

34th Universal Periodic Review: UK statement on San Marino



The Universal Periodic Review takes place in Geneva.

The United Kingdom recognises San Marino's progress since its 2014 review. We welcome the engagement with civil society during the preparation of the previous San Marino national report, during which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs engaged with every San Marino non-governmental organisation. We also commend the recent inclusion of protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation in San Marino's constitution.

The UK welcomes the ratification of the regulation of civil unions, which marks a significant step towards equal rights for LGBT individuals. We do, however, remain concerned that this only extends some of the legal effects to same-sex couples and therefore does not grant full equality. We encourage San Marino to recognise same-sex marriage.

We also note reports that strict defamation laws can cause self-censorship among journalists. We urge the government to promote and protect freedom of expression for all.

We recommend that San Marino:

1. Develop a multi-disciplinary framework for the proactive identification of victims of trafficking, involving law enforcement agencies, labour inspections, health-care staff, social workers and child protection authorities, with particular attention to at-risk sectors, for referral to assistance and support.
2. Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections.
3. Ensure that the legislation to regulate journalism and the Code of Conduct do not lead to undue restrictions on media freedom.

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