Italy Mid-term review

following the 2\textsuperscript{nd} UPR cycle

November 2017
## Preliminary considerations

Italy has completed the UPR 2nd cycle following the adoption of the outcome of the review by the HCR, in its 28 Session, on 18 March 2015. As a result, Italy accepted 176 recommendations and noted 10.

The relevance of this exercise, aimed at taking stock of Italy’s domestic situation in the field of human rights, with the contribution of all UN Member States that actively participated in the interactive dialogue, led Italy to analyze each issue raised and to discuss with relevant Public Administrations, civil society and Parliamentarians about the opportunity to evaluate the level of protection of human rights and to adopt useful legislative and operational measures.

Along these lines, also in relation to the opportunity to submit the Italian candidature for the HRC membership for 2019-2021, our Country has decided to undergo the mid-term review of the implementation of the recommendations accepted and noted in the UPR 2nd cycle. In this engagement, Italy would continue close consultation, as in the past years, with civil society and NGOs, with regard to the issues raised in the UPR and also beyond.

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<tr>
<td>145.1 Study the possibility of acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Egypt); 145.2 Consider ratifying ICRMW (Chile); Consider ratifying ICRMW (Indonesia); 145.3 Ratify ICRMW (Ghana); Ratify ICRMW (Sierra Leone); Ratify ICRMW (Uruguay); Ratify ICRMW (Peru); Ratify ICRMW (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); 145.4 Ratify ICRMW (Senegal); 145.5 Complete the ratification process of ICRMW, as recommended by several treaty bodies and special rapporteurs (Turkey); 145.6 Strengthen the legal framework to take better account of migrants and migrant workers, in particular by ratifying ICRMW (Algeria)</td>
<td>Noted</td>
<td>Following the ratification of ILO Conventions No. 143 and 189, Italy accepted to be periodically reviewed as to the implementation of these Conventions at the domestic level. In the meanwhile Italy is committed to implement the 1st NAP on BHR, launched in December 2016: it contains a specific goal i.e. tackling <em>caporalato</em> (especially in the agricultural and construction sector) and other forms of exploitation, forced labour, child labour, slavery and irregular work, with particular focus on migrants and victims of trafficking. At the domestic level Law No. 199 of 29 October 2016 (Provisions on countering undeclared labour, labour exploitation in agriculture and wages rebalance in agricultural sector) was adopted to provide for measures aimed at improving the criminal prosecution of the phenomenon (through the crimes of illicit intermediation and work exploitation) with particular regard to illicit capital accumulation by exploiters and the provision of confiscation of the goods and properties acquired through the exploitation activity. The Law also provides for victims’ compensation and the activation of a plan for the treatment of seasonal workers (in particular foreign ones) with the direct involvement and control of Regions on their conditions. The Law is further aimed at controlling the illicit intermediation by matching supply and demand of jobs. On this issue a working</td>
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<td>145.7 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPEED) (Chile); 145.8 Continue its efforts towards the ratification of ICPPEED (Argentina); 145.9 Speedup the ratification of ICPPEED (Iraq); 145.10 Take all steps necessary to accelerate the ratification process of ICPPEED (Burundi); 145.11 Ratify ICPPEED (Portugal); Ratify ICPPEED (Costa Rica); Ratify ICPPEED (Peru); Ratify ICPPEED (Ghana); Ratify ICPPEED (France); Ratify ICPPEED (Togo); 145.12 Ratify ICPPEED in as timely a fashion as possible (Japan)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy ratified ICPPEED by Law No. 131 of 25 July 2015.</td>
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<td>145.13 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OP-CRC-IC) (Gabon); 145.14 Ratify OP-CRC-IC (Costa Rica); Ratify</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy ratified OP CRC IC by Law No. 199 of 16 November 2015.</td>
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<td>OP-CRC-IC (Portugal); Ratify OP-CRC-IC (Montenegro)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy ratified OP ICESCR by Law No. 152 of 3 October 2014.</td>
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<td>145.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) (Montenegro);</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy ratified the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness by Law No. 162 of 29 September 2015.</td>
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<tr>
<td>145.16 Ratify OP-ICESCR (Spain); 145.17 Ratify OP-ICESCR (Portugal); Ratify OP-ICESCR (Uruguay)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Ongoing process.</td>
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<td>145.18 Accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and streamline the administrative process in order to reduce the number of stateless persons (Hungary)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Ongoing process.</td>
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<td>145.19 Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute, if possible with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC) over the crime of aggression at the beginning of 2017 (Liechtenstein)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>The Rome Statute represents a cornerstone in the fight against impunity and the establishment of an age of accountability. Italy adopted Law No. 115 of 16 June 2016 introducing imprisonment penalty from 2 to 6 years, in cases where propaganda, instigation and incitement are based “in whole or in part on denial of the Shoah or crimes of genocide, humanity and war crimes”, according to the ICC Statute (Arts. 6, 7 and 8). Furthermore on 20 December 2012 the Italian Parliament passed Law No. 237, containing norms for adapting the domestic legal system to the provisions of the ICC Statute: so far the Law contains general provisions identifying the Ministry of Justice as the competent national authority to deal with the issue, regulating the surrender of persons to the ICC and establishing procedures for declaring ICC orders and judgements enforceable in Italy.</td>
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<td>145.20 Ratify the Additional Protocol to the Convention on cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature, including holocaust denial, committed through computer systems (Israel)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Ongoing process.</td>
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<td>145.21 Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) (Sweden); 145.22 Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC, including by incorporating provisions to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes effectively before its national courts, and to ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Ongoing process.</td>
