

Annex to Norway's Addendum to the Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

26 August 2019



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

No.	Recommendation ¹	Norway's reponse
Legal and institutional framework		
1	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Germany) (Croatia);	Not accepted. The Government concluded in a white paper in 2016 that it would not propose that Norway should become party to the Optional Protocols on individual communications mechanisms to the ICESCR, CRC or CRPD. In 2017, a broad majority in the Storting (parliament) supported the Government's view. ²
2	Ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, as previously recommended (Portugal);	
3	Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Italy);	Accepted, already implemented. See 1-2.
4	Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Italy) (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));	
5	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as previously recommended (Portugal);	Not accepted. See 1-2.
6	Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Italy);	Accepted, already implemented. See 1-2.
7	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as previously recommended (Spain);	Not accepted. See 1-2.
8	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Uganda) (Germany);	
9	Speed up the steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq);	Accepted, already implemented. Norway ratified the Convention on 22 August 2019.
10	Continue considering the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mozambique);	
11	Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Seychelles);	
12	Finalize the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine);	

¹ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/NOindex.aspx>, Third Cycle, Outcome of the review, Report of the Working Group (A/HRC/42/3), para. 140.

² Norway's third UPR report, para. 7 (Reports and information, National report).

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13	Consider signing and subsequently ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Honduras);	Not accepted. In 2002, Norway decided not to become party to the 1990 Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as the wording was considered to be too vague and imprecise. Norway's decision to abstain from signing and ratifying the Convention has since been upheld. Norway has ratified eight of the core international human rights instruments and the core ILO conventions on workers' rights, which also apply to foreign nationals residing in Norway.
14	Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Indonesia);	
15	Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and withdraw the reservation to article 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Egypt);	Not accepted. See 13-14 (ratification of ICMW) and 18 (reservations to ICCPR).
16	Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Senegal) (Azerbaijan);	Not accepted. See 13-14.
17	Ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression (Estonia);	Not accepted. Ratification is under consideration.
18	Withdraw all reservations on article 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Jordan);	Not accepted. The Government has established two juvenile units and imprisoned children are separated from adults as a main rule. Still, there are circumstances where it is not considered to be in the child's best interest to be placed in a juvenile unit, or to be placed in such a unit immediately. Therefore, the said reservations will be upheld.
19	Review interpretative declarations of articles 12, 14 and 25 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Paraguay);	Not accepted. It is the Government's view that the interpretative declarations reflect a correct understanding of the Convention.
20	Organise visits to the country of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (Belarus);	
21	Continue considering the acceptance of the individual communications mechanisms under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mozambique);	
22	Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);	Not accepted. The Government is committed to ensuring that national candidates for UN treaty body elections are qualified and independent, and will further consider the recommendation.
23	Continue supporting the national human rights institution with the human, financial and material resources necessary to discharge its mandate (Ireland);	Accepted.
24	Set up a national mechanism for coordination, implementation, reporting and follow-up for all accepted recommendations from the Universal Periodic	Not accepted. It is the Government's view that the presentation of human rights reports and the follow up and implementation of recommendations should be

	Review and from treaty bodies, with regard to follow-up to all accepted recommendations (Haiti);	dealt with as an integrated part of the ministries' daily work, not as a separate issue.
25	Set up a permanent national inter-institutional mechanism for the presentation of reports and for the follow-up of recommendations made by human rights mechanisms (Paraguay);	
26	Consider the establishment of a National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up on human rights recommendations and commitments (Bahamas);	
27	Continue strengthening including through adequate funding, the complaint mechanism resulting from the reform of the Equality and Non-Discrimination Ombudsman (Republic of Moldova);	Accepted.
Measures to combat discrimination, hate speech and other hate crimes, xenophobia, racism, Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism		
28	Intensify its efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination, hate speech, and hate crimes based on ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, and gender expressions (Canada);	Accepted.
29	Redouble its efforts to combat all forms of discrimination, including racial discrimination, from which persons with a migrant background suffer from (Côte d'Ivoire);	
30	Take substantive measures against all forms of discrimination, in particular, Islamophobia and xenophobia (Bangladesh);	
31	Ensure non-discrimination and equality among all its citizens (India);	
32	Continue implementing measures to prevent and address discrimination and racism (Philippines);	
33	Raise awareness to prevent and combat indirect discrimination and the principle of equality for all, including ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, asylum seekers and refugees (Angola);	Partially accepted. The Government continuously works to ensure consistent implementation of anti-discrimination legislation, ³ and is considering all the recommendations from the National Human Rights Institution. Furthermore, the Government is implementing the 2016-2020 Action Plan against Anti-Semitism ⁴ .
34	Ensure consistent implementation of anti-discrimination laws, in particular by following the recommendations of the Norwegian National Institution for Human Rights to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the Sami people, especially in the public health and education systems, and	

³ Norway's third UPR report, paras.13-14 (Reports and information, National report).

