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

24. Australia welcomed the adoption of the national action plan on preventing violence against women and domestic violence and encouraged continued improvements on the inclusion of Roma and LGBTQIA+ persons.

25. Austria welcomed reforms in social welfare and education and commended Latvia for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It expressed concern over high levels of violence against women and domestic violence and efforts to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention and called for improvements in education in minority languages and regarding school violence.

26. Azerbaijan made recommendations.

27. Bahrain referred to the developments achieved by Latvia in the process of protecting and promoting human rights at the national level.

28. Bangladesh noted the policy guidelines to foster social inclusion and cohesion, strengthen trust and civic participation, improve access to the labour market and protect women, children and families.

29. Belarus expressed concern about the growing human rights challenges, including discrimination on various grounds and xenophobia.

30. Belgium commended Latvia for the entry into force of the law on registered partnerships and the steps taken to respond to trafficking in persons.

31. Brazil acknowledged the regular conduct of elections in Latvia, the effectiveness of its justice system and the progress made in reducing statelessness.

32. Bulgaria commended Latvia for the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for 2020–2025 and for measures ensuring greater safety of journalists.

33. Canada welcomed advancements in areas such as the empowerment of women and girls, while noting the importance of ensuring full compliance with European Union standards related to judicial independence and anti-corruption frameworks.

34. Chile welcomed the designation of the Ombudsman’s Office as the national preventive mechanism against torture.

35. China noted that Roma people continued to face discrimination in employment, education, healthcare and housing and that the “non-citizen” system continued to exist.

36. Colombia made recommendations.

37. Costa Rica commended Latvia for the progress made in the promotion of gender equality, its institutional strengthening and its active commitment to the women and peace and security agenda.

38. Cuba made recommendations.

39. Cyprus welcomed the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, the adoption of the Human Trafficking Prevention Plan for 2025–2027 and the provision of social rehabilitation for children affected by violence.

40. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea remained concerned about hate crimes, access to media and information, children’s rights and the situation of persons with disabilities.

41. The Dominican Republic welcomed the fact that education was compulsory from the age of 5, and the efforts made to guarantee access to preschool from the age of 18 months, and 12 years of free primary and secondary education.

42. Responding to questions concerning the independence and mandate of the Ombudsman's Office, Latvia stated that the Ombudsman's Office was an independent constitutional institution elected by the parliament and was functionally independent from the executive branch. Following the entry into force for Latvia of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Ombudsman's Office had assumed the functions of the national preventive mechanism. Latvia also referred to the establishment of the Discrimination Prevention Department in 2024 and noted an increase in the number of applications submitted to the Ombudsman's Office.

43. Latvia highlighted measures aimed at strengthening transparency, public participation and good governance, including the entry into force of the Law on Transparency of Interest Representation and the use of a unified digital platform for drafting and coordinating legislation and policy documents. It noted that the platform enabled public participation in lawmaking processes and had received the United Nations Public Service Award in 2024.

44. Concerning the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, Latvia referred to judgments of the Constitutional Court affirming the obligation to ensure legal, social and economic protection for all families. It noted that, since July 2024, the institution of registered partnerships had provided legal protection for same-sex couples, including in the fields of healthcare, social security and taxation.

45. Regarding gender equality and non-discrimination, Latvia stated that those principles were systematically integrated into legislation, policy planning and normative acts. It referred to measures aimed at promoting equal access to the labour market, reducing stereotypes and strengthening equal pay mechanisms, including preparations for the transposition of the European Union Pay Transparency Directive.

46. Latvia also highlighted measures aimed at strengthening awareness-raising and professional capacity on gender equality and non-discrimination, including the launch of e-learning programmes for public administration officials and a nationwide anti-discrimination campaign in 2026.

47. In response to advance questions and statements concerning violence against women and domestic violence, Latvia referred to the entry into force for Latvia of the Istanbul Convention in 2024 and the adoption of the first national action plan for its implementation. Latvia noted that the plan was focused on prevention, professional training, victim support services and rehabilitation programmes for perpetrators.

48. Latvia further highlighted measures aimed at supporting children affected by violence, including the introduction of multidisciplinary and child-friendly support mechanisms.

49. Latvia stated that family support and work-life balance remained important priorities. It referred to reforms concerning parental and paternity leave, increased childcare benefits and measures aimed at encouraging a more equal sharing of care responsibilities.

50. Latvia also described reforms aimed at deinstitutionalization and the expansion of community-based and family-like care services for children with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. It referred to the establishment of out-of-family care support centres for foster families, guardians and adoptive families.

51. Concerning social cohesion and the rights of minorities, Latvia stated that national minorities formed an integral part of Latvian society and referred to ongoing cooperation with minority organizations, including Roma organizations. Latvia also highlighted measures aimed at promoting cultural diversity, participation and social integration.

52. Responding to recommendations concerning minority language media and access to information, Latvia stated that recent public broadcasting reforms were aimed at strengthening social cohesion and ensuring access to reliable, independent and fact-based information. It explained that the reforms had reorganized the provision of minority language content within a unified editorial framework. Latvia also referred to a recent judgment of the Constitutional Court concerning the balance between national security, the status of the Latvian language and access to information in minority languages.

53. Regarding hate speech and hate crimes, including against ethnic and religious minorities, migrants and asylum-seekers, Latvia referred to its national action plan for the

reduction of racism, which was aligned with the European Union anti-racism strategy. It also highlighted measures aimed at combating discrimination against Roma and supporting Roma inclusion.

54. Latvia further highlighted measures aimed at protecting journalists and media professionals, including the adoption of an action plan on the safety of journalists and the establishment of cooperation mechanisms between law enforcement authorities, journalists' associations and non-governmental organizations.

55. Concerning the rights of persons with disabilities, Latvia described reforms aimed at strengthening accessibility, community-based services and inclusive employment. It referred to reforms of the disability assessment system and amendments to legislation introducing a minimum basket of social services at the municipal level.

56. Latvia also referred to measures aimed at strengthening independent living, including the expansion of personal assistance, psychosocial support and integrated care services for persons with severe disabilities.

57. Latvia stated that social protection reforms included measures to strengthen minimum income support and pension systems, while demographic ageing and long-term care remained ongoing challenges.

