

**Table of Recommendations Adopted by Belarus as Part of Second Cycle of Universal Periodic Review, and Indicators,
Prepared by Civil Society Organisations in Belarus**

The following civil society organizations in Belarus prepared the indicators:

- *Belarusian Helsinki Committee*, <http://belhelcom.org/>, office@belhelcom.org
- *Viasna Human Rights Center*, <http://spring96.org/>, viasna@spring96.org
- *Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)*, <http://www.lawtrend.org/>, infolawtrend@gmail.com
- *Assembly of Pro-Democratic NGOs of Belarus*, <http://belngo.info/>, ngo@belngo.info
- *Belarusian Association of Journalists*, <http://baj.by/>, press@baj.by
- *Legal Initiative NGO*
- *Salidarnasć (Solidarity) Committee*, <http://www.salidarnasc.org/>
- *FoRB Initiative*, <http://forb.by>
- *Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, <http://www.disright.org/>, info@disright.org
- *Belarusian Documentation Center*, <https://bydc.info/>, info@bydc.info
- *Barys Zvozkau Belarusian Human Rights House*, http://humanrightshouse.org/Members/Belarus_BY/index.html, belarus@humanrightshouse.org

<i>Recommendations formulated for Belarus as part of UPR second cycle</i>	<i>Indicators of implementation of recommendations developed by civil society</i>	<i>Civil society organizations working in relevant human rights sphere</i>	<i>State agency responsible for implementation of recommendations</i>
General Recommendations			
127.11 Continue efforts to strengthen the legislative and institutional basis of the national system for the protection of human rights (Uzbekistan);	A public discussion has been held on issues related to the improvement of the national human rights protection system, involving a wide range of stakeholders, including the civil society representatives.	Belarusian Helsinki Committee	House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus
127.12 Continue efforts to harmonize national legislation with international human rights norms (Morocco);	1. Measures have been taken to discuss the reform of the national legislation on human rights, including with representatives of the civil society.		Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus <i>Prior to the establishment of the National</i>

	<p>2. Draft laws have been prepared, aiming to harmonize the national legislation with the international human rights standards.</p> <p>3. Amendments to the rules and regulations have been adopted, aiming to harmonize the national legislation with the international human rights standards.</p>		<p><i>Human Rights Institution, an inter-ministerial group needs to be created, involving representatives of the civil society.</i></p>
127.13 Observe all human rights principles, international conventions and raise awareness among the population regarding human rights values (Turkmenistan);	Campaigns have been held, aiming to raise the public awareness and knowledge about human rights, including through social advertising on television and information materials in public transport.		
127.14 Pursue fulfilling its obligations under international human rights mechanisms in the future (Kazakhstan);	<p>1. The State responds to the requests by the international human rights mechanisms in a timely manner.</p> <p>2. The State takes measures to comply with the decisions of the treaty bodies on the citizens' individual communications.</p>		
127.113 Continue to be on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (Ethiopia).	<p>1. The national mechanism has been created to facilitate the achievement of the 17 Millennium Development Goals.</p> <p>2. The national strategy for sustainable development has been prepared, with the participation of representatives of the civil society.</p> <p>3. The collection of high quality, accessible and relevant data has been ensured, as well as the follow-up and a country level review.</p> <p>4. The national indicators have been developed, with the participation of civil society representatives, to facilitate the monitoring of progress in achieving of the goals and objectives.</p>		

Cooperation with Civil Society			
127.23 Strengthen government cooperation with civil society organizations in ensuring the protection and promotion of human rights (Uzbekistan);	<div>1. The government has created a platform to discuss actions, aiming to improve the legislation on human rights and its application, with civil society representatives, regardless of whether their organization is registered or not.</div> <div>2. The government facilitates the campaigns held by civil society organisations to promote human rights, including through the public media and on television.</div>		House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus
127.24 Strengthen cooperation with civil society organizations (Russian Federation);	<div>1. The State has established the public councils at various governmental agencies, which include representatives of the civil society, based on their professional competences, regardless of whether their organization is registered or not.</div> <div>2. The Government invites representatives of the civil society to take part in the activities related to the discussion of the measures to improve the legislation on human rights and its application, regardless of whether their organization is registered or not.</div>		<i>Prior to the establishment of the National Human Rights Institution, an inter-ministerial group needs to be created, involving representatives of the civil society.</i>
127.25 Enhance its interaction with human rights organizations, as well as continue working on mechanisms of consultation between the Government and civil society, including enabling more effective involvement of civil society in the preparation of legal acts (Serbia);	<div>3. Legislation on public participation has been developed and adopted in consultation with civil society organizations.</div>		
127.26 Strengthen further the links of cooperation and coordination with civil society as regards the promotion and protection of human rights (Morocco);			
127.27 Continue constructive cooperation with the universal mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights and also the practice of cooperation with civil society (Tajikistan);			
129.80 Create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which civil society can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, and can participate fully in democratic processes (Ireland);	<div>1. The bans on the activities of unregistered organizations have been lifted.</div> <div>2. The restrictions on obtaining international technical assistance for civil society organizations have been abolished.</div>		
Cooperation with International Mechanisms			

127.15 Study the possibility of creating a follow-up system on international recommendations which includes universal periodic review accepted recommendations (Paraguay);	By the time of submission of Belarus' preliminary report in the framework of the UPR third cycle (February 2020), the Government has published the information on the results of exploring the possibility to create a follow-up system.	Barys Zvozkau Belarusian Human Rights House Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus
127.28 Continue active cooperation with human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);	See Indicators for Special Recommendations.	Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)	
127.29 Further engage with relevant international stakeholders, including United Nations human rights mechanisms (Viet Nam);	See Indicators for Special Recommendations.		
127.30 Continue its cooperation with the United Nations, other international organizations and human rights mechanisms to overcome remaining constraints and challenges (Lao People's Democratic Republic);	See Indicators for Special Recommendations.		
127.31 Submit its overdue report to the Human Rights Committee (Ghana);	By 30 August 2016, Belarus submitted the report to the HRC (the source for data verification: the OHCHR website - http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExter-nal/countries.aspx?CountryCode=BLR&Lang=EN)		
127.32 Deploy necessary human, legal and financial measures in order to effectively implement the recommendations issued by the United Nations treaty bodies (Senegal);	<div>1. By the time of submission of Belarus' preliminary report in the framework of the UPR third cycle (February 2020), the legal provisions that infringe human rights have been repealed.</div> <div>2. By the time of submission of Belarus' interim report within the UPR (until January 2018), the government has started implementing the decisions of the Human Rights Committee.</div> <div>3. A plan has been developed and adopted for the implementation of the recommendations formulated by the UN treaty bodies.</div>		

