**Mid-term report of Estonia**

**on the implementation of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations**

**December 2018**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommendation** | **Acceptance of recommendation A accepted*****N rejected/noted*** | **Status of implementation**  |
| A-122.1 Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discriminationagainst Women (Turkey);  | A /accepted/  | In the process of implementation. Relevant authorities analyse preparation of necessary legislative proposals to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.  |
| A-122.2 Step up its efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Relevant authorities analyse preparation of necessary legislative proposals to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.  |
| A-122.3 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.    |
| A-122.4 Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Oman);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.   |
| A-122.5 Take necessary steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Slovakia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.  |
| A-122.6 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.   |
| A-122.7 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Portugal);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.  In the process of implementation. Relevant authorities analyse preparation of necessary legislative proposals to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.   |
| A-122.8 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Ghana);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.  In the process of implementation. Relevant authorities analyse preparation of necessary legislative proposals to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.  In the process of implementation. Process to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education has been initiated in 2015 but has not been finalized due to some legal complexities.  |
| A-122.9 Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Uzbekistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Process to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education has been initiated in 2015 but has not been finalized due to some legal complexities.  |
| A - 122.10 Consider ratifying the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Republic of Korea);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Process to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education has been initiated in 2015 but has not been finalized due to some legal complexities.   |
| A - 122.11 Accept and ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Afghanistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Process to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education has been initiated in 2015 but has not been finalized due to some legal complexities.  |
| A - 122.12 Prioritize the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);  | A  | Implemented. Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018. In the process of implementation. Relevant authorities analyse preparation of necessary legislative proposals to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.   |
| A - 122.13 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Montenegro);  | A  | Implemented. Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018.  |
| A -122.14 Complete the ratification process of the Council of Europe’s “Istanbul Convention” (Turkey);  | A  | Implemented. Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018. |
| A - 122.15 Establish a national human rights institution (Iraq) (Algeria);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.16 Establish a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles (Hungary);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles. |
| A - 122.17 Establish a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Australia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.18 Establish a national institution for protection of human rights in conformity with the Paris Principles (Burundi);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.19 Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Djibouti);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.20 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Pakistan) (Poland) (Azerbaijan);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.21 Establish a national institution for the protection of human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (Bulgaria) (Portugal);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.22 Establish or designate a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles (Namibia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.23 Establish a national human rights institution (Oman);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.24 Continue consideration of the establishment of a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles (Georgia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.25 Consider establishing a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.26 Continue its efforts to establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles and with the full participation of civil society (Indonesia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.27 Continue efforts to create a national human rights institution (Libya);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.28 Establish as soon as possible a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Egypt);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.29 Expedite establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles (Latvia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.30 Expedite the process of establishing an independent and effective national human rights institution with a broad human rights mandate, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ireland);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.31 Take concrete steps towards the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Malaysia);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.32 Ensure that the Ombudsman enjoys full autonomy in accordance with the Paris Principle (Nicaragua);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.33 Spare no efforts for the necessary establishment of a national human rights institution (Dominican Republic);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.34 Accelerate the creation of a completely independent and sufficiently funded body with the capacity to defend human rights in Estonia, such as a national human rights institution (Costa Rica);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.  |
| A - 122.35 Further raise public awareness about the content of the new legislation and profile of the Ombudsman, in cooperation with NGOs, and in the education system raise awareness of children’s rights, especially in cases of abuse and children’s participation in civil and criminal proceedings (Lithuania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. From 2011, the Chancellor of Justice performs the functions of protection of the rights of children and promotion according to Article 4 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (i.e. the role of Ombudsman for Children). Work of awareness-raising of the activities of the Chancellor of Justice as Ombudsman for Children is consistent. Awareness-raising evets and campaigns are organized in schools, in media and social media. There is a special telephone line for children where they can raise their concerns and/or ask help. There are special guidelines for specialists working with children in criminal proceedings.  |
| A - 122.36 Provide the Gender Equality Commissioner with sufficient resources to enable the institution to fulfil its mandate effectively and independently (Namibia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Funding allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner from the state budget will increase from 218 394 EUR (including 13 394 EUR transferred from 2017) to 460 000 in 2019. See also point 122.47  |
| A - 122.37 Ensure the functioning of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner by providing sufficient resources for this institution (France);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Funding allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner from the state budget will increase from 218 394 EUR (including 13 394 EUR transferred from 2017) to 460 000 in 2019. See also point 122.47  |
| A - 122.38 Create an independent mechanism in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (France);  | A  | Implemented. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the tasks of an independent mechanism to promote, protect and monitor implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in accordance with Article 33(2) of the Convention.  |
| A - 122.39 Continue conducting policy programmes to support the effective implementation of the new Child Protection Act, in particular focusing on prevention and early intervention in cases of child abuse and domestic violence (Finland);  | A  | In the process of implementation. New Child Protection Act from 2016 explicitly prohibits all kinds of abuse and violence against a child, including corporal punishment with special emphasis on prevention. There is a special evidence based programme for parents of children 2-8 years (Incredible Years) with wide coverage all over the country and financed by the State.  In all cases of domestic violence where children are involved police informs local government authorities to guarantee assistance to every child who needs protection. Child protection workers participate annually in-service trainings and counselling to recognize and help ill-treated children.  From 2017 special children house complex services are provided under Barnahus model for sexually ill-treated children in cooperation of specialists of different fields.  |
