

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Greece

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Greece, welcomes the legal recognition of gender identity and encourages further consideration of the rights of LGBTI+ persons.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ensure full and equal participation of women in the labour force and implement measures to close the gender pay gap.
2. Provide universal access to quality services for survivors of gender-based violence and access to justice for them.
3. Pass and implement laws that recognize same-sex marriage and the possibility to adopt children.
4. Adopt the European Convention on Human Rights definition of hate speech crimes and investigate, prosecute and condemn racist violence crimes and hate speech crimes against LGBTI+ persons.

I wish Greece all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Suriname

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Suriname, its national report, and the steps outlined therein.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.
3. Decriminalise abortion by revising Article 309 of the Penal Code to respect, protect and fulfill women and girls' human rights to health.
4. Make Article 80 of the Civil Code gender neutral to guarantee the full enjoyment of the right to family life by LGBTI+ persons.
5. Review and make compatible with applicable law, all policies and measures on gender recording in the deeds of Civil Registry, to allow supplementing the registers of birth following gender and sex re-assignment.

I wish Suriname all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Samoa

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Samoa and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty by ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW without delay and develop protocols to address violence against women.
3. Revise the existing Family Life Education curriculum to align with the UN International Technical Guidelines on Sexuality Education.
4. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
5. Enact legislation and implement policies that prioritise health needs of trans persons, including for HIV and STIs prevention and treatment and gender-affirmative care, and SOGI-awareness raising for service providers to ensure confidentiality, empathy, and respect in healthcare settings.

I wish Samoa all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Hungary

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Hungary and the national report, and the steps outlined therein.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Istanbul Convention and criminalize all forms of domestic violence.
2. Enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value to eliminate the gender pay gap.
3. Revert the current ban on legal gender recognition and develop a procedure for recognition based on personal autonomy and self-identification.
4. Reestablish the Equal Treatment Authority, adopt a comprehensive strategy and action plan to tackle discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
5. Guarantee the right of children to comprehensive sexuality education, including on the full diversity of sexual orientations, gender identities, and sex characteristics.

I wish Hungary all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty.
2. Increase availability of shelters for victims of sexual and gender-based violence, and train law enforcement to attribute to a victim-centred approach to SGBV casework.
3. Revise the existing Family Life Education curriculum to align with the UN International Technical Guidelines on Sexuality Education.
4. Decriminalize consensual sexual relationships between adults of the same sex and expand anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

I wish Saint Vincent and the Grenadines all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Papua New Guinea

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Papua New Guinea and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, review customary laws, and repeal all provisions that are harmful and discriminatory against women and girls.
3. Decriminalize abortion and ensure universal and safe access to abortion and other sexual and reproductive health and rights.
4. Repeal sections 210 and 212 of the Criminal Code in order to decriminalise sexual relations between men.
5. Amend the preamble and article 55 of the Constitution to include sexual orientation, gender identity and expression as grounds of non-discrimination.

I wish Papua New Guinea all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Tajikistan

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Tajikistan and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Create a timeline with concrete steps to abolish the death penalty by 2026 and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Develop an action plan to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence against women and expedite the adoption of legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence.
3. Hold accountable officials, public figures and authors of media and online publications calling violence and hate speech against LGBTI+ persons.
4. Devise and implement procedures to ensure protection against reprisals for LGBTI+ persons who lodge complaints about extortion and physical abuse by law enforcement officials and non-state actors.

I wish Tajikistan all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Tanzania

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Tanzania and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, abolish the death penalty, and commute existing death sentences to proportionate punishments in line with international human rights standards.
2. Enforce the relevant legislation criminalising the practice of female genital mutilation.
3. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex.
4. Respect the right to confidentiality and dignity of LGBTI+ persons by banning invasive and demeaning procedures disguised as evidence gathering such as anal examination.

I wish Tanzania all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Eswatini

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Eswatini and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty.
2. Decriminalize abortion and guarantee the provision of, and access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and goods, including safe abortion and post-abortion care, and modern contraceptives.
3. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex.
4. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation clearly prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and effectively investigate all acts of violence against LGBTI+ persons.

I wish Eswatini all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Antigua and Barbuda

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda, welcomes steps taken to address gender-based violence and encourages further consideration of the rights of women and LGBTI+ persons.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty.
2. Revise the Health and Family Life Education curriculum in line with the UN technical guidelines, and train teachers to ensure effective provision of the curriculum.
3. Form a legislative committee to revise the abortion law to allow termination of pregnancy.
4. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and effectively investigate all acts of violence against LGBTI+ persons.

I wish Antigua and Barbuda all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Trinidad and Tobago

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago, welcomes amendments to the Domestic Violence Act and the establishment of a Gender-based Violence Unit of the Police Service.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize abortion by amending the Offences against the Persons Act.
3. Revise the Health and Family Life Education curriculum and integrate comprehensive sexuality education in line with international standards.
4. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex by removing section 13 and 16 of the Sexual Offences Act.
5. Establish a well-resourced national human rights mechanism in line with the Paris Principles, to address discrimination and violence against LGBTI+ persons.

I wish Trinidad and Tobago all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Thailand

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Thailand and is encouraged by measures taken to improve women's access to health care services and steps taken to improve the rights of LGBTI+ persons.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty, ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and introduce an immediate moratorium on executions.
2. Develop a national plan to guarantee access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services for all, including regular and irregular migrant workers.
3. Recognize same-sex marriage by the end of 2022.
4. Enact a Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act by 2023 in consultation with LGBTI+ groups in Thailand.

I wish Thailand all success for its review.

I thank you.

Statement by Iceland

UPR39-Ireland

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Ireland, welcomes the expanded access to abortion services, and encourages Ireland to take additional legislative steps to improve women and girls' access to abortion services.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Implement the commitment made on ICPD25 to remove barriers to access to reproductive health services, enhance CSE provision and increase financial commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights.
2. Criminalize domestic violence and introduce a specific definition of domestic violence and other emerging forms of GBV.
3. Expand access to abortion and repeal the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act.
4. Develop a rights-based healthcare protocol for intersex children, ensure that children and their parents are well informed of all options and that children are involved in decision-making.

I wish Ireland all success for its review.

I thank you.