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## **Summary prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21**

### **Switzerland\***

The present report is a summary of 11 stakeholders' submissions<sup>1</sup> to the universal periodic review. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. As provided for in resolution 16/21 of the Human Rights Council, where appropriate, a separate section is provided for contributions by the national human rights institution of the State under review that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

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\* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

## **I. Background and framework**

### **A. Scope of international obligations**

1. The Federal Commission against Racism (FCR) recommended that Switzerland ratify the Optional Protocol to ICESCR,<sup>2</sup> and that it withdraw its two reservations to ICERD, especially its reservation regarding Article 4.<sup>3</sup>

2. JS3 noted that during its first UPR, Switzerland had accepted recommendations to sign the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The political process had started in this respect, although ratification was still pending. Switzerland had further committed to ratifying the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Regrettably, no steps had been taken in this regard. Switzerland should increase its efforts to sign and ratify outstanding human rights treaties, and in particular those it had committed to signing and ratifying during its previous UPR.<sup>4</sup>

3. The Council of Europe (CoE) noted that Switzerland had signed but not yet ratified the European Social Charter and the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. Furthermore, Switzerland had not yet signed or ratified the CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.<sup>5</sup>

4. JS1 noted that in 2012, the Swiss parliament had approved the ratification of the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.<sup>6</sup>

5. JS4 noted that Switzerland had signed the CoE Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) in 2010 and was in the process of ratifying it.<sup>7</sup>

### **B. Constitutional and legislative framework**

6. JS3 noted that Switzerland's federal system posed challenges regarding the implementation of international human rights treaties, as the 26 cantons were responsible for implementation in several core areas.<sup>8</sup>

### **C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures**

7. JS3 noted that, in 2009, the Federal Council had established a Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (SCHR), which, however, did not comply with the Paris Principles. A decision pertaining to the development of the SCHR and its future shape would be taken at the end of a five-year pilot phase. JS3 invited Switzerland to take all necessary measures to convert the SCHR at the end of the pilot phase into a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles.<sup>9</sup>

8. The CoE's Commissioner for Human Rights (CoE-Commissioner) considered the ombudspersons operating in some cantons and cities, such as Zurich, to constitute examples of good practice, and encouraged all cantons to promote the appointment of cantonal ombudspersons through their parliaments, as well as the appointment of a federal ombudsperson. The Commissioner also commended the work of the different federal commissions set up as advisory and public awareness-raising bodies as well as the specialized offices and services in the Federal Department of Home Affairs dealing with gender equality, racism and persons with disability. Furthermore, the Commissioner noted

the creation of the SCHR as a positive development and hoped that it would develop into an independent and efficient national human rights institution.<sup>10</sup>

## **II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

9. JS3 recommended the creation of institutions and mechanisms with the power to ensure effective coordination between federal and cantonal levels in the follow-up to recommendations from international human rights bodies, as well as regular and effective consultation with civil society.<sup>11</sup>

## **III. Implementation of international human rights obligations**

### **A. Equality and non-discrimination**

10. CoE-Commissioner observed that in spite of being an inherently pluralistic society, racism and intolerance appeared to be on the rise in Switzerland. A proactive and vigorous approach should be taken towards all manifestations of racism and intolerance.<sup>12</sup>

11. With regard to protection from racial discrimination and xenophobia, the Federal Commission against Racism (FCR) noted that Article 261 bis of the Criminal Code makes it a criminal offence to publicly commit a racist act in a manner that violates human dignity. Observing that structural xenophobia had become acceptable under the influence of right-wing populism, FCR advocated wider application of this article to actors in the political arena. It also recommended the addition of provisions to provide better protection against right-wing extremist activities.<sup>13</sup>

12. JS3 welcomed efforts made towards the implementation of a racism monitoring system at the national level, but noted that a strategy to deal with racist components emanating from populist actors in the political debate was still lacking, and that Switzerland had failed to take appropriate measures against “racial and ethnic profiling” by the police and other security forces.<sup>14</sup>