| A - 122.40 Continue reinforcing its efforts to protect children’s rights (Georgia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. From 01.01.2016 according to the Citizenship Act, Estonian citizenship is guaranteed for all children born in Estonia to stateless parents. See also points 122.35 and 122.39  |
| A - 122.41 Continue to adopt measures in order to ensure the protection of the rights of the child (Romania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. See points 122.35,122.39, 122.40  |
| A - 122.42 Continue to implement Child Protection Act (Pakistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. See points 122.35 and 122.39  |
| A - 122.43 Adopt and fully implement the Welfare and Development Plan 2016-2023, in accordance with the commitment set out in paragraph 143 of its national report (Panama);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Welfare Development Plan 2016–2023 was adopted by the Government in 2016 and currently being implemented.  |
| A - 122.44 Engage civil society in the follow-up implementation process of the universal periodic review recommendations (Poland);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Civil society was engaged in drafting of the UPR in 2014 and the same process is continued for drafting the UPR in 2020.  |
| A - 122.45 Improve the submission of reports to the treaty bodies and strengthen its capacity-building in this sphere (China);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Reporting process to treaty bodies is under constant review to make it more efficient and comprehensive.  |
| A - 122.46 Continue to adopt measures in order to ensure the creation of a comprehensive antidiscrimination framework (Romania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Gender Equality Act accompanied with specific provisions of laws regulating concrete fields of life constitute a legal framework for protection against discrimination. Legislation is constantly reviewed. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life. See also point 122.50  |
| A -122.47 Allocate necessary resources to strengthen gender equality (Bahrain);  | A  | In the process of implementation. In 2016-2018, there have been successful negotiations in increasing the resources for gender equality from state budget as well as foreign funding through project proposals. One of the outcomes in 2018 is achieving 500 000 EUR as a base funding yearly from state budget from 2019 on. See also points 122.36; 122.37  |
| A - 122.48 Operationalize/enforce legal mechanisms on ensuring gender equality (Tajikistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative changes currently prepared to amend the Gender Equality Act by providing the Labour Inspectorate with a right to exercise state supervision over the implementation of the requirement of equal pay in the public sector. It is expected to become into force from 1st of July 2020. See also point 122.46  |
| A - 122.49 Continue efforts made towards the promotion of a culture of gender equality in society through awarenessraising campaigns (Morocco);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Equal Pay Day is celebrated annually with awareness raising activities, including public debates, taking place all over the country. In 2017 an awareness raising campaign called „Grow together“ was launched to encourage fathers to spend more time with their children and take up parental leave. See also points 122.52, 122.73.  |
| A - 122.50 Address the gender pay gap for work of equal value (Egypt);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative changes currently prepared to amend the Gender Equality Act by providing the Labour Inspectorate with a right to exercise state supervision over the implementation of the requirement of equal pay in the public sector. It is expected that amendment become into force from 1st of July 2020. See also points 122.46; 122.49; 122.52  |
| A - 122.51 Take further measures aimed at achieving equal remuneration for men and women for the same work (Oman);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative changes currently prepared to amend the Gender Equality Act by providing the Labour Inspectorate with a right to exercise state supervision over the implementation of the requirement of equal pay in the public sector. It is expected that amendments become into force from 1st of July 2020. See also points 122.49; 122.52  |
| A - 122.52 Provide more opportunities to women in the labour market (Oman);  | A  | In the process of implementation. In 2017 an awareness raising campaign called „Grow together“ was launched. The goal of the campaign was to encourage fathers to spend more time with their children and take up parental leave. Several NGOs (BPW-Estonia http://www.bpw-estonia.ee/ ENUT www.enut.ee etc) have offered trainings and organised events to promote womens’ entrepreneurship (2017-2018). Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications started in 2018 a campaign “ICT is everywhere” directed primarily at girls and young women to inspire them to study IT-related fields https://startit.ee/  |
| A - 122.53 Take measures, while fully respecting freedom of expression, to curtail stereotyping of minorities, particularly the Muslim community in the society (Iran (Islamic Republic of));  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan.  |
| A - 122.54 Adopt measures to restrict the use of stereotypes towards minorities in the media and to promote the use of minority languages in the mass media and the press (Cuba);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Radio4 broadcasts diverse programming in Russian, but also broadcasts regularly in Polish, Georgian, Ukrainian, Armenian, Belarusian, Azerbaijani, Chuvash, and Hebrew. In 2015, a new television channel ETV+ (in Russian) was launched by the Estonian Public Broadcasting Company. See also point 122.53 The Estonian Public Broadcasting Company’s web page with news is available in Russian and English. There main web news portals like rus.delfi.ee, postimees.ee are available also in Russian.  |
| A - 122.55 Take necessary measures against discrimination based on ethnic and religious origin and language in employment and prosecute such cases (Iran (Islamic Republic of));  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.56 Condemn discrimination based on ethnic origin and language in employment and take active measures to prosecute such cases (Slovenia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.57 Step up efforts to tackle the socioeconomic gap and discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin, race or language, especially with regard to education and employment (Republic of Korea);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.58 Prosecute cases of discrimination based on ethnic origin and language in employment (Iceland);  | A  | In the process of implementation. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.59 Promote equal opportunities for ethnic and national minorities, in particular in the area of education, vocational training and employment (Uzbekistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. The Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund provides possibilities for Estonian language learning. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.60 Combat discrimination on account of nationality, ethnic or religious affiliation, and sexual orientation or gender identity (United States of America);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Constitution, Equal Treatment Act and other legislation ensure persons’ protection against discrimination in Estonia. See also 122.46. Registered Partnership Act was adopted in 2014 and it entered into force on 01.01.2016. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.  |
| A - 122.61 Continue efforts on the legislative front to combat incitement to hatred, violence and racial discrimination on the grounds of nationality, ethnicity, language, colour, religion or any other grounds, and address different existing challenges and concerns in this regard (Libya);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.62 Continue legislative efforts to combat public incitement to racial discrimination and particularly against persons speaking other languages (Mexico);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.63 Deepen awareness measures against racial discrimination and xenophobia, particularly by criminalizing behaviors such as incitement to hatred (Argentina);   | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.64 Strengthen laws prohibiting religious and racial discrimination and criminalizing hate speech and incitement to religious and racial hatred (United Arab Emirates);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.65 Take concrete measures to curb incitement to hatred, violence and discrimination through the enactment of legislation, as well as policies and programmes that promote tolerance and intercultural, interracial and interreligious understanding (Malaysia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code. In the field of education, according to the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Science, all school textbooks should be based on basic human values, taking into account principle of multiculturalism and avoiding all kind of stereotypes based on gender, ethnicity, cultural, religion or racial prejudices.  |
