**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO CROATIA (FIRST BATCH)**

**SWEDEN**

* Sweden welcomes the recent steps taken by the Government of Croatia to reconcile the experiences of the ethnic communities in Croatia during the hostilities of the 1990s, particularly those of the Serb minority. Are there any thoughts on how to take further measures to ensure implementation of minority protection legislation, in particular the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities?
* The introduction of the Whistleblower Protection Act in 2019 was a welcome step in combating misconduct and the possibility to report irregularities in the management of public administration, as well as private organizations. What other measures is the Government of Croatia taking to ensure the integrity of the public administration?
* Sweden welcomes the legislative framework of the Republic of Croatia against discrimination of LGBT persons. However, we understand that occurrences of prejudice and discrimination for reasons of sexual orientation are still reported. Is the Government of Croatia considering any further measures to strengthen LGBT-person’s full enjoyment of human rights?

**GERMANY**

* Which measures does the new Croatian government plan to introduce in order to raise the acceptance for core human rights issues such as the rights of women, including their protection against domestic violence, LGBTI persons and members of minorities in the Croatian society?
* Since the last national program for the protection and promotion of human rights has expired in 2016, what kind of strategies does the Croatian government develop to promote human rights in Croatia in a sustainable manner?
* How does the Croatian government evaluate the cooperation with civil society? Which measures are you considering in order to further improve this cooperation and the independence of civil society structures (such as the ombudsperson for equality, children and disabled persons)?

**SLOVENIA**

* How does the Croatian Government envisage to ensure that Roma children receive instruction in their language?

**BELGIUM**

* Which concrete steps does the government of Croatia intend to take to expedite the effective prosecution of war crimes committed during the 1991-1995 conflict?
* What measures is the government of Croatia taking to strengthen and enforce laws protecting journalists against physical attacks and threats as well as to ensure the prosecution of the perpetrators of such acts?
* Will the government of Croatia step up its awareness-raising measures and trainings of police, judiciary, prosecutors, community representatives on gender based violence and domestic violence and its detrimental impact on the lives of victims?
* How does the government of Croatia intend to put an end to cases of co-arrest, and in some cases co-conviction, of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence? Will the government of Croatia implement training for police officers to enable them to identify the primary aggressors of domestic violence, and thus prevent victims from being arrested as well?
* Does the government of Croatia intend to amend national legislation to specifically include life partners in relevant laws with the aim of recognizing their right to foster children in their families?

**CANADA**

* What steps is Croatia taking to strengthen confidence in the judicial system?
* How is Croatia working to protect the rights of members of the LGBTI community?
* What steps is Croatia taking to address ethnic discrimination and attacks against Roma and Serb populations?
* How is Croatia working to promote the full and equal participation of women in political and public life and in the civil service, especially at the senior and decision-making levels?
* Does Croatia have plans to draft a National Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights?

**PORTUGAL on behalf of the Group of Friends on NMIRF’s**

* 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, which, *inter alia*, clusters all the above, manages them in national databases, coordinates implementation actions across government, monitors progress and impact, and then streamline reporting procedures back to the UN? 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?

**URUGUAY**

* Following the recommendation submitted by Uruguay during the second cycle of the UPR, we congratulate Croatia on its new Act on Protection Against Domestic Violence and its national strategy 2017-2022, that includes protection measures against the sexual exploitation of children.

In that context, Uruguay would appreciate additional information on the measures adopted in the last years to ensure the prevention and combat of child trafficking and exploitation, including for sexual related purposes.

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

* How is the Croatian Government working to increase media freedom and protect journalists from interference and harassment?
* What plans does the Croatian Government have to enhance the timely and adequate handling of hate crimes, and to increase training activities for law enforcement officials?
* What progress has the Croatian Government made to secure equality for national minorities, as outlined in the Constitutional Law on National Minorities of the Republic of Croatia?
* What steps and measures is the Croatian Government taking to strengthen implementation of anti-discrimination legislation, ensuring full equality for same sex (LGBT+) partners?
* Is the Croatian Government planning on introducing a national migration policy?