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**Human Rights Council**  
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review  
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Geneva, 18-29 January 2016

### **Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\***

**Latvia**

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\* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fourth session from 18 to 13 January 2016. The review of Latvia was held at the 13th meeting on 26 January 2016. The delegation of Latvia was headed by Mr Andrejs Pildegovičs, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At its 17th meeting held on 28 January 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Latvia.
2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Latvia: Ethiopia, Germany and Indonesia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Latvia:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/LVA/1);
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/LVA/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/LVA/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Latvia through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

*[To be completed by 5 February 2016]*

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\*

5. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Latvia and enjoy the support of Latvia:
  - 5.1. Prioritise the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence and continue efforts to combat domestic violence, including through actions aimed at raising public awareness on this issue (Italy);
  - 5.2. Sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe on violence against women and domestic violence (Turkey);
  - 5.3. Consider accession to the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Estonia);

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\*\* The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

- 5.4. Adopt comprehensive legislation on violence against women and domestic violence as criminal offences; investigate reports of domestic violence and prosecute perpetrators (Lithuania);
- 5.5. Continue to review its national legislation with a view to address the concerns expressed by some treaty bodies concerning the criminalization of domestic violence (Nicaragua);
- 5.6. Strengthen existing law and practice to counteract trafficking in human beings for sexual and labour exploitation, particularly of young women (Poland);
- 5.7. Strengthen the implementation of criminal law provisions aimed at combating racially motivated crimes (United Arab Emirates);
- 5.8. Implement provisions of criminal legislation aimed at combating racially motivated crimes and prosecute those responsible, as well as increase awareness among persons belonging to national minorities about the means available for legal protection from discrimination and hatred (Belarus);
- 5.9. Improve domestic mechanisms for the implementation of its international obligations in the field of human rights (Tajikistan);
- 5.10. Strengthen the national mechanism on gender equality (Italy);
- 5.11. Strengthen the Ombudsman's capacity to investigate and act on allegations of discriminations in all its forms (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 5.12. Further improve the judiciary system of the country and strengthen human rights education for its citizens, especially judicial personnel (China);
- 5.13. Organise training courses relating to hate crimes for officers of law enforcement and the judicial system and raise public awareness about hate crimes to encourage them to report them (Saudi Arabia);
- 5.14. Promote greater human rights understanding through relevant programmes that inculcate respect, tolerance and intercultural understanding (Malaysia);
- 5.15. Foster mutual understanding between all nationalities and all racial, ethnic and religious representatives or groups through tolerance as interaction between nations and cultures is based on the existence of respect towards cultural, ethnic, religious, racial, social and other characteristics (Tajikistan);
- 5.16. Continue to promote and implement policies of tolerance and inclusion and for the participation of all citizens in the society which contribute to combating discrimination in all its forms (Nicaragua);
- 5.17. Develop and implement public awareness campaigns and education programs to promote diversity and inclusion, while combatting racism, xenophobia and homophobia (Canada);
- 5.18. Continue strengthening programmes for combating xenophobia, discrimination and violence motivated by the sexual orientation and gender identity of the victims (Chile);
- 5.19. Engage civil society in the follow-up implementation process of the UPR recommendations (Poland);