13. The CoE’s European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) noted positive developments, but also detailed continuing grounds for concern. Measures had been taken to foster the integration of immigrants in areas such as employment, housing and health. The federal bodies in charge of racism and migration had continued to raise awareness on racism and racial discrimination, and steps had been taken to combat right-wing extremism. However, there had been a dangerous growth of racist political discourse against non-citizens, Muslims, Black people and other minorities. Legislation was insufficiently developed to deal with direct racial discrimination, which targets in particular Muslims and persons from the Balkans, Turkey and Africa. Legislation governing asylum seekers had been tightened and hostility towards them had increased. ECRI recommended that the authorities pursue their efforts to train police officers, prosecutors, judges and future legal professionals in the scope and application of Article 261 bis of the Criminal Code, which is intended to prohibit racist acts. ECRI also recommended training and awareness-raising courses for all members of the police regarding the need to combat racism and racial discrimination in policing, including racial profiling.<sup>15</sup>

14. CoE-Commissioner noted complaints concerning police action affecting individuals who are visibly identifiable as non-Europeans, but acknowledged that measures had been taken to prevent police misconduct, including amendments to the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure in 2010. However, questions remained with regard to the promptness and impartiality of the existing police complaints system. The Commissioner further stated that

certain gaps in anti-discrimination legislation could best be overcome through the adoption of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law.<sup>16</sup>

15. FCR recommended raising the awareness of the judicial authorities with respect to protecting the victims of racism, and attaching greater importance to protection against discrimination from a human rights standpoint.<sup>17</sup> Laws governing the duties of law enforcement agencies should explicitly stipulate the obligation for equal treatment and non-discrimination.<sup>18</sup>

16. FCR further noted a lack of protection against discrimination under civil law and in particular a lack of legislation prohibiting racial discrimination in situations in which people are seeking jobs or accommodation.<sup>19</sup>

17. With regard to gender equality, CoE-Commissioner noted significant progress, but highlighted the importance of sustained efforts to eliminate still existing discrimination.<sup>20</sup>

18. JS3 noted that Switzerland had yet to adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation. Although some provisions, which may be used to combat discrimination, were included in different codes, such as the Civil Code and the Code of Obligations, Switzerland should introduce anti-discrimination legislation forbidding all forms of discrimination in employment and other areas and provide for a shared burden of proof.<sup>21</sup>

19. JS1 similarly observed that legal protection against discrimination was still fragmentary. Some individuals and specific groups were exposed to discrimination because they were not specifically protected and did not have the specific legal instruments to claim their rights. In the context of employment, cases of discrimination due to HIV/Aids were on the rise and LGBTI persons were also still subject to discrimination. JS1 recommended that Switzerland introduce a new federal law that explicitly prevents and combats discrimination and that protects different groups, including explicitly people living with chronic diseases and LGBTI persons.<sup>22</sup> JS3 similarly recommended that Switzerland explicitly consider the issues and violations faced by LGBTI persons when creating a general act on equal treatment.<sup>23</sup>

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

20. JS3 recommended that Switzerland include in its Criminal Code a definition of torture incorporating all elements contained in article 1 of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.<sup>24</sup>

21. FCR recommended a federal law for the implementation of better protection from ill-treatment by the police, together with the establishment of an independent mechanism for the investigation of complaints in all cantons.<sup>25</sup>

22. The CoE's Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), in a report published in October 2008 on its fifth visit to Switzerland, highlighted the importance of fundamental safeguards against ill-treatment offered to persons in police custody and the situation of persons deprived of their liberty under aliens legislation. Regarding prisons, the CPT drew attention to the conditions of detention of persons against whom a compulsory placement measure or institutional therapeutic measures have been ordered, as well as to conditions in the security units. In their response to the visit report, the Swiss authorities provided information on the measures being taken to implement the CPT's recommendations.<sup>26</sup>

