**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO LATVIA**

# CZECH REPUBLIC

* Does Latvia consider ratification of the OP-CAT, OP-CEDAW and OP-CRC on a communications procedure?
* Could you elaborate on measures adopted to improve conditions in prisons and detention facilities, particularly regarding the insufficient living space and lack of health-care services for detainees?
* Does the Government plan strengthening of its human rights structure and capacity so that it can systematically ensure timely reporting to treaty bodies?
* How does the Government evaluate the 2014 amendment to the Criminal Code regarding hate crimes?
* Does the Government consider adoption of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law?

# GERMANY

* The Human Rights Committee was concerned with the application of forced medication in high dosages and the use of isolation wards in State-run social care centers for adults with mental disabilities. It recommended that Latvia devise a proper regulatory framework for mental health and social care institutions, prohibit non-consensual use of psychiatric medication, electroconvulsive therapy and other restrictive and coercive practices and ensure an independent monitoring system for mental and social care institutions. Could the Government of Latvia please inform about the follow-up to this recommendation?
* Could Latvia please inform about the status of the reform of the penal law, whose overall structure is dating back to the year 1972 according to our information. To which extent does this law ensure full compliance with international human rights obligations, the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights and the Latvian constitutional court? Are there any plans for a comprehensive amendment?
* Could Latvia please inform to which extent civil society was involved in the process of preparing Latvia’s national report for the UPR. Does Latvia see potential to further increase the inclusion of civil society in this process, e.g. with conducting hearings and consultations with civil society organizations or requesting pre-assessments or comments?

# NORWAY

* Norway is concerned about the potential negative effects of the Morality law adopted last summer with regards to the tolerance of LGBT persons. The guidelines for implementing the law are still being worked out. What steps are Latvia taking to ensure that the law does not promote intolerance against LGBT persons?
* What steps are Latvia taking towards ending the practice of holding remanded prisoners in custody detention facilities instead of prison facilities, in line with Rule 10.2 of the European Prison Rules?
* Norway is concerned about the conditions for arriving refugees and negative statements and attitudes towards refugees to Latvia. What steps will Latvia take to discourage hate speech directed against refugees and promote integration of refugees into society?
* Latvia has a relatively large number of cases from the European Court of Human Rights waiting to be implemented. How does Latvia plan to implement these judgements in order to fulfill their obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights?

# SLOVENIA

* Since Latvia accepted the recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, we are interested in hearing about progress of the ratification process. In which stage is the procedure of ratification at this moment?

# SWEDEN

* Sweden would like to ask the Government of Latvia to elaborate on measures it will take to further improve the conditions in prisons and detention centers?

# UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

* Please outline steps planned to ensure that the LBGT community does not experience discrimination and violence in Latvia, including whether the Government intends to criminalise hate crimes explicitly on the ground of sexual orientation.
* Please outline steps planned to ensure the Ombudsman’s Office has sufficient resources to fulfil its mandate.