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Slovakia

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and in other relevant official United Nations documents. It is presented in a summarized manner due to word-limit constraints. For the full text, please refer to the document referenced. This report does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of OHCHR other than those contained in public reports and statements issued by the Office. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations[1]

International human rights treaties[2]

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified/not accepted*
Ratification, accession or succession	ICERD (1993) ICESCR (1993) ICCPR (1993) ICCPR-OP 2 (1999) CEDAW (1993) CAT (1993) CRC (1993) OP-CRC-AC (2006) OP-CRC-SC (2004) CPED (signature only, 2007)	CRPD (2010)	OP-CAT ICRMW CPED (signature only, 2007)
Reservations, declarations and/or understandings			
Complaint procedures, inquiry and urgent action[3]	ICERD, art. 14 (1995) ICCPR, art. 41 (1993) ICCPR-OP 1 (1993) OP-CEDAW, art. 8 (2000) CAT, arts. 20, 21 and 22 (1995) CPED (signature only, 2007)	OP-ICESCR (2012) OP-CRC-IC (signature only, 2012) OP-CRPD, art. 6 (2010)	OP-ICESCR, arts. 10 and 11 ICRMW CPED (signature only, 2007)

Other main relevant international instruments

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified*
Ratification, accession or succession	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court		ILO Conventions Nos. 169 and 189[8]

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified*
	Palermo Protocol[4]		
	Conventions on refugees and stateless persons[5]		
	Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols[6]		
	ILO fundamental conventions[7]		
	UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education		

1. In 2010 and 2013, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) encouraged Slovakia to consider ratifying ICRMW.[9] The Committee against Torture (CAT) invited Slovakia to ratify OP-CAT and CPED.[10]

2. In 2013, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) urged Slovakia to ratify OP-CRC-IC.[11]

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. In 2013, CRC remained concerned that the Criminal Code did not adequately specify all offences under OP-CRC-SC. It recommended that Slovakia revise the draft amendment of the Criminal Code to ensure the full and direct criminal liability of legal persons for offences covered by OP-CRC-SC.[12] Furthermore, CRC requested Slovakia to ensure the full incorporation of the OP-CRC-SC in its domestic legal system.[13]

4. The Human Rights Committee (HR Committee) urged Slovakia to raise awareness of ICCPR among judges, lawyers and prosecutors to ensure that it was taken into account before the domestic courts.[14] The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and CRC made similar recommendations regarding ICESCR,[15] and OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC,[16] respectively.

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

Status of national human rights institutions[17]

National human rights institution	*Status during previous cycle*	*Status during present cycle*[18]
Slovak National Centre for Human Rights	B (2007)	Lapsed accreditation in 2012

5. In 2011, the HR Committee was concerned that the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) had a limited mandate and independence, and had not been provided with adequate resources to carry out its functions. It noted with regret that NCHR failed to meet the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles).[19] In 2012, CESCR expressed similar concerns.[20] In 2013, CERD was concerned that NCHR, which was granted B status in October 2007 by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, had lost its accreditation in 2012. It recommended that Slovakia strengthen the independence and mandate of NCHR and provide it with financial and human resources. CERD also encouraged Slovakia to ensure

that NCHR was able to function in compliance with the Paris Principles and in a position to apply successfully for accreditation.[21] The HR Committee and CESCR made similar recommendations.[22]

6. CERD noted with appreciation the revision in 2011 of the National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion for 2011–2015 and the adoption of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma up to 2020.[23] It recommended that Slovakia strengthen the provisions of the Strategy and the National Action Plan, and ensure that they were effectively pursued.[24]

7. CERD noted with appreciation the adoption of the Conception to Combat Extremism for the years 2011–2014 and the fifth Action Plan for the Prevention of All Forms of Discrimination, Racism, Xenophobia and Other Expression of Intolerance (2009–2011).[25]

II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

A. Cooperation with treaty bodies[26]

1. Reporting status

Treaty body	*Concluding observations included in previous review*	*Latest report submitted since previous review*	*Latest concluding observations*	*Reporting status*
CERD	August 2004	2008 and 2012	March 2010 and February 2013	Eleventh and twelfth reports due in 2016
CESCR	November 2002	2009	May 2012	Third report due in 2017
HR Committee	July 2003	2009	March 2011	Fourth report due in 2015
CEDAW	July 2008	–	–	Combined fifth and sixth reports due in 2014
CAT	May 2001	2007	November 2009	Third report due in November 2013
CRC	June 2007	2009 (OP-CRC-SC and OP-CRC-AC)	February 2013 (OP-CRC-SC and OP-CRC-AC)	Consolidated third, fourth and fifth reports overdue since June 2013
CRPD	–	2012	–	Initial report pending consideration

