

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 33rd Session

Universal Periodic Review of Portugal

Statement by Australia

8 May 2019

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends Portugal on the progress made on human rights since its last review, including the launch of Portugal's Human Rights website by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the adoption of the National Strategy for Equality and Non-Discrimination.

Australia notes with concern reported obstacles to bringing domestic violence offenders to justice; reports of ill-treatment of persons in custody; and reports of discrimination and societal disadvantages experienced by Roma communities.

Australia recommends that Portugal:

1. Take further steps to implement relevant domestic violence legislation, including specialised training for law enforcement officials, and continued community awareness initiatives.
2. Ensure reports of violence perpetrated by law enforcement and prison officials are investigated comprehensively and without delay, with perpetrators held to account.
3. Take further concrete and effective steps to improve access to housing, education and employment for Roma communities.

141 Words