58. Latvia highlighted measures aimed at promoting the employment of persons with disabilities and persons granted refugee or alternative protection status through training, subsidized employment and targeted support measures.

59. Egypt made recommendations.

60. Estonia commended Latvia for the strengthening of the national human rights institution, the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the measures taken to combat trafficking in persons.

61. Finland commended Latvia for the adoption of the partnerships law of 2024 and subsequent partial improvements with regard to the rights of sexual minorities.

62. France welcomed the efforts made to advance the rights of women and LGBT+ persons, particularly the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, and the creation of civil partnerships open to all couples.

63. The Gambia welcomed the accession of Latvia to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the efforts made to strengthen the national human rights framework.

64. Georgia commended Latvia for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.

65. Germany commended Latvia for reforms to promote the equality of same-sex couples and for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, calling for its effective implementation.

66. Greece acknowledged the challenging security environment in Latvia and welcomed the adoption of policies on violence against women and media freedom.

67. Iceland made recommendations.

68. India appreciated the efforts made by Latvia towards social inclusion and measures taken to combat violence against women.

69. Indonesia noted the adoption of legislative safeguards to counter artificial intelligence-generated disinformation during elections and measures to preserve the cultural identity of minorities.

70. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concerns about the situation of migrants, hate speech, hate crimes and the protection of minority rights.

71. Iraq positively noted the adoption of the Fifth National Open Government Action Plan and the two Roma integration policy plans.

72. Ireland welcomed the adoption of plans promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and women. It urged Latvia not to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention.

73. Italy welcomed efforts to promote access to the naturalization process and to reduce statelessness, while encouraging continued progress towards full social inclusion.

74. Japan appreciated the positive steps taken by Latvia on women's rights, the integration of national minorities and the preservation and development of minority cultural identity.

75. Jordan noted initiatives in social inclusion, combating discrimination, strengthening community participation, supporting the rights of persons with disabilities, developing inclusive education and protecting vulnerable groups.

76. Kazakhstan noted the efforts made by Latvia to strengthen its human rights framework, including measures aimed at promoting social cohesion and addressing discrimination.

77. Lebanon welcomed the notable progress achieved in strengthening public participation and supporting civil society.

78. Libya made recommendations.

79. Lithuania commended Latvia for amending its domestic legal framework and expanding existing mandates with the aim of improving gender-based violence prevention and gender equality.

80. Luxembourg congratulated Latvia on its efforts towards the implementation of its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, for the period 2020–2025.

81. Malaysia commended Latvia for the progress made in its institutional framework, particularly on improving the rights of children and women and enhancing social inclusion.

82. Maldives welcomed the comprehensive approach of Latvia to reducing discrimination, which combined legislation, supervision, education, social protection and cultural policy.

83. Malta commended Latvia for ratifying the Istanbul Convention and noted the ongoing domestic debate on remaining a State Party.

84. The Marshall Islands commended Latvia for the adoption of the Plan for Promoting Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men for 2024–2027 and welcomed efforts to improve accessibility infrastructure for persons with disabilities in rural areas.

85. Mauritius commended Latvia for its legislation recently enacted to protect elections from manipulation using artificial intelligence.

86. Mexico recognized the gender equality commitment of Latvia and its adoption of the plan to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence for 2024–2029.

87. Montenegro noted the ratification by Latvia of the Istanbul Convention and the adoption of the national action plan on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

88. Morocco commended Latvia for the adoption of several strategic policy planning documents across various sectors, especially the Guidelines for the Development of a Cohesive and Civically Active Society.

89. Regarding education, Latvia stated that the right to quality and inclusive education was guaranteed by the Constitution and legislation. It highlighted reforms aimed at integrating learners with special needs into mainstream education and strengthening the early identification of learning difficulties and support for teaching assistants.

90. Latvia referred to measures supporting access to education for Roma children, including the work of Roma mediators with schools and families, particularly at the preschool and primary levels.

91. Latvia stated that Ukrainian refugee children had been guaranteed access to Latvian educational institutions and that support measures had been provided to facilitate recovery, Latvian language learning and social inclusion.

92. Latvia highlighted reforms aimed at improving access to quality education across regions, including a new financing model designed to reduce regional disparities, support schools in border areas and increase remuneration for teachers and support staff.

93. Concerning the transition to education in the Latvian language, Latvia stated that proficiency in the State language ensured equal access to education, employment and democratic participation. It noted that children from minority backgrounds could continue to learn minority languages and cultures through State-supported non-formal education programmes.

94. Latvia stated that artificial intelligence- and technology-assisted learning were being developed as part of efforts to improve quality, accessibility and innovation in education.

95. Regarding the right to health, Latvia highlighted measures aimed at improving the accessibility, quality and sustainability of healthcare, including reference centres in several medical fields and strengthened quality monitoring.

96. Latvia acknowledged regional disparities and workforce shortages in healthcare and referred to measures to strengthen primary care, remote consultations and family medicine practices in the regions and increase the number of State-funded residency and nursing study places.

97. Latvia highlighted measures to improve access to reimbursement for medicines, particularly for vulnerable groups and patients requiring multiple medicines.

98. Latvia stated that maternal and child health remained a priority and referred to measures aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving care for high-risk pregnancies and strengthening reproductive and postnatal health services.

99. Concerning trafficking in persons, Latvia stated that it was developing a more formalized national referral mechanism through the national action plan for 2025–2027 and a draft law on recognition and support for victims of trafficking in persons.

100. Latvia noted that victims of trafficking in persons could access State-funded social rehabilitation services outside criminal proceedings and were recognized as a particularly vulnerable group, including in migration and criminal justice procedures.

101. Regarding violence, Latvia referred to amendments introducing electronic surveillance as a control measure and noted the increased reporting of violence, including against minors, as an indication of greater public awareness.

102. Latvia stated that combating hate crime and hate speech was a priority for the State police. It referred to training measures, improved investigation practices and the appointment of a liaison officer for contacts with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.

103. Concerning the situation at the border with Belarus, Latvia stated that it was facing the instrumentalization of migration as a hybrid threat. It emphasized that individual assessments were carried out to identify vulnerabilities and international protection needs, in accordance with the principle of non-refoulement.