| A - 122.66 Develop effective measures to eradicate racism and xenophobia, including hate speech (Botswana);   | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.67 Prevent and combat xenophobic statements and acts targeting migrants, asylum seekers and refugees (Azerbaijan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.68 Strengthen the Penal Code as an effective instrument in combating hate speech (Norway);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.69 Classify hate speech with racist content and incitement to hatred as crimes punishable under criminal law (Russian Federation);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.70 Enact laws and take appropriate measures in order to criminalize hate speech (Oman);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.71 Pursue “hate speech” offences more vigorously by not only condemning violations but also investigating, prosecuting and punishing violators in a consistent manner (Germany);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.72 Amend the Criminal Code so that it explicitly provides sanctions against organizations propagating racist ideas as well as hate speech (Belgium);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.73 Implement their “Diversity Enriches” programme to promote inclusion, tolerance and integration of people from different backgrounds, nationalities, religions, genders and sexual orientations (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);   | A  | Implemented. Follow-up process continues. The “Diversity Enriches” programme has been implemented (20102015). One of the main outcomes of the programme has been the establishment of the Estonian Diversity Charter in 2012. The Estonian Diversity Charter is a voluntary agreement with which companies, NGOs, or public sector organisations could join to confirm that they respect human diversity and value the principle of equal treatment among their employees, partners, as well as clients. To accompany the Diversity Charter, the Diverse Workplace Label was launched in 2018, which is accredited to organisations that are actively promoting diversity.  |
| A - 122.74 Launch a debate on issues concerning ethnic and cultural diversity aiming at promoting tolerance towards divergent cultural, religious and sexual orientations within the Estonian society (Germany);  | A  | In the process of implementation. In 2017 the proposed amendments to the Equal Treatment Act put forward by the Ministry of Social Affairs initiated a public debate about the clash of religious freedom and the right to equal treatment and non-discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation.   |
| A - 122.75 Take further steps to promote tolerance, cultural diversity and integration in the country and internationally (Armenia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan.  |
| A - 122.76 Establish measures to promote tolerance of ethnic and religious diversity in society (United States of America);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan.  |
| A - 122.77 Develop and implement public awareness campaigns and education programmes to promote diversity and inclusion, while combating racism and xenophobia (Canada);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan. See also points122.49, 122.53, 122.65.  |
| A - 122.78 Reform its education and training programmes, including those for the media and security officials, so that these programmes contribute more to the promotion of tolerance among nationalities and ethnic and religious groups (Belgium);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Curricula of the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences providing education to police, prison, rescue services, tax and customs officers include human rights. Special emphasis to human rights education is given in the education of police and prison officers. All target groups receive continuous in-service training  |
| A - 122.79 Revise its legislation and legal practice to ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity as motivation for criminal offence are treated as aggravating circumstances (Finland); | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.80 Develop and adopt legislation that would recognize explicitly hatred on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity as a motive and make it an aggravated circumstance in a crime (Bulgaria);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.81 Develop and adopt legislation that would explicitly recognize hatred on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity as a motive and make it an aggravated circumstance in a crime (Slovenia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code.  |
| A - 122.82 Thoroughly investigate and prosecute all acts of violence against ethnic and racial minorities and vulnerable groups, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and enact legislation on hate crimes based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Canada);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code. The Penal Code contains articles criminalizing incitement of hatred (§ 151) and violation of equality (§ 152). If elements of crime are reported, criminal investigation is initiated.     |
| A - 122.83 Amend the Penal Code to include a definition of torture in conformity with the Convention against Torture and conduct independent and prompt investigation of all claims of torture and ill-treatment (Egypt);  | A  | Implemented. Necessary amendments in the Penal Code were introduced and entered into force on 01.01.2015  |
| A - 122.84 Investigate all allegations of torture, ill-treatment and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and bring those responsible to justice (Azerbaijan);  | A  | Implemented. Necessary amendments in the Penal Code were introduced and entered into force on 01.01.2015. If elements of crime are determined, investigation of a crime is compulsory.  |
| A - 122.85 Strengthen the Criminal Code and structures established to fight against violence and discrimination against women, in particular the Office of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner (Belgium);  | A  | Implemented partly, process of implementation ongoing. Amendments in the Penal Code were incorporated in 2017 and there have been cases of conviction. In addition to courts, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination. Funding allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner from the state budget will increase from 218 394 EUR (including 13 394 EUR transferred from 2017) to 460 000 in 2019.  |
| A - 122.86 Combat more vigorously the phenomenon of domestic violence, in particular violence against children, including by the introduction of a coherent and clear legislative framework prohibiting corporal punishment (Hungary);  | A  | Implemented partly, process of implementation ongoing. New Child Protection Act from 2016 explicitly prohibits all kinds of abuse and violence against a child, including corporal punishment with special emphasis on prevention. Development plan for years 2015-2020 to prevent violence is implemented. Awareness raising campaigns about domestic violence and gender based violence are organized. See also points 122.87; 122.88  |
| A - 122.87 Continue its good efforts to address violence against women and domestic violence, in particular through the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Latvia);  | A  | Implemented. Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018. Amendments in the Penal Code were incorporated in 2017 and there have been cases of conviction. Relevant authorities (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Affairs) have introduced a new model of cooperation to determine, assist and support victims of violence. In emergency cases of domestic violence police and social worker in cooperation review the incidents and make subsequent controls in order to notice the risks of violence and prevents their escalation.  |
| A - 122.88 Continue to prioritize efforts to prevent and tackle violence against women, and work with relevant stakeholders to strengthen the national victim support system (Singapore);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Prevention of violence against women and support for victims is highly prioritized in Estonia. National Victim Support System is well organized and available everywhere in Estonia, for all victims, free of charge. Social Insurance Board operating the national victim support has also close connection and continuous cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including women’s NGOs.  |
| A - 122.89 Undertake the necessary legislative measures to criminalize domestic violence (Panama);  | A  | Implemented. Domestic violence constitutes a crime and perpetrators face punishment.  |
| A - 122.90 Strengthen prevention efforts, including through legislative measures aimed against domestic violence and ensure that all professionals working with victims of domestic violence receive regular and comprehensive training (Czech Republic);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Prevention of violence against women and support for victims is highly prioritized in Estonia. National Victim Support System is well organized and available everywhere in Estonia, for all victims, free of charge. Social Insurance Board operating the national victim support has also close connection and continuous cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including women’s NGOs. Social Insurance Board provides annual training for specialists working with victims of violence against women. 8-day training course includes all the relevant topics from counselling skills up to supporting victims in court proceedings.    |