⁴ Norway's third UPR report, para. 102.

	implementing the 2016-2020 Action Plan against Anti-Semitism (United States of America);	
35	Further strengthen the commitment and take specific action to bridge existing gaps in the areas of combatting all forms of discrimination, hate speech, xenophobia and Islamophobia (Afghanistan);	Accepted.
36	Strengthen systems to prevent and proscribe racism and anti-Semitism (Barbados);	
37	Enact legislative and other necessary measures to counter trends of a rise in xenophobic, supremacist and radical right-wing sentiments and to sufficiently sanction hate speech and xenophobia, as well as Islamophobia (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Partially accepted. The Government is preparing an action plan against racism and discrimination based on ethnicity and religion. The Penal Code prohibits hate speech based on another person's skin colour, national or ethnic origin, or religion or life stance. However, the penal provision on blasphemy was removed from the Penal Code in 2015. The Government is not planning any legal amendments.
38	Take further measures to combat hate crimes and hate speech (Jordan);	Accepted.
39	Ensure that racial discrimination is prohibited and punished by law (Madagascar);	Accepted, already implemented. The Penal Code and the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act prohibit racial discrimination.
40	Take additional measures to combat hate speech and hate crime (Madagascar);	Accepted.
41	Step up measures to combat racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia, especially against minorities (Malaysia);	
42	Ban the organization of groups who promote incitement to hatred and racial discrimination (Mexico);	Not accepted. A formal ban on racist organisations has been considered and rejected several times. The question was most recently considered in a report from 2016.
43	Take effective measures to combat racial discrimination in the labour market and in the housing sector and develop clear guidelines on the prevention of discrimination in recruitment (Qatar);	Accepted.
44	Take legislative and executive measures to ensure criminalisation of the creation, leadership and participation in the activities of groups and organisations that promote racism (Qatar);	Partially accepted. Norway will consider introducing a ban on participation in criminal gangs. A criminal law prohibition of participation in a criminal organisation could, depending on the wording, also have implications for participation in racist organisations whose sole purpose is to commit serious crimes.
45	Include the racial dimension in the constitutional principles of equality and non-discrimination (Senegal);	Accepted, already implemented. Article 98 of the Constitution states that no human being must be subject to unfair or disproportionate differential treatment. The Constitution does not list specific grounds of discrimination, but discrimination on the basis of race is already prohibited.
46	Take effective measures to address racism and the increase in hate speech and xenophobic discourse by providing the Anti-Discrimination Ombudsman with adequate human and financial resources to effectively implement its mandate (Botswana);	Accepted.

47	Take effective legislative and administrative measures to combat racial discrimination and hate speech, and protect the rights of ethnic minorities (China);	
48	Combat racial discrimination in the labour market against minorities and persons with a migrant background (Zambia);	
49	Include "race" as a prohibited ground of discrimination in the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act of 2017 (Bahamas);	Not accepted. The Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, descent, skin colour, language, religion or belief. Norwegian authorities have considered whether the term 'race' should be incorporated into the Act, but have concluded that this is neither needed nor wanted. Discrimination based on opinions or conceptions about a person's race is clearly regarded as ethnic discrimination.
50	Confront more effectively racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and other related forms of intolerance via the dissolution of xenophobic and racist organizations, and criminalize the creation of groups that promote racism (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	Partially accepted. See 42 and 44.
51	Continue working in the implementation of actions to combat discrimination against minorities, particularly for the integration of indigenous peoples, the Roma and migrants, in the areas of education, health, employment and housing, as well as their participation and representation in political and social life (Cuba);	Accepted.
52	Continue to adopt substantive measures against racial and religious discrimination, in particular Islamophobia and xenophobia (Maldives);	
53	Continue efforts towards addressing discrimination against minorities and indigenous people to achieve equality for all in society (Nepal);	
54	Adopt laws to clearly prohibit ethnic profiling by police and prevent unequal treatment on the basis of physical appearance, colour or ethnic or national origin (Pakistan);	Not accepted. Under the Immigration Act, the police may stop a person and request proof of identity when there is reason to assume that the person in question is a foreign national and the time, place and situation give grounds for this. The fact that someone belongs to a particular ethnic group or religion or has a foreign appearance is not in itself grounds for an immigration check.
55	Instruct law enforcement authorities to address complaints of racial profiling of members of ethnic and racial minorities, particularly young men, by keeping records relating to the stop and search of such individuals, and creating a system of confidential reporting of such incidents (United States of America);	Not accepted. Ethnicity is not a reason to stop and search an individual. A general prohibition on discriminatory conduct is established in the legislation. The police work systematically to ensure that discriminatory behaviour does not occur.
56	Redouble efforts to ensure non-discrimination of persons with a migration background in all sectors (Burkina Faso);	Accepted.
57	Develop a national plan of action to address discrimination against asylum-seekers and refugees (Egypt);	