<p>127.33 Strengthen the cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by permitting visits by special procedures mandate holders (Hungary);</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the time of submission of Belarus' interim report within the UPR (until January 2018), the Government has sent invitations to all the Special Procedure mandate-holders, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus. 2. By the time of submission of Belarus' preliminary report in the framework of the UPR third cycle (February 2020), agreements on missions have been reached with all the Special Procedure mandate-holders. 3. By the time of submission of Belarus' interim report within the UPR (until January 2018), the government has started implementing the decisions of the Human Rights Committee. 		
<p>127.34 Cooperate fully and effectively with the United Nations treaty bodies and special procedures and ensure that reports are submitted without delay (Slovakia);</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By 30 August 2016, Belarus has submitted the report to the HRC (the source for data verification: the OHCHR website - http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExter-nal/countries.aspx?CountryCode=BLR&Lang=EN) 2. By the time of submission of Belarus' interim report within the UPR (until January 2018), the Government has sent invitations to all the Special Procedure mandate-holders, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus. 3. By 8 May 2016, Belarus has submitted the report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). 4. By the end of 2016, Belarus has submitted the overdue report (due by 1 February 2015) to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and 		

	<p>the responded to the list of questions of November 2015.</p> <p>5. By 30 October 2017, Belarus has submitted the report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC).</p> <p>6. By 30 November 2018, Belarus has submitted the report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.</p> <p>7. By the time of submission of Belarus' preliminary report in the framework of the UPR third cycle (February 2020), agreements on missions have been reached with all the Special Procedure mandate-holders.</p> <p>8. By the end of 2016, the Government of Belarus has recognized the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus (in case the mandate is retained).</p>		
127.35 Continue strengthening the cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, through joint activities to improve national capacities in the field of human rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	By the end of 2016, in accordance with Resolution 17/24, Belarus has sent an invitation for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to send a technical mission to Belarus.		
129.21 Cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and allow visits by special procedures mandate holders (Costa Rica);	<i>See Indicators for Recommendation 127.34.</i>		
129.22 Cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, particularly the special procedures mandate holders (El Salvador);	<i>See Indicators for Recommendation 127.34.</i>		
129.23 Issue an invitation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights so that he carries out a technical mission in Belarus, pursuant to resolution 17/24 (Peru);	By the end of 2016, in accordance with Resolution 17/24, Belarus has sent an invitation for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to send a technical mission to Belarus.		
129.7 Consider expediting the ratification of the core human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Op-	In Belarus' interim report within the UPR procedure (January 2018), the Government has		

tional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Republic of Korea);	provided information on the consideration of the issue of accelerated ratification of the core international human rights treaties, in line with Recommendation 129.7		
Death Penalty			
127.1 Carry out public campaigns explaining the arguments for the abolition of the death penalty with the aim of ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Estonia);	<p>1. A public campaign has been held, including in the state media and on television, in order to clarify the arguments in favour of the abolition of the death penalty.</p> <p>2. The House of Representatives of the National Assembly has held public hearings and discussions about the problem of the death penalty abolition, with the participation of all the stakeholders, including civil society representatives.</p> <p>3. The public authorities actively interact and cooperate with representatives of the pro-abolition human rights community in the country.</p>	Viasna Human Rights Center; Belarusian Helsinki Committee	House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus; Belteleradiocompany; the state media.
129.29 Do everything necessary to revitalize the discussions within the parliamentary working group on the death penalty and ensure that the minimum standards are applied pending an eventual moratorium (Belgium);	The activities of the parliamentary working group on the issue of the death penalty has been continued and intensified; the results of its work have been covered in the state media.		
129.30 Consider abolishing the death penalty (Ecuador);	The issue of the abolition of the death penalty has been considered by the Parliament, with the participation of the deputies and a wide range of representatives of the civil society and		

	academia.		
129.33 Consider abolishing the death penalty (Rwanda);	The issue of the abolition of the death penalty has been considered by the Parliament, with the participation of the deputies and a wide range of representatives of the civil society and academia.		
129.37 Consider the introduction of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty in the national criminal system (Guatemala);	The issue of the moratorium on the death penalty has been considered by the Parliament, with the participation of the deputies and a wide range of representatives of the civil society and academia.		
129.38 Consider introducing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its permanent abolition (Holy See);			
Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment			
127.51 Strictly implement its international obligations on addressing the impunity of perpetrators of torture, notably article 4 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Switzerland);	<p>1. Thorough and comprehensive investigations have been conducted against all suspects in the use of torture, and all persons, convicted of the use of torture, have been brought to justice.</p> <p>2. The "Torture" article has been included in the Special Part of the Criminal Code, providing for responsibility for all acts of torture in compliance with the Convention against Torture.</p> <p>3. The Code of Criminal Procedure has been amended in terms of the investigation of cases of torture by the Office of the Prosecutor General.</p>	Legal Initiative NGO; Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Office of the Prosecutor General of Belarus Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus Supreme Court of Belarus;
127.52 Combat torture committed in particular by law enforcement officers and in prisons and ensure that such acts not remain unpunished (France);	1. The senior state officials have publicly and unequivocally condemned the use of torture and warned that the perpetrators of such		

