

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (SECOND BATCH)**

### **PORTUGAL**

- Could the State-under-review describe its national mechanism or process responsible for coordinating the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the monitoring of progress and impact?
- Has the State-under-review established a dedicated ‘national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up’ (NMIRF) covering UPR recommendations, but also recommendations/observations generated by the UN human rights Treaty Bodies, the Special Procedures and relevant regional mechanisms? If so, could the State-under-review briefly share its experience on creating such mechanism, including challenges faced and lessons learnt, as well as any plans or needs to strengthen the NMIRF in the future?

### **BRAZIL**

- What measures are being implemented by the Russian government in order to safeguard the rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS and to counter the spread of the disease?
- In its national report, the Russian Federation stated that it gives the most careful attention to questions of combating violence against women. Could the State under review provide more detailed information on national practices developed in this regard?

### **UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

- What is the Government of Russia doing to bring an end to attacks on and intimidation of human rights defenders in the North Caucasus? How is it addressing allegations of state sponsored violence against NGOs in Chechnya? What work is being done to implement European Court of Human Rights’ judgements related to the North Caucasus region?
- How does the Government of Russia’s recent decision to adopt new restrictive legislation targeting social networks, including the blocking of the Telegram messaging social networking application, comply with Russia’s international commitments to respect the freedom of the media?
- We have seen increased use of restrictive legislation such as the “Foreign Agents” and “Undesirable Organisations” Laws against NGOs and civil society groups who promote human rights, champion opposing political views or receive foreign funding. What steps is the Government of Russia taking to ensure that NGOs and civil society in Russia are able to carry out their work openly, transparently and without harassment in such a restrictive environment?

- How does the Government of Russia’s decision to classify Jehovah’s Witnesses as an “extremist organisation” not run contrary with the right to religious freedom, which is enshrined in the Russian Constitution?
- Can the Government of Russia outline what steps are being taken to protect women from abuse, following last year’s decision to decriminalise domestic violence? Will the Government criminalise domestic violence? If not, why not?

## GERMANY

- During the second cycle of the UPR in 2013, the Russian Federation committed itself to develop a concept to increase the knowledge and awareness in society, and in particular within State institutions, about human rights obligations of the State and rights of the people. Germany would like to know how well-advanced the efforts for the setting up of such a concept are so far?
- Internet censorship in Russia has skyrocketed last year, with an average of 244 websites having been blocked every day in 2017. What steps will the Russian Federation take to tangibly improve the work environment of bloggers and journalists?
- Could the Russian Federation explain the procedures of how an organization becomes classified as ‘undesirable’ (Federal Law 129-FZ of 23 May 2015 "On amendments of some legislative acts of the Russian Federation"). Are there legal remedies?

## UKRAINE

- On 19 April 2017, the International Court of Justice issued a provisional measures order, in the case initiated by Ukraine against the Russian Federation, requiring Russia to “refrain from maintaining or imposing limitations on the ability of the Crimean Tatar community to preserve its representative institutions, including the *Mejlis*” and to “ensure the availability of education in the Ukrainian language,” and called on the parties not to take action aggravating the disputes before the Court, which encompass both discrimination in Crimea and support for terrorism in eastern Ukraine. What steps is the Russian Federation taking to comply with the aforementioned ICJ Order?
- When will the Russian Federation implement all interim measures issued by the European Court of Human Rights under its Rule 39 in the cases regarding human rights violations in the occupied Ukrainian territories of Donbas and Crimea, in particular requiring Russia to refrain from measures, which might threaten the life and health of the civilian population in the territory of Ukraine and ensure respect for the rights of people deprived of liberty guaranteed by the 1950 Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the Protocols thereto?

- When will the Russian Federation withdraw from Ukraine its regular armed forces and units subordinated to the Defense Ministry and other law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation, their advisers, instructors and illegal armed groups, armed gangs and groups of mercenaries established, commanded, controlled and funded by the Russian Federation, which remain the single largest source of grave human right violations in the occupied Ukrainian territories, Crimea and Donbas?
- Why does the government continue, in violation of international humanitarian law, to impose and retroactively apply the legal system of the Russian Federation and impose automatic Russian Federation citizenship on protected persons in Crimea and how will the government address the negative impact thereof on the human rights situation in Crimea?
- When will the Russian Federation, as the occupying power, ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to the temporarily occupied Crimea, as provided for in General Assembly resolutions A/RES/71/205 and A/RES/72/190?
- What efforts has the Russian Federation, as the occupying power, undertaken to bring to immediate end all violations and abuses against residents of Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, to revoke all discriminatory legislation, as well as to address the issue of impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for violations and abuses are held accountable before an independent judiciary?
- When will the Russian Federation, as the occupying power, end the practice of compelling Crimean residents to serve in the armed or auxiliary forces of the Russian Federation, including through pressure or propaganda?
- What steps is the government of the Russian Federation taking to immediately release Ukrainian citizens, who were unlawfully detained and judged without regard for elementary standards of justice, as well as those transferred or deported across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation, and to provide unrestricted access by representatives of international organizations and consular officers of Ukraine to citizens of Ukraine kept in detention in the territory of the Russian Federation?