| A - 122.91 Increase efforts to prevent and sanction gender violence and sexual abuse (Costa Rica);  | A  | Implemented partly, process of implementation ongoing. Amendments in the Penal Code were incorporated in 2017 and there have been cases of conviction. For prevention, several campaigns have been organized over the years to inform public about the effects of violence, on services available, etc. Now, a campaign for victims of sexual violence is taking place, see more information at http://www.palunabi.ee/seksuaalvagivald (in Estonian and Russian).  |
| A - 122.92 Reinforce mechanisms to detect and investigate cases of domestic violence, train law enforcement officials to deal with such cases and fully implement the provisions of the National Plan for Preventing Violence for the period 2015–2020 (Republic of Moldova);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Ministry of Social Affairs is implementing the National Plan for Preventing Violence 2015-2020 fully. Relevant authorities (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Affairs) have introduced a new model of cooperation to determine, assist and support victims of violence. In emergency cases of domestic violence police and social worker in cooperation review the incidents and make subsequent controls in order to notice the risks of violence and prevents their escalation.  |
| A - 122.93 Adequate financing of the new gender equality institution, promotion of its role through public awareness campaigns, and improvement in data collection on gender equality, domestic violence and violence against women and children (Lithuania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Funding allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner from the state budget will increase from 218 394 EUR (including 13 394 EUR transferred from 2017) to 460 000 in 2019. In 2018 a 3-year project on gender pay gap is launched. One of the purposes of the project is by linking different existing data sources and complementing them with additional data to diminish the unexplainable part of gender pay gap and improve and ease data collection and reporting on gender pay gap.  |
| A - 122.94 Further promote large-scale awareness raising campaigns to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Italy);  | A  | In the process of implementation. For prevention, several campaigns have been organized over the years to inform public about the effects of violence, on services available, etc. Now, a campaign for victims of sexual violence is taking place, see more information at http://www.palunabi.ee/seksuaalvagivald (in Estonian and Russian only). In 2019-2020 several new campaigns on domestic violence and sexual exploitation will be planned and launched.  |
| A - 122.95 Continue public information campaigns to combat domestic violence, and above all violence against women (Mexico);  | A  | In the process of implementation. For prevention, several campaigns have been organized over the years to inform public about the effects of violence, on services available, etc. Now, a campaign for victims of sexual violence is taking place, see more information at http://www.palunabi.ee/seksuaalvagivald (in Estonian and Russian only). In 2019-2020 several new campaigns on domestic violence and sexual exploitation will be planned and launched.  |
| A - 122.96 Take necessary measures to prevent possible cases of corporal punishment against children in the home and in all other settings (Mexico);  | A  | In the process of implementation. New Child Protection Act from 2016 explicitly prohibits all kinds of abuse and violence against a child, including corporal punishment with special emphasis on prevention.   |
| A - 122.97 Continue with efforts to prevent violence against children at schools and other institutions where children are present, to ensure that children are aware of their right to be protected from all forms of violence and of the assistance provided if they are victims of violence (Croatia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. From 2011 the Chancellor of Justice performs the functions of protection of the rights of children and promotion according to Article 4 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (i.e. the role of Ombudsman for Children). Work of awareness raising of the activities of the Chancellor of Justice as Ombudsman for Children is consistent. Awarenessraising evets and campaigns are organized in schools, in media and social media.Estonia implements different antibullying programs in kindergartens and schools, from which Finnish evidence-based KiVa program is currently implemented in more than 70 schools and Danish methodology "Free of bulling!" in 72 kindergartens and 143 schools. There is a special telephone line for children where they can raise their concerns and/or ask help. There are special guidelines for specialists working with children in criminal proceedings. See also point 122.86 Special network of government officials and representatives of NGOs has been created to tackle domestic and gender based violence.  |
| A - 122.98 Reinforce measures to combat human trafficking (Azerbaijan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. Ministry of Social Affairs is organizing and financing the victim support, for prevention efforts, awareness rising activities are organized in schools.  |
| A - 122.99 Fight against trafficking in human beings (Djibouti);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. Ministry of Social Affairs is organizing and financing the victim support, for prevention efforts, awareness rising activities are organized in schools.  |
| A - 122.100 Take further measures to prevent human trafficking, strengthen the protection of victims and provide them with redress (Serbia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. Ministry of Social Affairs is organizing and financing the victim support, for prevention efforts, awareness rising activities are organized in schools. National victim support system provides specialized services for victims of THB; Victim Support Act enables victims to get services until the need ceases to exist.  |
| A - 122.101 Take effective measures to prevent and investigate cases of human trafficking for forced prostitution and forced labor (Russian Federation);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. Estonia provides services not only for victims of forced prostitution, but for all the persons prostituted in Estonia. National victim support system provides specialized services for all the victims of THB; Victim Support Act enables victims to get services until the need ceases to exist. Estonia ratified on 24.11.2016 Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 and it has entered into force on 24.11.2017  |
| A - 122.102 Increase efforts to investigate, prosecute and convict trafficking offenders under article 133 of the Penal Code (United States of America);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. If elements of crime under § 133 (trafficking in human beings) of the Penal Code are reported, criminal investigation is initiated.   |
| A - 122.103 Take further measures to prevent trafficking in persons in investigating and prosecuting offenders and provide effective support and redress to victims, as well as step up efforts to raise awareness about human trafficking (United Arab Emirates);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the priority areas for law-enforcement authorities. Ministry of Social Affairs is organizing and financing the victim support, for prevention efforts, awareness rising activities are organized in schools. National victim support system provides specialized services for victims of THB; Victim Support Act enables victims to get services until the need ceases to exist. Also, campaigns are organized for awareness rising purposes (last one took place in 2017, next one will be launched in 2019-2020).  |
| A - 122.104 Make efforts taken in the field of measures to improve access to justice (Iraq);  | A  | In the process of implementation. There exist the legal-aid system with necessary resources allocated from the state budget.  |
| A - 122.105 Ensure that all persons detained by the police are fully informed of their fundamental rights from the very outset of their deprivation of liberty (Islamic Republic of Iran);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Constitutional right and strictly observed in practice. § 21 of the Constitution Everyone who has been deprived of his or her liberty must be informed promptly, in a language and manner which he or she understands, of the reason for the deprivation of liberty and of his or her rights, and be given an opportunity to notify those closest to him or her.  |
| A - 122.106 Continue the efforts to reduce overcrowding and take action to improve the general conditions in prisons and detention centres (Sweden);  | A  | In the process of implementation. New detention centre, with capacity for 120 migrants, will be opened at the end on 2018. Since 2011, the resources of the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund means have been used to improve services at the detention centre (e.g. healthcare services, counselling, free- time activities). See point 122.107  |
