

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session

Universal Periodic Review of Spain

Statement by Australia

22 January 2020

Thank you, Mr Vice President, and we welcome the delegation from Spain.

Australia commends Spain on its efforts to promote and protect human rights, including in combating discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, and Spain's work under the International Commission against the Death Penalty, based in Madrid, in raising awareness and increasing dialogue on abolition of the death penalty.

Australia shares Spain's strong commitment to promoting gender equality and eliminating violence against women and children. We remain concerned at the high number of victims of gender-based violence but welcome the introduction of laws to address these challenges.

Australia recommends that Spain:

1. Continue to strengthen efforts to curb the high number of deaths of women as a result of violence committed by partners or former partners.
2. Implement a new plan to address trafficking for sexual exploitation, which includes continuing work to ensure prosecution of traffickers, as well as training authorities to identify and support victims.
3. Take all necessary measures, including legislative, to ensure the protection of women human rights defenders from violence and stigmatisation.

181 Words