104. Latvia stated that, following the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, legislative amendments had strengthened criminal liability for threats, stalking, failure to comply with protection orders and violence within close relationships.

105. Latvia referred to the introduction of administrative liability for sexual harassment, the criminalization of non-consensual distribution of intimate images and the extension of limitation periods for sexual offences against minors.

106. Latvia highlighted measures taken to strengthen temporary protection against violence, including the obligation for perpetrators to complete social rehabilitation programmes, as well as regular training for judges, prosecutors and court staff.

107. Regarding detention conditions, Latvia stated that a newly constructed prison had begun operating in 2026 and would replace outdated infrastructure. It noted that the new facility was designed to improve detention conditions, safety and reintegration.

108. Latvia also referred to the opening of a prison administration training centre in 2025 and plans to close old prisons and open a new prison for women by 2030.

109. Latvia stated that prosecutors prioritized cases involving violence against women and hate-motivated offences. It referred to the appointment of coordinating prosecutors and strengthened supervision to ensure timely and effective investigations.

110. Regarding hate crimes, Latvia stated that prosecutors were required to identify hate motives in relevant cases and that hate motivation had been established as an aggravating circumstance in criminal law. It also referred to training and international cooperation to strengthen expertise in that area.

111. Nepal commended Latvia for its accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.

112. The Kingdom of the Netherlands commended Latvia for its continued progress in strengthening the protection of human rights, including efforts to promote social inclusion and equality.

113. Norway welcomed the progress made by Latvia on rights for LGBT+ persons but noted that hate crimes and discrimination still occurred. It was concerned about the decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention.

114. Oman appreciated the efforts made to promote equal access to education, strengthen compulsory education, develop strategic frameworks and support inclusive education for students with disabilities.

115. Pakistan commended Latvia for strengthening its normative and institutional framework through the adoption of policy guidelines promoting social inclusion and civic participation.

116. Paraguay commended Latvia for the adoption of the plan to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence for 2024–2029.

117. Peru welcomed the accession of Latvia to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.

118. The Philippines welcomed the adoption of the Guidelines for the Development of Children, Youth and Family for 2022–2027, the Plan for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence for 2024–2029, the Roma Strategic Framework and the Plan for Promoting Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities for 2024–2027.

119. Portugal commended Latvia for the construction of the Liepāja prison, with strengthened rehabilitation initiatives, and the adoption of the Plan for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence for 2024–2029.

120. The Republic of Korea commended Latvia for its accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.

121. The Republic of Moldova commended Latvia for its national policy planning documents across various sectors, such as gender equality, domestic violence and the rights of persons with disabilities, children and young persons.

122. The Russian Federation declared that it was concerned about the organization in Latvia of recurring public events glorifying Nazism and its collaborators.

123. Rwanda noted the adoption of the Cultural Education Strategy for 2025–2027 and the progress achieved in strengthening public participation and civil society engagement.

124. Serbia noted the adoption by Latvia of the Guidelines for the Development of Children, Youth and Family for 2022–2027 and the Human Trafficking Prevention Plan for 2025–2027.

125. Slovakia welcomed the efforts undertaken by the Ombudsman, in preparation for the current cycle of the universal periodic review, including its outreach to the diplomatic community in Riga.

126. Slovenia remained concerned about gender-based violence in Latvia, especially against Roma women and girls.

127. Spain acknowledged the progress made by Latvia in implementing previous recommendations and its accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.

128. Sri Lanka commended Latvia for taking significant measures to analyse the impact of artificial intelligence on information integrity and introducing two new criminal offences related to artificial intelligence.

129. Sweden welcomed the efforts made by Latvia to improve conditions in prisons and detention centres and the progress made on the enjoyment of human rights by LGBTIQ persons through the introduction of a partnership law.

130. Switzerland made recommendations.

131. Tajikistan appreciated the adoption of the Guidelines for the Development of a Cohesive and Civically Active Society, the Social Protection and Labour Market Policy Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Development of Children, Youth and Family.

132. Latvia referred to measures aimed at addressing climate change and ensuring a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, including the adoption of the Climate Resilience and Economic Sustainability Law in 2025 and the implementation of the 2026–2030 emissions reduction plan.

133. Latvia also reiterated its commitment to inclusive and quality education for learners with disabilities and persons from minority and migrant backgrounds, in line with its national and international obligations.

134. In concluding, Latvia expressed its appreciation for the constructive dialogue and recommendations. It stated that the recommendations would be carefully examined and would contribute to its ongoing efforts to advance the promotion and protection of human rights. Latvia further reaffirmed its support for a strong, inclusive and effective multilateral human rights system.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

135. **The following recommendations will be examined by Latvia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the sixty-third session of the Human Rights Council:**

135.1 **Consider ratifying the remaining core international human rights treaties, particularly the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Gambia);**

135.2 **Consider ratifying outstanding international human rights instruments and withdrawing reservations to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Paraguay);**

135.3 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Togo);**

135.4 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria) (Togo);**

135.5 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as previously recommended (Indonesia);**

135.6 **Open a regional discussion to overcome the blockage that prevents the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Morocco);**

135.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Chile) (Switzerland);**

135.8 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and maintain efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Istanbul Convention (Spain);**

135.9 **Continue to advance the rights of women, including by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Marshall Islands);**

135.10 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**

135.11 **Remain a Party to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and, in accordance with its provisions, prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence more broadly (Finland);**

135.12 **Remain a Party to the Istanbul Convention and ensure its full and effective implementation to prevent and combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence (Norway);**

135.13 **Continue supporting the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, notably by remaining a Party to it and ensuring its effective implementation (Italy);**

135.14 **Continue efforts aimed at remaining a State Party to the Istanbul Convention, including through awareness campaigns addressing misconceptions surrounding the Convention (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**

135.15 **Refrain from denouncing the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Sweden);**

135.16 **Reject withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention and conduct public awareness campaigns to combat gender stereotypes and misconceptions about the treaty (Estonia);**

135.17 **Maintain Latvia's ratification of the Istanbul Convention (Malta);**

135.18 **Consider withdrawing its reservations to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Iraq);**

135.19 **Consider rejoining as a State Party the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Marshall Islands);**

135.20 **Consider the ratification of the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education (Republic of Moldova);**

