

AUSTRIA

Vivat membership in Austria. SSpS **143** – SVD **104** – OMI **14** – MCCJ **9** – ASC **11**.

Link to docs: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/PAGES/ATSession10.aspx>

The review of Austria was held on 26th January 2011. The delegation of Austria was headed by Mr. Michael Spindelegger, Minister for European and International Affairs.

At its 10th meeting held on 28th January 2011, the Working Group adopted the report on Austria.

In preparation for the Review the stipulated three documents were produced. These can be accessed at the link above.

A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic , Denmark, Germany, Finland, Namibia, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was transmitted to Austria through the troika. **These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.**

The Austrian delegation stated that the support of human rights was a core concern to its government. Austria had a long-standing record of active engagement not only to ensure the protection of human rights at the national level, but also to advance the international system for the promotion and protection of human rights at the UN and in regional organisations such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the European Union.

Gender equality, including in the labour market, was considered a major issue. Measures had been taken to end inequalities. A National Action Plan had been presented in June 2010. The Law on Equal Treatment had recently been amended to ensure greater transparency with regard to incomes in the private sector. In addition, 50% of the national budget for labour market policy was being spent on specific programmes to improve women's chances on the labour market, inter alia through capacity building and training.

Victims of domestic violence received free legal and psychosocial support to help them secure their rights in criminal procedures. Domestic violence cases were covered by prosecutors with special training. Victims could also rely on a well-established system of crisis intervention centres in all federal regions: There were 21 state-financed women's shelters with 750 places and a 24-hour hotline.

During the interactive dialogue, 54 delegations made statements. A number of delegations welcomed the comprehensive national report, Austria's participation in and commitment to the UPR as well as the participative approach for the preparation of the report and the involvement of NGOs in the follow-up to the review.

Out of 157 recommendations made to Austria during the Review 97 were accepted immediately. Austria will examine a further 54 recommendations and provide a response by June 2011 at the 17th session of the HRC. Six recommendations were rejected. These concerned the ratification of The International Convention of the Rights of all Migrant workers and members of their families.

This is the link to the complete draft report:

http://lib.ohchr.org/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session10/AT/Austria-A_HRC_WG.6_10_L.6-eng.pdf