2. Responses to specific follow-up requests by treaty bodies

Concluding observations

Treaty body	*Due in*	*Subject matter*	*Submitted in*
HR Committee	2012	Compatibility of domestic legislation with international treaties; racism; and forced sterilization of Roma women.[27]	2012[28] and 2013.[29] Dialogue ongoing.[30]
CERD	2011 and 2014	Racially motivated violence; and social housing for Roma in Dobšina.[31]	2011.[33] Dialogue ongoing.[34]
		Racist discourse in the media; segregation in the education system; and access of Roma to housing.[32]	
CEDAW	2010	Coerced sterilization of Roma women.[35]	2009.[36] Dialogue ongoing.[37]
CAT	2010	Non-refoulement and risk of torture; torture and ill-treatment in police custody; sterilizations of Roma women; and the protection of and non-discrimination against the Roma minority.[38]	2010[39]

B. Cooperation with special procedures[40]

	Status during previous cycle	*Current status*
Standing invitation	Yes	Yes
Visits undertaken	Independence of judges and lawyers (2000)	–
Visits agreed to in principle	–	–
Visits requested	–	–
Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals	During the period under review, three communications were sent. The Government sent two replies.	

C. Cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

8. In 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013, Slovakia contributed financially to OHCHR.[41]

III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Equality and non-discrimination

9. Concerned by persistent inequalities between men and women, CESCR recommended that Slovakia expedite its implementation of the measures adopted to ensure equality for men and women, and adopt the updated version of the National Strategy for Gender Equality.[42]

10. CESCR was concerned by the very high incidence of sexual harassment. It recommended that Slovakia ensure that the laws against sexual harassment were effectively enforced, and adopt additional preventive and protective measures to combat sexual harassment of women in the workplace.[43]

11. CERD reiterated its concern regarding the continued stigmatization of and discrimination against Roma.[44] It remained concerned about the persistence of prejudice and negative attitudes against Roma.[45] Similarly, the HR Committee was concerned at prevalent stereotypes and widespread exclusion of Roma in education, housing, health and political participation.[46]

12. In this respect, the HR Committee recommended that Slovakia eradicate stereotypes of and widespread abuse against Roma by, among other things, increasing awareness-raising campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for diversity. Slovakia should also adopt measures to promote access to opportunities and services in all fields and at all levels through affirmative action in order to address existing inequalities.[47] CERD recommended that Slovakia continue to endeavour to combat prejudices against ethnic minorities and to improve relations between the general public and minority communities, in particular Roma and Hungarians.[48] In 2010 and 2013, CERD urged Slovakia to enhance its efforts aimed at combating discrimination against Roma.[49] CESCR made a similar recommendation.[50]

13. CERD expressed its concern at racist statements in the discourse of public officials and political parties targeting the Roma. It also noted reports of negative political discourse against the Hungarian minority. CERD recommended that Slovakia ensure effective investigation and prosecution of all political discourse against those minorities.[51]

14. CERD remained concerned about the reported increase of hate speech in the media and on the Internet, targeting particularly Roma, Hungarians and non-citizens. It stated that additional measures needed to be taken to curb hate speech in the media. CERD urged Slovakia to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity, particularly among journalists. It also recommended that Slovakia investigate and apply appropriate sanctions for hate speech by politicians, government officials or media professionals.[52]

15. CERD remained concerned about the increase in racially motivated attacks, including anti-Semitic violence and violence targeting Roma and non-European Union migrants, sometimes perpetrated by neo-Nazi skinhead groups.[53] The HR Committee also noted continued reports of racist attacks.[54] CERD expressed concern at the resurgence of extremist organizations' activities; and about information that such groups used loopholes in the Rights of Assembly Act which prevented the interdiction of extremist activities.[55]

16. In 2010, CERD welcomed the adoption of the Criminal Code, amended in 2009, which provided for better protection from crimes related to racial discrimination.[56] In 2013, CERD noted the amendment to the Anti-Discrimination Act, which came into effect in April 2013, regulating temporary special measures to eliminate disadvantages based, inter

alia, on race, ethnicity and gender, but regretted that the Act was not fully operational.[57] It recommended that Slovakia implement without delay the amendment of the Anti-Discrimination Act.[58]