| A - 122.107 Continue working to improve detention conditions and to address the problem of overcrowding in prisons (Georgia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The number of prisoners is declining. 3 new prisons in Tartu, Ida-Virumaa and Tallinn have been constructed in the period of 2002-2018 thus considerably improving the prison conditions. New Tallinn Prison will be opened in the end of 2018. New detention centre, with capacity for 120 migrants, will be opened at the end on 2018.  |
| A - 122.108 Redouble its efforts to develop the Welfare Development Plan 2016-2023, with particular emphasis on the protection and promotion of the rights of older persons (Singapore);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Equal Treatment Act ensures protection against discrimination, including on the basis of age and disability. An Older People Policy Committee has been active within the Ministry of Social Affairs as of 1997. The aim of the committee is to mediate between the state and the organisations protecting the rights of older people, as well as to counsel policymakers in issues regarding the older people. Committee is dedicated to raise awareness in the society about the situation of the older persons and to promote the rights of older persons. See also point 122.116.  |
| A - 122.109 Promote access to education, especially for minorities (Dominican Republic);  | A  | In the process of implementation. There is solid legal basis (Constitution § 37 and specific laws) guaranteeing to everyone equal access to education. Education for school-age children is compulsory until a student acquires basic education or attains the age of 17 years, and is free of charge in general schools established by the national government and by local authorities.  |
| A - 122.110 Continue to work on programmes to motivate and promote education for young people (Nicaragua);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Education is compulsory until a student acquires basic education or attains the age of 17 years. Dropout level from basic schools and upper secondary schools has stabilized in recent years (0,7% in basic schools). To implement principles of inclusive education and decrease dropouts, specific system of counselling and “Education and Carrier Counselling Programme” for years 2017-2020 has been introduced.  |
| A - 122.111 Combat school dropouts and increase the number of students who finish secondary education (Bahrain);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Education is compulsory until a student acquires basic education or attains the age of 17 years. Dropout level from basic schools and upper secondary schools has stabilized in recent years (0,7% in basic schools). To implement principles of inclusive education and decrease dropouts, specific system of counselling and “Education and Carrier Counselling Programme” for years 2017-2020 has been introduced. |
| A - 122.112 Adopt measures targeted to remedy school dropouts (Djibouti);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Education is compulsory until a student acquires basic education or attains the age of 17 years. Dropout level from basic schools and upper secondary schools has stabilized in recent years (0,7% in basic schools). To implement principles of inclusive education and decrease dropouts, specific system of counselling and “Education and Carrier Counselling Programme” for years 2017-2020 has been introduced. The dropout rate from upper secondary vocational education has decreased for three consecutive years due to the increasingly targeted activity of educational institutions.  |
| A - 122.113 Introduce programmes and projects within the concept of human rights education on the prevention of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity (Armenia);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Human rights and fundamental democratic values form an integral part of the education system and are included in the Program of General Education 2016-2019. Human rights and humanitarian law are included in the curriculum of the Estonian National Defence College. Training of the members of the Estonian Defence Forces who participate in the missions abroad, as well as relevant bilateral or multilateral agreements regulating foreign missions, include issues of human rights and humanitarian law.  |
| A - 122.114 Promote the realization of the right of everyone to take part in cultural life, including by ensuring the facilitation of access to cultural goods, particularly for disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups (Albania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan. See also points 122.54, 122.73, 122.116.  |
| A - 122.115 Increase the number of measures for persons with disabilities to obtain appropriate jobs (Bahrain);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The work ability reform, which created a new performance of the work ability support system, started in Estonia in 2016. The aim of the reform is to change attitudes towards people with reduced work ability and to help them find and keep a job and engage them more actively in the society.  |
| A - 122.116 Prepare, in consultation with persons with disabilities, a national strategy for the promotion and protection of rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and strengthen measures protecting persons with disabilities against discrimination, including through strengthening the Equal Treatment Act in this regard (Czech Republic);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Welfare Development Plan 2016–2023 (http://www.sm.ee/sites/default/files/contenteditors/eesmargid\_ja\_tegevused/welfare\_development\_plan\_20162023.pdf) focuses on the strategic objectives of labour market, social protection, gender equality, and equal treatment policies. It provides a thorough overview of the challenges, main objectives and courses of action, including those concerning persons with disabilities. Representatives of organisations of people with disabilities were closely involved in preparing the Development Plan. The biggest umbrella organisation, the Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, participates in the work of the Steering Committee of the Development Plan. The Ministry of Social Affairs has initiated amendments to the Equal Treatment Act that would expand protection against discrimination in all areas of life on all grounds, including age and disability, and broaden the scope of related competencies of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner. Based on Article 33(2) of the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Chancellor of Justice will perform the functions of promoting the implementation, protection and monitoring of the Convention as from 01.01.2019.  |
| A - 122.117 Continue efforts in combating discrimination against persons belonging to a Russian-speaking minority (France);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Integration in Estonian society has been one of state's priorities with the goal of an integrated and socially cohesive society where people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds actively participate in society and share democratic values. The objective of the integration policy is to promote programs to ensure cohesive and tolerant society where everyone can feel comfortable and safe – to work, study, develop their culture, be a full member of the society. Currently the Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion of Estonia “Integrating Estonia 2020” is being implemented. See also points122.59, 122.120, 122.122,122.124, 122.125.  |
| A - 122.118 Grant access to quality education for Roma children in mainstream schools (Portugal);  | A  | In the process of implementation. There is solid legal basis (Constitution § 37 and specific laws) guaranteeing to everyone equal access to education. Education for school-age children is compulsory until a student acquires basic education or attains the age of 17 years, and is free of charge in general schools established by the national government and by local authorities. Roma children are fully integrated in the school system on equal bases with other children and follow the same curricula.  |
| A - 122.119 Assess the overall situation of the Roma community and adopt a comprehensive strategy to tackle discrimination and other problems faced by that community (Albania);  | A  | In the process of implementation. In 2016 Council of integration of Roma was initiated by the Ministry of Culture, which analyse questions of integration of Roma and make proposals to relevant government offices and organizations. In 2017 Ministry of Culture launched a Project for developing a national network for promoting integration of Roma.  |
| A - 122.120 Intensify efforts to address the disadvantages faced by minority groups with regard to employment and remuneration based on language proficiency (Norway);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. In order to promote participation in the labour market of the employees who do not have sufficient command of the State language, in regions where the is demand for, different language learning activities are provided with the financial assistance of European Social Fund.  |
