

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

## PUBLIC STATEMENT

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### **Amnesty International calls on Slovenia to take immediate measures to combat discrimination against Roma and ensure their equal enjoyment of human rights**

#### ***Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcome on Slovenia***

Amnesty International welcomes Slovenia's acceptance of numerous recommendations on the human rights of Roma.<sup>1</sup> We urge Slovenia to implement the recommendations without delay, including those considered to be already implemented.

Slovenia must take immediate and concrete measures to combat all forms of discrimination against Roma and ensure their equal enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights.

Amnesty International welcomes the conclusion of the Parliamentary Committee for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities adopted in January 2015, directing the government to prepare a strategic framework to improve the situation of Roma by the end of 2015.<sup>2</sup>

This should be developed through a truly inclusive, gender-sensitive and participatory process based on the real needs of the Roma community. Currently, consultation is limited to the public sector. We urge the government to change its approach and invite all relevant stakeholders to engage in the drafting process. Above all, Slovenia must support the active participation of Roma civil society and Roma human rights defenders and ensure the participation of the most marginalized Roma settlements in adopting measures to improve their living conditions, as also recommended during the review.<sup>3</sup>

Amnesty International also urges Slovenia to guarantee the right to adequate housing for all Roma by implementing recommendations on access to safe water, sanitation and electricity, on forcible evictions and on security of tenure.<sup>4</sup>

Finally, we call on Slovenia to implement recommendations on the rights of Roma children.<sup>5</sup> Slovenia must strengthen efforts to combat discrimination in schools, ensure equal opportunities in access to quality education at all levels, and reduce the number of children living in poverty.

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review – Slovenia, A/HRC/28/15*, 10 December 2014, recommendations 115.25 (Norway), 115.62 (Iran), 115.63 (Nigeria), 115.67 (Slovakia), 115.68 (Poland), 115.69 (Russia), 115.70 (Sierra Leone), 115.71 (Sri Lanka), 115.72 (Macedonia), 115.73 (United Kingdom), 115.75 (Venezuela), 115.78 (Argentina), 115.79 (Australia), 115.80 (Azerbaijan), 115.81 (Bahrain), 115.82 (Brazil), 115.83 (Chile), 115.84 (China), 115.86 (Cuba), 115.88 (Greece), 115.89 (Mexico), 115.90 (Thailand), 115.91 (Austria), 115.139 (Israel), 115.150 (Israel), 115.154 (Netherlands), 115.155 (New Zealand), 115.158 (Spain), and 115.159 (USA).

<sup>2</sup> *Conclusion of the Parliamentary Committee for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities*, 26 January 2015. <http://imss.dz-rs.si/imis/2021095866a30905f7f0.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *A/HRC/28/15, recommendations 115.89 (Mexico) and 115.159 (USA)*.

<sup>4</sup> *A/HRC/28/15, recommendations 115.72 (Macedonia), 115.75 (Venezuela), 115.82 (Brazil), 115.83 (Chile), 115.90 (Thailand), 115.139 (Israel), 115.140 (Portugal), and 115.158 (Spain)*.

<sup>5</sup> *A/HRC/28/15, recommendations 115.67 (Slovakia), 115.68 (Poland), 115.80 (Azerbaijan), 115.84 (China), and 115.91 (Austria)*.

**Background**

The UN Human Rights Council adopted the outcome of the Universal Periodic Review of Slovenia on 19 March 2015 during its 28<sup>th</sup> session. Prior to the adoption of the review outcome, Amnesty International delivered the oral statement above. Amnesty International had earlier submitted information on the situation of human rights in Slovenia:  
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/EUR68/001/2014/en/>

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