

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 – Norway**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Norway.

We applaud efforts made by Norway to ensure gender equality and equal pay. We welcome the entry into force of the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act and the strengthening of the Norwegian Constitution with the adoption of a separate chapter on human rights.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ensure a gender-sensitive approach in legislation, programs and policies concerning domestic violence.
2. Strengthen the investigative capacity of police and prosecutors in all forms of gender-based violence.
3. Include gender, gender identity and gender expressions as grounds of discrimination in the Penal Code articles protecting against hate crime.
4. Take further measures to combat hate speech and hate crimes.

I wish Norway all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 - Albania**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Albania.

We welcome steps taken by Albania in enacting criminal and civil laws that address domestic violence and note the increase in criminal prosecutions of domestic violence in recent years, as well as the increase in prosecutions for repeat offenses and for violating civil orders for protection.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ensure that police are adequately trained and have skills to respond, investigate and properly manage cases of violence against women, as well as to seek orders of protection for victims.
2. Provide continuing training to police, judges, health professionals, victim support services, and other professional institutions working with victims of violence against women and domestic violence.
3. Ensure the full implementation of the Civil Law “On Measures against Violence in Family Relations” prohibiting the use of mediation or conciliation in cases concerning domestic violence.
4. Amend the Family Law to provide legal recognition for same-sex partnerships and adopt provisions that allow for legal gender recognition of trans individuals.
5. Promote and protect the human rights of LGBTI persons and take measures to combat structural discrimination.

I wish Albania all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR33 - DRC**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

We urge the new government to strengthen existing human rights mechanisms, address impunity and undertake measures to prevent recurrence of violence.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ensure accountability for perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity, regardless of rank or affiliation.
2. Ensure that law enforcement officials and members of the security forces strictly adhere to obligations under IHL and human rights law.
3. Run a nationwide awareness campaign on the phenomenon of children accused of witchcraft and ensure that those responsible for such offences against children are punished.
4. Immediately repeal all provisions, including Articles 175 and 176 of the Penal Code, resulting in discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics.
5. Impose a moratorium on executions and abolish the death penalty.

I wish the Democratic Republic of the Congo all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 – Côte d'Ivoire**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire.

We welcome steps taken by Côte d'Ivoire to establish a political and legislative framework to fight discrimination against women and efforts to increase the participation of women in decision-making.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Outlaw domestic violence and penalize marital rape.
2. Ensure full implementation of penalties for FGM.
3. Intensify the fight against child labour.
4. Mainstream the rights of the child into all policies concerning the business sector, in line with CRC General Comment 16.
5. Enact legislation protecting the rights of LGBTI individuals, including expanding non-discrimination laws to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
6. Ensure that law enforcement officers comply with laws protecting the rights of LGBTI individuals and undertake awareness-raising campaigns to combat the stigmatization of LGBTI individuals.

I wish Côte d'Ivoire all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 – Portugal**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Portugal.

We welcome the adoption of the Portuguese Equal Pay Law which established new measures to promote equal pay between men and women for equal work or work of equal value. We also applaud Portugal for being a champion for LGBTI rights.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Take all appropriate measures to address gender-based violence in law, policy and practice, including through prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into all allegations of gender-based violence.
2. Revise legislation to provide for equal treatment of men and women with regard to conditions following divorce.
3. Amend the law on the voluntary termination of pregnancy and eliminate excessively constraining provisions, including the minimum reflection period and the requirement of a fee.

I wish Portugal all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR33 - Bhutan**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Bhutan.

We welcome the formulation of a national plan of action to promote gender equality in elected office and hope this will accelerate the full and equal participation of women in elected and appointed bodies. We also welcome Bhutan's progressive plans and policies for environmental conservation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Take all measures to counter the negative impact of discriminatory stereotypes of women.
2. De-criminalize abortion and take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high-quality post-abortion services.
3. Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home and schools, and take all measures to enforce it in practice.
4. De-criminalize consensual same-sex acts by either revoking or amending Sections 213 and 214 of the Penal Code.
5. Amend anti-discrimination laws to include discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

I wish Bhutan all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 - Dominica**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Dominica.

We recognize the devastating effects of natural disasters and the significant strides in social inclusion and gender equality made prior to Hurricane Maria. We welcome steps taken by Dominica to prosecute officials who committed abuses but deeply regret intolerance regarding sexual orientation and gender identity.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Urgently adopt the Domestic Violence Act.
2. De-criminalize same-sex acts.
3. Take all measures to protect LGBTI individuals, investigate all acts of violence motivated by the sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim, and bring the perpetrators to justice.
4. Amend anti-discrimination laws to include discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics.
5. Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings and take all measures to enforce it in practice.
6. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish Dominica all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR33 - DPRK**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

We welcome the easing of tensions on the Korean peninsula in the past year and hope for progress on the peace and denuclearization agenda. It is however regrettable that while some positive steps are being made, the serious human rights situation on the ground remains unchanged.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully implement the recommendations made by the Commission of Inquiry, including releasing all political prisoners and allowing for the establishment of independent media.
2. Immediately release the remaining crew and passengers, including Hwang Won, abducted in 1969 during the hijacking of Korean Air Lines flight YS-11.
3. Review laws, including the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women, to include definitions of violence against women, including rape and trafficking of women.
4. Prohibit and effectively end exploitative practices that require women who support families through private economy to contribute quota of goods, money and unpaid forced labour for the government and military investments (Inminban).
5. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish the DPRK all success for its review.