135.21 **Adopt the necessary measures to ensure the full independence and financial autonomy of the Ombudsman's Office (Algeria);**

135.22 **Strengthen the independence and capacity of the Ombudsman's Office, including by ensuring adequate financial and human resources for all aspects of its mandate (Gambia);**

135.23 **Continue strengthening the national human rights institution, including by ensuring full compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Republic of Moldova);**

135.24 **Continue efforts to ensure that the Ombudsman's Office is in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Colombia);**

135.25 **Ensure that the Office of the Ombudsman is in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);**

135.26 **Strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman, by providing functional immunity for the Ombudsman and establishing limits on the Ombudsman's terms of office (Lithuania);**

135.27 **Consider the establishment of a national mechanism for the implementation of, reporting on and follow-up to human rights recommendations with the possibility of receiving cooperation in this regard, in line with our recommendation from the previous cycle (Paraguay);**

135.28 **Establish a national mechanism for the implementation of the recommendations of human rights mechanisms (Dominican Republic);**

135.29 **Continue the implementation of treaty body recommendations and enhance national follow-up thereto in consultation with civil society and national institutions (Egypt);**

135.30 **Consider adopting and implementing a comprehensive anti-discrimination law (Cyprus);**

135.31 **Continue strengthening national measures and policies aimed at combating all forms of discrimination and promoting the social inclusion of all segments of society (Jordan);**

135.32 **Adopt a comprehensive law that prohibits all discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, ethnicity and religion, and strengthen the criminalization of hate speech (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

135.33 **Adopt and implement a comprehensive legislative and policy framework against discrimination, which guarantees equal access to economic, social and cultural rights and strengthens the prevention, investigation and punishment of hate speech and hate crimes (Peru);**

135.34 **Adopt and implement a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislative and policy framework aimed at ensuring equal access to all economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination (Morocco);**

135.35 **Strengthen efforts to combat hate speech and hate crimes, including by ensuring effective investigation, prosecution and victim support, as well as improving data collection and public awareness (Malaysia);**

135.36 **Continue efforts to combat hate speech and hate crimes, prosecute perpetrators and provide compensation to victims, as well as raise public awareness of their dangers (Iraq);**

135.37 **Step up efforts to address hate speech and hate crimes by improving reporting and data collection, strengthening investigation and prosecution and promoting public awareness (Philippines);**

135.38 **Strengthen measures to combat hate speech and hate crime, including through effective investigation and prosecution, as well as by raising public awareness (Bangladesh);**

135.39 **Continue efforts to combat all forms of intolerance, discrimination and hate speech both in public life and online (Türkiye);**

135.40 **Take effective steps to combat hate crimes and hate speech, and prosecute those responsible (Libya);**

135.41 **Investigate and prosecute public hate speech and hate crimes, including incitement of hatred on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality and religion or belief (Indonesia);**

135.42 **Strengthen the enforcement of legislation combating hate speech and hate crime to ensure that all cases are promptly and effectively investigated and prosecuted and that perpetrators are adequately punished (Belgium);**

135.43 **Strengthen efforts to combat hate speech and hate crimes by ensuring that all such incidents are effectively investigated and perpetrators are duly prosecuted (Rwanda);**

135.44 **Review the current legal framework to adequately punish law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges who commit hate crimes and actions based on prejudice (Cuba);**

135.45 **Continue strengthening measures aimed at combating discrimination and hate crimes, including through enhanced training of law enforcement and improved access to remedies for vulnerable groups (Uzbekistan);**

135.46 **Ensure timely and effective investigations, prosecutions and appropriate sanctions for all acts of hate crimes and hate speech (Algeria);**

135.47 **Ensure that all acts of hate speech and hate crimes are promptly and effectively investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted (Morocco);**

135.48 **Address hate speech and hate crimes, and ensure the existence of national remedy mechanisms for victims and their families (Bahrain);**

135.49 **Strengthen its efforts to combat hate speech and hate crime (Mauritius);**

135.50 **Ensure effective criminalization and enforcement against hate speech, and adopt comprehensive measures to combat discrimination against specific groups of foreigners, including through legal safeguards and inclusive policies (Austria);**

135.51 **Revise the policy on combating racist hate speech and incitement to racial hatred, as well as the penalties for such offences, and take measures to prevent the use of hate speech on the Internet (Russian Federation);**

135.52 **Further strengthen measures to combat hate speech and hate crimes, particularly against minorities and vulnerable groups (Togo);**

135.53 **Restore the collection of statistics on hate crimes and ensure that all forms of hate speech, including those made by politicians and senior public officials, are punished by law (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

135.54 **Strengthen measures to effectively combat hate speech and improve data collection on hate crimes (Pakistan);**

135.55 **Intensify efforts to combat hate speech and hate crimes, including through improved data collection, training for law enforcement officials and effective investigation and prosecution (Gambia);**

135.56 **Adopt robust measures to prevent and combat hate speech and hate crimes in law and in practice (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

135.57 **Prohibit the holding of annual gatherings in the centre of Riga commemorating soldiers who fought in the Latvian units of the Waffen-SS, and resolutely condemn any attempts to honour individuals who served in the Waffen-SS or collaborated with the Nazis (Russian Federation);**

135.58 **End discrimination on the basis of nationality, reinstate dismissed medical workers who are citizens of Belarus and Russia, and provide compensation for the harm caused (Belarus);**

135.59 **Consider adopting and effectively implement a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislative and policy framework that guarantees equal and non-discriminatory access to all economic, social and cultural rights (Rwanda);**

135.60 **Adopt anti-discrimination laws to ensure the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights to all (Mauritius);**

135.61 **Strengthen efforts to ensure equal access to economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination, particularly in the areas of employment, health and education (Japan);**

135.62 **Continue efforts to ensure gender equality in the labour market and education, such as the Plan for Promoting Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men for the period 2024-2027 (Bulgaria);**

135.63 **Strengthen its efforts to guarantee gender equality in all spheres of life and continue addressing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes (Greece);**

135.64 **Strengthen measures to reduce the gender pay gap and promote gender equality in all walks of life (Nepal);**

135.65 **Adopt legislation to ensure that same-sex partnerships have the same legal rights, protections and responsibilities as marriage, in line with the principles of equality and non-discrimination (Sweden);**