- 5.20. Increase its capacity to provide timely reporting to treaty bodies in accordance with its international obligations (Czech Republic);
- 5.21. Intensify cooperation with the United Nations treaty bodies by submitting overdue national periodic reports to appropriate committees in the near future (Uzbekistan);
- 5.22. Submit its national report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which is overdue since 2007 (Belarus);
- 5.23. Implement criminal law provisions aimed at combating racially motivated crimes and punishing perpetrators (South Africa);
- 5.24. Intensify efforts to combat hate speech (Iraq);
- 5.25. Continue its efforts at the international level in preventing genocide and crimes against humanities (Armenia);
- 5.26. Continue and enhance its efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);
- 5.27. Step up efforts to ensure the basic human rights of all detainees by improving the material condition in prison facilities and police detention centres as well as investigating cases regarding ill-treatment and violence in prisons and conducting trainings for prison officers (Republic of Korea);
- 5.28. Continue efforts to address the issue of overcrowded prisons and take action to improve the conditions in prisons and detention centres (Sweden);
- 5.29. Improve conditions in detention and prison facilities, including by increasing living space and improving access to healthcare services for detainees (Czech Republic);
- 5.30. Adopt the measures required to combat all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and violence in marriage, both in law and in practice (Paraguay);
- 5.31. Continue taking steps to actively prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Estonia);
- 5.32. Step up efforts to enforce anti-trafficking legislation (Philippines);
- 5.33. Ensure the application of the legislation against trafficking in persons for purposes of labour and sexual exploitation, by undertaking the greatest efforts for the identification, protection and rehabilitation of victims and the investigation and prosecution of those responsible (Uruguay);
- 5.34. Take clear measures to combat trafficking in persons, particularly trafficking of women and children for the purpose of forced labour and sexual trade (Bahrain);
- 5.35. Reinforce measures to prevent trafficking in human beings, provide effective support and redress to victims, investigate and prosecute offenders (Bulgaria);
- 5.36. Continue to strengthen enforcement of anti-trafficking legislation by investigating and prosecuting offenders, while also reinforcing the mechanisms of support, rehabilitation, protection and redress for victims (Canada);
- 5.37. Investigate and prosecute crimes of trafficking in persons and provide effective support and rehabilitation for the victims (Egypt);

- 5.38. Strengthen all existing mechanisms within its institutional infrastructure to prevent and combat trafficking in persons by allocating human, technical and financial resources; and ensure comprehensive care and adequate reparation to victims (Honduras);
- 5.39. Implement reforms to reduce processing times for judicial cases and reduce perceptions of unfairness in the judicial system (United States of America);
- 5.40. Provide protection for the family as the natural and fundamental unit of the society (Egypt);
- 5.41. Guarantee freedom of expression, of the press and opinion, including by effectively investigating cases of attacks against journalists (Bulgaria);
- 5.42. Develop a national action plan with concrete goals to tackle the gender pay gap (Slovenia);
- 5.43. Draw up and implement specific measures to avoid gender-based segregation in employment, including through equal pay for equal work for men and women (Mexico);
- 5.44. Eliminate the pay gap between men and women (Algeria);
- 5.45. Take action to narrow the gender pay gap and to ensure equal opportunities for women on the labour market (Israel);
- 5.46. Continue efforts aimed at reduction of the maternal mortality rate (Georgia);
- 5.47. Increase access to technical services for persons with disabilities, with appropriate support from regional institutions (Jamaica);
- 5.48. Further develop policies to ensure the full enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities, particularly in terms of inclusive education and accessibility (Israel);
- 5.49. Continue to take measures in order to protect the rights of national minorities and their social integration (Armenia);
- 5.50. Support the teaching of minorities languages and cultures in minority schools (Kyrgyzstan);
- 5.51. Pay further efforts to elaborate on the education of minority languages and cultures (Hungary);
- 5.52. Undertake further analysis of the high percentage of Roma Children in special education schools in light of the principles of the Council of Europe and the jurisprudence of the European Convention on Human Rights (Norway);
- 5.53. Take further concrete and effective steps towards social inclusion for Romani people, such as strengthening Latvia's human rights framework and providing human rights training to law enforcement authorities in order to increase protections for Romani people against violations of their human rights (Australia);
- 5.54. Continue strengthening programmes for the integration of national minorities, including the Roma, in order to ensure their economic social and cultural rights (Chile);
- 5.55. Continue efforts to reduce the number of non-citizens (Kyrgyzstan);