	<p>acts and their accomplices will be prosecuted.</p> <p>2. The comprehensive training has been organized for the judiciary, law enforcement officials and prison staff in order to ensure their full awareness of the provisions of the Convention against Torture and the possibility of them being applied directly.</p>		
129.52 Strengthen further the impartiality and independence of the judiciary by implementing the recent decrees on judicial procedures and by promptly and thoroughly investigating any allegation or complaint of ill-treatment in national detention facilities (Holy See);	<p>1. The amendments to the legislation have been discussed, providing for the suspension of the criminal trial in order to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation into the allegation of the use of torture against the accused in order to extort his or her confession;</p> <p>2. The amendments to the legislation have been made, providing for the suspension of the criminal trial to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation into the allegation of the use of torture against the accused in order to extort his or her confession;</p>		
129.67 Promptly and effectively investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners and acts of intimidation, reprisals and threats against human rights defenders and journalists (Italy);	<p>1. The Office of the Prosecutor General has conducted thorough and comprehensive investigations into all the allegations of torture and ill-treatment in the detention facilities, and brought the perpetrators to responsibility.</p> <p>2. The public is regularly informed about the ongoing investigations into complaints of torture and ill-treatment.</p>		
129.89 Investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment in detention facilities, and take appropriate measures to bring perpetrators to justice (Botswana);			
Independence of Judges; Court System			
127.74 Ensure that the judiciary is free from any interference from other branches of Government (Switzerland);	1. As a result of the public discussion about the issues of reforming the court system	Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Supreme Court of Belarus;

127.75 Continue promoting, by all appropriate means, the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Senegal);	with the participation of representatives of the OSCE ODIHR and the Belarusian civil society, public agencies and academia, an action plan has been designed and is implemented, intended for the improvement of the legislation, regulating the court system. 2. The draft law preparation plan includes a provision on the development of the amendments and additions to the legislation, aiming to strengthen the guarantees of independence of judges from interference of other branches of the government, including the President, which, in particular, provide for: 2.1. the appointment of judges for the indefinite term; 2.2. excluding the right of the President to impose disciplinary penalties on judges without the disciplinary proceedings and the possibility to appeal against the relevant decision; 2.3. enshrining in the Code of Judicial System and Status of Judges, as in the special law, the provisions on the remuneration for judges, annual leave, safeguards in connection with the liquidation of the court, downsizing or personnel reduction, housing, retirement pay and other one-time allowances, pension, health care and social and material benefits provided for judges, including the official salaries of judges calculated as a percentage of the salary of the Supreme Court Chair.	Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)	House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus
129.52 Strengthen further the impartiality and independence of the judiciary by implementing the recent decrees on judicial procedures and by promptly and thoroughly investigating any allegation or complaint of ill-treatment in national detention facilities (Holy See);			
128.2 Reform the judiciary so it can operate free from direct influence, oversight, pressure or interference of the executive branch of the Government (Czech Republic).			
129.51 Reform the judiciary to ensure its independence and respect of international norms such as the respect of the right of the defence and the right to a fair trial. Review regulations on the appointment, dismissal and disciplinary procedures against judges as well as the length of their mandates (France);			
129.53 Take all the necessary legislative and other measures in order to guarantee the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary in line with the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary (endorsed by General Assembly resolutions), including by establishing an independent body responsible for the appointment, promotion, suspension and removal of judges (Poland);			
Freedom of Assembly			

129.90 Ensure that peaceful demonstrators are not imprisoned, harassed or ill-treated by police for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and immediately and unconditionally release all those who have been detained solely for exercising these rights (Denmark);	<p>1. No participants of peaceful assemblies have been detained and brought to administrative responsibility.</p> <p>2. No cases of ill-treatment of detained participants of peaceful assemblies have been registered.</p>	Viasna Human Rights Center; Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus; Supreme Court of Belarus
Freedom of Association			
129.70 Implement its commitment to guarantee freedom of association and expression (Australia);	See Indicators for Recommendations 129.82 and 129.72.	Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)	Ministry of Justice of Belarus
129.66 Simplify the registration procedure for political parties and other public associations and foundations (Germany);	<p>The legislation has been amended as regards the registration of political parties, public associations, foundations, restrictions on freedom of association, in compliance with the international standards.</p> <p>See Indicators 1-7 for Recommendation 129.82.</p>	Assembly of Pro-Democratic NGOs of Belarus	House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus; President of Belarus National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of Belarus.
129.82 Revise the “Law on public associations” in order to guarantee the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of association in conformity with international rights and standards (Luxembourg);	<p>1. The registration procedure, based on the declarative principle, has been established for public associations and foundations, similar to the registration procedure for commercial organizations.</p> <p>2. Non-profit organizations, including public associations and their organizational structures, are allowed to have their registered legal address at the dwellings owned by the founders or members of the organization.</p> <p>3. The amount of the state duty for the registration of public associations and foundations does not exceed the amount of the state duty for the registration of commercial organizations.</p> <p>4. Foreign citizens and stateless persons, permanently residing in the territory of Bela-</p>		

	<p>rus, are allowed to be founders of public associations.</p> <p>5. At least ten founders may establish a public association.</p> <p>6. All public associations can operate throughout the country.</p> <p>7. The registration authorities can only deny the registration to public associations, foundations and political parties, if they fail to submit all the required documents or to comply with the statutory criteria for the establishment of an organization.</p> <p>8. A court can make a decision about the compulsory liquidation of a public association or a political party only in connection with their activities, directly forbidden by the Constitution or by law.</p> <p>9. The rights of the persons, in whose cases the UN Human Rights Committee found violations of the rights to the freedom of association, have been restored. The relevant public associations, which were unreasonably denied registration or liquidated upon the court decision, have been registered.</p> <p>10. Non-profit organizations are allowed to receive the foreign funding, without a prior consent of the state authorities, for the implementation of any activity complying with their statutory purposes, except for the activities directly prohibited by the Constitution and by law.</p> <p>11. Non-profit organizations are enabled to receive funding from legal entities in Belarus, for the implementation of any activity complying with their statutory purposes, except for the activities directly prohibited by the Constitution and by law.</p> <p>12. An open non-discriminatory system</p>		
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	<p>has been established for financing of non-profit organizations from the state budget on a competitive basis, providing for publication of the data on the amounts of the state support, as well as of the reports by the recipient organizations about the use of the funds. A wide range of non-profit organizations, working in different areas of activity, receive the state funding as a result of the public tenders with clearly defined participation criteria.</p> <p>13. The other legislation acts, regulating the sources of financing for non-profit organizations, have been amended: the ban has been lifted on independent business activities of public associations, and an endowment mechanism (target financing for non-profit organizations) has been introduced.</p> <p>14. The mechanisms have been enshrined for consultations and partnership between the public authorities and the civil society organizations; the laws and regulations affecting the interests of the civil society organisations are widely discussed with them.</p> <p>15. The legislation on non-profit organizations is developed in consultation with the non-profit organizations willing to participate in such consultations.</p>		
129.84 Adapt its own domestic legislation on associations in order to remove any hindrances to the full realization of the freedom of association by its citizens (Romania);	See Indicators for Recommendations 129.82 and 129.72.		
129.87 Significantly simplify the procedures for the registration of civil society associations, organizations and foundations and ensure that the legal and political framework is in line with international standards (Belgium);	See Indicators 1-7 for Recommendation 129.82.		