23. JS1 noted that trafficking of women to Switzerland represents a severe violation of human rights. Switzerland had taken action to follow the recommendations of the UPR in 2008 to fight sexual exploitation of women and children. However, Switzerland was still a destination and transit country for human trafficking, and victims of human trafficking

often did not have access to help. Existing strategies were not fully implemented in the cantons. JS1 recommended the development of a comprehensive strategy to be implemented in all the cantons, as well as training for the police, justice and migration authorities in order to be better able to identify victims of trafficking and support them in their rights. Victims of human trafficking should have the right to stay in Switzerland if this was needed for their protection.<sup>27</sup> JS3 similarly recommended that Switzerland develop a national strategy against trafficking and sexual exploitation of women that takes into account the protection of victims and is carried out by the cantons. Switzerland should also specify the conditions for granting residence permits in cases of serious personal hardship faced by victims of human trafficking.<sup>28</sup>

24. With reference to recommendations from the first review of Switzerland by the UPR mechanism, JS6 welcomed the creation of a bilateral task force between Switzerland and Romania to fight human trafficking. However, it expressed disappointment that prostitution of persons between 16 and 18 years of age was still not prohibited and that court sentences for traffickers were often not commensurate with the gravity of the crime. JS6 recommended that Switzerland conduct a nationwide awareness-raising campaign to address trafficking; that it take all necessary steps to make sure that convicted traffickers receive sentences commensurate with the gravity of the crime; and that it prohibit prostitution of all persons less than 18 years old.<sup>29</sup>

25. JS4 recommended that the authorities regularly undertake broad awareness-raising campaigns concerning sexual exploitation. JS4 further recommended the development of a draft law to declare the solicitation of a child for sexual purposes a criminal offence.<sup>30</sup>

26. JS3 observed that although the procedure for victims of domestic violence who have a residence permit on the basis of family reunification had been improved, the cantonal immigration authorities and the Federal Office for Migrations still held a wide margin of discretion. Switzerland should specify the criteria applied to the consideration of evidence of domestic violence when deciding on the prolongation of residence permits for victims of such violence who had left their partners, in order to make it possible for cantonal and federal authorities to apply rules in a standardized and fair manner.<sup>31</sup>

27. Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) recommended the adoption of legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in the home.<sup>32</sup> JS3 similarly recommended that Switzerland step up its efforts in establishing an explicit ban on corporal punishment of children.<sup>33</sup> JS4 urged that recourse to violence in education be explicitly prohibited in the Civil Code.<sup>34</sup>

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

28. JS3 noted the lack of a comprehensive system of independent complaints mechanisms to deal with allegations of police violence. Although a few cantons had their own mechanisms, Switzerland should ensure the creation in each canton of an independent mechanism empowered to receive any complaints of violence or mistreatment on the part of the police and to investigate them promptly, thoroughly and impartially.<sup>35</sup>

29. JS3 noted that the authorities failed to consistently respect the principle of separated detention of minors from adults. It invited the authorities to translate into practice the principle of separated detention of minors, in particular with regard to detention pending deportation.<sup>36</sup>

30. JS3 noted that since 2011, crimes against humanity were covered by the Swiss Criminal Code. However, several persons suspected of having committed such crimes were known to have travelled through or stayed in Switzerland since the entry into force of the law. JS3 observed a lack of efficiency in tracking, investigating and prosecuting

international criminals, mainly due to the absence of a specialized war crimes unit at the federal level.<sup>37</sup>

31. JS3 noted a lack of effective legislation to compel firms headquartered in Switzerland to respect human rights and the environment worldwide. Switzerland should create binding framework so as to impose strict due diligence on transnational companies headquartered in Switzerland vis-à-vis their subsidiaries, contract parties and supplier companies.<sup>38</sup>

#### **D. Right to privacy, marriage and family life**

32. CoE-Commissioner noted existing restrictions and further proposals to restrict migrants' right to reunite with their families. Proposals for the automatic expulsion of migrants who have committed a certain crime could also raise serious challenges to migrants' right to family unity.<sup>39</sup>

