



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia

at the
30th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Turkmenistan

Geneva, 7 May 2018

Mr President,

my country welcomes the contribution of delegation of Turkmenistan at today's UPR review and thanks them for their commitment to the UPR process.

We welcome the establishment of the office of the Ombudsman and would encourage Turkmenistan to ensure an effective and independent Ombudsman, in accordance with Paris Principles, including through clear and transparent appointment and dismissal procedures.

(Since the last UPR cycle Turkmenistan has adopted national action plans on human rights (2016-2020), on gender equality (2015-2020) and on combatting trafficking in persons (2016-2018). We encourage government to fully implement adopted measures.)

We remain concerned about the human rights situation in the country, in particular about enforced disappearances and allegations of the use of torture and ill-treatment. We are also worried about arbitrary restrictions on freedom of movement as well as the laws and practices restricting freedom of opinion and expression.

Slovenia would like to recommend to Turkmenistan to:

1. Ensure that human rights defenders and journalists are able to conduct their work and activities freely online and offline and to release all prisoners of conscience.
2. Strengthen preventive measures for dealing with violence against women, including through collecting data and raising awareness about gender equality and women's rights.

I thank you.

ADVANCE QUESTION:

- During the 2nd cycle of the UPR Slovenia recommended to ensure that everyone can peacefully exercise the right of freedom of expression in conformity with the ICCPR, which was accepted by Turkmenistan. We would like you to ask about the implementation of this recommendation.