Protection and Promotion of Economic and Social Rights of the Most Vulnerable Population in Serbia

Follow-up from the previous UPR Cycle on Serbia

Recommendations were made with respect to the position of Roma and their access to rights, from Germany, Finland, Afghanistan, Italy and Mozambique.

France urged Serbia to continue efforts to promote the human rights of persons belonging to **minorities**, **especially the Roma minority**, while **Albania** recommended further measures to overcome prevailing **discrimination of Roma** in the enjoyment of economic and social rights.

Costa Rica issued a recommendation to Serbia to **ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**, which the State did not accept, nor implemented

Three main issues

- Denial of parental and child allowance to Roma children
- Human rights concerns raised by the automated decision-making processes introduced through the social cards system
- Improvement of the human rights protection mechanisms through the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights.

Denial of parental and child allowance to

Roma children

Review the conditions for benefits aimed at families with children with a view to remove discriminatory conditions for the parental allowance which excludes marginalized Roma children.

Abandon the limitation on the number of children eligible for the children and parental allowance.

Automated decision-making introduced through the social cards system

Abandon automated decision-making processes in social protection which harms most vulnerable individuals, and revisit criteria for receiving social assistance.

Ratification of the OP to the International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights.

Continue efforts to improve the human rights protection mechanisms through the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you for your attention.