33. JS3 noted that the right to marry for bi-national couples had been repeatedly restricted. The Federal Act on Foreign Nationals contained new regulations for fighting fictitious marriages, which left registrars with a very wide scope of discretion. Even existing marriages could be considered as fictitious and a foreign partner refused the right of residence. Since 2011, non-Swiss nationals engaged to be married needed to demonstrate the legality of their presence in Switzerland during the preparation procedure. Should one of the partners not dispose of a legal right of stay, the marriage would de facto be banned. In December 2011, the Federal Court had established criteria for an application of the law that respects human rights. Switzerland should commission an independent study to determine if the current civil law was applied in accordance with human rights with regard to the right to marry.<sup>40</sup>

#### **E. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life**

34. CoE-Commissioner, while recognizing the importance and value of an open political debate, noted that freedom of expression was not absolute and, at times, needed to be restricted in order to safeguard the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others, especially socially vulnerable groups targeted by acts of incitement and spread of hatred or intolerance.<sup>41</sup>

35. CoE-Commissioner raised questions concerning the practice of "popular initiatives" such as that concerning the ban on the construction of minarets, noting that the need for an effective political or judicial filtering system to safeguard human rights standards in this context had been acknowledged by the Federal Council and Parliament.<sup>42</sup> JS3 made similar observations, noting that the ban on the construction of minarets violated the law against discrimination on religious grounds, as well as Switzerland's international human rights obligations.<sup>43</sup>

36. With regard to conscientious objectors to military service, JS5 noted that the Law on Civilian Service set a duration for civilian service which appears to be discriminatory and punitive by comparison with that of military service, and that Switzerland retained a "military exemption tax" imposed on male citizens who do not perform military service. JS5 also noted that revisions to the Asylum Law currently under consideration had the explicit intention of debarring from its provisions conscientious objectors and others who are seeking asylum in order to escape military service in countries where there is no provision for conscientious objectors.<sup>44</sup>

37. The Groupe pour une Suisse sans Armée (Group for a Switzerland without an Army) (GSsA) noted that, until April 2009, a civilian commission had examined the reasons of conscience evoked by persons applying to perform civilian service. The abolition of this “examination of conscience” in favour of a short statement by the person concerned attesting to his conflict of conscience and wish to be subject to the law on civilian service (the so-called system of proof by act, whereby the willingness to serve for a longer period constitutes sufficient evidence of conscientious objection) led, in the first year, to a quadrupling of the number of applications to perform civilian service. In the face of this surge, the authorities adopted several disincentive measures aimed at reducing the number of applications. According to GSsA, these measures restrict the right to conscientious objection. GSsA noted that various other aspects of civilian service, and of military service, should also be considered in the light of fundamental rights. GSsA recommended the establishment at second instance of an effective, impartial and independent review of call-ups for periods of military service.<sup>45</sup>

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

38. CoE-Commissioner observed a major pay gap for work of equal value between women and men in the private sector, noting that migrant women were often in a particularly vulnerable situation.<sup>46</sup> JS3 similarly recommended that Switzerland adopt appropriate measures in public and private sectors in order to reduce the wage differential between women and men.<sup>47</sup>

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

39. JS3 noted that the Swiss Constitution accepts economic, social, and cultural rights merely as social objectives, but does not view them as justiciable human rights. Persons who allege their rights have been violated can therefore not file a complaint in federal courts based on the Federal Constitution or the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).<sup>48</sup>

## **H. Right to health**

40. Concerning access to health services, JS2 noted that health insurance is compulsory for all persons residing in Switzerland. However, JS2 recommended the establishment of a more equitable healthcare system.<sup>49</sup>

41. JS1 recommended that Switzerland develop a national strategy to guarantee that vulnerable groups have access to sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning. A special strategy should be developed for migrants in order to guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. Services such as translation should be financed by the cantons. The strategy needed to be implemented and monitored equally in all Swiss cantons.<sup>50</sup>

