

- ♦ steps be taken to ensure that owners of media are not able to interfere in editorial content, save in exceptional circumstances;
- ♦ steps be taken to translate into practice the constitutional right to obtain information on the activities of organs of public authority as well as persons discharging public functions; and
- ♦ journalists not be compelled to reveal their sources except in the most limited and clearly defined circumstances.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on:

(E/CN.4/1998/6, para. 19)

The report notes that the government provided the Special Rapporteur (SR) with the text of its Constitution, legislation in the field of religious freedom and freedom of worship, and a list of the other regulations addressing the same issues.

Toxic wastes and products, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/10, para. 73)

The report states that a range of interrelated factors of a legal, economic, social, and political nature contribute to the emergence and development of the movement of toxic wastes and dangerous products between the industrialized and the developing countries. In the past, exporters focussed on the poorest countries, especially in Africa. More recently, a trend has been identified in which OECD countries are "legally" exporting wastes under recycling programmes to countries in Eastern and Central Europe. Poland is identified as one of the countries of destination for this practice.



ROMANIA

Date of admission to UN: 14 December 1955.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Romania has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.13) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic data and information on the general political structure, the organization of judicial power, the structure and jurisdiction of various judicial bodies, respect for human rights in the administration of justice and the legal framework for the protection of human rights.

The Constitution establishes a number of principles, including: equality of rights; supremacy of law; free access to justice; the right to life and physical and mental well being; individual freedoms and security of person; the presumption of innocence; the right to defence counsel; the public nature of court sessions; the right to

contest a court decision; and the right to compensation for damage suffered at the hands of a public authority. Rights are protected through the Constitutional Court, the Ombudsman and the Prosecutor's Department and promoted through the activities of a number of non-governmental organizations, including the League of Human Rights, the Association for the Defence of Human Rights, the Romanian Helsinki Committee and the Romanian Amnesty International Committee. The Constitution stipulates that its provisions will be interpreted and applied in accordance with the Universal Declaration and, further, that should there be a lack of conformity between human rights covenants and treaties to which Romania is a party and domestic law, the international legislation shall have priority. The provisions of relevant international treaties can be invoked directly before the courts and administrative authorities.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 27 June 1968; ratified: 9 December 1974.

Romania's third periodic report was due 30 June 1994.
Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 1 of article 26; paragraph 3 of article 1 and article 14.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 27 June 1968; ratified: 9 December 1974.

Romania's fourth periodic report (CCPR/C/95/Add.7) is scheduled for consideration at the Committee's July 1999 session; the fifth periodic report is due 31 December 1999.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 1 of article 48 and paragraph 3 of article 1.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 30 July 1993.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 2 (a) of article 5.

Second Optional Protocol: Signed: 15 March 1990; ratified: 27 February 1991.

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 15 September 1970.

Romania's 12th and 13th periodic reports were due 15 October 1995 and 1997 respectively.

Reservations and Declarations: Articles 17 and 18.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 4 September 1980; ratified: 7 January 1982.

Romania's fourth periodic report was due 6 February 1995.

Torture

Acceded: 18 December 1990.

Romania's second periodic report was due 16 January 1996.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 28 September 1990.

Romania's second periodic report was due 27 October 1997.