135.66 **Amend and adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation to include diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics as prohibited grounds of discrimination (Iceland);**

135.67 **Ban conversion therapy (Iceland);**

135.68 **Establish in national legislation a definition of torture in line with article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Algeria);**

135.69 **Take the necessary measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and review the definition of torture in its national legislation with a view to bringing it into line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iraq);**

135.70 **Strengthen safeguards against torture and ill-treatment in accordance with international human rights law (Azerbaijan);**

135.71 **Thoroughly investigate all allegations of misconduct by public officials against people at the border, with particular attention to acts that may amount to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (Belarus);**

135.72 **Strengthen the knowledge and capacity of government officials to effectively implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);**

135.73 **Improve prison conditions by eliminating informal hierarchies, ensure internal security, adopt a definition of torture in line with international standards, and investigate any allegations of ill-treatment (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

135.74 **Ensure that conditions of detention are in full conformity with relevant international human rights standards, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (Colombia);**

135.75 **Ensure that conditions of detention are in conformity with relevant international human rights standards, including the Nelson Mandela Rules (Iraq);**

135.76 **Intensify efforts to improve conditions of detention, including by guaranteeing the right to life of all persons deprived of their liberty and strengthening healthcare services, including for mental health (Peru);**

135.77 **Conduct prompt and independent investigations into all cases of deaths in detention (Belarus);**

135.78 **Take measures to prevent deaths and suicides in prisons (Belarus);**

135.79 **Strengthen measures to combat violence among detainees, including by increasing prison staffing (Switzerland);**

135.80 **Ensure stronger oversight mechanisms for security services (Pakistan);**

135.81 **Guarantee the right to the assistance of a lawyer from the outset of deprivation of liberty and ensure the prompt, thorough and impartial review of pretrial detention decisions (Luxembourg);**

135.82 **Work towards reducing the use of pretrial detention and promote the use of non-custodial alternatives (Libya);**

135.83 **Implement measures to ensure full respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law in mine action, while remaining committed to the objectives of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mexico);**

135.84 **Strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption at all levels (Azerbaijan);**

135.85 **Strengthen measures aimed at protecting the most vulnerable groups, including older persons, persons with disabilities and minorities, and ensure their full enjoyment of economic and social rights (Egypt);**

135.86 **Adopt comprehensive access to information legislation in line with international standards, to strengthen transparency, accountability and public participation (Gambia);**

135.87 **Refrain from the use of unilateral coercive measures that pervasively violate human rights (Belarus);**

135.88 **Continue its efforts to safeguard the independence of the judiciary (Lebanon);**

135.89 **Take all necessary measures to safeguard the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Algeria);**

135.90 **Take all necessary measures in law and in practice to guarantee that everyone can exercise the right to freedom of expression and prevent and combat all acts of harassment and intimidation against journalists (Azerbaijan);**

135.91 **Guarantee access to reliable information through public media and prevent the harassment and intimidation of journalists (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

135.92 **Continue efforts to address harassment and intimidation against journalists and ensure their effective protection (Greece);**

135.93 **Ensure that the application of disinformation regulations respects freedom of expression, establishing independent oversight and safeguards based on the principles of legality, necessity and proportionality (Chile);**

135.94 **Put an end to repressions against citizens who protest against the destruction of memorials dedicated to the victory over Nazism or who participate in the celebration of Victory Day on 9 May (Russian Federation);**

135.95 **Develop robust regulatory mechanisms for the use of digital platforms, while ensuring respect for privacy, non-discrimination and transparency (Albania);**

135.96 **Amend its legislation to set the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, without exception (Colombia);**

135.97 **Effectively address the crime of trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, and benefit from international best practices in prevention, response and reparation (Bahrain);**

135.98 **Enhance the legal and institutional framework to combat trafficking in persons by ensuring effective investigation and prosecution, strong victim protection and adequate resources for relevant authorities and support services (Serbia);**

135.99 **Further strengthen national efforts to prevent, combat and protect trafficking in persons (Sri Lanka);**

135.100 **Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons related to vulnerable groups at increased risk, such as children and young adults in institutional care or transitioning out of such care (Sweden);**

135.101 **Further strengthen measures to effectively prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons, including by accelerating the establishment of a national referral mechanism and enhancing support services for victims (Lebanon);**

135.102 **Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons and ensure protection and support for victims and survivors (Bangladesh);**

135.103 **Redouble efforts to prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons, strengthening comprehensive assistance to victims and specialized training for judicial, prosecutorial, police and border authorities (Peru);**

135.104 **Redouble efforts to effectively prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons with a victim-centred approach (Dominican Republic);**

135.105 **Redouble efforts to prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons, including through the effective implementation of the national plan for 2025–2027 (Republic of Moldova);**

135.106 **Take appropriate legal and administrative measures to ensure the protection and support of victims of trafficking in persons, hate crimes and discrimination (Tunisia);**

135.107 **Prioritize the full development and rapid operationalization of an effective national referral mechanism to ensure systematic identification of all victims of trafficking and their timely referral to appropriate protection and support services, and swiftly adopt and implement comprehensive victim protection legislation (Belgium);**

135.108 **Establish standardized victim identification procedures within the national referral mechanism, as well as expand specialized law enforcement capacity to investigate and prosecute trafficking, including online exploitation, to protect all victims without discrimination (Canada);**

135.109 **Further strengthen measures to combat trafficking in persons by, among others, establishing a fully operational national referral mechanism (Philippines);**

135.110 **Establish a national referral mechanism to combat trafficking in persons (Costa Rica);**

135.111 **Ensure the protection of persons vulnerable to trafficking in persons, identify and assist victims, and punish offenders (Finland);**

135.112 **Undertake additional measures for strengthening labour market accessibility, equal opportunities and social protection (Tajikistan);**

135.113 **Continue efforts towards ensuring equality in the labour market and expanding social protection coverage (Nepal);**

135.114 **Work towards reducing the gender pay gap in order to ensure just and favourable conditions of work (Bahrain);**

135.115 **Review minimum unemployment benefit payments, as well as old-age and disability pensions (Cuba);**