| A - 122.121 Expand mechanisms aimed at ensuring consultation with people belonging to national minorities and that the representatives of these minorities participate effectively in making decisions that affect them (Cuba);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Representatives of organizations of national minorities are consistently involved into consultation proceedings designing relevant national policies. Consultative Council of National Minorities comprising of more than 40 members works at the Ministry of Culture. Council can express opinion about policies concerning protection and promotion of cultural life and activities of national minorities, about preparing cultural and integration policies and make relevant proposals to Minister of Culture. Roma Integration Council dealing with coordination and consultation of Roma integration issues and comprising representatives of Roma also work at the Ministry of Culture. In 2017 Ministry of Culture launched a Project for developing a national network for promoting integration of Roma.  |
| A - 122.122 Continue strengthening the integration programmes of national minorities to ensure their economic, social and cultural rights (Chile);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Integration in Estonian society has been one of state's priorities with the goal of an integrated and socially cohesive society where people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds actively participate in society and share democratic values. The objective of the integration policy is to promote programs to ensure cohesive and tolerant society where everyone can feel comfortable and safe – to work, study, develop their culture, be a full member of the society. Currently the Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion of Estonia “Integrating Estonia 2020” is being implemented.  |
| A - 122.123 Continue its efforts in providing migrants and other sectors in vulnerable situations greater access to health, education and other social services, in the face of an increased number of migrants entering Europe (Philippines);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Public services, including social services, economic and cultural rights are guaranteed equally to all residents. Education for school age children is compulsory and is free of charge in general schools established by the national government and by local authorities.  |
| A - 122.124 Work actively to reduce the number of stateless residents in the country (Iceland);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Currently the main challenge of the state policy is to motivate persons with undetermined citizenship to apply for Estonian citizenship. To this end several legislative changes have been adopted over the years to facilitate the naturalization procedures, especially for children and elderly. It is important to emphasize, the occurrence of children with undetermined citizenship has stopped, in Estonia the right to acquire automatically Estonian citizenship is guaranteed to all children born in Estonia to stateless parents.  |
| A - 122.125 Continue efforts to reduce statelessness and to facilitate access to citizenship for longterm residents in Estonia (Norway);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The process of upgrading is the Citizenship Act, on the basis of which the contract is offered to persons who would like to get Estonian citizenship. The persons can get Estonian language courses free of charge and, in addition, they will receive a free study leave of 20 days a year and also scholarship.  |
| *N - 123.1 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure* *(Montenegro) (France)* *(Czech Republic)* *(Portugal);*  | *N /rejected, noted/*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure will be considered in the future.*  |
| *N - 123.2 Consider the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure will be considered in the future.*   |
| *N - 123.3 Ratify the Optional Protocol to* *the International* *Covenant on* *Economic, Social and* *Cultural Rights* *(France) (Spain)* *(Portugal);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No intention to ratify in the near future.*  |
| *N - 123.4 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the* *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* *(Ghana);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No intention to ratify in the near future.*  |
| *N - 123.5 Ratify without reservations the Optional Protocol to the International* *Covenant on* *Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and opt in to the inquiry* *and inter-State procedures (Bulgaria);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No intention to ratify in the near future.*  |
| A - 123.6 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (in accordance with articles 31 and 32 of this instrument) (France);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Preparations to ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance are pending.   |
| *N - 123.7 Ratify the* *International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families (Egypt)* *(Azerbaijan);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.8 Ratify the* *International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their Families, as previously* *recommended* *(Algeria);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.9 Sign and ratify the International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights* *of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families (Turkey);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to* *facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.10 Consider the ratification of the International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families (Indonesia);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.11 Move towards the ratification of the International Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families (Chile);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.12 Consider* *ratifying the International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families and* *International Labour* *Organization* *Convention No. 189* *(Philippines);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.13 Ratify, among other international* *instruments, the International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families, the* *Convention relating to the Status of Stateless* *Persons and the* *Convention on the* *Reduction of* *Statelessness, and continue its efforts to legalize the situation of persons with “undetermined nationality”, guaranteeing their right to nationality* *(Ecuador);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comments: Concerning the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, during the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.* *Estonia believes that accession to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the conventions of 1954 and 1961 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of Estonia with undetermined citizenship.*  |
| *N - 123.14 Consider* *ratifying the International* *Convention on the* *Protection of the* *Rights of All Migrant* *Workers and* *Members of Their* *Families (Ghana)* *(Uruguay);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: During the past years, several legislative changes have been made to the Aliens Act to facilitate migration procedures for those labour migrants who add value to economy and society and to transpose EU legislation in the field of labour migration.*  |
| *N - 123.15 Consider ratifying the* *Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954 and the Convention on the* *Reduction of* *Statelessness of 1961 (Uruguay);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia believes that accession to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the conventions of 1954 and 1961 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of* *Estonia with undetermined citizenship.*  |
| *N - 123.16 Accede to the Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons 1954 and the* *Convention on the* *Reduction of Statelessness 1961, and ensure that language requirements relating to employment are implemented in a fair and objective manner and that the rights of ethnic and linguistic* *minorities are actively promoted and protected (Ireland);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia believes that accession to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the conventions of 1954 and 1961 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of Estonia with undetermined citizenship.* *Estonia is paying much attention to organizing language courses free of charge to persons with undetermined citizenship or to citizens of third countries.*  |
| *N - 123.17 Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954) and the Convention on the Reduction of* *Statelessness (1961)* *(Panama) (Australia);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia believes that accession to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the conventions of 1954 and 1961 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of Estonia with undetermined citizenship.*  |
| *N - 123.18 Ratify the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless* *Persons (Spain);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia believes that accession to the 1954 Convention will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the convention of 1954 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of Estonia with undetermined citizenship.*  |
| *N - 123.19 Consider ratifying the 1961 Convention on the* *Reduction of* *Statelessness (Croatia);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia believes that accession to the 1961 Convention will not provide significant benefits to persons with undetermined citizenship. The provisions of the convention of 1961 are less comprehensive than the rights currently enjoyed by residents of Estonia with undetermined citizenship.* |