129.72 Facilitate the registration of NGOs and decriminalize the organization and participation in activities of unregistered associations by repealing article 193-1 of the Criminal Code (Czech Republic);	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Article 193.1 has been removed from the Criminal Code of Belarus. 2. The provision, prohibiting the activities of public associations and unions of public association, has been removed from the Law on Public Associations. 3. See also Indicators 1-7 for Recommendation 129.82. 		
Freedom of Expression and Media Activities			
127.79 Improve the overall situation of media freedom (Slovenia);	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Journalists, human rights defenders, experts and civil society representatives note the improvement of the situation of the freedom of the media in Belarus, evidenced by the following indicators: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. the higher positions of Belarus in the relevant rankings; 1.2. the absence of unreasonable restrictions on the freedom of the media on the part of the public authorities. 2. The state does not take discriminatory legal and economic measures against non-governmental media. 	Belarusian Association of Journalists	Ministry of Information of Belarus House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus; Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus
129.60 Better guarantee freedom of the press and freedom of expression, as well as the right to plural information (Senegal);	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The legislation on the media and access to information has been amended so that to implement the constitutional provisions on the freedom of expression and the right to information, taking into account the recommendations made by the OSCE Representative on the Freedom of the Media. 2. A democratic Law on Access to Information has been developed and adopted. 3. All the non-governmental printed media, which applied to the Belpochta state insti- 		

	<p>tution - the monopolist in the distribution of subscription editions -, have been included in the subscription catalogues.</p> <p>4. The state-owned Sojuzpechat retail network sells and distributes by subscription non-governmental printed media, regardless of their editorial policy.</p> <p>5. There are no cases there of unjustified denial in the registration of the print media.</p> <p>6. The registration has been cancelled for the distributors of media products.</p> <p>7. The government does not restrict the access to the websites distributing media products.</p> <p>8. The following articles, which provided for liability for defamation, have been removed from the Penal Code: 188 (Defamation), 189 (Insult), 367 (Slander against the President of Belarus), 368 (Insult of the Presidential of Belarus), 369 (Insult of Representative of Authorities), 369-1 (Discrediting the Republic of Belarus), 391 (Insult of Judge or Juryman).</p> <p>9. The government has started a dialogue with representatives of the media, civil society and Internet business on the issues of the Internet governance.</p> <p>10. The Law on Mass Media has been amended to abolish the need for the compulsory accreditation of the foreign journalists willing to work in the territory of the Republic of Belarus.</p> <p>11. There are no cases there of unjustified denials in accreditation to the foreign journalists.</p> <p>12. The cases of the prosecution of journalists, working for the foreign media without the accreditation in Belarus, have been excluded.</p>		
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<p>129.69 Fully guarantee freedom of expression and refrain from arbitrary arrest of journalists (Romania);</p>	<p>1. There are no arrests of journalists there, while they perform their professional duties, or as a punishment for their professional activities.</p> <p>2. There are no cases of seizure, damage or confiscation of the equipment from journalists there.</p>		
<p>129.75 Promote and uphold the freedom of the media and the right to freedom of expression and ensure that legislation and practice are brought in line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as conducting impartial investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment and intimidation and bringing perpetrators to justice (Austria);</p>	<p>1. The legislation on the media has been amended to improve the situation of the freedom of expression, including the following changes:</p> <p>1.1. the responsibility of website owners for users' comments has been abolished;</p> <p>1.2. the powers of the Ministry of Information to take arbitrary decisions on the restriction of the access to the Internet resources have been limited.</p> <p>2. There are no cases there of "technical" blocking of the Internet resources during the significant social and political events or a sharp economic crisis.</p> <p>3. Comprehensive and thorough investigations have been conducted into the violent crimes against the journalists (in the first place, into the abduction of Dmitry Zavadsky and the murder of Veronika Cherkasova), and the perpetrators have been brought to justice.</p> <p>4. The cases of violation of the rights of journalists, including by the police officers, have been investigated, and the perpetrators have been brought to justice.</p>		
<p>Rights of Persons with Disabilities</p>			

127.6 Continue taking measures with a view to ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a priority (Indonesia);	<p>1. The State has prepared the necessary documents for the ratification within a period of six months established by law.</p> <p>2. The State has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p>	Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus;</p> <p>House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus</p>
127.7 Speed up the procedures to complete the process of the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Iraq);	See Indicator for Recommendation 127.6.		
127.8 Finalize the process of accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at its earliest (Kazakhstan);	See Indicator for Recommendation 127.6.		
127.9 Conclude domestic processes relating to signing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Zimbabwe);	See Indicator for Recommendation 127.6.		
127.10 Accede to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as soon as possible. In the interim continue to do what it can to counter discrimination against people with disabilities and to promote their inclusion in society (Singapore);	See Indicator for Recommendation 127.6.		
127.106 Take the necessary measures to promote the rights of persons with disabilities (Bahrain);	A public campaign has been conducted, including in the media, public transport, etc., to inform the public about the needs of people with disabilities.		
127.107 Continue its measures to protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);	The issue of the signing and ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the Republic of Belarus has been submitted for consideration and public discussion.		
127.108 Take appropriate legislative measures towards the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and towards improvement of living conditions, employment opportunities and access of persons with disabilities (Japan);	<p>1. The concept of the National Institution to promote, protect and monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in accordance with the Paris Principles, has been prepared and presented for discussion.</p> <p>2. The discussion about the concept of National Institution has been held, with the participation of all the concerned parties,</p>		