- 5.56. Strengthen efforts to encourage the naturalisation of eligible non-citizens (United States of America);
  - 5.57. Undertake targeted outreach activities to ensure that interested “non-citizens” are informed and encouraged to apply for naturalization, and provide free state language training when necessary (Norway);
  - 5.58. Adopt legal and administrative measures in order to guarantee the basic rights to asylum seekers and refugees, in particular rights which allow them the access to health assistance services (Argentina);
  - 5.59. Ensure that conditions of reception centres of asylum seekers are in line with international standards (Djibouti);
  - 5.60. Take further measures to improve the condition of the reception centres for asylum seekers and ensure asylum seekers have access to adequate standard of living (Afghanistan);
  - 5.61. Ensure the registration of all newly born children so as to continue reducing the number of adult non-citizens (Mexico).
6. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Latvia, which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:
- 6.1. Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Hungary);
  - 6.2. 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);
  - 6.3. Strengthen ongoing efforts against domestic violence, including by adopting comprehensive legislation that would establish specific offences in this realm, and by establishing adequate monitoring and investigative mechanisms (Turkey);
  - 6.4. Make efforts to adopt comprehensive legislation on violence against women with provisions on domestic violence and marital rape as specific offences in the Criminal Law and punish perpetrators as well as provide assistance and recovery for victims (Republic of Korea);
  - 6.5. Pass legislation which qualifies domestic violence and spousal rape as crimes (Costa Rica);
  - 6.6. Incorporate the definition of torture into the criminal code in conformity with the standards in the CAT (Paraguay);
  - 6.7. Ensure the conformity of the definition of torture in criminal law with the Convention against Torture, that the crime of torture is not subject to the statute of limitations and that the detention facilities are subject to monitoring by impartial and independent mechanisms (Egypt);
  - 6.8. Define incitement to violence on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity as a criminal offence (South Africa) (Iceland);
  - 6.9. Take measures to strengthen the role and capacity of the Ombudsman to address issues such as non-discrimination (Namibia);

- 6.10. Provide the office of the Ombudsman with the human and financial resources necessary for it to exercise its mandate in accordance with the Principles relating to the Status of National Institutions (Portugal);
  - 6.11. Ensure that all allegations of torture and ill-treatment are investigated by an independent mechanism, and that alleged perpetrators are effectively prosecuted (Turkey);
  - 6.12. Implement the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment's recommendation on offering at least 4 m<sup>2</sup> per prisoner in multi-occupancy cells (Norway);
  - 6.13. Take the necessary steps to ensure that persons with disabilities have adequate means to participate in politics, especially in the electoral process (Thailand).
7. The following recommendations will be examined by Latvia which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council in June 2016:
- 7.1. Recognize the competence of Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications from individuals (South Africa);
  - 7.2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal) (South Africa);
  - 7.3. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW (Turkey);
  - 7.4. Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and take measures in order to combat discrimination against women (Namibia);
  - 7.5. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Mexico) (South Africa);
  - 7.6. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ireland);
  - 7.7. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (France);
  - 7.8. Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as well as other remaining key international human rights documents (Ukraine);
  - 7.9. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Montenegro) (Pakistan) (Poland) (South Africa) (Costa Rica) (Ecuador) (Honduras);
  - 7.10. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Morocco);
  - 7.11. Ratify Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France);
  - 7.12. Intensify its efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);



- 7.13. Incorporate CAT into the national legislation and ratify OP-CAT (Lithuania);
- 7.14. Ratify OPCAT and establish an Independent National Preventive Mechanism, in compliance with OPCAT requirements (Liechtenstein);
- 7.15. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish without delay a national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Protocol (Czech Republic);
- 7.16. Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a National Preventive Mechanism (Republic of Moldova);
- 7.17. Sign and ratify OP-CAT (Germany);
- 7.18. Ratify as soon as possible the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal);
- 7.19. Take measures towards the ratification of the OPCAT (Georgia);
- 7.20. Accede to the Convention on the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay);
- 7.21. Consider its accession to the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Member of Their Families (Indonesia);
- 7.22. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Philippines);
- 7.23. Move towards the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of all Migrant Workers and their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Chile);
- 7.24. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Kyrgyzstan) (Ghana) (Mexico) (Pakistan) (Ecuador) (Honduras);
- 7.25. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria);
- 7.26. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Egypt);
- 7.27. Continue its efforts to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Morocco);
- 7.28. Accede to the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Uruguay);
- 7.29. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Italy) (Montenegro) (Ghana);
- 7.30. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and recognise the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (France);
- 7.31. Assess the possibility of lifting its reservations to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Germany);