17. CERD urged Slovakia to intensify its efforts to combat and prevent racially motivated offences, including by ensuring that all racially motivated acts of violence are duly investigated and prosecuted, and that perpetrators are punished.[59] It recommended that Slovakia prosecute hate crimes in an effective manner, so as to discourage racist and extremist organizations, and urged Slovakia to amend its legislation so as to forbid and prevent activities of extremist organizations, by disbanding and declaring them illegal as necessary.[60] In 2011, as part of the follow-up to CERD concluding observations, Slovakia reported that, in order to combat extremism and racially motivated crimes more effectively, departments of extremism and juvenile crime had been established at all regional police force directorates in 2010.[61]

18. In 2010, CERD called for the effective implementation of all laws, programmes and policies aimed at eliminating racial discrimination, by monitoring their implementation, particularly at the local level, and by raising awareness among the public.[62] In 2013, CERD recommended that Slovakia fully enforce the Anti-Discrimination Act and disseminate information regarding it to the public, particularly minorities, informing them of all legal remedies when facing racial discrimination.[63] UNESCO made a similar recommendation.[64]

B. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

19. CAT was concerned that the definition of torture in the Criminal Code did not include the purpose of discrimination, and that instigation, consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity were not elements of the definition. It urged Slovakia to bring the definition of torture into line with article 1 of the Convention.[65]

20. CAT was concerned about allegations of ill-treatment of detainees by law enforcement officers, including slaps, punches, kicks or blows with hard objects, and about the practice of handcuffing detainees for extended periods to fixtures in corridors or offices.[66] The HR Committee also expressed concern at continued reports of ill-treatment of detainees by law enforcement personnel.[67] CAT recommended that Slovakia: ensure that all allegations of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment are promptly and impartially investigated, perpetrators prosecuted and, if found guilty, convicted to penalties taking into account the grave nature of their acts; and end the practice of handcuffing detainees for extended periods and any other ill-treatment of suspects while they are in detention.[68] Slovakia should also ensure that personnel involved in the treatment of detainees are trained on how to identify signs of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, in accordance with the Manual on Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol).[69] The HR Committee made similar recommendations.[70]

21. CERD continued to be concerned about police brutality against Roma, including minors, during arrest or while in custodial detention. CAT made a similar observation.[71] In 2013, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights referred to the report of the Ombudsperson in Slovakia, which had identified human rights violations committed by the police against the Roma inhabitants of a segregated rural shantytown. She urged the Government to act on the recommendations in the report.[72]

22. CERD expressed concern at reported deficiencies during the investigation of ill-treatment of minorities by police officers, where racial motives were not always taken into account.[73] CERD reiterated its recommendation that Slovakia intensify its efforts to combat

and prevent ill-treatment of Roma by law enforcement officials, by implementing the relevant Ministry of the Interior regulations. It also called upon Slovakia to increase representation of the Roma in the police force.[74]

23. CAT was concerned about ill-treatment of psychiatric patients, including the use of net-beds, and the lack of independent monitoring of places of deprivation of liberty for those patients. It recommended that Slovakia improve living conditions for patients in psychiatric institutions, develop alternative treatment and ensure that all places where mental-health patients are held for involuntary treatment are regularly visited by independent monitoring bodies to guarantee the proper implementation of the safeguards laid down to secure their rights.[75]

24. The HR Committee was concerned at the continuing reports of gender-based violence, and the low reporting of those cases to the police.[76] CESCR was also concerned by the fact that domestic violence did not constitute an offence.[77] The HR Committee recommended that Slovakia: adopt concrete measures to prevent and address gender-based violence in all its forms and manifestations; encourage the victims to report such cases and ensure that they are thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators prosecuted.[78] CESCR recommended that Slovakia amend its legislation to make domestic violence an offence.[79] CAT recommended that Slovakia provide shelters and counselling services for women victims of violence in sufficient numbers and with adequate standards.[80]

25. The HR Committee expressed concern at the permissibility of corporal punishment at home where it traditionally continued to be accepted and practised as a form of discipline by parents and guardians.[81] CAT recommended that Slovakia explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in the family and ensure that legislation prohibiting corporal punishment is strictly enforced.[82] Furthermore, the HR Committee stated that Slovakia should encourage non-violent forms of discipline as alternatives to corporal punishment and conduct public information campaigns to raise awareness about its harmful effects.[83]

26. CRC was concerned that targeted preventive measures against the exploitation of children, including their engagement in forced labour, prostitution and pornography, and measures to identify and address the root causes of the offences remained limited.[84]

27. CRC recommended that Slovakia enact in its legislation explicit prohibition and criminalization of the recruitment or use in hostilities of children under the age of 18 in State Armed Forces and non-State armed groups; and ensure that domestic legislation enables it to establish and exercise extraterritorial jurisdiction over the recruitment and use over all offences under OP-CRC-AC, including the recruitment and use in hostilities of children under the age of 18.[85]