135.116 **Give full effect to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Latvia's domestic legislation (Algeria);**

135.117 **Increase investment in public sectors such as housing, social security and healthcare (China);**

135.118 **Take effective measures to guarantee targeted support for groups who are disproportionately affected by poverty, in particular children, single-parent families, older persons and persons with disabilities (Maldives);**

135.119 **Continue efforts to ensure social, economic and cultural participation across all population groups by reducing the gap between urban and rural regions (Germany);**

135.120 **Enhance efforts to improve access to affordable and quality healthcare while strengthening healthcare workforce capacity (Malaysia);**

135.121 **Work to increase the funding allocated to improving health services and ensuring the right to access healthcare (Tunisia);**

135.122 **Consider increasing its health expenditure to ensure universal health coverage for all (Mauritius);**

135.123 **Take additional measures to improve access to healthcare, in particular for children and other vulnerable groups of patients (Slovakia);**

135.124 **Strengthen the availability and accessibility of sexual and reproductive health services, ensuring access to affordable, safe and effective contraceptives, including for adolescents (Iceland);**

135.125 **Continue efforts to improve access to quality mental health services by promoting integrated community-based care and increasing the availability of trained mental health professionals (Portugal);**

135.126 **Continue strengthening the legal safeguards relating to patients' rights, particularly in the field of psychiatric treatment and restrictive measures (Oman);**

135.127 **Guarantee universal access to primary education and address the causes of non-completion, paying particular attention to disadvantaged and marginalized children (Malta);**

135.128 **Pursue current efforts to promote access to education for all, especially for disadvantaged and marginalized children (Marshall Islands);**

135.129 **Provide equal access to quality education for all children, including children with disabilities (Georgia);**

135.130 **Continue taking measures to adopt and implement a coherent inclusive education strategy for children with disabilities, ensuring adequate resources and accessible learning environments (Greece);**

135.131 **Share its experience in promoting the right to high-quality and inclusive education, including by circulating the informative report entitled "Development of Inclusive Education at All Levels of Education" among United Nations Member States (Tajikistan);**

135.132 **Take steps to preserve equal access to education for children, particularly to use their own language in accordance with article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (India);**

135.133 **Ensure that measures to strengthen the role of the Latvian language in education are implemented in a proportionate manner and do not negatively affect equal access to education (Norway);**

135.134 **Ensure that girls and boys, in primary and secondary education, are provided with comprehensive and age-appropriate education on sexual and reproductive health issues, including contraception, with a view to preventing child pregnancy (Colombia);**

135.135 **Ensure universal access to comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school settings (Iceland);**

135.136 **Ensure the provision of education in minority languages at a minimum guaranteed level by safeguarding access to instruction, adequate resources and qualified teachers for minority-language education (Austria);**

135.137 **Enhance efforts to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change by taking measures to achieve its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement and for the implementation of its transition to a net-zero economy by 2050 (Maldives);**

135.138 **Further enhance measures to implement its national commitment to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (Sri Lanka);**

135.139 **Develop and adopt a national action plan on business and human rights that establishes robust corporate due diligence and accountability mechanisms, in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Chile);**

135.140 **Strengthen efforts to increase women's representation in public administration at all levels, particularly in senior and decision-making positions (Serbia);**

135.141 **Strengthen the representation of women at all levels of public administration, particularly in senior positions and decision-making positions (Bahrain);**

135.142 **Further promote increased representation of women at all levels, especially at decision-making levels in the public administration (Sri Lanka);**

135.143 **Intensify the effective implementation of legislation aimed at increasing women's participation in decision-making processes (Albania);**

135.144 **Take the necessary measures to enhance women's participation in public life (Libya);**

135.145 **Narrow the gender pay gap, combat gender-based violence, and improve protections for the rights of specific groups such as women and persons with disabilities (China);**

135.146 **Redouble efforts to reduce the gender pay gap and ensure equal opportunities for women in the labour market, in leadership positions and in decision-making (Egypt);**

135.147 **Strengthen its legal framework and public policies to combat discrimination against Roma women and girls, ensuring their access to education, employment and health (Mexico);**

135.148 **Adopt appropriate legislative and administrative regulations to ensure that Roma women and girls have access to education, health and employment without discrimination (Cuba);**

135.149 **Uphold international commitments on the protection of women's rights and ensure that domestic safeguards against gender-based and domestic violence remain fully aligned with the standards of the Istanbul Convention (Brazil);**

135.150 **Ensure the full and effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention, including by strengthening the legal framework to address all forms of gender-based violence (Ukraine);**

135.151 **Fully implement the Istanbul Convention and strengthen measures to prevent and combat violence against women, including femicide, by improving victim protection, ensuring effective investigation and prosecution and expanding support services (Austria);**

135.152 **Ensure the comprehensive implementation of the Istanbul Convention, including strengthened support for survivors of gender-based violence and preventive measures (Germany);**

135.153 **Focus further on strengthening gender equality policy and support mechanisms for the prevention of violence against women in accordance with the Istanbul Convention (Tajikistan);**

135.154 **Continue ongoing efforts to safeguard the rights of women from all forms of discrimination and harmful practices both by strengthening the current legal framework and by raising public awareness in this regard (Republic of Korea);**

135.155 **Strengthen efforts to combat gender-based violence by criminalizing such acts as a distinct criminal offence and enhance the reporting of acts of violence (Luxembourg);**

135.156 **Strengthen legal frameworks for the protection of women against all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic and intimate partner violence (Malta);**

135.157 **Strengthen the legal framework to protect women from all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic and intimate partner violence, by criminalizing these acts as distinct offences (Montenegro);**

135.158 **Strengthen the legal framework for protection against all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic and intimate partner violence, as a free-standing criminal offence (Iceland);**

135.159 **Strengthen the legal framework to prevent and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence and provide comprehensive protection to the victims (Indonesia);**

135.160 **Strengthen the national legal framework for the protection of women against all forms of violence (Libya);**

135.161 **Fully implement the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, including through adequately resourced survivor support services and effective monitoring mechanisms, by 2028 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.162 **Ensure the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, known as the Istanbul Convention, and strengthen awareness-raising measures in order to promote public understanding thereof (Switzerland);**