- 7.32. Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);
- 7.33. Address the fragmentation of anti-discrimination provisions in its legislation by adopting a robust and comprehensive anti-discrimination law (Czech Republic);
- 7.34. Adopt a law to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women (Israel);
- 7.35. Improve the relevant legislation to further combat racial discrimination and incitement to racial hatred in order to effectively protect the rights of ethnic minorities (Iceland);
- 7.36. Enact legislation that defines the line between freedom of expression and hate speech (Saudi Arabia);
- 7.37. Improve the relevant laws to further combat racial discrimination and hate speech in order to protect effectively the rights of non-citizens residing in Latvia and minority groups (China);
- 7.38. Amend national legislation in order to include hate crimes and domestic violence and take effective measures to ensure equal access to employment, social security, inclusion and equal opportunities for all people, especially for members of minorities. These measures should also facilitate the regularization of non-citizens, avoid discrimination arising from a lack of knowledge of the official language and offer alternatives which foster inclusion and cohesion in society, in particular in the education system (Ecuador);
- 7.39. Consider as a crime all acts of violence, regardless of the harm that they cause, in addition to specifically punishing violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Spain);
- 7.40. Amend legal prohibition on incitement to hatred to include prohibitions on the basis of sexual orientation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 7.41. Consider legislative and administrative measures to combat violence on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation (United States of America);
- 7.42. Adopt legislation that explicitly recognizes homophobic and transphobic motivation for a criminal offence as an aggravating circumstance in its criminal law (Finland);
- 7.43. Take legal and administrative measures to improve the treatment of asylum seekers in order to establish safeguards against their arbitrary detention (Costa Rica);
- 7.44. Adopt integrated legislation consistent with its international obligations, that addresses the issue of discrimination and ensures the full integration of vulnerable groups, in particular immigrants and persons belonging to linguistic minorities in all spheres (Honduras);
- 7.45. Bring the nationality legislation into compliance with the provisions of the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness and the CRC (Kenya);
- 7.46. Develop and implement a National Action Plan for Human Rights to further ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to the promotion and protection of human rights; the Government of Latvia is encouraged to engage civil society in the process (Indonesia);

- 7.47. Adopt a National Action Plan to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Netherlands);
- 7.48. Establish specific initiatives and policies aimed at combating all forms of xenophobia racism and hate aimed at foreigners, particularly Muslims (Saudi Arabia);
- 7.49. Implement public awareness campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and to counter prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, racism, and Islamophobia (United Arab Emirates);
- 7.50. Ensure that diversity is actively pursued in school curricula through awareness-raising activities in order to eliminate discrimination against minorities, especially lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Finland);
- 7.51. Verify the impact of the amendments of the educational law relating to the mandate to “morally educate children in compliance with the values of the constitution” on the realization of human rights, in particular women's rights, rights of LGBTI persons and freedom of expression (Germany);
- 7.52. Consider the creation of a national system for the monitoring of the follow-up to recommendations relating to human rights (Paraguay);
- 7.53. Continue to pay attention to all aspects of gender equality, in particular to the recommendations of the working group established by the Gender Equality Committee on the integration of gender equality aspects into process and content of all educational levels until 2020 (Romania);
- 7.54. Work towards implementing resolution 16/18 concerning combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief (Bahrain);
- 7.55. Continue its efforts in countering racist discourse in politics and in the media, fighting racially motivated crimes, and eliminating violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Thailand);
- 7.56. Strengthen measures to counter the use of racist discourse in politics and in the media (United Arab Emirates);
- 7.57. Actively combat racially-motivated crimes and counteract racist speech in politics and the mass media (Uzbekistan);
- 7.58. Enhance its efforts aimed at preventing and combating and bringing to justice perpetrators of hate crimes, as well as acts of racism, xenophobia and discrimination against vulnerable groups, including LGBTI individuals (Brazil);
- 7.59. Prohibit the holding of the annual gathering in March in the centre of Riga in a memory of soldiers who fought in the Latvian legion of the Waffen SS as well as condemn strictly any attempts to glorify the memory of those who fought in the Waffen SS and collaborated with Nazis (Russian Federation);
- 7.60. Continue efforts to prevent racist speech, violence and discrimination against vulnerable groups, including Roma, by fighting racially motivated crimes and countering the use of racist discourse in politics and the media (Republic of Korea);