42. JS2 registered an increase of mental disorders in young people, especially in the Canton of Geneva and Vaud, stating that alcohol and drugs as well as the lack of governmental controls, in addition to a frequent breakdown of the family unit, were the main contributing factors to mental disorders among the youth. JS2 further noted that suicide affected adolescents at an increasingly advanced age, with a major cause of suicide attempts being the loneliness of children and teenagers whose parents work all day. JS2 regretted that despite the high rate of suicide, there was no national plan for prevention.<sup>51</sup> JS2 recommended that the government undertake more concrete campaigns in order to

make youth aware of the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse; promote awareness campaigns, with the active involvement of teachers and parents; implement a strict collaboration among all psychiatry units, especially between child and adolescent psychiatry, in order to facilitate the coordination of experts; intensify controls on drugs in Switzerland at the border areas and make penalties more severe for drug dealers in order to reduce illegal sale of drugs; and implement a national suicide prevention strategy.<sup>52</sup>

## **I. Right to education**

43. JS2 welcomed the efforts of Switzerland in ensuring the realization of the right to education by every child, as well the high standards of Swiss schools at all levels of education, noting that school education was mandatory and free of charge for all children, including foreign nationals. However, JS2 also noted the persistence of discrimination against vulnerable children, especially foreign children, disabled children or children without papers, particularly in the Canton of Geneva.<sup>53</sup>

44. JS2 welcomed the decision of the government to allow children without papers to attend public school without any form of restriction or monetary fee. However, it regretted that, once children reach the age of majority, they were forced to leave the country even if they had not finished school. JS2 recommended that Switzerland implement article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child without discrimination, particularly of foreign children, children with disabilities, and children without papers; that it guarantee the integration of children with disabilities in normal schools; and that it guarantee equal access to secondary educational levels, independent of whether a child has attended a public or private school.<sup>54</sup>

45. JS3 noted that human rights education was largely absent in the public school system and quasi inexistent in the vocational training programs of key institutions such as cantonal administration, public institutions and justice. Switzerland should develop a national action plan to firmly incorporate human rights education in the curricula of all public education institutions.<sup>55</sup>

46. JS4 recommended the introduction of education on sexuality in all curricula.<sup>56</sup> JS1 called on the Government to guarantee equal access to comprehensive sexuality education for all children and adolescents. A strategy to implement efficiently existing models and standards should be developed together with professional associations and educational institutions.<sup>57</sup> JS3 recommended that Switzerland systematically include education on sexuality and sexual health in the curricula and implement such education in a comprehensive manner.<sup>58</sup>

## **J. Persons with disabilities**

47. JS3 noted several flaws in the Law on the Equality of Persons with Disabilities, one of which was the lack of protection against discrimination at work in the private sector. It also noted that private service providers did not have the obligation to adapt their services to the needs of persons with disabilities, even where these adjustments were financially viable. Furthermore, persons with disabilities still faced discrimination in the field of naturalization. At the cantonal level, laws and specialized agencies for the equality of persons with disabilities were lacking. Existing gaps in the legislation on the equality of persons with disabilities needed to be closed.<sup>59</sup>

48. JS1 noted that sexual rights of persons living with disabilities needed to be better protected, including through guidelines for protection from abuse in institutions.<sup>60</sup>



## K. Minorities

49. The CoE-Committee of Ministers, in a resolution adopted in November 2008 on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by Switzerland, invited the Swiss authorities to ensure the full implementation of the new federal legislation on languages, and in particular to promote more decisively multilingualism, mutual understanding and exchanges between linguistic communities; pursue efforts to promote the official use of the Romanche and Italian languages at the municipal and district levels in the canton of Graubünden by ensuring the swift implementation of the new cantonal Law on Languages; take further steps in the canton of Graubünden to encourage wider written and oral use of Italian and Romanche by the general public as well as within the administration and the judiciary; pursue the harmonisation process of language teaching requirements in compulsory education; and consider complementing the existing offer of optional Italian-language courses outside the areas where this language is traditionally spoken on the basis of existing needs.<sup>61</sup> In response, Switzerland affirmed that the protection of persons belonging to linguistic minorities was highly developed in the Federal system, and that major constitutional reforms and important new laws had been adopted in recent years. As a result, legal certainty had been strengthened as concerns the use of languages in official contexts. The emphasis was now on implementation.<sup>62</sup>

