



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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22 December 2016

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 91<sup>st</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Montenegro, 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 9, 12 and 14(b) of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/MNE/CO/2-3), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> periodic reports, at its 84<sup>th</sup> session in February/March 2014.

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 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 3 June 2017.

**Paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee thanks the State party on the information provided concerning education training to the judiciary, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms, the police and NGOs on protection from discrimination. It however notes the lack of information on training on how to report cases of racial discrimination and bring such cases to court as well as on the provisions of criminal legislations related to racism, equal treatment and non-discrimination. The Committee therefore requests the State party to supplement information on these issues and indicate if also lawyers and prosecutors are pursuing such training. The Committee while appreciating the new setting by which the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms should receive a record of all reported and processed cases of discrimination, notes that this database is not yet operational and requests the State party to provide an update on progress achieved in this regard.

His Excellency Mr. Milorad Scepanovic  
Permanent Representative of Montenegro  
to the United Nations Office  
Geneva  
Email: [missionofmontenegro@bluewin.ch](mailto:missionofmontenegro@bluewin.ch)

**Paragraph 12 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State party to regulate the status of ‘displaced’ and ‘internally displaced’ persons as well as measures to simplify registration procedures and make them more known and accessible among concerned communities. It recommends the State party to pursue and increase these efforts as well as provide an update, including statistical data, in its next periodic report on pending cases and measures to finalise them as well as the number of those who did not apply for registration and the reasons for that, if possible. The Committee, while taking note of measures to increase birth registration, regrets the lack of information on whether the State party has developed a strategy on birth registration as well as the impact of measures taken to increase birth registration especially among Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children. The Committee therefore requests that the State party provide detailed information in this regard in its next periodic report.

**Paragraph 14(b) of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee notes the information concerning the legal framework guaranteeing access to education by all children. It however would appreciate receiving more precise information about access to education by children, especially of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian origin without birth registration, notably on practical impediments in accessing education and measures to overcome these.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Montenegro, 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