	<p>based on their applications.</p> <p>3. With the consideration of the suggestions submitted, a draft regulation on the National Institution for the rights of people with disabilities has been prepared; a package of proposals has been prepared on the relevant amendments to the legislation needed to implement the law on the National Institution.</p> <p>4. In accordance with the law, the regulation on the National Institution for the rights of people with disabilities has been adopted.</p>		
127.109 Take appropriate legislative and regulatory measures to fight against discrimination and strengthen the protection and integration of persons with disabilities (Senegal);	<p>1. With the participation of a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society representatives, a comprehensive anti-discrimination draft law has been prepared which contains <i>inter alia</i> a definition of the direct and indirect discrimination on the open list of grounds, a definition of harassment and affirmative actions, and establishes a mechanism to counter discrimination.</p> <p>2. The anti-discrimination draft law has been discussed by the Parliament as part of the parliamentary hearings, which were attended <i>inter alia</i> by representatives of civil society organizations; a package of the relevant amendments to the legislation has been prepared to implement the law.</p> <p>3. The Parliament and the President have adopted and signed the Anti-Discrimination Law.</p>		
127.110 Raise public awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities (Sudan);	<p>1. The Parliamentary hearings have been held, as well as an expanded dialogue between the state and the organizations working for the benefit of people with disabilities, on the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the subsequent</p>		

	<p>measures to be taken in order to implement the Convention.</p> <p>2. Steps have been taken towards the implementation of the recommendations developed during the hearings.</p>		
127.111 Move forward to make necessary arrangements for the adoption of a comprehensive national policy on persons with disabilities (Uganda);	<p>1. The draft National Action Plan (roadmap) has been developed for the implementation of the standards of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>2. The draft National Action Plan has been discussed with all the relevant civil society stakeholders; a reasoned decision has been formulated for each proposal;</p> <p>3. The Council of Ministers has approved the National Action Plan.</p>		
129.6 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Paraguay);	See Indicator for Recommendation 127.6.		
Human Rights Institutions			
127.16 Continue its efforts for the establishment of the national human rights institution (Sudan);	<p>1. The draft laws preparation plan includes the development of the concept of a law on the national human rights institution.</p> <p>2. The concept of the law on the national human rights institution has been discussed with a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of the civil society, government and academia.</p> <p>3. With due consideration of the proposals submitted by the parties concerned, a draft law on the national human rights institution has been prepared, as well as a draft law on the amendments to the legislation, needed</p>	<p>Belarusian Helsinki Committee</p> <p>Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)</p>	<p>House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus;</p> <p>National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of Belarus;</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus;</p> <p><i>Prior to the establishment of the National Human Rights Institu-</i></p>
127.17 Facilitate the necessary process for establishing a national human rights institution, which should ensure the enjoyment of basic human rights for all citizens (Republic of Korea);			
127.18 Redouble efforts aimed at establishing an independent national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Chile);			
127.19 Take further steps aimed at strengthening its national institution in the area of protection and promotion of the rights of the child (Egypt);			

127.20 Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, as previously recommended (Malaysia);	to implement the provisions of the law on the national human rights institution. 4. Public consultations have been held, prior to the hearings in the National Assembly on the draft law on the national human rights institution. 5. Upon the public consultations, the House of Representatives has considered the draft law on the national human rights institution.		<i>tion, an inter-ministerial group needs to be created, involving representatives of the civil society.</i>
127.21 Consider the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Zimbabwe);			
127.22 Consider the appropriateness of establishing a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Nicaragua);			
129.20 Do more in providing the enabling environment for the institution responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights and by particularly establishing a national human rights commission (Nigeria);			
Elections			
127.80 Take the steps necessary to ensure that its upcoming presidential elections are free, fair and in line with international standards, in full respect of article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including by allowing opposition parties to freely participate (Canada);	1. The electoral system has been brought into compliance with the commitments, made by the country in the framework of the OSCE, and with the principles of democratic elections. 2. In close cooperation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, draft amendments to the Electoral Code of Belarus have been developed, taking into account the recommendations of the OSCE ODIHR based on the results of the monitoring of the previous election campaigns. 3. Public hearings have been conducted on the draft law, intended for reforming and improving of the electoral legislation, with the participation of a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of the electoral procedures and the NGOs monitoring the elections at the national level. 4. In the course of the parliamentary	Viasna Human Rights Center; Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Central Commission of Belarus on Elections and Conduction of National Referendums House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus

	elections in September 2016, no reprisals were applied either against the participants of the election campaign, or against the citizens.		
127.81 Create an environment conducive for free, fair and peaceful elections and ensure the personal safety and equal treatment of all candidates and voters throughout the electoral process in the upcoming presidential elections and beyond (Czech Republic);	<p>1. The conditions have been ensured for the elections to be held in the environment conducive to free expression of the will by the citizens.</p> <p>2. There were no facts of pressure, intimidation and reprisals against the participants of the electoral process, representatives of independent media and voters.</p> <p>3. The parliamentary elections have been held in compliance with the guarantees of the freedom of peaceful association, peaceful assembly and freedom of expression.</p> <p>4. The international and national observers were given the possibility to monitor all stages of the electoral process without restrictions.</p>		
127.82 Take measures aimed at ensuring transparency, justice and non-repression in the presidential election process of 2015, including by inviting international observers (Mexico);			
129.95 Bring the electoral system in line with its OSCE commitments and principles for democratic elections, in close cooperation with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Austria);	See Indicators for Recommendation 127.80.		
129.94 Amend its electoral laws to bring them in line with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights recommendations for electoral reform to demonstrate respect for democratic political processes, freedom of association, and freedom of expression ahead of the 2015 presidential election (United States of America);	See Indicators for Recommendation 127.80.		
Discrimination and Vulnerable Groups			