58	Include discrimination of persons of immigrant origin in the action plan against racism and discrimination based on ethnic and religious origin (Honduras);	
59	Strengthen the work to prevent discrimination against migrants (Nicaragua);	
60	Intensify its efforts to ensure non-discrimination of persons with immigrant backgrounds, in particular in housing and employment sectors (Pakistan);	
61	Continue with measures designed to protect migrants from the use of ethnic profiling by the police and avoid unequal treatment based on physical appearance, colour or ethnic or national origin (Argentina);	
62	Promote respect for tolerance and diversity, condemning any incitement or public expression of xenophobia, stigmatization or hatred (Colombia);	
63	Take effective measures to identify and punish hate speech and other hate crimes against minority groups, including when racially motivated, and adopt awareness-raising policies aimed at society, which promote tolerance and respect for diversity (Ecuador);	
64	Amend the Criminal Code to combat hate speech and incitement to violence and discrimination in the media and during election campaigns (Egypt);	Accepted, already implemented. Hate speech, discriminating statements and incitement to violence – in any context – are criminal offences, provided that the right to freedom of speech is upheld.
65	Further strengthen awareness about, and the fight against, hate speech and hate crime (France);	Accepted.
66	Ensure that all measures to combat hate speech against minority groups are fully implemented, including by condemning racially motivated hate speech and xenophobic discourse perpetrated by politicians and media professionals (Ghana);	
67	Take further measures to combat hate speech and hate crimes (Iceland);	
68	Fully apply its constitutional principles of non-discrimination by promoting dialogue and cooperation to prevent hate speech and hate crimes (Indonesia);	
69	Take further measures to combat all forms of racial discrimination and guarantee the dissolution of racist organisations and the suppression of their financing (Jordan);	Partially accepted. The Government is working on a new action plan against racism and discrimination based on ethnicity and religion. Regarding the dissolution of racist organisations, see 42.
70	Investigate the causes of hate crimes and ensure the establishment of investigation units for these crimes across the country (Mexico);	Not accepted. The specialist group in Oslo Police District gives advice to other districts.
71	Step up efforts to combat hate speech (Nicaragua);	Accepted.
72	Do not relent in its efforts to combat hate speech and other hate crimes (Nigeria);	
73	Ensure that hate crimes and hate speech are promptly identified and registered and all cases are investigated, perpetrators are prosecuted and punished (Pakistan);	

74	Step up efforts to prevent hate crimes and consider providing training to police officers in order to investigate such crimes (Chile);	
75	Adopt further measures to combat hate speech, in particular Islamophobia and xenophobia, and to combat its crimes, including by building and strengthening the capacity of police to assume its role in this regard (Qatar);	
76	Consider the issue of establishing special units of the law enforcement bodies in order to prevent and combat rhetoric of hatred in public domain, as well as collect data on statistics of hate speech (Russian Federation);	Not accepted. See 70.
77	Strengthen the fight against hate speech and xenophobic discourse by politicians, the media and society as a whole, especially on the internet/social media, directed against immigrants, minorities and members of indigenous groups (Serbia);	Partially accepted. The Government is implementing its Strategy against Hate Speech (2016 –2020). The media sector is one of the focus areas. There are no specific measures aimed at politicians. There is, however, a political declaration against hate speech from the Government, from 2015, and a general call from the Prime Minister to keep the public debate objective and constructive. The Prime Minister has also recommended all politicians to go through their Facebook pages and remove any hateful expressions. ⁵
78	Implement measures to combat hate speech and xenophobic discourse against migrants, minorities and indigenous peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);	Accepted.
79	Continue to strengthen efforts to address hate crimes, intolerance, as well as incitement to hatred both online and offline through inclusive measures with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (Sri Lanka);	
80	Include gender, gender identity and gender expressions as grounds of discrimination in the Penal Code articles protecting against hate crimes (Iceland);	Not accepted. The Government will consider whether gender, gender identity and gender expression should be included in the relevant provisions on hate speech and hate crimes.
81	Ensure a consistent effective enforcement of the Criminal Code; which is provided for the penalization of discriminatory expressions and hate speech, to prevent and protect against hate speech (State of Palestine);	Accepted.
82	Continue efforts to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officials to investigate hate crimes and xenophobic discourse to prevent hate crimes and ensure the establishment of hate crime units throughout the country (Bahrain);	Not accepted. The specialist group in Oslo Police District gives advice to other districts.
83	Strengthen the investigation capacity of law enforcement officials on hate crimes and criminal incitement to hatred, including on the internet (Sweden);	Accepted.
84	Strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officials to investigate hate crimes and criminal hate speech (Zambia);	
85	Guarantee the recording and effective investigation of cases of hate speech or incitement to racial hatred and violence and racially motivated hate crimes,	

⁵ The Government's Strategy against Hate Speech 2016-2020: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/the-governments-strategy-against-hate-speech-20162020/id2520975/>.

	and prosecute and punish those responsible, including political figures and representatives of the communication media (Argentina);	
86	Investigate promptly all cases of hate crimes and criminal hate speech, and prosecute and punish the perpetrators, ensuring that appropriate compensation is awarded to victims (Azerbaijan)	
87	Take all necessary steps to prevent hate crimes and provide support to the victims thereof, including measures to facilitate their access to justice (Uruguay)	
88	Promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue, in particular the strategy to prevent and combat hate speech (Azerbaijan);	
89	Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination regarding the prevention of hate crimes (Belarus);	Partially accepted. The Government will consider which recommendations to implement.
Human rights, development assistance, climate change measures, and the business sector		
90	Continue to actively promote human rights technical cooperation and capacity-building at the national and international levels, including in relevant multilateral forums (Thailand);	Accepted.
91	Adhere to the important principles of supporting partner countries' own priorities and plans, while ensuring room for flexibility and changes to the cooperation, in the delivery of development assistance to other countries, as outlined in the white papers on development cooperation and human rights in 2014 and 2018 (Singapore);	
92	Continue to provide development assistance to developing countries, especially in the areas of poverty alleviation and addressing climate change (Bhutan);	
93	Continue promoting human rights worldwide by maintaining the provision of relevant development assistance (Ukraine);	
94	Provide information on the steps taken to ensure that the most vulnerable to climate change are included in domestic measures to address the causes and effects of climate change domestically (Fiji);	
95	Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous and marginalized communities are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, policies and programs on climate change and disaster risk reduction at local, national, regional and international levels (Fiji);	

