**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO TAJIKISTAN (SECOND BATCH)**

**BELGIUM**

* Belgium is a strong proponent of the abolition of the death penalty. What is the state of play since the previous UPR regarding Tajikistan’s intention to ratify the Second Optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty?
* Will Tajikistan issue a standing invitation to the special procedures and respond positively to the outstanding requests of several special rapporteurs to visit the country, such as those of the special rapporteur on freedom of religion, the special rapporteur on trafficking and the working group on arbitrary detention?
* What measures will the government of Tajikistan take to address concerns of several Treaty Bodies regarding domestic and gender based violence? Does the government intend to develop a comprehensive strategy and 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?
* How will the government of Tajikistan ensure that all credible allegations of arbitrary detention, extortion, torture and other ill-treatment of LGBTI persons by government agents or of their abuse by non-state actors are promptly, thoroughly, impartially and independently investigated, and that suspected perpetrators are brought to justice in fair trials?
* Which measures will the government of Tajikistan take to ensure that journalists and human rights defenders are not subjected to pressure by government and law enforcement officials because of their work and can carry out their work without fear of reprisals?

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

* What steps is Tajikistan taking to follow up on the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights' election assessments and recommendations of 27 May 2020 and 29 January 2021?
* What steps and measures will the Government of Tajikistan take to fully implement the 2012 law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence?
* What steps and measures will the Tajik government take to protect freedom of religion or belief, including for minority religions, and tackle intolerance towards religious and belief minorities?
* Will the Government commit to protecting media freedom, both online and offline, by reviewing, updating and implementing existing legislation and bringing it in line with international norms and standards?
* What steps is the Government of Tajikistan taking to protect vulnerable individuals, including children, persons with disabilities, LGBT+ persons, and persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS from violence and discrimination?