127.36 Continue efforts to combat discrimination in judicial practices and law enforcement (Oman);	<p>1. A comprehensive anti-discrimination draft law has been developed, with the participation of a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of the civil society; the draft law defines the direct and indirect discrimination on the open list of grounds, harassment and affirmative actions.</p> <p>2. The Parliament has discussed the anti-discrimination draft law during the parliamentary hearings, which were attended <i>inter alia</i> by representatives of civil society organizations.</p> <p>3. A specialized independent body has been established, which is authorized to investigate into all cases of discrimination and to take measures to protect against discrimination.</p> <p>4. A special training has been conducted for judges, other legal professionals and civil servants to enhance their level of competence in the fight for equality and against discrimination.</p> <p>5. A course on the problems of equality and non-discrimination has been included in the higher and secondary education curricula.</p> <p>6. The National Program (Plan) for the social integration of the Roma population in Belarus has been developed, with the participation of the Roma minority and representatives of the civil society and expert communities.</p>	<p>Belarusian Helsinki Committee</p> <p>Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</p>	<p>House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus;</p> <p>Supreme Court of Belarus;</p> <p>Ministry of Education of Belarus</p> <p>Commissioner for Religions and Nationalities</p> <p>National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of Belarus;</p>
127.37 Develop national mechanisms for the protection of vulnerable groups in the population (Tajikistan);			
127.38 Continue its efforts in promotion of well-being of people with the emphasis on the most vulnerable ones (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);			
127.39 Continue the efforts to support the most vulnerable groups of population, including those efforts that guarantee the social inclusion of persons with disabilities (Cuba);			
127.50 Strengthen the measures aimed at reducing cases of racial discrimination, both direct and indirect, and investigate speech inciting racial hatred and speech inciting racial violence (Argentina);			
127.89 Based on the level of economic and social development, further improve social security of the vulnerable groups including the elderly, women, children and persons with disabilities (China);			
129.27 Make further efforts toward adoption of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, concerning, in particular, institutive actions to tackle the issue of violence against women (Serbia);			
128.1 Step up its efforts to combat and prevent discrimination faced by persons belonging to Roma communities, including ensuring the right to education on a non-discriminatory basis for all Roma children (Finland);			
129.24 Adopt specific and comprehensive legislation against direct and indirect discrimination, as well as on harassment based on sexual orientation (Uruguay);			

129.25 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law which would prohibit discrimination on any ground and establish mechanisms to ensure the principles of equality and non-discrimination, and legal remedies in cases of discrimination (Slovakia);			
129.26 Enact comprehensive legislation against discrimination to avoid any kind of discrimination on the grounds of religion, sexual orientation and gender identity, language, political conviction or physical or mental disability (Chile);			
Empowerment of Women and Gender Equality			
127.40 Make further investment in the protection and promotion of women's and children's rights (Viet Nam);	<p>1. A general public discussion has been held on the amendments and additions to the legal framework, aiming to achieve the gender equality and gender symmetry, to eliminate discrimination, based on the age, role and other grounds, in the family and domestic relations.</p> <p>2. The legal framework has been amended to achieve the gender equality and gender symmetry, to eliminate discrimination, based on the age, role and other grounds, in the family and domestic relations.</p> <p>A law on prevention of domestic violence has been adopted.</p>	Legal Initiative NGO	<p>House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus;</p> <p>National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of Belarus</p>
127.41 Continue to implement its plan to combat discrimination against women (Bahrain);			
127.42 Continue working so that women's rights are fully respected (Plurinational State of Bolivia);			
127.43 Adequately resource the implementation of the Fourth National Plan of Action on Gender Equality and promptly adopt the draft law on prevention of domestic violence (Lithuania);			
127.44 Continue to implement the national gender equality policy framework developed in 2012 (Pakistan);			
127.45 Strengthen the capacity and enhance the resources of the National Commission on Gender Policy to ensure the full enjoyment of gender equality (Namibia);			

127.46 Continue its efforts in ensuring gender equality and to diversify academic and vocational choices for women and men and take further measures to encourage women and men to choose non-traditional fields of education and careers (State of Palestine);	Amendments have been made to the legislation to ensure the equal opportunities for women to obtain professions and specialities of their choice, as well as the relevant employment, without gender-based restrictions.		
127.47 Further abolish any discriminatory practices against women in accessing higher education, diversify academic disciplines for men and women, and take additional measures to encourage men and women to choose non-traditional career choices (Thailand);			
127.48 Continue its efforts to remedy the wage gap between men and women (Philippines);			
127.49 Continue current efforts to protect and promote women workers' rights (Syrian Arab Republic);			
127.53 Develop a legislative package for the prevention of and combating of gender-based violence and provide greater financial and human resources to the National Council on Gender Policy (Spain);			
127.61 Intensify efforts to prevent and prosecute acts of domestic and sexual violence against women as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Rwanda);			
127.83 Continue promoting women's rights in order to encourage their participation in decision-making processes (Nicaragua);			
Improving Situation of Children			
127.54 Actively combat domestic violence and violence against children (Tajikistan);	1. The analysis of and a public discussion on the implementation of the Law on the Rights of the Child have been held, focusing safety of the child in the family. 2. A program for the prevention of do-	Legal Initiative NGO	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus
127.62 Continue efforts in the prevention of violence against children (Russian Federation);			

