

LITHUANIA

Date of admission to UN: 17 September 1991.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Lithuania has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.97) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains economic, statistical and demographic data as well as an historical overview and information on the general political structure. The general legal framework for the protection of human rights establishes that all of the citizens of Lithuania, as well as citizens of other states and persons without citizenship (unless otherwise provided), have the right to legal defence against attacks on their life, health, personal freedom, property, honour and dignity and other rights and freedoms guaranteed to them by the Constitution and laws. All the basic human rights are defined in the Constitution and all persons have the right of legal defence against the actions or inaction of the state and government institutions and officials. The Seimas (parliamentary) Ombudsmen's Office investigates complaints of abuse of official position and bureaucracy by state and local officials. Recently, a post of State Consultant on Human Rights was established within the government. International treaties to which Lithuania is a state party are a constituent part of the domestic legal system and the act of ratification grants a particular international legal document a status superior to that of domestic laws. As a consequence, there are no obstacles to the direct application of the provisions of international treaties in the courts and other legal institutions. In Lithuania there is no special institution entrusted with the supervision of the process of human rights enforcement. This supervision is pursued by government institutions, the Ministry of Justice in particular, and certain special institutions such as the Department of Regional Problems and Nationalities Affairs, the Children's Rights Protection Service and others.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 20 November 1991.

Lithuania's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 20 November 1991.

Lithuania's second periodic report is due 7 November 2001.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 20 November 1991.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 8 June 1998.

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 18 January 1994.

Lithuania's initial report (CEDAW/C/LTU/1) has been submitted but is not yet scheduled for consideration by the Committee.

Torture

Acceded: 1 February 1996.

Lithuania's initial report was due 1 March 1997.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 31 January 1992.

Lithuania's initial report (CRC/C/11/Add.21) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's May/June 2001 session.



MACEDONIA, FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF

Date of admission to UN: 8 April 1993.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Macedonia has prepared a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.83) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic and statistic data as well as information on: the political and administrative systems, the structure of government, and the constitutional and legal framework related to human rights and freedoms. Constitutional provisions relate to, *inter alia*, the right to life, due process, the right to remedy, freedom of religion, the right to privacy, association, assembly and expression, the right to vote and be elected, citizenship and nationality. The Constitutional Court protects freedom of belief, conscience, thought and public expression of thought, political association and activities and the prohibition of discrimination against citizens on grounds of sex, race, or religious, national, social and political affiliation. In addition, there is a guaranteed court protection of the legality of individual acts of the state administration and of other public institutions. The citizen has the right to be informed on human rights and fundamental freedoms and to contribute actively, individually or in cooperation with others, to their promotion and protection. National machinery related to rights includes the Permanent Survey Commission on the Protection of Citizen Freedoms and Rights and the Council for Inter-Ethnic Relations.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Succeeded: 18 January 1994.

The initial and second periodic reports of the FYR Macedonia were due 30 June 1993 and 1998 respectively.

Civil and Political Rights

Succeeded: 18 January 1994.

The initial report of the FYR Macedonia (CCPR/C/74/Add.4) was considered at the Committee's July 1998 session; the second periodic report was due 16 September 1997.