I thank you



## Statement by Iceland

### UPR33 – Brunei

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Brunei Darussalam.

We deplore the news that Brunei has finalized the implementation of sections of the Shariah Penal Code which allows for cruel and archaic punishments such as public flogging, amputation or death by stoning. The new Penal Code marks a serious setback for human rights in Brunei. Moreover, we remain concerned about reports of *inter alia* censorship, interference with the rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, and restrictions on political participation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Repeal the newly-implemented sections of the Penal Code and bring the Penal Code in line with international human rights laws and standards.
2. Take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high-quality post-abortion services.
3. De-criminalize consensual same-sex acts and adultery.
4. Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty and commute all existing death sentences to terms of imprisonment.

I wish Brunei all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 – Costa Rica**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Costa Rica.

We welcome the numerous initiatives undertaken by Costa Rica to promote gender equality and to prevent and eradicate gender-based violence. We also welcome the creation of the LGBTI commissioner and the adoption of new decrees and guidelines in support of LGBTI individuals.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for the murder of human rights defender and indigenous leader Sergio Rojas Ortiz.
2. Ensure that judges, prosecutors and police officers handle cases of gender-based violence and discrimination against women in a gender-sensitive manner.
3. Adopt legislation that introduces a legal right to paid paternity leave and promotes the equitable distribution of parental responsibilities between women and men.
4. Decriminalize abortion and take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high-quality post-abortion services.
5. Prohibit any practice that modifies a person's sex characteristics without irrefutable medical reasons and the full and informed consent of the person affected.
6. Improve records and other data on the situation of LGBTI individuals.

I wish Costa Rica all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 - Equatorial Guinea**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Equatorial Guinea.

We note that since Equatorial Guinea's last review in 2014, the situation for human rights defenders, activists and members of the opposition has not improved. We also note with concern reports of inter alia unlawful or arbitrary killings by government agents, violence against women and LGBTI individuals, and widespread impunity.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Penalize marital rape and sexual harassment.
2. Take all measures to combat stigmatization of and discrimination against LGBTI individuals and promote and protect their human rights.
3. Remove all restrictions on journalistic activity, including by stopping the government practice of pre-publication censorship.
4. Remove laws restricting NGO activity and reform Law 1/1999 regulating NGOs in order to facilitate their registration and enable their full and independent functioning.
5. Take all measures to protect and support opposition members, journalists, human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, and civil society organizations; investigate all attacks against them; and bring the perpetrators to justice.
6. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish Equatorial Guinea all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 - Ethiopia**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Ethiopia.

We welcome the positive steps taken by Ethiopia in advancing gender equality and women's rights, the sharp increase in women's participation in political and public life, gender parity in the cabinet, and the civil society organizations proclamation of 2019.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Review laws from a gender perspective and adopt a comprehensive law on gender-based violence that would include all forms of violence against women.
2. Adopt a comprehensive and inclusive strategy to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes concerning the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society.
3. Amend the Ethiopian National Road Map for HIV Prevention and other national health policies to include LGBTI individuals as "key populations".
4. Conduct awareness-raising campaigns to prevent the stigmatization of LGBTI individuals, with particular emphasis on health professionals.
5. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish Ethiopia all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR33 - Qatar**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Qatar.

We welcome steps taken to enhance the protection of migrant and domestic workers' rights and call on Qatar to take all measures to respect labor rights.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt legislation to protect women from violence and criminalize all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and violence against women expatriate workers.
2. Amend the Citizenship Law to enable Qatari women to transfer nationality to their children and spouses on an equal basis to men.
3. Adopt legislation on the rights of the child, with specific provisions on the protection of children against violence, provisions relating to the rights of children with disabilities, and raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility.
4. De-criminalize consensual same-sex acts and promote and protect the human rights of LGBTI individuals.
5. Bring counter-terrorism and national security legislation into line with international standards, particularly in relation to the definition of terrorism and the length of custody and pre-trial detention.
6. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish Qatar all success for its review.

I thank you

**Statement by Iceland**  
**UPR33 - Nicaragua**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Nicaragua.

Although the mass demonstrations have subsided, we note that the expulsion of international human rights mechanisms, the crackdown on civil society, and the persecution of human rights defenders and journalists are still ongoing.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Immediately halt the persecution of political opponents and swiftly release all individuals who have been arbitrarily detained.
2. Revoke anti-terrorism laws that allow for the persecution of human rights defenders, including women and LGBTI defenders, journalists and peaceful protesters.
3. Ensure that all human rights defenders who engage with multilateral institutions and international and regional human rights bodies can do so without fear of persecution or violence and that any allegations or instances of reprisals are promptly investigated.
4. Conduct thorough investigations into all acts of violence against journalists and media outlets, including the assassination on 21 April 2018 of Ángel Eduardo Gahona, and hold the perpetrators accountable.

I wish Nicaragua all success for its review.

I thank you