135.163 **Prevent and combat violence against women, in particular by implementing the provisions of the Istanbul Convention (France);**

135.164 **Allocate sustained and predictable multi-year funding to support the implementation of the Plan for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (2024–2029) (Canada);**

135.165 **Continue to strengthen its efforts to address gender-based violence, including through the full implementation of the Plan for Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence 2024–2029 (Ireland);**

135.166 **Establish effective mechanisms and take all necessary measures to facilitate and encourage the reporting of violence against women, ensuring that women and girls have access to information about their rights, protection**

measures and available resources and preventing the stigmatization and revictimization of those seeking help (Paraguay);

135.167 **Continue to implement measures to prevent violence and abuse against women and girls, including by enhancing access to victim-survivor support services and providing training on domestic violence and risk assessments for law enforcement (Australia);**

135.168 **Continue efforts to fully implement all provisions of the Istanbul Convention, as well as ensuring effective protection and prevention mechanisms (Slovenia);**

135.169 **Strengthen efforts to eradicate violence against women and girls, including by strengthening the legal framework, improving data collection and combating gender stereotypes (Ukraine);**

135.170 **Intensify its efforts to eradicate violence against women and girls, in particular by strengthening the relevant legal framework, as well as through public education programmes and community-based awareness initiatives aimed at combating the normalization of violence against women (Lebanon);**

135.171 **Continue strengthening efforts to prevent and combat violence against women, including by ensuring the effective implementation of the national action plan and sustainable support services for victims (Armenia);**

135.172 **Continue strengthening measures to prevent and address gender-based violence, including by improving reporting mechanisms, victim support services and access to justice for all women and girls (Kazakhstan);**

135.173 **Continue efforts to develop a comprehensive draft law on the prevention of gender-based violence and the prosecution of perpetrators (Cyprus);**

135.174 **Adopt immediate measures for the prevention and punishment of gender-based violence, guaranteeing shelters, legal assistance and support services (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

135.175 **Continue to strengthen protection and support measures for people at risk of violence against women and domestic violence (Dominican Republic);**

135.176 **Continue strengthening measures to prevent and combat gender-based violence and domestic violence (Rwanda);**

135.177 **Strengthen measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and further promote gender equality and women's empowerment (Bangladesh);**

135.178 **Strengthen the legal framework to prevent and address all forms of gender-based violence, including by recognizing domestic and intimate partner violence as criminal offences and by ensuring that victims have access to effective remedies, protection measures and support services (Belgium);**

135.179 **Strengthen the response capacity of the justice system and investigation teams through training to respond to allegations of gender-based violence effectively (Uruguay);**

135.180 **Ensure that law enforcement and judicial authorities, including police, judges and prosecutors, receive regular training on domestic violence and anti-discrimination (Estonia);**

135.181 **Align itself with the core principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovenia);**

135.182 **Consider the possibility of adopting a national plan that sets the State's priorities for protecting children and their rights (Tunisia);**

135.183 **Strengthen child protection measures by effectively preventing and addressing violence and bullying in schools, and ensure the full inclusion and integration of the children of asylum-seekers through equal access and support systems (Austria);**

135.184 **Continue strengthening child protection systems, including by promoting family-based care, preventing violence against children and ensuring inclusive and accessible education for all children (Armenia);**

135.185 **Strengthen the protection of children's rights by ensuring protection against all forms of violence, including in the digital environment (Albania);**

135.186 **Implement the recommendations of the Latvian Ombudsman regarding the reform of orphan courts (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**

135.187 **Continue prioritizing the protection of children's rights, including further strengthening and reforming the orphan court system (Slovakia);**

135.188 **Modify the organization of the system for the promotion and protection of children's rights towards a model based on homogeneous standards, especially in relation to the so-called orphan courts (Spain);**

135.189 **Gradually eliminate the placement of children, encouraging foster care in family environments, and advance inclusive strategies with the aim of reducing the disproportionate number of children of migrant origin schooled in "special" or segregated classes (Paraguay);**

135.190 **Strengthen programmes for the protection of children in street situations, prioritize family-based care over institutionalization and ensure regular quality reviews of all forms of alternative care (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

135.191 **Further advance inclusive policies for persons with disabilities, ensuring equal access to education, employment and public services across all regions (Uzbekistan);**

135.192 **Enhance efforts to ensure universal access to education and public services for persons with disabilities, in a manner that guarantees equal opportunities and non-discrimination (Jordan);**

135.193 **Further enhance measures to ensure the full inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities, including through accessible services and adequate support systems (Armenia);**

135.194 **Continue to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities, including by facilitating their access to employment (Japan);**

135.195 **Enhance accessibility for persons with disabilities, including access to media, information and public buildings (Slovakia);**

135.196 **Improve the accessibility of infrastructure for people with disabilities and increase their participation in public affairs (Spain);**

135.197 **Redouble efforts towards strengthening public infrastructures to promote inclusivity and enhance accessibility for persons with disabilities (Nepal);**

135.198 **Develop a comprehensive strategy for inclusive education to ensure that children with disabilities have access to mainstream schools, with adequate human, technical and financial resources to support their inclusion (Montenegro);**

135.199 **Strengthen the implementation of inclusive education plans to ensure the integration of children with disabilities into the education system and provide them with the necessary support (Oman);**

135.200 **Intensify efforts to deinstitutionalize school education for children with disabilities (Bulgaria);**

135.201 **Strengthen access to special education programmes for children with disabilities and special needs (Cyprus);**

135.202 **Ensure the protection of human rights in the process of involuntary medical treatment of persons with mental and intellectual disabilities and improve their access to employment and the level of social security benefits (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

135.203 **Undertake legislative and judicial reforms aimed at promoting and protecting the rights of minorities (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

135.204 **Take steps to promote the economic, social and cultural rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, including their rights to practise their religious and cultural identity (India);**

135.205 **Further strengthen policies promoting social cohesion and the inclusion of national minorities, including by ensuring effective access to education, public services and participation in public life without discrimination (Kazakhstan);**

135.206 **Consider taking measures to enhance the social integration of ethnic minorities (Republic of Korea);**

135.207 **Fully guarantee the rights of ethnic minorities to use their own languages (China);**