127.65 Take necessary steps for prevention of violence against children and promotion and protection of women’s rights especially combating trafficking in women (Bosnia and Herzegovina);	<p>mestic violence has been adopted and implemented.</p> <p>3. Measures have been taken to prevent parental neglect; in particular, parental neglect is defined in the legislation as a form of child abuse in the family and the failure to fulfil parental (maternal and paternal) duties.</p> <p>4. The legislation has been amended so that to establish responsibility for the physical punishment of the child.</p> <p>5. The constant monitoring of the situation of the child in the family is conducted in case the family situation has changed, and measures are taken to ensure the rights of the child.</p>		
127.67 Take further steps to ensure practical realization of the improved national legislation, in particular in the areas of children’s and women’s rights protection, counter-trafficking, education and judiciary (Kazakhstan);			
127.78 Continue strengthening its efforts in ensuring the well-being of children, particularly those living in foster care, so that they could enjoy living in a healthy family environment (Malaysia);			
129.9 Enact a law on comprehensive protection of the rights of the child and of adolescents, which guarantees greater stability in the promotion and protection of these rights (El Salvador);			
Family			
127.55 Continue its efforts aimed at combating domestic violence (Algeria);	<p>1. The draft law on preventing and responding to domestic violence has been prepared, with the participation of a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of civil society organizations.</p> <p>2. A public discussion has been held on the draft law on preventing and responding to</p>	Legal Initiative NGO	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus</p> <p>Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus;</p>
127.56 Continue developing systematic actions, including legislative ones, to combat domestic violence (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);			

	domestic violence.		House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus; National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of Belarus
127.57 Continue its efforts in improving protection of women's rights, including combating domestic violence (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);	<p>1. The law on gender equality and equal opportunities for men and women in both the public and family life has been adopted.</p> <p>2. The law on preventing and responding to domestic violence against dependent family members has been adopted, regarding the primary prevention.</p>		
127.58 Continue the national efforts to combat domestic violence (Kuwait);	A campaign has been held to educate the population in the domestic violence prevention and non-violent behaviour in the family.		
127.59 Intensify efforts in combating domestic violence and violence against women including through effective implementation of its Principles of Crime Prevention Act (Malaysia);	Proposals on draft amendments and additions to the existing legislative framework have been prepared, allowing to achieve the gender equality in the family and to eliminate age discrimination.		
127.60 Further enhance efforts to address the issue of domestic violence and victim assistance (Myanmar);			
127.61 Intensify efforts to prevent and prosecute acts of domestic and sexual violence against women as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Rwanda);			
127.76 Support the institution of the traditional family and the preservation of family values (Russian Federation);			
127.77 Continue the efforts to promote and protect traditional family values (Kuwait);			
127.78 Continue strengthening its efforts in ensuring the well-being of children, particularly those living in foster care, so that they could enjoy living in			

a healthy family environment (Malaysia);			
Labour and Employment Labour Migration			
127.2 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria) (Ecuador) (Peru) (Rwanda);			
127.3 Continue its review efforts with a view to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in the future (Philippines);			
127.4 Reconsider its conclusion not to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families as contained in Recommendation 1 (Nigeria);			
127.5 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);			
127.84 Continue plans to increase employment in the country, especially for its vulnerable groups (Brunei Darussalam);			
127.85 Continue to take effective measures ensuring the realization of the right to work for its citizens including through national programmes to promote decent work and full and productive employment especially for women and young people (Egypt);			
127.86 Follow up on the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights regarding the elimination of all forms of forced labour (Luxembourg);	<p>1. The recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have been considered, with the involvement of the civil society.</p> <p>2. A plan has been adopted and implemented, providing for legislative and law enforcement measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee on Economic,</p>		

	Social and Cultural Rights.		
Human Trafficking			
127.63 Continue to provide protection for the victims of trafficking in persons and to strengthen its national laws and to foster cooperation with regional and international organizations in the field of combating trafficking in persons (United Arab Emirates);			
127.64 Take additional measures to combat trafficking in persons (Bahrain);			
127.65 Take necessary steps for prevention of violence against children and promotion and protection of women's rights especially combating trafficking in women (Bosnia and Herzegovina);			
127.66 Continue to ensure the effective implementation of its legislation and policies to prevent and combat human trafficking (Singapore);			
127.67 Take further steps to ensure practical realization of the improved national legislation, in particular in the areas of children's and women's rights protection, counter-trafficking, education and judiciary (Kazakhstan);			
127.68 Continue working to fight against human trafficking and share its best practices in that regard (Plurinational State of Bolivia);			
127.69 Continue to strive towards the consolidation of international efforts in the combating of trafficking in human beings, including through educational courses based at the Minsk Centre (Russian Federation);			
127.70 Build upon the existing structures and strengthen the protection of victims of human trafficking, but also address the root causes of this phenomenon and involve preventative measures (Serbia);			

127.71 Continue the efforts to promote in the international agenda the issue of the fight against trafficking in persons (Cuba);			
127.72 Strengthen its work towards combating trafficking in persons with assistance from the relevant United Nations agencies and the international community, as deemed necessary (Sri Lanka);			
127.73 Enhance job opportunities at home for the population susceptible to human trafficking, especially those from disadvantaged background who seek employment overseas (Thailand);			
Social Protection of Population			
127.87 Continue the practice of implementing programmes aimed at further improving the welfare of the population (Turkmenistan);		Belarusian Helsinki Committee	Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus;
127.88 Continue consolidating its excellent social protection system for the benefit of its population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);	No measures, worsening the social protection of the population, have been taken.		
127.89 Based on the level of economic and social development, further improve social security of the vulnerable groups including the elderly, women, children and persons with disabilities (China);	1. The retroactive restrictions on pensions, introduced by the presidential decrees and increasing the pension insurance record required for a pension, have been reviewed. 2. The periods of socially useful activities (maternity leave, care for the disabled, etc.) have been included in the pension insurance record required for the admission to old-age pension on a common basis.		
127.90 Continue implementing economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights for the benefit of all its population (Plurinational State of Bolivia);			
127.91 Continue to eradicate poverty and improve in particular the standard of living of rural populations (China);			
127.92 Continue its efforts to eliminate poverty, paying particular attention to the situation of children, single parents and the rural population (Islamic			

Republic of Iran);			
127.93 Take measures aimed at guaranteeing targeted support for persons living under the poverty line, paying particular attention to the situation of children, single-parent families and the rural population (Luxembourg);	1. The measures, which ensure social support for people living below the poverty line, have been improved. 2. The liability of the unemployed for "parasitism" has been removed.		
127.94 Take further steps to raise the living standards of the people in the rural areas (Myanmar);			
Healthcare			
127.95 Strengthen promotion of healthy lifestyles of adolescents and prevention of harmful habits (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);			Ministry of Health of Belarus
127.96 Continue the result-orientated policy in the field of the fight against infectious diseases, primarily tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS (Cuba);			
127.97 Improve the health situation of all children irrespective of status (Bangladesh);			
127.98 Continue the efforts to improve reproductive health, through the introduction of new and up-to-date technologies (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);			
127.99 Continue implementing access for all women to reproductive health services and improving the quality of care given (Plurinational State of Bolivia);			
Education			
127.100 Continue its national plans and programmes to improve the quality of education (Syrian Arab Republic);			Ministry of Education of Belarus