28. CESCR and CRC were concerned at the persistence of human trafficking.[86] CAT was concerned about cross-border trafficking of women for sexual and other exploitative purposes, Roma children trafficked abroad — especially for forced begging, and internal trafficking of Roma women and children.[87] The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (ILO Committee of Experts) also expressed concern at reports of the trafficking of Roma children.[88]

29. In this respect, CRC recommended the effective implementation of the National Plan of Action on Combating Human Trafficking.[89] The ILO Committee of Experts encouraged the Government to pursue its efforts to take comprehensive measures to address the growing phenomenon of the trafficking of children.[90] CESCR recommended that Slovakia pursue cooperative efforts with neighbouring States to prevent and combat human trafficking.[91]

C. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

30. CAT was concerned that judges were appointed by the President based on a proposal of the Judiciary Council, as some of the members of the Council were appointed and dismissed by the President and the Government. It recommended that Slovakia guarantee the full independence of the Council to ensure the independency of the judiciary.[92]

31. CAT recommended that Slovakia ensure that persons in police custody can exercise their right to contact a member of their family and have access to an independent medical doctor, if possible of their choice, and to legal counsel from the outset of their deprivation of liberty.[93]

32. CAT was concerned that alleged unlawful acts committed by police, including torture and ill-treatment, were investigated by police officers of the Inspection Service Office managed by the Minister of the Interior, and that very few complaints against police officers were accepted and investigated and led to prosecution and convictions. In 2009, it urged Slovakia to strengthen the independence of the Inspection Service Office.[94] In 2013, CERD reiterated its recommendation that Slovakia establish an independent monitoring mechanism to carry out investigations into crimes involving police officers.[95] CAT further recommended that Slovakia ensure that fully independent monitoring, including unannounced visits, of all places of deprivation of liberty takes place on a regular basis and that any mechanism established for that purpose, at the local or national level, has an appropriate mandate and adequate resources.[96]

33. Furthermore, the HR Committee recommended that Slovakia strengthen its efforts to ensure that police officers suspected of committing racist attacks are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate sanctions.[97]

34. CERD noted with regret that lengthy court proceedings posed an obstacle for victims of racial discrimination who wished to obtain remedies, and was concerned at the low number of complaints despite the prevalence of racist speech and crimes. It invited Slovakia to address the lengthy court proceedings for racial discrimination victims and ensure that the principle of reversing the burden of proof in civil proceedings is applied in courts in line with the Anti-Discrimination Act.[98]

35. In 2013, CRC was concerned that the majority of persons convicted of trafficking in 2008 was given suspended sentences and served no time in jail or received prison sentences. It recommended that Slovakia combat the impunity that perpetrators of offences under OP-CRC-SC enjoy.[99] The ILO Committee of experts made similar observations.[100] CAT recommended that Slovakia investigate promptly and impartially all allegations of human trafficking, prosecute alleged perpetrators and provide reintegration and rehabilitation services to victims.[101]

36. CAT regretted the lack of implementation of the rights of victims of torture and ill-treatment to redress and compensation, including rehabilitation. It recommended that Slovakia ensure that victims of torture and ill-treatment are provided with redress and compensation, including rehabilitation, so that they may be provided with fair and adequate compensation.[102]

37. The HR Committee was concerned at the narrow focus of the investigation into the forced sterilization of Roma women.[103] CERD drew attention to the lack of effective investigation regarding forced sterilization of Roma women and the lack of victim compensation.[104] CAT recommended that Slovakia investigate all allegations of involuntary sterilization of Roma women and prosecute and punish perpetrators.[105] CERD recommended that Slovakia implement fully the recent decisions of the European Court of Human Rights on the issue and ensure reparation and compensation for victims.[106]

38. CRC recommended that Slovakia ensure that child victims of offences under OP-CRC-SC are provided with appropriate assistance, including for social reintegration and physical and psychological recovery, and have access to adequate procedures to seek, without discrimination, compensation for damages from those legally responsible; and establish a victim compensation fund.[107]

39. The HR Committee stated that Slovakia should ensure that victims of racist attacks committed by law enforcement personnel are adequately compensated.[108]

40. While noting the initiative to incorporate child victim and witness protection into the criminal procedure law, CRC was concerned that special protection measures in relation to interrogation only covered children younger than 15 years. It recommended that Slovakia consider as mandatory the special protection measures in criminal proceedings for all child victims and witnesses up to the age of 18.[109]

41. CAT was concerned about detention conditions for juveniles, such as solitary confinement for periods up to 10 days, and the placement of juvenile detainees in pretrial detention together with adults. It recommended that Slovakia implement the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (Beijing Rules) adopted in 1985 and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (Havana Rules) adopted in 1990 and ensure that juveniles were held in detention only as a last resort.[110]

D. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

42. CESCR was concerned by the fact that homosexual couples were not legally recognized and by the absence of a legal framework for the protection of the rights of such couples. It recommended that Slovakia consider adopting legislation to grant legal recognition to homosexual couples.[111]

E. Freedom of religion or belief, and association, and right to participate in public and political life

43. While noting the prohibition of forced military service and the recognition of a person's right to exercise conscientious objection to military service, the HR Committee was concerned at the lack of clarity on whether a person retained the right to conscientious objection if the objection was developed in the course of performing military service. It encouraged Slovakia to ensure that the law clearly stipulates that individuals retain the right to exercise conscientious objection even while performing military service.[112]

44. Concerned by excessive legal restrictions applying to the right of certain categories of civil servants to strike, CESCR recommended the revision of legislation, particularly Act No. 2 of 1991, to permit them to exercise their right to strike more fully.[113]

45. While welcoming the adoption of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality (2010–2013), the HR Committee noted with concern that women remained underrepresented in both the public and private sectors, particularly in decision-making positions. It urged Slovakia to increase women's participation in public and private sectors and, if necessary, through temporary special measures.[114] CESCR made a similar recommendation.[115]

F. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

46. CESCR was concerned by the high rate of unemployment, especially by the persistence of long-term unemployment, in particular among women and young people and

among disadvantaged and marginalized populations, including Roma and persons with disabilities.[116]

47. CESCR reiterated a recommendation that Slovakia set the minimum wage at a sufficient level to ensure a decent standard of living for workers and their families.[117]

48. CESCR remained concerned by the wage gaps between men and women and that this wage gap continued to widen at a rapid rate.[118]

G. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

49. CESCR was concerned that a significant proportion of the population lived beneath the poverty threshold and that the proportion remained very high among the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including Roma. It urged Slovakia to combat poverty and reduce disparities between regions.[119]

50. CESCR was concerned that access to adequate, safe water was not available to all sectors of the population, especially the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups and members of the rural population.[120]

51. CESCR was concerned that some groups within the population, especially the most disadvantaged groups, including Roma, did not have access to adequate housing. It recommended that Slovakia ensure that the 2010 law encouraging low-cost housing construction is implemented and that it pursue the social housing construction programme, giving priority in assignment of such dwellings to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, particularly Roma.[121]

H. Right to health

52. CESCR was concerned that the 2011 law on social security had reduced coverage of reproductive and sexual health services, particularly the prescription of contraceptives. It recommended that Slovakia expand the public insurance scheme to cover reproductive and sexual health services.[122]

53. CESCR recommended that Slovakia lower the cost of abortion services and ensure that the personal data of patients undergoing abortion remained confidential.[123]

54. CESCR recommended that Slovakia ensure that students receive sexual and reproductive health education at school to avert the risks associated with early pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.[124]

55. CAT and CERD expressed concern about allegations of involuntary sterilization of Roma women. While welcoming legal provisions prohibiting unlawful sterilizations and prescribing the "informed consent" for the procedure, including Act No. 576/2004 on Healthcare, CERD noted its allegedly inconsistent implementation by health personnel. It urged Slovakia to establish clear guidelines concerning "informed consent" and to ensure that these guidelines are well-known among practitioners and the public, particularly Roma women. Furthermore, the HR Committee stated that Slovakia should monitor the implementation of Act. No 576/2004 to ensure that all procedures are followed in obtaining the full and informed consent of women, particularly Roma women, who seek sterilization services in health facilities.[125]

I. Persons with disabilities

56. Concerned by discrimination in schools against children with disabilities, CESCR

recommended that Slovakia adopt and apply an inclusive approach to the education of children with disabilities.[126]

J. Minorities and indigenous peoples

57. CESCR was concerned about shortcomings in implementing the laws dealing with the official State language and the law governing the minority languages, under which all citizens belonging to minority groups were allowed to use their minority language with the public administration. It recommended that Slovakia enforce the law on the use of minority languages in the municipal governments concerned.[127]

58. Concerned by the low enrolment rate among Roma children and their persistently high school dropout rate, CESCR recommended that Slovakia put in place a national strategy and plan of action to raise the enrolment rate and lower the school dropout rate of Roma children.[128] UNESCO encouraged Slovakia to continue its efforts to ensure that minorities have access to suitable and affordable education without discrimination.[129]

