



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the  
**35<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Kyrgyzstan**  
*Geneva, 17 January 2020*

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Mr President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Kyrgyzstan for their presentation today and notes with appreciation Kyrgyzstan's engagement with the UPR mechanism.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to Kyrgyzstan to sign and ratify the Istanbul convention. We see this as a crucial step to increase country's protection of women against violence.

Slovenia welcomes the introduction of the position of children's rights ombudsman in June 2019, as well as the new Criminal and Criminal Procedural Codes that outlawed torture and other ill-treatment and at the same time excluded evidence gained through such procedures. The government had also adopted an Action Plan in this regard which is also a positive step.

Slovenia is however concerned about several reports of torture and ill treatment still. The level of impunity remains a concern taking into account that criminal investigations into allegations of torture and ill treatment are rare, and investigations and trials delayed or ineffective. We also note a lack of effective complaint mechanisms, independent investigations, and monitoring.

Thank you.