| A - 123.20 Continue efforts towards ratification of international conventions (Morocco);   | A  | In the process of implementation. Becoming a party to different international instruments, including human rights conventions, is under constant supervision of the authorities. Most recently, Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018. Estonia ratified on 24.11.2016 Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 and it has entered into force on 24.11.2017. |
| A - 123.21 Step up its efforts towards the ratification of other international human rights treaties that it is not yet a state party (Philippines);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Becoming a party to different international instruments, including human rights conventions, is under constant supervision of the authorities. Most recently, Estonia ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Convention on 26.10.2017 and it entered into force on 01.02.2018. Estonia ratified on 24.11.2016 Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 and it has entered into force on 24.11.2017. |
| *N - 123.22 Continue efforts for the creation* *of a national human rights institution, in accordance with international standards, which contributes to the preparation of an action plan on social welfare, ensuring the inclusion and equal opportunities for all the population, with special attention to minorities (Ecuador);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comments: From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.* *The Welfare Development Plan 2016–2023 (http://www.sm.ee/sites/default/files/content-**editors/eesmargid\_ja\_tegevused/welfare\_development\_plan\_20162023.pdf) focuses on the strategic objectives of labour market, social protection, gender equality, and equal treatment policies. It provides a thorough overview of the challenges, main objectives and courses of action.*  |
| *N - 123.23 Establish a body (ombudsman, commissioner or the like) as a prominent* *institution to protect* *the rights of minorities and immigrants (Germany);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: The mandate of the Chancellor of Justice also covers the protection of the rights of minorities and immigrants. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.*   |
| *N - 123.24 Establish a post of an* *Ombudsman on the* *issues of national* *minorities, as* *recommended* *previously (Russian* *Federation);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: The mandate of the Chancellor of Justice also covers the protection of the rights of national minorities. From 01.01.2019 the Chancellor of Justice will perform the task of NHRI in accordance with Paris Principles.*   |
| *N - 123.25 Increase the resources allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner as a matter of priority* *(Norway);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia highly appreciates the assistance of Norway in building-up the office of the Commissioner. Funding allocated to the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner from the state budget will increase from 218 394 EUR (including 13 394 EUR transferred from 2017) to 460 000 in 2019. From 2019 500 000 EUR will be allocated as a base funding yearly from state budget. See also points 122.36; 122.37; 122.47*  |
| *N - 123.26 Adopt a national action plan to implement the United Nations Guiding* *Principles on Business and Human Rights* *(Netherlands);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia has included the principles of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in its policies on Corporate Social Responsibility.*  |
| *N - 123.27 Develop* *National Human* *Rights Indicators as suggested by OHCHR, as an* *instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of its national human rights policies (Portugal);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No comments.*  |
| *N - 123.28 Stop discrimination in the* *area of employment on the grounds of ethnic origin and language and adopt active measures to prosecute such cases in the courts (Russian* *Federation);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: In addition to courts and labour dispute bodies, the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner provide effective remedies to individuals who claim to be victims of discrimination including on grounds of nationality (ethnic origin) with regard to employment, education and other spheres of life.*  |
| A - 123.29 Support fully to the adoption of the necessary informationeducational measures to promote racial, ethnic and religious tolerance, with the emphasis on those characteristics that are results of natural-historical development (Tajikistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan. Human rights and fundamental democratic values form an integral part of the education system and are included in the Program of General Education 2016-2019.  |
| *N - 123.30 Develop a* *holistic strategy to allow combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related forms of intolerance (Panama);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No comments.*  |
| *N - 123.31 Initiate a comprehensive strategy to address manifestation of racism, xenophobia and Islamophobia, especially in view to preventing xenophobic acts (Turkey);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No comments.*  |
| A - 123.32 Ban organizations that encourage and incite racial discrimination (Uzbekistan);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative proceedings to amend the Penal Code have been initiated. Currently law enforcement authorities apply the national law in conformity with international human rights obligations.  |
| A - 123.33 Ban organizations which promote and instigate racial discrimination and hatred (Russian Federation);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative proceedings to amend the Penal Code have been initiated. Currently law enforcement authorities apply the national law in conformity with international human rights obligations.  |
| A - 123.34 Amend the Criminal Code to prohibit racist organizations and establish criminal liability for hate speech with racist content and incitement to hatred (Belarus);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Legislative proceedings to amend the Penal Code have been initiated. Currently law enforcement authorities apply the national law in conformity with international human rights obligations.  |
| *N - 123.35 Stop the participation of members of the Estonian armed forces in annual so called* *remembrance events glorifying the former legionaries of “Waffen SS” and Nazi* *collaborators (Russian* *Federation);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: The Chaplaincy of Estonian Defence Forces does conduct a remembrance service to the victims of II World War with prayers for the victims of all sides on 8 May and last weekend of July. The ceremonies have nothing to do with glorifying neither Nazi nor Soviet ideology but remembrance of those that gave their lives in II World War.*  |
| *N - 123.36 Review the* *discriminatory linguistic policy, including the work of the Language Inspectorates whose targets are mainly teachers of Russian language schools and kindergartens* *(Russian Federation);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: from 01.01.2015 the Language Inspectorate has no more power to fine employees for violation of language requirements, the Inspectorate can only make a prescription. Government and many local governments, as well as some/many employers, organize Estonian language courses free of charge to employees or use a system of reimbursement of the cost occurred.**The provisions of the Language Law, which require translation to Estonian and that public officers follow the language law are applicable to all foreign languages.*   |
| A - 123.37 Apply aggravating circumstance in hatemotivated crimes as well as prohibit and criminalize racist organizations, hate speech, incitement to hatred and the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority and hatred (Egypt);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Proceedings of review have been initiated to analyse relevant provisions of the Penal Code. Legislative proceedings to amend the Penal Code have been initiated. Currently law enforcement authorities apply the national law in conformity with international human rights obligations.         |
| *N - 123.38 Legally recognize marriage between persons of the same sex (Spain);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Registered Partnership Act, legalizing i.a. registered partnership between persons of the same sex, has entered into force on 01.01.2016.*   |
| *N - 123.39 Ensure the necessary legislation is passed to ensure the Registered* *Partnership Act comes into force (United* *Kingdom of Great* *Britain and Northern* *Ireland);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Registered Partnership Act has entered into force on 01.01.2016.*  |
| *N - 123.40 Adopt the* *necessary implementation legislation for* *Registered* *Partnership Act and ensure its full implementation (Netherlands);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Registered Partnership Act has entered into force on 01.01.2016.*  |