96	Ensure that the Norwegian oil and natural gas industry is free of toxic emissions in the near future to help the world combat climate change (Haiti);	Beyond the scope of the UPR.
97	Continue to promote the application of a human rights perspective to the business activities of Norwegian companies, that operate both abroad and at the national level (Chile);	Accepted.
98	Adopt binding measures to ensure that the activities of transnational corporations with domicile in the country do not infringe human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities residing in its territory (Ecuador);	Not accepted. Norway expects all enterprises operating abroad to adhere to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP) in order to ensure that they respect human rights.
99	Strengthen oversight over Norwegian companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses (State of Palestine);	Not accepted. Any negative impact on human rights due to the activities of Norwegian companies, particularly in conflict areas, is of concern to the Norwegian authorities. The authorities provide information and advice to Norwegian companies and have clear expectations regarding responsible business conduct, as set out in Norway's national action plan on business and human rights, as well as in the UNGP and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
Measures relating to coercion, the excessive use of force, and violence and abuse		
100	Review the use of coercive measures in mental healthcare services through harmonisation of the system of notification for the use of coercion at the national level (France);	Accepted, already implemented. In recent years, Norway has implemented measures to improve registration and reporting of decisions on coercion. We have reason to believe that the data on the use and frequency of coercion in mental health care is fairly representative.
101	Strengthen accountability in case of human rights violations by law enforcement personnel and eliminate excessive use of force by law enforcement (China);	Accepted, already implemented. Excessive use of force on the part of the law enforcement authorities is extremely rare, and safeguards to ensure full accountability are in place.
102	Strengthen efforts to address violence and abuse against older persons, particularly in residential care settings (Australia);	Accepted.
103	Continue working to eradicate gender-based violence, particularly domestic and sexual violence (Chile);	
104	Continue to step up efforts to combat domestic violence and sexual abuse, guaranteeing, in particular access to justice for all victims (Colombia);	
105	Develop an action plan against domestic violence, especially gender-based violence, in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of the Istanbul Convention (Denmark);	
106	Continue strengthening its efforts to combat domestic violence and abuse of women and children (Georgia);	

107	Continue taking steps to tackle gender-based and sexual violence (Greece);	
108	Ensure a gender-sensitive approach in legislation, programs and policies concerning domestic violence (Iceland);	
109	Continue to strengthen efforts to combat domestic and sexual violence (New Zealand);	
110	Intensify the implementation of its national preventive strategy against gender-based violence including domestic violence and sexual abuse (Philippines);	
111	Continue to strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence and sexual abuse and, in particular, to protect children and minors from the increasing risk of sexual abuse and exploitation both online and offline (Republic of Korea);	
112	Develop an action plan to prevent domestic violence by paying a special attention to prevention of, investigation into and punishment for acts of domestic violence in Sami families (Russian Federation);	
113	Further efforts in the prevention and implementation of measures to eliminate gender-based violence (Bhutan);	
114	Extend measures to combat domestic and sexual violence, with special attention to the protection of children (Viet Nam);	
115	Continue to step up efforts to combat sexual and domestic violence (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	<p>Not accepted. The definition of rape in the Penal Code is intended to apply to sexual activity without consent. The definition does not include the wording 'without consent', but it describes circumstances that imply a lack of consent. The Government's action plan to combat rape of 2019 states that the Government will consider whether a review of the chapter on sexual offences in the Penal Code is warranted. The action plan specifically sets out that the Government will consider proposing amendments to the legal definition of rape.</p>
116	Amend the legal definition of rape to remove the requirement for the use of force or threat of force, and implement a definition based on the communication of consent (Canada);	
117	Adopt a legal definition of rape in the Penal Code that places the lack of freely given consent at its centre, as previously recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Ireland);	
118	Adopt a legal definition of rape in the Penal Code, which places the absence of consent at its centre, in line with SDG 5 (Netherlands);	
119	Amend article 291 of the Penal Code to ensure that the lack of consent be the core element of the definition of the crime of rape (Paraguay);	
120	Adopt a definition of rape in the Penal Code focused on the absence of free consent. (Spain);	
121	Amend the legal definition of rape in the Penal Code so that absence of consent is placed at its centre (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);	
122	Adopt a legal definition of rape in the Penal Code that places the absence of consent at its centre (Australia);	

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123	Consider further strengthening gender sensitive training of lawyers, prosecutors and judges to support their capacity in criminal cases involving gender-based violence, including rape and other sexual violence (Finland);	Accepted. Gender-based violence, including rape and other sexual violence, is taken very seriously by the courts. Various measures to enhance competence in this area are offered to all judges, both by the Norwegian Courts Administration and by the individual courts. These include training in procedural and material legal issues, general ethics, and in difficult cases where there is conflicting evidence.
124	Consider training judges, prosecutors and lawyers on gender-based violence, including rape (Ghana);	
125	Strengthen the investigative capacity of the police and prosecutors in all forms of gender-based violence (Iceland);	Accepted.
126	Provide training to judges, prosecutors and lawyers about gender based violence, including rape and other sexual violence, in line with SDG 16 (Netherlands);	Accepted. See 123 and 124.
127	Develop targeted training programmes to enhance the capacities of police, prosecutors and the Judiciary in cases of gender-based violence (Seychelles);	
128	Strengthen the investigative capacity of police and prosecutors in relation to all forms of gender-based violence (Australia);	Accepted.
Measures relating to the legal system		
129	Ensure adequate financing of courts having in mind unacceptable long delays in dealing with cases before courts owing to a lack of human resources of the judiciary (Russian Federation);	Partially accepted. The Storting draws up aims and objectives and the annual budget framework for the courts and the Norwegian Courts Administration (NCA). The Ministry of Justice is not in a position to instruct the NCA on specific administrative matters.
130	Amend the legal framework to effectively regulate discretion of judges on the use of solitary confinement and to assess the need for it (Jordan);	Not accepted. The Criminal Procedure Act is currently under revision. In this connection, the Government will consider proposing amendments to the provisions on the use of solitary confinement during pre-trial detention.
131	Take effective measures to improve conditions for prisoners with psychological disabilities and serious mental health problems, including by providing full access to mental healthcare services in all prison facilities or limiting the use of isolation (Germany);	Accepted. Measures are being taken to improve access to mental health care for prisoners over the coming years.
132	Improve detention conditions in the petitionary system and in the temporary detention places for asylum seekers (Russian Federation);	Accepted.
133	Introduce clearer and more restrictive legal criteria to limit the holding of people in solitary confinement during preventative detention to the absolute minimum (Spain);	Not accepted. See 130.
134	Evaluate the effects of solitary confinement in prisons with a view to reducing it and use alternative measures whenever possible (Sweden);	Accepted. The Government will reduce the use of solitary confinement and acknowledges that isolation may have detrimental effects on prisoners.

Protection of freedom of religion or belief and human rights defenders		
135	Ensure that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief are duly recognized by the constitution (Bangladesh);	Accepted, already implemented. The right to free exercise of religion is recognised in Article 16 of the Constitution. Article 16 should be interpreted in the light of Article 9 of the ECHR, which has been implemented in the Human Rights Act.
136	Ensure the equal protection of religious and belief communities under law (Barbados);	Accepted.
137	Take further steps to ensure freedom of belief and to prohibit racial discrimination and hatred (Myanmar);	
138	Strengthen the protection of human rights defenders, including state apparatus which have fallen victims in carrying out the task of defending human rights (Indonesia);	Accepted, already implemented. Human rights defenders, including civil servants, are already afforded effective protection under Norwegian law.
Measures relating to human trafficking		
139	Increase efforts to combat trafficking, protect the victims and prosecute the perpetrators (Greece);	Accepted.
140	Continue with its efforts in combating human trafficking, and the protection of the rights of victims of human trafficking (Nigeria);	
141	Take a more holistic, human rights-based approach to tackling human trafficking, and further improve the identification of victims of human trafficking by creating a formalized National Referral Mechanism (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);	Partially accepted. Norway will introduce improvements to its system for identifying victims of trafficking.
142	Create a uniform national system for identifying and following up on victims of trafficking (Bahrain);	
143	Intensify efforts aimed at establishing a national referral mechanism for victims of human trafficking (Georgia);	
144	Adopt a formalized National Referral Mechanism aimed at the identification and protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking in human beings (Armenia);	
145	Continue taking measures to combat trafficking in children by tackling the demand for related crimes and allocate additional resources to identify perpetrators of those crimes and bring them to justice (Republic of Moldova);	Accepted.
146	Strengthen its efforts in preventing trafficking in children, especially when it comes to children from care centres and reception centres for asylum (Serbia);	

Safeguarding the right to private and family life		
147	Ensure that parental rights and right to private and family life are respected in accordance with international and regional human rights standards (Bangladesh);	Accepted.
148	Provide protection and support for the family as a natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);	
149	Ensure that the right to family life is duly recognized (Turkey);	
150	Ensure that the deprivation of parental rights are subject to adequate safeguards and applied as a measure of last resort, bearing in mind the needs and best interests of the child, in accordance with international law (Brazil);	Accepted, already implemented.
Ensuring equal access to healthcare, education and the labour market, and human rights education		
151	Take further steps to promote and protect the right to health for all, including by addressing special needs of people with minority backgrounds and improving the mental health of children and young people (Thailand);	Accepted, already implemented. The Norwegian health services are universal and designed to include everyone regardless of their background. The Government has recently presented a plan for stepping up efforts to improve the mental health of children and young people, including those with a minority background.
152	Strengthen efforts to ensure equal access to healthcare for people belonging to vulnerable groups, including ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities (Viet Nam);	Accepted.
153	Guarantee the right and access to healthcare for transgender people (Spain);	
154	Ensure equal access to education for all, including upper secondary education, without discrimination on any grounds (Bahamas);	Partially accepted. All children who are expected to reside in Norway for more than three months have the right to education. The right to upper secondary education is not, however, granted to young people who do not have a residence permit in Norway.
155	Ensure inclusive education targeting those belonging to vulnerable groups, such as children from ethnic minorities and children with disabilities (India);	Accepted.
156	Take additional measures to ensure the full enjoyment of the right to education by children with a migrant background (Portugal);	Partially accepted. See 154.
157	Reduce the school drop-out rate for children of parents with a migrant background and children of parents with a low level of education (Algeria);	Accepted.
158	Integrate human rights education into its national school curricula (Portugal);	
159	Continue efforts to achieve gender equality in education and in the labour market, including the incorporation of women belonging to minorities and that	

	more women hold management positions in the business sector in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 8 and article 11 of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Honduras);	
Measures to combat gender-based violence against women and girls		
160	Strengthen national legislation in accordance with international law to prevent and address violence against women (Honduras);	Accepted, already implemented.
161	Take appropriate measures to prevent sexual violence against women and children, including by reforming its criminal code, where necessary (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Partially accepted. The Government has already taken several legislative measures to prevent sexual violence against women and children. Further legislative measures are being considered on a continuous basis.
162	Continue taking effective measures to prevent sexual violence against women (Malaysia);	Accepted.
163	Accelerate actions to eliminate violence against women and girls (Montenegro);	
164	Adopt the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's recommendation to develop a specific action plan for violence against women, including Sami victims of violence (New Zealand);	
165	Continue to strengthen efforts to combat domestic and gender-based violence against women and girls (Romania);	
166	Intensify efforts for the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence against women and girls, particularly rape and other forms of sexual violence, by including free consent to the definition of rape into the criminal code (Botswana);	Not accepted. See 116.
167	Implement all necessary measures to prevent and eliminate gender-based violence against women and girls and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and punished (Sweden);	Accepted.
168	Take further steps to ensure proper investigation of and punishment for acts of violence against women, including spousal abuse, and work with specialized organizations to identify and address concerns which may negatively impact conviction rates (United States of America);	
169	Develop and implement comprehensive measures for the prevention of gender-based violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence, rape and other forms of sexual violence (Zambia);	
170	Intensify measures to eradicate gender-based violence against women, including rape and sexual violence (Bahrain);	

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171	Develop and implement comprehensive measures to prevent and eliminate gender-based violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence and other forms of sexual violence (Costa Rica);	
172	Strengthen the training of judges and lawyers with regard to violence against women (Switzerland);	Accepted. See 123.
Equal pay for equal work and gender equality in the labour market		
173	Take measures to increase the representation of women from minority groups in decision making positions in the public and private sectors, and to eliminate the gender wage inequality (Cuba);	Partially accepted. We have not introduced specific measures to increase the representation of women from minority groups in decision-making positions. Norway has, however, seen a substantial increase in the number of female leaders over the past 15 years, both in the public and private sector. Female leaders are in the majority in the public sector. In collaboration with the business community, the Government has created a best practice list on how to achieve gender balance at the top in business. ⁶ The list has been distributed to the 500 largest Norwegian companies. Several measures have been implemented to recruit immigrants to the public sector. The Government has recently launched a pilot scheme for anonymous job applications within the civil service. At least one applicant with a migrant background is to be invited to a job interview if he/she is qualified for the job.
174	Ensure equal pay for equal work for men and women and investigate violent sexual crimes and rape (Egypt);	Accepted.
175	Consider further measures for enhancing opportunities for women with minority backgrounds to enter the labour market (Finland);	
176	Implement effective measures to eliminate the gender wage gap (India);	
177	Strengthen its efforts to achieve gender equality in education and in the labour market (Iraq);	
178	Take steps to eliminate the wage gap between women and men by tackling differences in pay for equal work, and make sure that family life does not negatively impact women's wages (Algeria);	
Children's rights and child welfare		
179	Continue with ongoing activities and programmes to address child poverty, through targeted interventions (Sri Lanka);	Accepted.

⁶ <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/how-to-achieve-gender-balance-at-the-top-in-business/id2625076/>.

180	Elaborate and establish clear criteria regarding the best interests of the child according to the international instruments applicable to Norway and guarantee that the municipal child welfare services take into consideration the child's background when providing a foster care in cases with international involvement (Bulgaria);	
181	Implement robust measures in addressing the concern raised by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the increase of online child sexual abuse and exploitation (Malaysia);	
182	Allocate adequate resources to ensure the right of the child to life without violence and at the same time avoid unnecessary intervention of care institutions in the family life (Russian Federation);	
183	Consider surveying the current practices relating to separation of children from their parents, deprivation of rights of biological parents and limitation of contact rights of biological parents with their separated children with a view that such forceful steps are only used as measures of last resort (Bulgaria);	Accepted, already implemented. In 2019, the Board of Health Supervision published a report that examined more than 100 cases where a child had been placed in alternative care. The report showed that in all these cases, the situation prior to placing the child in alternative care was grave, and that the removal of the child from his/her family was necessary for his/her protection. However, there is room for improvement. More effective assistance must be provided to prevent the need to place children in alternative care. A new draft child welfare bill has recently been subject to public consultation. The child's right to have contact with family members after a care order has been made, is one of the questions that has been reviewed. Some amendments to the current system of contact rights have been proposed.
184	Take appropriate steps to facilitate the communication between the Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs of Norway and the competent central authorities of the countries which citizens face problems on issues related to child welfare in Norway (Bulgaria);	Accepted.
185	Use drastic steps such as out-of-home child placements and deprivation of parental rights only as a last resort (Cyprus);	Accepted, already implemented.
186	Review the current practices relating to out-of-home placements, deprivation of parental rights and limitation of parent-children contact rights, with a view to ensuring that such drastic steps are only used as measures of last resort, and also respect and comply with international standards, in particular regarding international private law when relevant issues arise (Greece);	Accepted, already implemented. See 183.
187	Reconsider the practice of the Norwegian child welfare office separating children from their families and recognize basic rights of children belonging to ethnic minorities, especially Muslim and Roma communities (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Accepted, already implemented. In addition to the report mentioned in 183, the Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs commissioned a report from NOVA (Norwegian Social Research) on the handling of compulsory care order cases in ethnic minority families by the Child Welfare Services and the County Social Welfare Boards. Targeted measures to strengthen the Child Welfare Services' cultural

