



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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2 December 2013

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the second periodic report of the Republic of Serbia at the Committee's 101st session, held in March 2011.

At the end of that session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 25 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 12, 17 and 22 of the concluding observations.

On 30 April 2012, my predecessor sent you a letter of reminder for that information. On 25 July 2012, the Committee received the follow-up reply of the State party. At its 107th session held in March 2013, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 12: The Committee considered that additional information remains necessary on the measures taken (i) to expedite the investigations; (ii) to encourage witnesses to testify in court; and on the reasons of Belgrade Appellate Court's ruling to quash the verdict against Radojko Repanovic.

The Committee also noted that no information was provided on the compensations awarded to the relatives of the victims.

- Paragraph 17: The Committee noted that additional action and information were required to enhance the independence of the judiciary, including with regard to the large power retained by the High Judicial Court over the appointment of judges. On the procedures to facilitate speedy trials, the Committee requested additional information on the guarantees in place to protect the access to justice of all parties to a case.

His Excellency
Mr. Vladislav Mladenovic
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative



- Paragraph 22: The Committee requested additional information: (i) to improve the access of the Roma to employment and housing; (ii) to eradicate negative stereotypes on the Roma population; and (iii) to guarantee the integration of Roma children into mainstream education.

During the 109th session of the Committee, held in Geneva in October 2013, the Committee noted that information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. Therefore, I write to request that the above-mentioned additional information be submitted at Your Government's earliest convenience.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in March 2014. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in a Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **5 January 2014** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Serbian authorities on the implementation of the Covenant.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Fabián Omar Salvioli
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee