Slovakia [submitted by email on 20/02/2019]

Referring to your request dated 21 November 2019 for inputs on SOGI-related issues, please find bellow information of Slovakia on some elements:

„The Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic does not register any practise of conversion therapy and in accordance to our knowledge no official statement in this respect has been issued.

Earlier this year, there were several lectures hold by different psychologists on the topic of conversion therapy and its „positive“ results. In May 2019, Timothy Long, an US psychologist, held one lecture for general public, a seminar for clerical staff of church, and one workshop for doctors and psychologist (a basic training module with a practical illustration of intervention with a client and reintegrate protocol) on topic of “reintegrative therapy”. The workshop was also accredited by the Slovak Association of Psychologist and attending doctors/psychologist could obtain credits in context of continuing professional education. In its official statement, the Slovak Association of Psychologist claimed that the “reintegrative therapy” is different from conversion therapy, does not aim at changing sexual orientation but aims at solving unresolved trauma. Another lecture on conversion therapy by a different psychologist from the USA was hosted by a catholic priest during a celebration in November 2019.

All of these lectures where under scrutiny of media that informed also about the negative aspects of conversion therapy supported by researches and personal statements.

In June 2019, was this topic discussed by the Committee for Rights of LGBTI, an advisory body to the institutions of the Slovak Government (the Council on Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality). The Ministry of Healthcare of the Slovak Republic expressed view that this topic is rather a complex one and should be addressed by the Health Care Surveillance Authority and the respective professional associations.“