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		competence were among the recommendations in the report, which was published in 2018. A competence strategy (2018-2024) for the Child Welfare Services has been launched. New measures include the provision of training aimed at promoting greater cultural understanding and sensitivity in the follow-up of children and families with minority backgrounds.
188	Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the revision of the current practices relating to out-of-home placements of children, deprivation of parental rights and limitation of contact rights (Belarus);	Accepted, already implemented. See 183.
189	Review the practices related to out-of-home placements of children and deprivation of their parents of parental or contact rights and ensure that these practices will be always based only on the best interest of the child, with a particular view to preserving his or her identity, including inter alia nationality (Poland);	Accepted, already implemented. See 187.
190	In cases when the Norwegian authorities decide that the separation of children from their natural family is necessary for the best interests of the child, continue to ensure that this measure is processed properly, in accordance with the provisions of article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Romania);	Accepted.
191	Review thoroughly the practices concerning the removal of children from their families and placement in foster families, in light of the children's special needs and bonds with their cultural, ethnic and religious identity (Turkey);	Accepted, already implemented. See 187.
The equality and rights of minorities and indigenous peoples		
192	Develop appropriate strategies and policies to provide an adequate response to the difficulties faced by the Roma and Tater communities to access employment, housing and education (Costa Rica);	Accepted. The Government is not planning new measures in the areas of employment, housing or education that target specific groups such as the Roma and Romani people/Tater population. However, the Government's political platform states that the Government will implement measures to prevent discrimination in the labour market, the housing market and nightlife. The work on an action plan against racism and discrimination based on ethnicity and religion is under way. The plan will target all ethnic minorities. The Government will also present a white paper on national minorities in 2020.
193	Continue to develop indicators for monitoring and protecting the equality and rights of ethnic minorities (Barbados);	Accepted.
194	Continue developing policies to ensure access to employment, housing, healthcare services and education by national minorities (India);	Accepted. See 192.

195	Ensure, both in law and in practice, that all minorities enjoy their full human rights, in particular the right to adequate access to employment, food, medical healthcare and cultural rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);	Accepted.
196	Strengthen policies to eliminate discrimination against the Roma and Tater peoples (Peru);	
197	Take further steps to promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue between ethnic and religious groups (Kazakhstan);	
198	Intensify efforts to further support the use of language and culture of officially recognized national minorities (Myanmar);	
199	Make further efforts to promote an environment inclusive of ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples and, in this regard, to effectively provide them with equal access to housing, education, employment, health care and other services (Republic of Korea);	Accepted. See 192.
200	Strengthen measures for promoting and protecting the human rights of all minorities and other vulnerable groups, such as indigenous Sami, as recommended previously (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	Accepted.
201	Continue with actions and initiatives aimed at the protection of indigenous peoples, national minorities, refugees and asylum seekers (Benin);	
202	Adopt legislation that increases the protection of traditional Sami livelihoods including coastal Sami fisheries and traditional Sami reindeer herding, and further reinforces the principle of free, prior, and informed consent (Canada)	Not accepted. The fishery legislation was amended in 2012 to emphasise the importance of considering Sami culture in all regulation and management of fishing, and to emphasise that the Participation Act is to be applied in accordance with international law on indigenous people and minorities. The Norwegian authorities consult the Sami in accordance with Article 6 of ILO Convention No 169.
203	Continue working with the Sami parliament on research into, and measures to prevent, violence in Sami communities (Croatia);	Accepted.
204	Ensure uniform procedures for consultations of Sami people in accordance with ILO convention no. 169, article 6, no. 1 (Denmark);	
205	Strengthen the protection of the rights of indigenous Sami population (Kazakhstan);	
206	Protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples, in order to develop the effective participation of their representatives (Nicaragua);	
207	Ensure adequate and meaningful consultations with its indigenous communities, with a view to obtaining their free, prior and informed consent, on extractive activities and other related projects in indigenous lands and territories (Philippines);	