- 7.61. Raise public awareness of hate speech against LGBT persons and take steps to increase reporting of hate crimes against LGBT persons (Norway);
- 7.62. Adopt measures to promote equality of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and end discrimination against them regard (France);
- 7.63. Introduce legislation that recognises the diversity of forms of partnerships and that provides same sex couples with the same rights and social security as couples of the opposite sex, as previously recommended (Netherlands);
- 7.64. Deepen actions against discrimination and violence suffered by LGBTI persons; in particular, ensure access to courts as well as the investigation and punishment of these acts; and strengthen the assistance provided to victims (Argentina);
- 7.65. Prepare an appropriate normative framework for mental health institutions and social care facilities, ensuring that it prohibits the non-consensual use of coercive practices such as psychiatric medication or electroconvulsive therapy (Spain);
- 7.66. Continue its efforts of adhering to international legal instruments in the field of human rights, inter alia, to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Romania);
- 7.67. Increase the number and capacity of shelters for women who are victims of violence and ensure that victims receive adequate assistance, including psychosocial counselling (Liechtenstein);
- 7.68. Ensure that all processing of personal data and all State surveillance activities be in line with international human rights law and do not infringe on citizen's fundamental rights and freedoms, including the right to privacy (Liechtenstein);
- 7.69. Ensure that the operations of intelligence agencies are monitored by an independent oversight mechanism to ensure transparency and accountability (Liechtenstein);
- 7.70. Promote responsible freedom of expression and effectively use the Cyber Security Strategy of Latvia 2014-2018 as a platform to combat hate crimes in the virtual environment (Malaysia);
- 7.71. Put an end to cases of politically-motivated persecution of human rights defenders who advocate for the rights of minorities or the closure or suspension of mass media and restrictions on access to various sources of information for the population (Russian Federation);
- 7.72. Promote better political representation of women in elected positions (Costa Rica);
- 7.73. Meet the provision of technical facilities as laid down requirements of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Pakistan);
- 7.74. Promote greater societal integration of minorities within the education system through intercultural, interethnic, and interreligious dialogue (Malaysia);