50. In 2010, on the basis of its fourth report on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in Switzerland, the CoE-Committee of Ministers recommended that Switzerland ensure that the introduction of Rumantsch Grischun is carried out in a way which is sensitive to the protection and promotion of Romanche as a living language; and that it organise language training in Romanche for administrative staff.<sup>63</sup>

51. While acknowledging that Switzerland had made progress in recognizing the situation of the Yenish/Travellers community, including through their recognition as a cultural national minority, FCR noted that implementation measures had not advanced very far.<sup>64</sup> The CoE Committee of Ministers invited the Swiss authorities to ease and accelerate the planning and creation of transit sites and stopping places for Travellers through appropriate measures; pursue efforts to support the language and culture of Travellers; and ensure effective participation of Travellers' representatives in the work of various bodies dealing with Travellers' issues.<sup>65</sup>

## L. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

52. Noting that undocumented migrants often cannot claim their fundamental and human rights for fear of being deported, and that the granting of residence permits in cases of serious personal hardship was very restrictive, JS3 recommended that Switzerland clearly define the criteria for granting undocumented migrants residence permits in cases of serious personal hardship, taking account also of the guarantees stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to assure a coherent and fair application of standards at the cantonal level. Switzerland should also specify the conditions for granting residence permits in case of serious personal hardship for the victims of human trafficking. Furthermore, Switzerland should continue its efforts to allow juvenile undocumented migrants the right to professional education.<sup>66</sup>

53. CoE-Commissioner noted that the effective enjoyment of migrants' right to family life was a major condition for their successful integration. Of equal importance for migrants integration was the possibility for those lawfully residing in the country for a long period of

time to be naturalized. Furthermore, equal treatment should be ensured with regard to access to existing regularization procedures by irregular migrants.<sup>67</sup>

54. As regards asylum, JS3 invited Switzerland to order an independent analysis of its asylum law from a human rights perspective. Asylum procedure for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers should be designed in a way to assure the provision of free legal aid in the first asylum interview and throughout the process. In the case of repatriations, methods applied should comply with international human rights standards and human dignity, and coercive measures should be guided by the principle of proportionality. JS3 also noted that the conditions of detention pending deportation were too restrictive in many cases.<sup>68</sup>

55. CoE-Commissioner noted that the foreseen abolition of the “out of hand” asylum rejection applied for instance when an applicant does not produce an identity document within 48 hours would be a step in the right direction. The Commissioner encouraged the authorities to prioritize the establishment of a comprehensive system of legal aid for asylum seekers, in particular in the context of the accelerated asylum procedure.<sup>69</sup>

56. Terre des Femmes (TdF) found that there were significant problems concerning the recognition of asylum claims based on gender related persecution, noting that the gravity of this phenomenon was often not understood. It recommended that more resources be allocated to the process of evaluating asylum applications; that personnel be trained specifically on the issue of gender and its implications for asylum procedures; that special attention be given to gender-based violence such as forced marriage or honour-related violence; and that research conducted by the Office for Migration put emphasis on the reality of women in their countries of origin.<sup>70</sup>

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org):

##### *Civil society*

GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children
GSsA	Groupe pour une Suisse sans Armée, (Geneva, Switzerland)
JS1	Joint Submission 1: Sexual Health Switzerland; Sexual Rights Initiative
JS2	Joint Submission 2: Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice; and Association Points Coeur (IIMA) (Geneva, Switzerland)
JS3	Joint Submission 3: Swiss NGO Coalition for the UPR (Bern, Switzerland)
JS4	Joint Submission 4: Fondation Suisse pour la Protection de l’Enfant (FSPE) ECPAT
JS5	Joint Submission 5: International Fellowship for Reconciliation (The Netherlands); Conscience and Peace Tax International (Belgium)
JS6	Joint Submission 6: World Evangelical Alliance (WEA); Swiss Evangelical Alliance (SEA·RES); Christliche Ostmission (COM)
TdF	Terre des Femmes (TdF) (Switzerland)

##### *National human rights institution*

FCR	Federal Commission against Racism
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##### *Regional intergovernmental organization*

CoE	Council of Europe
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<sup>2</sup> FCR, p. 3.

<sup>3</sup> FCR, p. 4.

<sup>4</sup> JS3, p. 3.

<sup>5</sup> CoE, p. 5.

<sup>6</sup> JS1, p. 6.

<sup>7</sup> JS4, p. 1.

- <sup>8</sup> JS3, p. 2.  
<sup>9</sup> JS3, p. 5.  
<sup>10</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights dated 12 March 2012, paras. 21–22.  
<sup>11</sup> JS3, p. 2.  
<sup>12</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, paras. 1, 3.  
<sup>13</sup> FCR, pp. 2–3.  
<sup>14</sup> JS3, p. 6.  
<sup>15</sup> CoE, pp. 1–2.  
<sup>16</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, paras. 5, 7, 9.  
<sup>17</sup> FCR, p. 2.  
<sup>18</sup> FCR, p. 2.  
<sup>19</sup> FCR, p. 3.  
<sup>20</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights dated 12 March 2012, para. 9.  
<sup>21</sup> JS3, p. 5.  
<sup>22</sup> JS1, pp. 2–3.  
<sup>23</sup> JS3, p. 7.  
<sup>24</sup> JS3, p. 4.  
<sup>25</sup> FCR, p. 2.  
<sup>26</sup> CoE, p. 4.  
<sup>27</sup> JS1, p. 7.  
<sup>28</sup> JS3, p. 9.  
<sup>29</sup> JS6, pp. 2, 3.  
<sup>30</sup> JS4, pp. 3–4.  
<sup>31</sup> JS3, p. 10.  
<sup>32</sup> GIEACPC, p. 1.  
<sup>33</sup> JS3, p. 7.  
<sup>34</sup> JS4, p. 5.  
<sup>35</sup> JS3, p. 14.  
<sup>36</sup> JS3, p. 14.  
<sup>37</sup> JS3, p. 4.  
<sup>38</sup> JS3, p. 15.  
<sup>39</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights dated 12 March 2012, para. 13.  
<sup>40</sup> JS3, p. 11.  
<sup>41</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, para. 2.  
<sup>42</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, para. 6.  
<sup>43</sup> JS3, pp. 3–4.  
<sup>44</sup> JS5, p. 2.  
<sup>45</sup> GSsA, pp. 2, 6.  
<sup>46</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, para. 9.  
<sup>47</sup> JS3, p. 8.  
<sup>48</sup> JS3, pp. 3, 16.  
<sup>49</sup> JS2, paras. 33, 34, 46 (a).  
<sup>50</sup> JS1, p. 5.  
<sup>51</sup> JS2, pp. 5–6.  
<sup>52</sup> JS2, p. 7.  
<sup>53</sup> JS2, pp. 1–2.  
<sup>54</sup> JS2, pp. 2, 5.  
<sup>55</sup> JS3, p. 4.  
<sup>56</sup> JS4, p. 3.  
<sup>57</sup> JS1, p. 6.  
<sup>58</sup> JS3, p. 8.  
<sup>59</sup> JS3, p. 6.  
<sup>60</sup> JS1, pp. 2–3.  
<sup>61</sup> CoE, pp. 2–3.  
<sup>62</sup> CoE, annex, Comments of the Government of Switzerland on the Opinion of the Advisory Committee.

<sup>63</sup> CoE, p. 4.

<sup>64</sup> FCR, p. 5.

<sup>65</sup> CoE, pp. 2–3.

<sup>66</sup> JS3, p. 10.

<sup>67</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, paras. 13, 14, 19.

<sup>68</sup> JS3, p. 11.

<sup>69</sup> CoE, annex, letter of the Commissioner for Human Rights, para. 15.

<sup>70</sup> TdF, pp. 2–3.

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