59. In 2013, CERD was concerned about the ongoing de facto segregation of Roma children in the education sector, and by information that Roma children were dramatically overrepresented in special classes and "special" schools for children with intellectual disability. In 2010, CERD urged Slovakia to bring to an end to and prevent segregation of Roma children in education. It recommended that Slovakia revisit the procedure used to determine which children are to be enrolled in special schools, with a view to avoiding discrimination against Roma based on their cultural identity.[130] The HR Committee and CESCR made similar observations.[131]

60. CERD remained concerned about de facto segregation, forced evictions and other forms of discrimination related to housing encountered by the Roma.[132] In 2010, CERD considered the situation of Roma residing in Plavecky Stvrtok, under threat of forced eviction due to proximity to a gas line and with no provision of adequate alternative housing, resettlement or access to productive land, under its early warning and urgent action procedure. According to information received, 105 families were not consulted about alternative accommodation nor even properly informed about pending evictions. CERD urged Slovakia to prevent any irreparable harm to the Roma in Plavecky Stvrtok.[133]

61. CERD was concerned that: limited measures had been taken to promote the right of Roma to adequate housing and ending segregation; some Roma settlements lacked basic facilities; walls and barriers had been erected in some areas, including Prešov, Michalovce, Partizánske or Trebišov, to segregate Roma from the rest of the population; and forced evictions and demolitions of Roma settlements took place without alternative housing for Roma. CERD recommended that Slovakia, inter alia, effectively implement the Revised National Action Plan and the Strategy for the Integration of Roma by ensuring the right to adequate housing for Roma; and put an end to forced evictions and demolitions of Roma settlements without prior notice and when such demolitions are necessary provide adequate and appropriate alternative housing.[134] CESCR made similar observations.[135]

62. CESCR recommended that Slovakia undertake steps to promote the rights of the Roma, with regard to access to employment, education, housing and health.[136] CERD made a similar recommendation.[137]

K. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

63. CERD noted with appreciation the establishment of an emergency transit centre to provide humanitarian protection to refugees awaiting their resettlement.[138]

64. UNHCR stated that several improvements were introduced with the 2012 law on residence of aliens, such as enhanced access to family reunification, effectiveness of judicial review of detention cases, better conditions in detention centres, new alternatives to detention and further safeguards in administrative expulsion procedures, including providing persons with information about free legal representation. However, the new law stopped short of eliminating all barriers to family reunification, failed to regulate an explicit right to release of asylum seekers from detention, and had not addressed the access of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection to long-term residence.[139]

65. CAT was concerned at the very low rate of successful asylum applications.[140] UNHCR recommended that Slovakia ensure that all procedural guarantees are provided to asylum seekers at border points, including the right to a personal interview and interpretation services, the right to information on application for asylum and the right to the provision of free legal aid.[141]

66. UNHCR stated that alleged forced expulsions raised concerns about violations of the principle of non-refoulement.[142] In particular, CAT was concerned that persons considered to be a national security threat or a community danger were not protected by the principle of non-refoulement, which might expose them to a risk of torture. It urged Slovakia to adopt measures to protect the rights of all asylum seekers and persons seeking refugee status and apply the non-refoulement principle without discrimination.[143] CERD and UNHCR made similar recommendations.[144]

67. UNHCR stated that, in the foster-care system, many unaccompanied minors and children separated from their caretakers faced challenges in accessing the asylum procedures. For example, often there were delays in identifying a guardian for a child, which could result in delayed access to asylum procedures, as the asylum procedures were only available to children who had a guardian appointed by the court. UNHCR recommended that Slovakia ensure unaccompanied children full access to asylum procedures by adopting measures aimed at eliminating all obstacles that delay or hinder their access to asylum procedures; and that the unaccompanied or separated minors receive legal representation during legal procedures through the provision of a lawyer experienced in asylum law and children's rights. It also recommended amending legislation concerning age assessment to meet international standards and practices.[145]

68. CRC recommended that Slovakia put in place mechanisms to identify at an early stage children among refugees and asylum seekers who might have been involved in armed conflict in order to ensure their protection, recovery and reintegration.[146]

69. UNHCR recommended that Slovakia ensure access to a fair and efficient refugee-status determination procedure for all persons in need of international protection.[147]

70. CESCR was concerned that asylum seekers must wait for one year before they can obtain a work permit. It recommended that Slovak amend legislation to allow asylum seekers to obtain a work permit within a year and accord recognition to the academic qualifications and work experience of asylum seekers without discrimination.[148]

71. The HR Committee was concerned at the slow pace of integration into society of persons with asylum and refugee status. It urged Slovakia to promote their integration to ensure their equal access to employment, education, housing and health.[149]

72. UNHCR recommended that Slovakia establish domestic legislation on a statelessness determination procedure to give effect to the rights enshrined in the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.[150]

Notes

[1] Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, http://treaties.un.org/. Please also refer to the United Nations compilation on Slovakia from the previous cycle (A/HRC/WG.6/5/SVK/2).