| A - 123.41 Build on efforts to address all forms of violence against women by enacting specific laws that prohibit domestic and sexual violence, including intimate partner violence, and by investigating all allegations of violence, prosecuting perpetrators, and ensuring victims are protected and have access to medical and legal services (Canada);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Domestic violence constitutes to be a crime punishable under Penal Code. Discovering and proceeding cases of domestic violence is one of the priorities of law enforcement authorities. Victims are guaranteed protection and have access to medical as well as legal services. See also points 122.90, 122.92, 122.95.  |
| *N - 123.42 Adopt a new law to prohibit trafficking in human beings and increase protection granted to victims (Bahrain);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comments: no need for a special law to prohibit trafficking in human beings as the Penal Code already incorporates relevant article (§ 133) criminalizing trafficking in human beings See also points 122.98-122.103*  |
| *N - 123.43 Respect* *the right to vote of all inmates (Canada);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: relevant legislation under consideration*  |
| *N - 123.44 Consider additional safeguards for minorities in the criminal justice system, namely to introduce guarantees with respect to the right to use a minority language in all stages of the criminal proceedings (Serbia);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: no need for a specific law as Code of criminal Procedure already contains relevant guarantees. §10 (2) The assistance of an interpreter or translator shall be ensured for the participants in a proceeding and the parties to a court proceeding who are not proficient in Estonian.*   |
| *N - 123.45 Undertake a review of the communications surveillance laws, policies and practices with a view to upholding the right to* *privacy in line with international human rights law (Brazil);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: According to the Code of Criminal Procedure § 126 prim 4, surveillance activities may be conducted with a written permission of a prosecutor's office or a preliminary investigation judge, if requirements and legal guarantees are observed. Alongside internal administrative (surveillance and security agencies, the prosecutor’s office),parliamentary (Security Agencies Surveillance Select Committee of the Riigikogu) and judicial oversight, the Chancellor of Justice regularly supervises the lawfulness of surveillance activities.* |
| A - 123.46 Provide protection for the family as the natural and fundamental unit of the society (Egypt);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Child protection act § 7 section 1 states explicitly that the natural environment for the development and growth of the child is the family. In addition, under Estonian law, separation of children from family can be only a measure of last resort. Also, in providing alternative care, family-based forms of alternative care are preferred over institutions. In all action concerning children, the best interests of the child prevail.  |
| A - 123.47 Take measures to ensure full participation of all groups of individuals in the political and public affairs of the country (Botswana);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Representatives of organizations of national minorities are consistently involved into consultation proceedings designing relevant national policies. Consultative Council of National Minorities comprising of more than 40 members works at the Ministry of Culture. Council can express opinion about policies concerning protection and promotion of cultural life and activities of national minorities, about preparing cultural and integration policies and make relevant proposals to Minister of Culture. Roma Integration Council dealing with coordination and consultation of Roma integration issues and comprising representatives of Roma also work at the Ministry of Culture. In 2017 Ministry of Culture launched a Project for developing a national network for promoting integration of Roma.  |
| A - 123.48 Continue promoting and implementing its programs of social inclusion to make citizens’ participation more active, and in particular the participation of minorities or excluded groups (Nicaragua);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Representatives of organizations of national minorities are consistently involved into consultation proceedings designing relevant national policies. Consultative Council of National Minorities comprising of more than 40 members works at the Ministry of Culture. Council can express opinion about policies concerning protection and promotion of cultural life and activities of national minorities, about preparing cultural and integration policies and make relevant proposals to Minister of Culture. Roma Integration Council dealing with coordination and consultation of Roma integration issues and comprising representatives of Roma also work at the Ministry of Culture. In 2017, Ministry of Culture launched a Project for developing a national network for promoting integration of Roma. Representatives of organisations of people with disabilities were closely involved in preparing the Welfare Development Plan 2016– 2023. The biggest umbrella organisation, the Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, participates in the work of the Steering Committee of the Development Plan.  |
| *N - 123.49 Ensure equal representation of the titular and nontitular communities in local self-government bodies (Russian* *Federation);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. No comments.*  |
| A - 123.50 Further guarantee the status and rights of national ethnic and linguistic minorities on the legislative and judicial front as well as in the policy front (China);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” is aimed at the active participation of individuals with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds in the development of a socially cohesive society. Special measures of supporting everyday contacts, communication and involvement in society and supporting the native language and culture of ethnic minorities are included in the plan.  |
| A - 123.51 Provide the necessary status to languages of minorities and create conditions where minorities do not fear of discrimination (Belarus);  | A  | In the process of implementation. Integration in Estonian society has been one of state's priorities with the goal of an integrated and socially cohesive society where people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds actively participate in society and share democratic values. The objective of the integration policy is to promote programs to ensure cohesive and tolerant society where everyone can feel comfortable and safe – to work, study, develop their culture, be a full member of the society. Currently the Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion of Estonia “Integrating Estonia 2020” is being implemented.  |
| A - 123.52 Fulfil its obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights so that the Russianspeaking linguistic minority fully enjoys the right to equal opportunities in the labour market (Iceland);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The strategy of integration and social cohesion “Integrating Estonia 2020” includes specific measure “Promotion of equal treatment on the labour market”. Activities for promoting equal treatment of the staff in public and private sector are implemented under the measure. In addition, public and private sector organisations with a multilingual staff are supported and people with a native language different from Estonian are informed on career opportunities in the public sector. The Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund provides possibilities for Estonian language learning.   |
| A - 123.53 Continue improving reforms to legislation on citizenship and nationality, reducing the cost of procedures and by making the language test less demanding to the minimum indispensable (Uruguay);  | A  | In the process of implementation. The Parliament has enforced the changes of upgrading the Citizenship Act, on the basis of which the contract is offered to persons who would like to get Estonian citizenship. The persons can get Estonian language courses free of charge and, in addition, they will receive a free study leave of 20 days a year and also scholarship.  |
| *N - 123.54 Confer nationality to all stateless minor children, regardless of age or the condition or nationality of their parents (Spain);*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: From the 01.01.2016 According to the Citizenship Act, Estonian citizenship is guaranteed for all children born in Estonia to stateless parents.*  |
| *N - 123.55 Avoid detaining asylum seekers and ensure all asylum seekers the right to lodge asylum applications at bordercrossing points and in transit zones (Brazil).*  | *N*  | *Recommendation not accepted. Comment: Estonia transposed the grounds for detention provided in Article 8 of the Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (hereinafter Reception Conditions Directive). The current practice is that an asylum seeker may be accommodated in the offices of the Police and Border Guard Board for longer than 48 hours only if it is necessary for the performance of acts in proceedings. Accommodation for longer than 48 hours requires a court’s permission. According the court decision the maximum detention period for the applicant for international protection is 2 months. Prolonging of the detention period can be applied from the court if it is motivated by appropriate evidence and threat of absconding.*  |