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<td>145.23 Review domestic legislation with a view to implementing the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in the national law (Russian Federation)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy is committed to ensure equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women and to combat all forms of discrimination on the grounds of gender, putting in place measures having a constitutional, legislative, and administrative nature in the economic, social, cultural, and political life in compliance with Art. 3 of the Italian Constitution in many different areas (i.e. GBV; THB; CEFM; FGM; employment; equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men; education and the fight against stereotypes; health; women’s participation in the political and economic decision-making; and immigration). According to the Code on Equal Opportunities Between Women and Men (Legislative Decree No. 198/2006), in terms of progress at the national legislative level, specific mention should be made inter alia of: Italy’s ratification of the Council of Europe Conventions on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Law No. 77/2013) and on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Law No. 172/2012); Law No. 92/2012 to combat blank resignations; and Law No. 120/2011 on “Equal access to Boards of Directors and Boards of Statutory Auditors of publicly-listed companies”.</td>
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<td>145.24 Scale up efforts in Italy to face the scourge of drugs that destroy human beings and societies, and therefore to enact additional legislation that prevents it (Lebanon); 145.25 Adopt further legislation that restricts and prevents minors from all consumption of drugs, alcohol and tobacco (Lebanon)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>In line with Law No. 189 of 12 November 2012, to promote the adoption of adequate measures to enhance the healthcare conditions of the population, the State-Regions Conference has approved on 13 November 2014 the Agreement on the National Prevention Plan 2014-2018, attributing to the Ministry of Health the mandate to implement it. It establishes targets and tools for prevention, to be adopted at the regional level through proper planning thanks to an allocation of 200 million euros by Regions. Among its macro-goals the promotion of mental wellbeing of children and adolescents is included, due to several risk factors: economic and labour conditions, school level, life standard, physical conditions, family cohesion, discrimination, human rights violation, risks of sexual violence, abuse and neglect. Among the 73 core objectives of the Plan ten concern minors aimed, counting strengthening empowerment for the adoption of healthy behaviors and prevention of addictions to drugs. The implementation was</td>
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<td>145.26 Continue stepping up efforts to establish an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Malaysia); 145.27 Continue its efforts to establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Bulgaria); 145.28 Speed up the process of creating a National Human Rights Commission in conformity with the Paris Principles (Chad); 145.29 Speed up the process of the establishment of a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Indonesia); 145.30 Expedite the creation of an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Bahrain); 145.31 Complete the process of creating an autonomous and independent national human rights institution, in conformity with the Paris Principles (Chile); 145.32 Complete the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Morocco); 145.33 Complete the process of establishing a National Human Rights Commission in conformity with the Paris Principles (Democratic Republic of the Congo); 145.34 Continue and complete the current process for the establishment of a national commission for the promotion and protection of human rights (Togo); 145.35 Conclude, as a matter of priority, the process leading to the establishment of a national human rights institution, with a broad human rights mandate (Portugal);</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Ongoing process.</td>
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<td>145.36 Finalize the process of the establishment of a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Senegal);</td>
<td>145.37 Redouble efforts to establish as soon as possible an independent national human rights institution, in conformity with the Paris Principles (Costa Rica);</td>
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<td>145.38 Increase efforts to establish a national human rights institution (NHRI) in line with the Paris Principles (Azerbaijan);</td>
<td>145.39 Foster the finalization of the existing initiative to set up a National Human Rights Institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Peru);</td>
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<td>145.40 Move quickly to establish a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Kenya);</td>
<td>145.41 Continue its efforts to conform its National Human Rights Institution with the Paris Principles (Egypt);</td>
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<td>145.42 Continue working to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Guatemala);</td>
<td>145.43 Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles before the end of 2015 (Denmark);</td>
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<td>145.44 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Pakistan);</td>
<td>145.45 Establish a National Human Rights Institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);</td>
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<td>145.46 Set up a National Human Rights Institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (France);</td>
<td>145.47 Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, with a broad human rights mandate, and following a participatory process including civil society (Ireland);</td>
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<td>145.48 Fully involve civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the expeditious establishment of a</td>
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<td>145.49</td>
<td>Implement, as soon as possible, the obligations under the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture and establish an independent and effective national protection mechanism that has the necessary resources (Switzerland);</td>
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<td>145.50</td>
<td>Step up its efforts to appoint the members of the national authority and ensure the effective exercise of its functions (Liechtenstein)</td>
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| 145.51 | Operationalize its national authority for the protection of detainees (Morocco) |

| Accepted | Law No. 10 of 21 February 2014, completed by Regulation/Ministerial Decree No. 36 of 11 March 2015, has provided for the establishment of the National Authority for the protection of detainees (NPM). The Law clearly establishes the independence of its Panel, which is appointed by the President of the Republic; the Authority reports to the Presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic; it cannot be renewed after its five-year term, neither is it removable save for criminal responsibility. NPM has been operational since 25 March 2016. The staff have been identified in different areas (legal and pedagogical, administrative, IT and security expertise) of the prison, judicial, juvenile and public security administrations. Such staff are exclusively at the service of the Authority and cannot be sent to other offices without its favourable opinion: this allows for the functional independence of the Office’s staff. The Authority has adopted a Code of self-regulation on 31 May 2016, whose Art. 3 explicitly states that the Authority freely exercises its mandate independently and without any interference over its institutional duties to protect the rights of those detained or deprived of their liberty. The Code highlights the possibility of access to places and documentation without restrictions (except for the need to obtain the consent of the person deprived of his/her liberty, in order to examine documents contained in his/her personal file, in particular health documents). Moreover, Art. 4 of the Code establishes the need to protect the confidential information obtained, the |
obligation of secrecy about what has been acquired during institutional visits and, in general, in the performance of the other tasks of the Authority, the obligation of confidentiality about the outcome of the visits, until it is published, and the obligation to timely transmit any notitia criminis committed against persons deprived of their liberty to the judicial authorities. Art. 4, para. 2, provides for protection from possible reprisals (Reports - though not exhaustive list - can be found on the National Authority website at: www.garantenpl.it).

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<td>145.52 Continue the ongoing efforts, particularly concerning awareness, education and training in the field of human rights (Kuwait);</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Human rights protection issues are part of basic and follow-up training of Corps’ personnel by appropriately formed staff. Since 2009 it is provided in pre-service and in service training for Italian Army and Carabinieri Corps and by specialized personnel and teachers from civil society, and are compulsory for pre-deployment and service abroad. As far as State Police several training programmes have been implemented focused on investigation techniques about child abuse, domestic violence, stalking and gender violence, discriminatory acts. Basic training for Carabinieri Corps at all levels (about 2,600 trainees) include the human rights topic according to a multidisciplinary approach. The training of the Guardia di Finanza Corps provides for several professional courses devoted to the exploration of human rights issues and international humanitarian law. In 2010, the Italian Department of Public Security at the Ministry of the Interior set up OSCAD (Observatory for security against acts of discrimination), a multi-agency body composed by high level representatives of State Police and Carabinieri Corps, with the aim to improve the action of Police agencies in preventing and combating hate crime. Training is one of the pillars of OSCAD’s activities: since its institutions more than 10,000 officers/cadets from the State Police (pre-service and in-service training for all the personnel) and Carabinieri (within European/international training projects) have been trained. Particular mention has to be made to the modules on discriminatory racial profiling, LGBTI people’s rights and Police activities, and human rights. The latter since 2014 is carried out in</td>
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cooperation with Amnesty International - Italy. By Law No. 107/2015 the school reform has been introduced, whose primary goals are to increase the educational level and students’ competences to counter social, cultural and territorial inequalities, to prevent and cope with school drop-out, to promote the right of education and equal opportunities on training and vocational education of citizens. The following actions have to be mentioned: active and democratic citizenship, intercultural education and respect for differences; school inclusion and the enjoyment of the right to education for students with special needs; the access to school in the afternoon and the reduction of students’ quota per classroom; open schools and interaction with families and local communities; basic knowledge and improvement of the Italian as second language for non Italian students.

