



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

PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 91st session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11, 15 and 25 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/MKD/CO/8-10), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 8th to periodic reports, at its 87th session in August 2015.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its 11th to 14th periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 17 September 2018.

Paragraph 11 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee welcomes the recent amendments to the Law on the Ombudsman and requests the State party to provide the text of the new law in its next periodic report, and inform about plans to resubmit an accreditation application to the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (formerly known as the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions) in the light of these amendments. The Committee further wishes to learn about the staffing situation of the office of the Ombudsman and whether all positions have been filled. The Committee is concerned about the lack of detailed information on measures to strengthen the independence of the Commission for protection against discrimination, and while noting the information about the legal framework governing the work of both the Commission and the Ombudsman; it regrets the absence of up-to-date information about measures to improve the coordination between the two bodies. The Committee therefore requests that such information be supplemented in the State party's next periodic report.

Mr. Ljupcho Gjorgjinski
Permanent Representative of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
to the United Nations Office
Geneva
Email: geneva@mfa.gov.mk

Paragraph 15 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee while appreciating the information concerning the legal framework governing border control and freedom of movement and freedom, remains concerned that in reality some communities, particularly the Roma, collectively tend to be subject to close scrutiny when leaving the country. The Committee regrets the lack of targeted information on measures taken by the State party to end such practices against these communities. It therefore recommends that the State party present further information in its next periodic report. Furthermore, the Committee encourages the State party to strengthen training on the application on non-discrimination by border police force in their daily work so as to avoid acts of ethnic discrimination, including police profiling.

Paragraph 25 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee notes the information on the new Law on Administrative Officers and request the State party to provide more information on how this law will contribute to a more adequate and equitable representation in public life. It further invites the State party to inform if the new Law has thus far generated any impact in this direction. The Committee also wishes to learn about whether the State party intends to adopt other measures in order to improve representation of smaller communities.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

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

Yours sincerely,



Anastasia Crickley
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination