

- ▶ social policies be constructed to ensure that marginalized women in Poland are given alternative avenues for employment and livelihood;
- ▶ the government establish a separate ministry for women's affairs with an independent operational budget;
- ▶ the Ministry of Labour establish a specialized unit to address the problem of migrant women workers in the areas of domestic service and the entertainment industries;
- ▶ employment agencies for migrant workers be registered and Polish women going abroad as migrant workers be advised of their rights;
- ▶ consideration be given to amending the Penal Code to update provisions related to trafficking and prostitution to address new developments such as fake marriages, false employment abroad, sex tourism and false domestic labour;
- ▶ a comprehensive programme on police training be initiated, with one element focussed on the elimination of forced prostitution and trafficking;
- ▶ guidelines for police be formulated regarding the treatment of women victims;
- ▶ border officials be given special training on international cooperation in combatting trafficking;
- ▶ training and gender-sensitization programmes be provided to the judiciary with a view to establishing guidelines on sentencing of perpetrators of trafficking and forced prostitution;
- ▶ services such as medical and legal aid for women victims of trafficking and prostitution be provided, as well as shelters and refuges for victims;
- ▶ vocational training, counselling and guidance be provided to victims;
- ▶ the government strengthen programmes related to health and sex education and ensure an effective awareness-raising programme on the issue of women and HIV/AIDS; and,
- ▶ a programme be devised and implemented to raise awareness among teenage girls so that they do not become caught up in the activities of international middlemen and traffickers.

Other Reports

Detention of international civil servants, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/25, para. 3)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that a Polish member of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs/UN Guards Contingent in Iraq was killed in an explosion in December 1995 while working in Iraq.

Minorities, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/82, paras. 3, 5)

The report of the Secretary-General summarizes information received from the government. On the question of the rights of religious minorities, the government stated that, in public elementary and secondary schools, religious instruction shall be organized for pupils whose parents or legal

guardians want them to attend such instruction or classes and, additionally, in secondary schools where the students themselves state that they want this instruction. The government noted that: participation or non-participation in religious instruction in schools may not be a reason for discrimination; schools are under an obligation to organize religious instruction for groups of at least seven; for fewer pupils, and if required, the school must organize religious instruction in an inter-school group or at a place of religious instruction outside the school; and, religious instruction shall take place on the basis of programmes approved by the authorities of the Catholic Church, the Polish Independent Orthodox Church and authorities of other churches and associations of creeds, respectively.

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ROMANIA

Date of admission to UN: 14 December 1955.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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.