145.53 Consider developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies (Portugal)  

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<td>145.54 Further institutionalise measures to protect and promote the rights of the child (Viet Nam)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and the Department for Family Policies at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers are in charge for coordinating the National Observatory for Childhood and Adolescence (NOCA). The Observatory defines the primary guidelines and programmes as far as the national policy for childhood and promotes exchange of views and positions of all concerned public and private stakeholders and of professionals engaged in this field. It is composed of</td>
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approximately 50 members, in representation of the competent central Administrations, Regions and local autonomies, the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT), social actors, relevant institutions and bodies, 8 associations and 8 experts appointed by its Presidents. For 2014-2016 the Observatory has been engaged in the processing and in the conclusion of the 4th National Action Plan for childhood and adolescence, aimed to outline governmental actions and priorities in the field of policies for childhood and adolescence. In this process, the Observatory has represented the place of reconciliation of the different points of view and of interest of public bodies, private non-profit institutions, social workers in the field of childhood and adolescence, starting from the frame of the policies already implemented by the Government. The participation covered not only the phase of the building of the Action Plan but it included also a specific path of support and follow-up, that started during the writing of the Action Plan and ended during its implementation. The phase of drafting and drawing up of the aims and actions of the Action Plan ended with the approval from the Observatory convened in plenary session on 28 July 2015. The present Action Plan has been adopted with Presidential Decree of 31 August 2016. The renewed National Observatory for 2017-2019 had its first meeting on 28 March 2017 and is presently engaged in the monitoring of the 4th National Action Plan. with the scientific and technical support of the National Documentation Centre (Istituto degli Innocenti). In last experiences the members of Observatory were divided into four or five groups according to the strategic lines of the Plan. The monitoring group provides reports on the progress of policies for children and adolescents, particularly with respect to the fulfilment required by the National Action Plan. Information and data are collected also through direct contact with the Ministries responsible of specific topics, with all the Regions and Autonomous Provinces and with the Municipalities; data are collected through thematic surveys. The monitoring research highlights the trends of certain phenomena, the conditions of certain categories of persons (e.g. children and adolescents), the activities of central and decentralized
governments and the status of policies related to children. The participation of NGOs and other stakeholders in the National Observatory is a fundamental added value for the monitoring because they can provide useful information, give good suggestions and their involvement supports the implementation of laws and policies. Lastly, it is important to underline that the overall monitoring process is transparent, following defined principles and modalities from the beginning, is open to listen to stakeholders and report true and verified information. In this respect, it is strictly connected to the accountability of policy action.

The Department for Equal Opportunities at the Presidency of the Council of Minister coordinates the Italian Government’s activities on the prevention and fight against child sexual exploitation and abuse, particularly through the actions carried out by the Observatory for the Fight against Paedophilia and Child Pornography, a strategic body for the analysis and monitoring of the phenomenon established within the Department by Art. 17, para. 1-bis, of Law No. 269 of 3 August 2016 with the task of collecting and monitoring data and information on the activities carried out by all public administrations for the prevention and punishment of the sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

In particular, the Observatory: collects national and international data and information on the activities implemented for the prevention and punishment of the sexual exploitation and abuse of children, as well as on the prevention strategies planned and implemented also by other countries; analyses, studies and elaborates the data provided by other public administrations; promotes surveys and research on the phenomenon; informs about its activity, including through the institutional website of the Department and the dissemination of dedicated publications; drafts an annual technical and scientific report on the implemented activities to be used, inter alia, for the preparation of the annual Report of the President of the Council of Ministers to the Parliament on the topic; takes part in the activities carried out by the European and international bodies competent for the protection of children and fight against child sexual exploitation and abuse;
drafts the National Plan for the Prevention and Fight against Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, which is an integral part of the National Plan for Childhood and Adolescence, the latest being drafted by the NOCA.

The Observatory is chaired by the Head of the Department for Equal Opportunities and is composed of 5 members appointed by the Minister in charge of Equal Opportunities, one of whom acts as scientific and technical coordinator, one representative respectively of the Department for Family Policies, State Police, Carabinieri Corps, Guardia di Finanza, as well as the representatives of the Ministry of Justice, and 4 members appointed by the main national associations working in the field of the fight against child sexual exploitation and abuse, namely Telefono Azzurro, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes and Meter.

Within the Observatory a database has been established with the aim of systematically organizing the information coming from the different administrations for the monitoring of the phenomenon and the prevention and repression actions linked to it.

The main instrument through which the coordination activity of the Department is carried out is the National Plan for the Prevention and Fight against Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse 2015-2017, adopted during the plenary session of the National Observatory for Childhood and Adolescence on 28 July 2015.

Within the framework of the Plan, four strategic areas have been identified representing the lines of action according to which the involved administrations will have to develop coordinated actions and interventions, namely: prevention; protection of victims; fight against crimes; monitoring of the phenomenon. For each area specific objectives and linked actions have also been identified such as, inter alia, the provision of training activities for children and operators, awareness-raising activities for the general public, actions to combat sexual tourism and online child pornography, the implementation of the specific techniques for the child hearing, as well as a monitoring activity for the drafting of specific Guidelines identifying the basic level of protection and educational support activities for child victims of sexual
Among the numerous further activities for the prevention and fight against sexual crimes against children and adolescents, the following are worth mentioning:

- **114 - Children Emergency Number**, an emergency helpline which is active 24 hours a day and can be called free of charge from all over the country by anyone wanting to report dangerous situations involving children.
- The experimental Call for Proposals No. 1/2011 for the allocation of funds to support pilot projects for the treatment of child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation within and outside the family through which the Department financed 27 selected projects for a total amount of 2,800,000 euros.

The Department is also particularly active in the implementation of international and European initiatives, through:

- the activity carried out within the framework of negotiations of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the so-called Lanzarote Convention) and the participation in the works of the related Committee of State Parties;
- the active participation in the Council of Europe’s Programme “Building a Europe for and with Children”, in the “One in five” Campaign for the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse, and the initiatives linked to the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021).

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<td>145.55 Submit its overdue reports to the Committee against Torture and the Human Rights Committee (Ghana)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy submitted the 6th ICCPR periodic report to the competent Human Rights Committee in September 2015 and discussed it in March 2017. Moreover, Italy submitted the 6th CAT periodic report to the competent CAT Committee in September 2015 and has discussed it in November 2017.</td>
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<td>145.56 Continue to intensify its ongoing efforts to strengthen women’s representation in leadership roles and decision-making positions (Cyprus)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Italy is experiencing a significant revolution in female leadership. A recent law (the bi-partisan Law No. 120/2011, also called Golfo-Mosca Law) mandates increased representation of females on boards of publicly-listed and state-owned companies. The Golfo-Mosca Law requires that boards (executives and</td>
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non-executives) of publicly-listed companies and state-owned companies have at least 33% of either gender by 2015 and sets a target of 20% for the transition period. In the event of non-compliance, a progressive warning system can culminate in the eventual dissolution of the board. In case the gender quota criterion is not respected by the listed companies, CONSOB (the Italian Securities and Exchange Commission) serves a notice to ensure that, within 4 months, the non-compliant company conforms to the principle indicated by the Law. If the company continues not to comply, a fine is applied and a new 3-month-deadline is fixed for the company to adopt the criterion. If the company decides to ignore also this last warning, the Law provides for that elected members shall lose their office.

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 251/2012, from 12 February 2013 the President of the Council of Ministers, or the Minister for Equal Opportunities, has the power to give warning to the companies under the control of the State, Regions and the local bodies and to establish if the elected members shall lose their office when the companies are non-compliant to the principles indicated by the decree, which are the same established by Law No. 120 of 12 July 2011.

Following the entry into force of Law No. 120, the percentage of women in publicly listed companies is currently equal to 27.6%. The percentage of women in the Boards of Directors of publicly listed companies has substantially increased as a consequence of the implementation of the Law, considering that in 2010 women’s representation in Italian publicly listed companies was equal to about 6%.

Following the entry into force of the Presidential Decree No. 251 of 30 November 2012, a substantial increase in women’s representation in the Boards of Directors and Boards of Statutory Auditors of State-owned companies has been recorded: the percentage is currently equal to about 29%.

In relation to the representation of women in Parliament and other decision-making bodies the following figures are worth of mentioning:

- European Parliament
At the European level, last elections for the European Parliament were on May 2014 (European Parliaments’ elections are every 5 years). Italy obtained 73 seats including 44 men (60.27%) and 29 women (39.73%). 31% of women at the European Commission. Federica Mogherini is the Vice-President of the European Commission in the Juncker Commission since 1st November 2014.

- Italian Parliament / Italian Government

On a national level, we have the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

There are 630 deputies at the Chamber of Deputies including 195 women, which means 31.30%. The President is a woman, Laura Boldrini, elected on May 16th 2013.

There are 315 senators and 7 senators nominated for their entire life. Currently there are 91 women at the Senate, which means 29.60% of the Assembly, including one of them is a senator for life.

The actual Government (Governo Gentiloni) is composed by 27.78% of women’s ministers (5 of 18).

- Other decision-making bodies

Art. 5 of the Italian Constitution recognizes the autonomy of local decision-making bodies. In Italy we have the Municipalities and the Regions. Each one is organized in the following way: a Mayor presides the Municipality in collaboration with a municipal council and a local government; instead, Regions have a President but also a regional council and a local government.

- Municipalities

Mayors: throughout the Italian territory, there are only 9 women mayors which means 8.4% of all mayors.

For the Municipalities with population over 3 thousand inhabitants the Law No. 56/2014 prescribes that “none of the two sexes may represent less than 40 percent”.

Municipal councils: women counselors of all the municipalities are 28% instead of 72% of men.

Local government: 41 of the 67 Municipalities in Italy have approximately between 40 and 60% of women in their local governments. The other Municipalities have less than 39% of women in their local governments.
| 145.57 Adopt additional measures to combat gender inequity and gender-based discrimination (Trinidad and Tobago) | Regions | On April 2017, 8 are the Regions with a balanced percentage of women in the Regions’ local governments. 
Presidents: Only 2 women are Presidents of a Region today (Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Umbria).
Regional councils:
- 18,10% Simple counselors
- 15,56% Vice-presidents of the Council
- 14,29% Presidents of the Council
Local government:
- 35,26% Counselors
- 22,22% Vice-presidents of the Region
- 9,52% Presidents of Regions or Autonomous Provinces. |
| Accepted | Starting from 2010, within the framework of the “Italia 2020” Plan and by means of a coordination between State and Regions, the Department for Equal Opportunities has been promoting the “Agreement on reconciliation between work and private life” among the Government, Regions, Autonomous Provinces and local authorities, undersigned by all the Italian Regions on 29 April 2010 during a Joint Conference. The Agreement allowed the implementation at the regional level of initiatives for working women and men that at the same time take care of children or adults in difficult situations.
Experience gained with the implementation of the first Agreement, whose total allocation was equal to 40 million euros, has been at the basis of the second Agreement with the Regions, whose strategic aim is to promote female employment, with a total budget of 15 million euros.
On 25 October 2012 the Italian Minister of Labour and Social Policies in charge of Equal Opportunities undersigned the new Agreement on Reconciliation between Work and Family Life with the Regions. The Agreement is aimed at increasing female employment through specific measures such as: the improvement of care services, the introduction of flexible and family-friendly contracts and forms of work, the promotion of parental leaves for working fathers as well as the adoption of innovative and experimental initiatives promoted and coordinated by the |
| | | |
Department for Equal Opportunities. The two abovementioned agreements had a total budget amounting to about 55 million euros funding 65 regional projects involving over 27,000 women (this data is partial as the second agreement is still ongoing).

The Department for Equal Opportunities, within the framework of the European Social Fund has been responsible also for the system actions aimed at supporting the Regions of the so-called “Convergence Objective” (Sicily, Puglia, Calabria, Campania) on the subjects of reconciliation and employment for women through the use of European resources, such as, for example, harmonization between professional and private life by promoting teleworking, part-time job, the organization of city schedules, job sharing and supporting the company best practices on gender issues.

