



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the  
**32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Slovakia**

Geneva, 28 January 2019

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Mr. President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Slovakia for the national report, its presentation today and their commitment to the UPR process.

We **recommend** to the authorities of Slovakia:

- to consider additional measures to protect freedom of the press and the rights of journalists, including prompt and effective investigation by the law enforcement organs about risks to their safety and security.
- to dedicate meaningful resources in order to ensure equal access to quality education and better educational inclusion of Roma children in the schooling system of Slovakia.

Slovenia welcomes significant progress that Slovakia has made since its second review, in particular through the adoption of national strategies for the *Protection of Children from Violence*, for *Gender Equality* and for the *Protection and Promotion of Human Rights*, as well as action plans for *Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women* and for the *Integration of Roma*. It is particularly praiseworthy that these documents envisage or create adequate mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

However, we encourage Slovakia to adopt additional measures to better safeguard the freedom of expression; encourage gender equality; prevent violence against women; and improve access of Roma children to education.

Thank you!

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**Advance questions:**

- What steps has Slovakia taken to better safeguard the freedom of the press, the freedom of expression and the role of journalists in a democratic society?
- What concrete measures has Slovakia taken to prevent and combat human trafficking – including women, children and members of the Roma community –, which can often result in labour or sexual exploitation?