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208	Consider strengthening the protection of the rights of women and children of the Sami community who are alleged to be more prone to domestic violence than the rest of the population (Ghana);	
209	Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to take measures to improve the legal framework for Sami land, fishing and reindeer rights (New Zealand);	Not accepted. See 202. The Government is considering the Committee’s recommendations.
210	Step up efforts to extend the use of the Kven language (Peru);	Accepted.
211	Review mechanisms for extractive activities on Sami lands in order to guarantee adequate consultation with the affected Sami communities, mitigation measures, compensation and benefit sharing (Slovenia);	
212	Pursue further measures aimed at intensifying efforts to promote and protect the traditional way of life, including culture and language of indigenous populations and national minorities in Norway in consultation with those communities (Sri Lanka);	
The rights of persons with disabilities		
213	Continue to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including amendment to legislation regarding the right to legal capacity (Peru)	Accepted.
214	Develop systems to support decision-making for persons with disabilities, based on individual consent according to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mexico);	Accepted. Norway already has systems to support decision-making for persons with disabilities, but is continuously working to improve these systems.
215	Continue efforts to improve mechanisms for mental healthcare, especially for vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and children (Maldives);	Accepted.
216	Consult extensively with all relevant stakeholders, in particular the families of children with disabilities, to ensure that the white paper on early intervention and inclusive education can lead to effective policies to help all children reach their full potential (Singapore);	
Immigration and asylum policy		
217	Guarantee access to education and basic health services for all, regardless to the migratory or refugee status, or to persons belonging to minorities (Mexico);	Partially accepted. Everyone is entitled to necessary healthcare, with some limitations for those without a residence permit. With regard to education, see 154.
218	Enhance measures to safeguard rights and welfare of all migrants (Nepal);	Partially accepted. At the same time, Norway pursues a stringent, responsible immigration policy that ensures due process within the framework of Norway’s international obligations.

219	Adopt the recommendation of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe to adopt the new comprehensive action plan on integration including measurable objectives to monitor progress (New Zealand);	Accepted.
220	Adopt a new comprehensive action plan on integration, including the promotion of equality and prevention of discrimination (Pakistan);	
221	Strengthen its migration policies based on respect for the human rights of all migrants (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	Partially accepted. See 218.
222	Continue strengthening policies and programs to promote social integration of migrants (Philippines);	Accepted.
223	Develop campaigns to raise migrants' awareness on their rights, particularly with regard to their right to health, which includes access to health services (Portugal);	
224	Give specific attention to the most vulnerable groups among migrants and the asylum seeker population, such as women and underaged children (Afghanistan);	Accepted, already implemented. Vulnerable groups are continuously given specific attention.
225	Adopt additional measures to ensure the enjoyment of the right to education for migrants (Angola);	Partially accepted. See 154.
226	Guarantee the application of the principle of non-refoulement in the processing of all requests for the recognition of refugee status (Colombia);	Accepted, already implemented. All asylum applications are carefully and individually assessed. Asylum seekers who are found to be in need of international protection will be granted asylum.
227	Strengthen the asylum system to fully respect the principle of "non-refoulement", by placing safeguards to ensure that asylum seekers are not returned to countries where they risk torture or ill-treatment (Cyprus);	
228	Adopt measures for the effective application of the principle of non-refoulement of asylum seekers to countries or regions where their life or freedom is endangered due to their race, nationality, religion, membership of a given social group or their political views (Uruguay);	
229	Ensure that asylum seekers are not returned to countries where they are at risk of torture or other ill-treatment (Switzerland);	
230	Amend national rules in order to ensure the protection of the right of refugees to family life by reducing the administrative fees (Costa Rica);	Accepted. The Government aims to reduce the fees.
231	Amend national rules so as to ensure the protection of the right of refugees to family life, in particular by reducing the administrative fees and extending the deadline for submission of family reunification claims (Côte d'Ivoire);	Partially accepted. See 230. The deadline for submitting an application for exemption from the subsistence requirement is considered to be in accordance with our international obligations.
232	Ensure that family reunification is viewed as a right for refugees and that cases are dealt with expeditiously (Afghanistan);	Accepted, already implemented. Norway constantly strives to improve case processing times.
233	Take further measures to improve the situation of asylum seekers (Iraq);	Not accepted. The situation for asylum seekers in Norway is in accordance with our international obligations.

234	Take necessary measures to strengthen the rights of children in forced return process (Myanmar);	Accepted.
235	Place the responsibility for all unaccompanied minor asylum seekers and refugees, up to the age of 18 years, with the Child Welfare Services (Cyprus);	Not accepted. Norway considers that the care and accommodation offered to unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, both over and under the age of 15, is in accordance with our international obligations.
236	Give high priority to the issue of unaccompanied asylum seeking minors placed in asylum centres and protect them from disappearing from reception centres and from being exposed to the risk of becoming victims of human trafficking, exploitation and other crimes (Germany);	Accepted.
237	Improve the treatment of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers by ending the practice of differential treatment between unaccompanied minor asylum seekers above and under the age of 15 years old, and by ensuring human rights to all these minors (France);	Not accepted. See 235.
238	Promote integration and protection of unaccompanied children seeking asylum in order to avoid their escape from the reception centres (Montenegro);	Accepted.
239	Implement measures ensuring the integrity and safety of asylum-seeking minors (Peru);	Not accepted. See 233.
240	Strengthen measures to ensure the protection of unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors from human trafficking and other forms of exploitation (Uganda);	Accepted.
241	Consider incorporating into domestic law the definition of a stateless person and establishing a statelessness determination procedure, in accordance with the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Brazil)	Partially accepted. We will consider incorporating a definition of statelessness in Norwegian law. Norway is not, however, considering establishing a statelessness determination procedure. Statelessness is, as a general rule, not an independent ground for obtaining a residence permit in Norway and we do not interpret this to be an obligation under the 1954 Convention. Residency may, however, be granted under certain conditions in the event of practical obstacles to return that are beyond the control of the person concerned.