127.101 Continue its initiatives in ensuring the provision of quality education for all its people (Brunei Darussalam);			
127.102 Continue to further improve the quality of school education for children (Pakistan);			
127.103 Increase the availability of preschool facilities in rural areas (Bangladesh);			
127.104 Continue efforts in expanding educational facilities to rural areas and advance the educational and vocational training facilities for men and women equally (Sri Lanka);			
127.105 Increase the availability of preschool facilities in rural areas and ensure that members of the Roma community are not discriminated against and that they have equal access to education (State of Palestine);			
Refugees			
127.112 Implement policies which guarantee better protection for asylum seekers and refugees (Sierra Leone);			Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus
Enforced Disappearance			
129.4 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as well as the main international instruments in the field of human rights to which it is not yet a party (Argentina);	1. A discussion has been held, with the participation of representatives of the public agencies and civil society organizations, on the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	Belarusian Documentation Center	House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus; Office of the Prosecutor General of Belarus
129.5 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and conduct an in-depth independent investigation into the disappearances of public figures that occurred in 1999 and 2000 with a view to bringing the authors of those crimes to justice (France);	1. The preliminary criminal investigation has been conducted, within the timeframe established by the legislation, into the facts of disappearances of Yu. Zakharenko, A. Krasovsky, D. Zavadsky, V. Gonchar in 1999-2000.		Investigative Committee of Belarus

	<p>2. All the witnesses in this criminal case have been interrogated.</p> <p>3. All the investigative procedures, referred to in the petitions and complaints submitted by the relatives of the disappeared and their representatives, have been performed.</p> <p>4. The perpetrators of the crimes against humanity have been found, and the criminal case has been sent to the court.</p> <p>5. The proceedings in the civil case on the recognition of Yury Zakharenko as dead, which was suspended by the Oktyabrsky district court of Minsk, has been renewed and considered on the merits.</p>		
Freedom of Religion, Religious Rights			
129.55 Ensure that no restrictions are imposed on the right to freedom of religion and belief, and guarantee greater respect for the right to freedom of expression and freedom of association (Holy See);	<p>1. The State has taken steps to bring the law and practice, related to the freedom of religion or belief, in line with the international standards and, in particular:</p> <p>1.1. has lifted the ban on the activities of religious organizations without the state registration;</p> <p>1.2. removed Article 193-1 from the Criminal Code;</p> <p>1.3. has made amendments to the Law on Freedom of Religion and Religious Organizations, according to which the registration of a religious organization is a right, but not a prerequisite for the joint exercise of religion;</p> <p>1.4. has removed the rule, limiting the territory of activity of religious organizations, from the Law on Freedom of Religion and Religious Organizations;</p> <p>1.5. has abolished the mandatory ap-</p>	FoRB Initiative	<p>House of Representatives of National Assembly of Belarus;</p> <p>Council of Ministers of Belarus</p> <p>Commissioner for Religions and Nationalities</p>

	<p>proval procedure for religious activities in the places and premises which are not the cult premises, but are legally provided for this purpose;</p> <p>1.6. has cancelled the compulsory approval procedure for invitation of foreign clerics - now, religious organizations are free to invite foreign priests to satisfy religious needs of believers;</p> <p>2. The State facilitates the creation of freely accessible places of worship for religious organizations: the construction of religious buildings is carried out according to the standard procedure, without the special approval procedures; the necessary changes have been made to the legislation.</p> <p>3. All religious organizations are given equal rights to establish their own media and educational institutions.</p> <p>4. The legislation provides for the right of the foreign citizens and stateless persons, permanently residing in the territory of Belarus, to participate in the creation of religious organizations and to head such organizations.</p>		
Human Rights Defenders			
129.61 Ensure that human rights defenders are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association (Slovenia);	While discussing important issues related to human rights, the public authorities invite representatives of the human rights community, regardless of whether their organization is registered or not.	Belarusian Helsinki Committee Legal Transformation Center (Lawtrend)	Ministry of Justice of Belarus
129.63 Ensure conditions for the opposition and human rights activists to freely work and express their views without fear of unsubstantiated prosecution (Croatia);	Human rights defenders are not harassed for expressing their opinions.		

129.79 Ensure the safety of human rights defenders and journalists, as well as their human rights, particularly freedom of expression and the press; and undertake swift and transparent investigation in response to the reports of intimidation, reprisal, threats and violence (Japan);	<div>1. There are no cases of violence, threats, intimidation of human rights defenders expressing their opinion.</div> <div>2. Each case of violence, threats, repression and intimidation against human rights defenders has been thoroughly and promptly investigated, and the perpetrators have been brought to justice.</div>		
129.81 Protect the right to freedom of assembly and association of human rights defenders, in particular those campaigning against discrimination based on sexual orientation (Canada);	There are no cases of arbitrary refusal to register human rights organizations, opposing the discrimination based on sexual orientation; neither are there cases of refusal to permit peaceful assemblies of human rights defenders acting against the discrimination based on sexual orientation.		
Social, Economic and Cultural Rights			
127.90 Continue implementing economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights for the benefit of all its population (Plurinational State of Bolivia);	<div>1. The situation of social and economic rights in Belarus has been studied, with the participation of representatives of the civil society.</div> <div>2. The implementation of the final recommendations formulated by the UN Committee on Economical, Social and Cultural Rights have been discussed, with the participation of the civil society; the necessary measures have been developed and implemented.</div> <div>3. In the context of the deteriorating economic situation in the country, the inclusive monitoring of the quality, availability and acceptability has been ensured as regards the measures, intended for the implementation of the social and economic rights within the maximum available resources.</div>	Belarusian Helsinki Committee	<div>Council of Ministers of Belarus</div> <div>Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus;</div> <div>Ministry of Health of Belarus</div>