



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

REFERENCE:KI/fup-112

27 November 2014

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the third periodic report of Bulgaria.

At the end of its 102<sup>nd</sup> session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 28 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 8, 11 and 21 of the concluding observations.

On 31 January 2013, follow-up information on the referred paragraphs was received. At its 109<sup>th</sup> session, held in October 2013, the Committee analysed the follow-up reply provided by the State party and decided that additional information was necessary.

On 17 January 2014, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 112<sup>th</sup> session, held in October 2014, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 8: **[B2]**: The Committee appreciates the data for 2012 and 2013 regarding the cases of police brutality that were brought to the attention of the State, but regrets that the State party did not provide a complete response to the questions asked by the Committee. Additional information is required on:
  - (a) The reason for which no convictions came into effect in 2012 and why only 6 out of 8 convictions came into effect in 2013, as well as the specific crimes for which these cases were brought to the State;
  - (b) Please report on the composition, mandate, and functions of the Inspectorate Directorate and specific measures undertaken by the Inspectorate Directorate since its inception; and
  - (c) If the State party envisages the establishment of an independent oversight mechanism on prosecution and convictions in the case of complaints against criminal conduct by members of the police.

His Excellency  
Mr. Ivan Piperkov  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
Fax: 022 798 03 02



- Paragraph 11: **[B1]**: While the Committee commends Bulgaria for taking the initial steps towards complying with the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, additional information is required. Please provide information of the specific Articles in the Ministry of Interior Act that address General Principle 6 in the Basic Principles concerning instances of injury or death caused by the use of force and firearms by law enforcement.
- Paragraph 21: **[B2]**: The Committee welcomes the measures taken on behalf of the State party in promulgating new rules regarding public participation in the election of Supreme Judicial Council members as well as the draft bill. However, additional information is required on:
  - (a) the expected date of when the draft bill will be proposed and if any progress has been made in this respect; and
  - (b) awareness-raising activities conducted by the State party on the key values of an independent judiciary aimed at judicial authorities, law enforcement officials and/or the population at large.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in March 2015. 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 **15 January 2015** (Kate Fox: [kfox@ohchr.org](mailto:kfox@ohchr.org) and Fernanda Santana: [fsantana@ohchr.org](mailto:fsantana@ohchr.org)).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the Bulgarian 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