

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO ITALY- ADD.1

CZECH REPUBLIC

- How does Italy ensure protection of all persons against discrimination, and in particular protection of minorities against violence?
- What human rights education and training is provided to police, prison and detention staff and judiciary? How is ensured their accountability for any violation of human rights?
- What measures has Italy adopted or is preparing to strengthen protection of human rights of persons from minorities and in the fight against racism and xenophobia? Does the government use any awareness-raising campaigns to promote tolerance in this regard? How is ensured accountability for spreading racial hatred?
- Italy signed the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) already in 2003. How far has proceeded the ratification process and preparation of its national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Protocol?
- How is in practice ensured strict compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and accountability of persons responsible for any violations thereof?
- How is ensured protection of the freedom of the media in cases of media owned by politicians and in general protection of the freedom of media from state influence?

GERMANY

- The Commissioner of the Council of Europe noted recent improvements in the roll back of racism and xenophobia in Italy, especially in the field of education. At the same time the Commissioner stated, that there is still a need to eradicate negative sentiments against minorities (para. 10 of the OHCHR stakeholders summary A/HRC/WG.6/7/ITA/3, citing CoE Commissioner, Report, p. 2; paras. 9-30. The Government of Italy replied in its comments on the report, paras.7-24). Germany would be grateful to receive informations about recent measures of the Italian government to fight discriminatory statements against Roma and Sinti and reduce the impact of prejudice and hostility against the groups concerned?

- The summary of stakeholder submission provided by the OHCHR reflects reports about insufficiency in training of teachers and educators regarding children with disabilities in Italy. Proposals by a special Italian coalition for the right of children and adolescents (Gruppo di Lavoro per la Convenzione sui Diritti dell'Infanzia e dell'Adolescenza, a coalition composed of 86 organizations, Italy) have been made to introduce specialized educational approaches in order to further improve this situation (para. 48 of the OHCHR stakeholders summary A/HRC/WG.6/7/ITA/3, referencing GLCDIA, p. 7). Germany would like to know what measures Italy is undertaking to continue to improve the situation of this vulnerable group?
- As a United Nations Statistics Division source indicates, there has been notable improvement in the representation of women in political positions. Seats held by women in the national parliament have almost doubled to about 21 per cent in 2009 (para. 36 of the OHCHR compilation A/HRC/WG.6/7/ITA/2 referencing A/60/38, para. 324 and United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Data.aspx>). Germany would like to know more details of the Italian policy of to promote gender equality in political participation?