135.208 **Strengthen inclusive public communication and social cohesion measures, including through accessible public service broadcasting, to ensure effective engagement with all linguistic communities (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.209 **Ensure that all schoolchildren belonging to minority groups fully enjoy equal access to the learning of minority languages at all levels of education (Indonesia);**

135.210 **Ensure that language policies and practices, particularly in education, are implemented in a manner that promotes inclusion and does not result in discrimination against linguistic minorities (Malaysia);**

135.211 **Revise the State Language Law, which discriminates against linguistic minorities and negatively affects their access to the labour market and their interaction with public authorities (Russian Federation);**

135.212 **Enhance human rights protection and social inclusion of Roma communities by implementing the Roma strategic framework 2024–2027 plan, including access to quality education and employment (Australia);**

135.213 **Take measures to ensure the inclusion and retention of Roma children and adolescents in formal education (Chile);**

135.214 **Prioritize the implementation of inclusive programmes and measures aimed at reducing the high number of Roma children in special schools and in special classes within mainstream schools (Costa Rica);**

135.215 **Effectively address prejudice, bias, intolerance and systemic discrimination against Roma people (China);**

135.216 **Ensure the full realization of the rights of residents, non-citizen residents and linguistic minorities, and promote the integration of these groups into Latvian society without any form of discrimination (Russian Federation);**

135.217 **Release 71-year-old historian Alexander Gaponenko, who was subjected to criminal prosecution for publicly raising the issue of discrimination against the Russian-speaking population in Latvia (Russian Federation);**

135.218 **Remove remaining legal and policy barriers to the equal treatment of LGBT+ people, including by extending equal family and inheritance rights and ensuring protection from discrimination (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.219 **Address remaining legal gaps to guarantee equal rights for same-sex couples (Germany);**

135.220 **Legalize same-sex marriage (Iceland);**

135.221 **Expand the partnership framework towards full legal recognition of same-sex couples (Canada);**

135.222 **Refrain from adopting discriminatory laws against LGBTQIA+ persons that could restrict their rights to freedom of expression and association (Luxembourg);**

135.223 **Include sexual orientation and gender identity among hate motives in the criminal law (Ireland);**

135.224 **Strengthen the rights of LGBT+ people and resources available to combat hate speech against them (France);**

135.225 **Ensure full and equal recognition and protection of LGBT+ persons under national law, and strengthen measures to prevent and address hate crimes and discrimination against LGBT+ persons (Norway);**

135.226 **Intensify efforts to address hate crimes, including due to a person's sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression, through victim support mechanisms (Australia);**

135.227 **Further enhance protection from hate crimes, including for LGBTIQ+ persons, through legislative reforms (Malta);**

135.228 **Continue efforts to promote the socioeconomic integration of migrants, refugees and persons belonging to minorities, while ensuring equal access to education, employment, healthcare and public services (Türkiye);**

135.229 **Take measures for a safe, respectful, non-discriminatory and enabling work environment for migrant workers and students (India);**

135.230 **Continue to take the necessary legislative and policy measures to prevent hate speech, hate-motivated crime and racial attacks against migrant workers and students (India);**

135.231 **Take effective measures to ensure full respect for the rights of migrants, including by preventing any form of ill-treatment or discrimination (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

135.232 **Enhance human rights education and training for the police, border authorities, prosecutors and judges, including on the rights of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers and the principle of non-refoulement (Philippines);**

135.233 **Ensure effective access to asylum procedures and respect for the principle of non-refoulement (Mexico);**

135.234 **Guarantee the asylum procedure at borders, respecting the principle of non-refoulement and facilitating the naturalization of stateless persons and non-citizens, especially minors born in the territory (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

135.235 **Take further steps to ensure broader access to legal procedures for asylum-seekers and refugees (Republic of Korea);**

135.236 **Ensure that applicants for international protection have effective access to asylum procedures and protection from refoulement (Uruguay);**

135.237 **Implement alternatives to detention for asylum-seekers, ensuring that children are never detained for immigration-related reasons and ensuring that all persons seeking international protection are protected from refoulement and have effective access to asylum procedures (Colombia);**

135.238 **Ensure that border management and asylum procedures fully respect international human rights and refugee law, guaranteeing individual risk assessments, unhindered access to humanitarian assistance and due process guarantees for all persons seeking international protection (Brazil);**

135.239 **Put an end to the unlawful practice of "pushbacks" at the border and ensure access to asylum procedures (Belarus);**

135.240 **Make further efforts to ensure that border management fully respects the rights of asylum-seekers and guarantees access to asylum procedures (Pakistan);**

135.241 **Decriminalize the provision of humanitarian assistance at the border to persons seeking asylum (Belarus);**

135.242 **Continue efforts to reduce statelessness and facilitate access to citizenship for non-citizens (China);**

135.243 **Continue to strengthen measures to prevent and reduce statelessness (Costa Rica).**

136. **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 Latvia was headed by State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Mr. Andžejs VIĻUMSONS and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Renārs Danelsons – Acting Director of the International Organisations and Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Agnese Gaile – Deputy Director of the Social Policy Planning and Development Department, Ministry of Welfare;
- Ms. Iveta Gedus – Director of the Department of Civil Law, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Ilze Gelnere – Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations in Geneva;
- Ms. Kristīna Grunte – Acting Head Prosecutor of the State Security Defense Department, Prosecutor General's Office;
- Mr. Svens Henkuzens – Deputy State Secretary for Health Policy, Ministry of Health;
- Ms. Kristiāna Kalniņa – Deputy Director for General Affairs, Criminal Law Department, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Evita Kreitus – Second Secretary, Human Rights Division, International Organisations and Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Ivars Pundurs – Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations in Geneva;
- Ms. Sigita Rozentāle – Deputy Director of the Department of Social Services and Disability Policy, Ministry of Welfare;
- Ms. Anda Smiltēna – Deputy State Secretary on Law Policy of the Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Gatis Švika – Director of the Sectoral Policy Department, Ministry of the Interior;
- Ms. Laura Treimane – Director of the Policy Coordination Department, Ministry of Education and Science;
- Ms. Zane Vāgnere – Deputy State Secretary for International Affairs, Integration and Media Policy, Ministry of Culture;
- Ms. Elīna Luīze Vītola – Representative of Latvia before International Human Rights Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.