[2] The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

[3] Individual complaints: ICCPR-OP 1, art. 1; OP-CEDAW, art. 1; OP-CRPD, art. 1; OP-ICESCR, art. 1; OP-CRC-IC, art. 5; ICERD, art. 14; CAT, art. 22; ICRMW, art. 77; and CPED, art. 31. Inquiry procedure: OP-CEDAW, art. 8; CAT, art. 20; CPED, art. 33; OP-CRPD, art. 6; OP-ICESCR, art. 11; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 13. Inter-State complaints: ICCPR, art. 41; ICRMW, art. 76; CPED, art. 32; CAT, art. 21; OP-ICESCR, art. 10; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 12. Urgent action: CPED, art. 30.

[4] Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

[5] 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

[6] Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

[7] International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning

Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

[8] International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and Convention No. 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.

[9] Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 21, and CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 17. See also concluding observations of the Committee against Torture, CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 23.

[10] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, paras. 22 and 23.

[11] Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the implementation of OP-CRC-AC, CRC/C/OPAC/SVK/CO/1, para. 19.

[12] Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the implementation of OP-CRC-SC, CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, paras. 28 and 35.

[13] Ibid., para. 9.

[14] Concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee, CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 6.

[15] Concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 6.

[16] CRC/C/OPAC/SVK/CO/1, para. 19, and CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 17.

[17] According to article 5 of the rules of procedure for the International Coordination Committee (ICC) Sub-Committee on Accreditation, the different classifications for accreditation used by the Sub-Committee are: A: Voting Member (fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles), B: Non-Voting Member (not fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles or insufficient information provided to make a determination), C: No Status (not in compliance with the Paris Principles).

[18] For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordination Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/23/28, annex.

[19] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 5.

[20] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 7.

[21] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 15.

[22] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 5, and E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 7.

[23] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 3 (c).

[24] Ibid., para. 11. See also E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, paras. 9 and 13.

[25] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 3 (d)–(e). See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 4.

[26] The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HR Committee	Human Rights Committee
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CAT	Committee against Torture
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

[27] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 19.

[28] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3/Add.1.

[29] See second follow-up response from Slovakia to the HR Committee of 29 April 2013. Available from http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CCPR/Shared%20Documents/SVK/INT_CCPR_ASP_SVK_14770_E.pdf.

[30] Letter dated 30 April 2012 from HR Committee to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva. Available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/docs/followup/SlovakiaFUApril2012.pdf. Also letter dated 12 November 2012 from HR Committee to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva. Available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/docs/SlovakiaFUNovember2012.pdf..

[31] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 26.

[32] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 22.
[33] Follow-up to concluding observations, CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8/Add.1.
[34] Letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva. Available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/followup/SlovakiaLetter_02092011.pdf.
[35] Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, CEDAW/C/SVK/CO/4, para. 55.
[36] Follow-up to concluding observations, CEDAW/C/SVK/CO/4/Add.1.
[37] Letter dated 19 February 2010 from CEDAW to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva. Available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/followup/Slovakia.pdf.
[38] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 26.
[39] Follow-up to concluding observations, CAT/C/SVK/CO/2/Add.1.
[40] For the titles of special procedures, see www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Themes.aspx and www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Countries.aspx.
[41] OHCHR, *2009 Report on Activities and Results*, p. 195; *2010 Report on Activities and Results*, pp. 79 and 83; *2011 Report on Activities and Results*, p. 125, and *2013 Report on Activities and Results* (forthcoming).
[42] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 11.
[43] Ibid., para. 16.
[44] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 10. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 15; E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 9; CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, paras. 11 and 13; letter dated 11 March 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1 (available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/Slovakia_11March2011.pdf); letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1; and letter dated 31 August 2012 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1 (available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/early_warning/Slovakia31082012.pdf).
[45] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 13.
[46] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 16. See also E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 9, and CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, paras. 11 and 13.
[47] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 16. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 13.
[48] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 13.
[49] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 10, and CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 11.
[50] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 9.
[51] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 13.
[52] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 8.
[53] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 12. See also letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1.
[54] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 8.
[55] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 6.
[56] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 3 (a). See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 12, and CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8/Add.1, para. 3.
[57] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, paras. 3 (a) and 7.
[58] Ibid., para. 10.
[59] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 12. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10 para. 9, and letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1.
[60] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 6. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 9.
[61] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8/Add.1, para. 7.
[62] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 10. See also UNESCO submission to UPR, para. 52.
[63] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 7, andCERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 19.
[64] UNESCO submission to UPR, para. 52.
[65] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 5.
[66] Ibid., para. 13.
[67] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 14.
[68] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 13.
[69] Ibid., para. 11 (b).
[70] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 14.