- 7.75. Take all measures that guarantee the representation of minorities in social and political areas (Saudi Arabia);
- 7.76. Ensure inclusive education, taking all the measures required to end cases of segregation children belonging to ethnic minorities in schools (Uruguay);
- 7.77. Ensure full realisation of the rights of “non-citizen” residents and of members belonging to linguistic minorities and contribute to their integration in society (Russian Federation);
- 7.78. Remove disproportionate restrictions, such as those identified by the Human Rights Committee, on non-citizens and provide for the possibility of judicial review of all refusals of naturalisation (Ireland);
- 7.79. Introduce the automatic acquisition of citizenship together with birth registration for children of foreign parents whose nationality cannot be passed to them, and facilitate the possibility of judicial review for all naturalisation applications which are denied (Spain);
- 7.80. Take further legal, political and practical measures to reduce the phenomenon of non-citizens (Belarus);
- 7.81. Simplify the process of naturalisation of “non-citizens” living in the country for decades (Russian Federation);
- 7.82. Further facilitate the acquisition of citizenship by individuals born in the country who are children of non-citizens (Brazil);
- 7.83. Continue to take further steps to improve the environment for naturalisation as well as ensure the protection of social and political rights of non-citizens (Australia);
- 7.84. Further facilitate the granting of citizenship to children of non-citizen parents who do not acquire any other nationality (Germany);
- 7.85. Ensure the full enjoyment of rights of non-citizen residents and linguistic minorities and facilitate their integration into society (Bulgaria);
- 7.86. Guarantee the funding of institutions which promote tolerance and the smooth integration of foreigners (Mexico);
- 7.87. Adopt clear measures to guarantee the rights of all refugees and asylum seekers and protection, and not to classify them and arrest them as illegal immigrants (Bahrain);
- 7.88. Ensure that all persons requesting asylum in Latvia enjoy all procedural guarantees and that decisions on asylum, including those made under accelerated procedures, can be appealed and suspended to avoid the risk of refoulement (Djibouti);
- 7.89. Integrate the refugees into society as a matter of necessity through combatting stereotypes that inflame hatred feelings towards them in the society (Libya);
- 7.90. Facilitate the integration of refugees, including by combating stereotypes, prejudice and hate speech (Egypt);
- 7.91. Facilitate the integration of refugees by combating stereotypes (India);

- 7.92. Refrain from refouling or expelling persons to another state when there are grounds to believe they will be subject to torture (Djibouti);
- 7.93. Develop an adequate identification mechanism for vulnerable persons and grant free legal aid from the beginning of the asylum procedure (Slovenia);
- 7.94. Ensure that detained asylum seekers have access to public health services on an equal footing with other detainees who have been arrested or convicted (Portugal);
- 7.95. Guarantee that hate to foreigners and racial and religious extremism are not an obstacles to dealing with refugees and asylum seekers (Bahrain);
- 7.96. Provide “non-citizens” with equal access to employment, education, health care, and social welfare, as well as take into account their interests in the conclusion of international treaties and agreements (Russian Federation).
8. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Latvia and would thus be noted:
- 8.1. Implement public policies which guarantee to member of linguistic minorities the enjoyment of all their human rights, including the revision of the Law on Languages and the repeal of those articles which might impair their rights (Paraguay);
- 8.2. Review the law on state language, which discriminates against linguistic minorities in access to the labour market and ensure that appeals from those who do not master the Latvian language sufficiently are considered by state bodies, through providing them an opportunity to use their mother tongue before state bodies (Russian Federation);
- 8.3. Provide the opportunity to use personal names, place names, street names and other geographical indications in minority languages, as well as enabling the contact with the authorities in minority language on the territories where a significant part of the population belongs to those minorities (Hungary).
9. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Latvia was headed by H. E. Mr Andrejs Pildegovičs, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia and composed of the following members:

- Mr Jānis Citskovskis – Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia;
- Ms Dace Dalbiņa – Deputy Director, Latvian Language Agency;
- Mr Rolands Ezergailis – First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- H.E. Mr Jānis Kārklīņš – Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Ms Anita Kleinberga – Head of Social Integration and Civil Society Development Division, Department of Social Integration, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia;
- Mr Uldis Lielpēters – Deputy State Secretary for International Affairs, Integration and Media Issues, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia;
- Ms Kristīne Līce – Representative of Latvia before International Human Rights Organisations;
- Ms Laila Medina – Deputy State Secretary on Sectoral Policy, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia;
- Ms Evija Papule – Deputy State Secretary, Head of Education Department, Ministry of Education and Science
- Ms Inese Rudzīte – Legal Advisor, Criminal Justice Department, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia;
- Mr Gatis Švika – Deputy Head of the Central Administrative Department, Head of Cooperation and Development Bureau, State Police of Latvia;
- Ms Ineta Tāre – Head of International Cooperation and EU Policy Department, Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia;
- Mr Dimitrijs Trofimovs – Deputy State Secretary, Head of Sectoral Policy Department, Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia;
- Ms Alise Zālīte – Senior Desk Officer, Human Rights Division, International Organizations and Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia.