

- ▶ ensure that, especially in Prague, law enforcement officials are always visible around known places of operation involving boy prostitution to act as a deterrent toward the boys and their clients;
- ▶ conduct "sting operations" at known places of boy prostitution in Prague and give resulting arrests wide publicity to send a strong message to prospective clients;
- ▶ impose a strict ban on children under 18 entering casinos or places where gambling machines are available;
- ▶ conduct periodic checks of video and amusement arcades to ensure that betting does not occur among children;
- ▶ institute better control measures to prevent an increase in and proliferation of pornographic materials involving children;
- ▶ place restrictions on children's access to pornographic materials;
- ▶ establish greater control and monitoring mechanisms in border regions to address the issue of transborder adoptions and trafficking in children;
- ▶ impose closer supervision on government agencies involved in the operation of child care institutions to ensure that children are not re-victimized in these facilities and therefore likely to run away; and
- ▶ review programmes and initiatives addressed to problems related to children to ensure that they do not have unforeseen effects.

On the last point, the report refers to two documentary films dealing with boy prostitution and boy pornography. The purpose of these documentaries was to denounce such practices. However, the boys who were featured in the films attained instant stardom and were thus able to command higher prices in the sex market. The report notes that, although the names of the boys were not given in the documentaries, their faces were not disguised and the places where they operated were identified in detail.

The SR concluded that the general situation in the Czech Republic was more encouraging than expected, and that the government is committed to continuing to adopt measures to deal more effectively with problems related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The report also noted, as a priority, the need for amendments to laws to establish an age of majority and remove the present contradiction affecting the rights and accountability of children between the ages of 15 and 18.

The Special Rapporteur's interim report to the General Assembly (A/52/482, para. 57) reiterated regret that the two documentary films on boy prostitution and pornography had resulted in an increased demand for the services of the boys featured.

Other Reports

World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, Report of the S-G to CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/36, para. 85)

The report of the Secretary-General refers to activities by the UN Information Centre in Prague, including participation in a round table discussion on ways to prevent the media from being misused as a promoter of child pornography. The report notes that channels of communication were established to keep the media aware of UN policy and procedures.

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ESTONIA

Date of admission to UN: 17 September 1991.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

Land and People: Estonia has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.50) for use by the treaty bodies. The report provides demographic and statistical data, information on the government, the separation and balance of powers, and the judicial system.

The universally recognized principles and norms of international law are an inseparable part of the Estonian legal system. If cases where domestic law or other acts contradict the provisions of treaties ratified by the Parliament-including international human rights treaties — the provisions of the international treaty are applied. Every person has the right to bring a case before the courts if any rights or liberties have been violated. On 10 December 1992, the Estonian Institute for Human Rights was established as a public body to monitor the protection of human rights.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's second periodic report was due 20 January 1998.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's initial, second and third periodic reports were due 20 November 1992, 1994 and 1996 respectively.

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's initial report was due 20 November 1992; the second periodic report was due 20 November 1996.

Torture

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's initial report was due 19 November 1992; the second periodic report was due 19 November 1996.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 21 October 1991.

Estonia's initial report was due 19 November 1993.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

At its 1997 session, the Commission on Human Rights considered the situation in Estonia under the confidential 1503 procedure. The Commission decided to discontinue consideration of Estonia under 1503.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60, paras. 17, 18, 28, 77; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 170-171)