[71] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 14, and CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, paras. 11 and 15. See also CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 8, and letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1.
[72] Opening statement by Ms. Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, at the Human Rights Council 24th Session. Available from www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13687&LangID=E.
[73] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 9. See also CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 8.
[74] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 14. See also letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1.
[75] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 20.
[76] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 11. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 17.
[77] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 18.
[78] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 11. See also E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 18, and CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 17 (a).
[79] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 18.
[80] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 17 (b).
[81] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 12.
[82] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 18.
[83] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 12. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 18.
[84] CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 22.
[85] CRC/C/OPAC/SVK/CO/1, paras. 11 and 15.
[86] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 19, and CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 30.
[87] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 19.
[88] ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Direct request concerning ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) – Slovakia, adopted 2012, published 102nd ILC session (2013). Available from www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3083686.
[89] CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 31 (a).
[90] ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Direct request concerning ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) – Slovakia, adopted 2012, published 102nd ILC session (2013). Available from www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3083686.
[91] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 19. See also CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 46.
[92] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 7.
[93] Ibid., para. 6.
[94] Ibid., para. 9. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 9.
[95] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 9. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 14, and CCPR/C/SVK/CO/31, para. 14.
[96] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 10.
[97] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 8.
[98] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 7.
[99] CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, paras. 32 and 33.
[100] ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Direct request concerning ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) – Slovakia, adopted 2012, published 102nd ILC session (2013). Available from www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3083686.
[101] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 19.
[102] Ibid., para. 16. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2/Add.1, para. 27.
[103] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 13.
[104] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 13.
[105] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 14 (a).
[106] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 13. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 18, and letter dated 19 February 2010 from CEDAW to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva.
[107] CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, para. 43 (a) and (b).
[108] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 8.
[109] CRC/C/OPSC/SVK/CO/1, paras. 40 and 41.

[110] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 12.
[111] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 10.
[112] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 15.
[113] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 17.
[114] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 10.
[115] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 11.
[116] Ibid., paras. 12–13.
[117] Ibid., para. 15.
[118] Ibid., para. 14.
[119] Ibid., para. 20.
[120] Ibid., para. 21.
[121] Ibid., para. 22.
[122] Ibid., para. 24.
[123] Ibid., para. 24.
[124] Ibid., para. 25.
[125] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 14, CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 18, and CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 13. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2/Add.1, para. 63, CEDAW/C/SVK/CO/4/Add.1 and letter dated 12 November 2012 from HR Committee to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 1.
[126] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 26.
[127] Ibid., para. 27.
[128] Ibid., para. 26.
[129] UNESCO submission to UPR, para. 51. See also para. 50.
[130] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 11, and CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 16.
[131] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 17, and E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 26. See also CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 15.
[132] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 17. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 12 (d), and letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 2.
[133] Letter dated 27 August 2010 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, pp. 1–2. Available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/early_warning/Slovakia27082010.pdf. See also letter dated 11 March 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva; letter dated 2 September 2011 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva; and letter dated 31 August 2012 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva.
[134] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-10, para. 12. See also CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 17, and letter dated 27 August 2010 from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Slovakia in Geneva, p. 2.
[135] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 22.
[136] Ibid., para. 9.
[137] CERD/C/SVK/CO/9-103, para. 10.
[138] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 6.
[139] UNHCR submission to UPR, p. 1.
[140] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 8.
[141] UNHCR submission to UPR, p. 3.
[142] Ibid., p. 3.
[143] CAT/C/SVK/CO/2, para. 8.
[144] CERD/C/SVK/CO/6-8, para. 15, and UNHCR Submission to UPR, p. 3.
[145] UNHCR submission to UPR, pp. 3 and 4.
[146] CRC/C/OPAC/SVK/CO/1, para. 17.
[147] UNHCR submission to UPR, p. 3.
[148] E/C.12/SVK/CO/2, para. 13.
[149] CCPR/C/SVK/CO/3, para. 9.
[150] UNHCR submission to UPR, p. 6.