In compliance with Directive 2010/18/EU and in line with the provisions already in force in other European countries, also the compulsory paternal leave has been introduced in the Italian legal system. Such a leave shall be granted to working fathers within 5 months from the child’s birth and includes a 3-day leave, two days of which are compulsory and the remaining one is alternative to maternity leave.

On 15 June 2015, as part of the Labour Reform Law, the Italian Government adopted Legislative Decree No. 80/2015 establishing “Measures for reconciliation between care, work and family life” and Legislative Decree No. 81/2015 concerning the re-organization of employment contracts and duties. Both decrees envisage, inter alia, that:
- parental leave can be taken up until the child’s 12th birthday (in the previous legislation the age limit was 8). Leave is also available to parents who have adopted or fostered children;
- salary will continue to be paid up to a maximum of 30% until the child reaches the age of six (until 3 years of age in the previous legislation);
- such leave can be taken on an hourly basis;
- an employee may request to shift to part-time work instead of taking parental leave;
- Maternity leave is paid also for separate management employees even if social security contributions are not paid;
- Public administrations adopt organizational measures for the implementation of teleworking to facilitate the care of children and for the experimentation of new forms of flexible work. Such measures will allow at least 10% of employees over the next 3 years to use the above measures without penalizing their career advancement;
- Public administrations, with a view to promoting reconciliation between work and family life for their employees, establish agreements with nurseries and kindergartens and organize support services for parents, which will be available during the schools’ closing periods.

On 7 August 2015, Law No. 124/2015 was adopted. It envisages that public administrations adopt organizational measures for the implementation of teleworking in order to facilitate the care of children and for the experimentation of new forms of flexible work. Such measures will allow at least 10% of employees over the next 3 years to use the above measures without penalizing their career advancement. Moreover, public administrations, with a view to promoting reconciliation between work and family life for their employees, should establish agreements with nurseries and kindergartens and organize support services for parents which will be available during the schools’ closing periods.

The challenge of the Italian Government is to change the organization of work, in order for it to be more flexible, goal-oriented and independent from the physical presence of employees. Smart working, for example, can trigger a cultural change in which women do not need to choose between career and family anymore. Indeed, this innovative organization of work for both women and men would contribute to eliminating gender stereotypes, while solving the problem of reconciling work and family life and eradicating all forms of discrimination against working women. Flexibility in work arrangements has become increasingly relevant also for employers, who are looking for new ways to increase productivity, adapt to new technologies and retain talents.
Only by making the work organization smarter and ensuring that performance and results count more than physical presence at the workplace, the full potential of women will be untapped and a growing number of women will be able to enter the labor market without giving up their family.

On 6 June 2017, Directive No. 3 providing for guidelines for the implementation of the abovementioned Law No. 124/2015 was signed by the Minister for Public Administration. It establishes that within 3 years each public administration will be able to use flexible working arrangements for a maximum percentage of 10% of employees requesting for them, without prejudice to the employees’ professional growth and career.

In Italy there are about 250,000 employees that using flexible working arrangements: 31% of them are women and 69% men.

On 22 May 2017, Law No. 81/2017 establishing measures for the protection of self-employment (excluding entrepreneurship) and measures aimed at promoting new flexible working arrangements for employees of the public and private sectors entered into force.

In 2016 the Italian Department for Equal Opportunities started the E.L.E.N.A. (“Experimenting flexible Labour tools for Enterprises by eNgaging men And women”) Project, which is funded by the Department and co-funded by the European Commission.

The project is aimed at better understanding and showing how promoting flexible working arrangements can deliver positive outcomes for both men and women workers, who through such arrangements would enjoy a better work-life balance, and companies, who would benefit from increased productivity and retained talents. In this context, the project also intends to promote the use of parental leave by men through the carrying out of a dedicated awareness-raising campaign envisaged in the project.

Furthermore, the project represents the first attempt to show the causal link between flexible working arrangements and the outcomes of the project’s target groups.

Finally, in June 2017, the Italian Minister of Economy and the Undersecretary of State in charge of Equal Opportunities signed a specific Decree on Gender Budgeting within the framework of the State budget. Following the entry into force of the Decree, the
impact of public policies on women and men will be able to be assessed in order to monitor gender inequalities in pay, services, time and unpaid work. In compliance with the Decree, the Administrations will have to report all the undertaken actions to close the existing gaps between women and men.

| 145.58 | Adopt a national strategy for the advancement of women, and end prevailing cultural stereotypes of the role of women in all fields (Bahrain); Adopt measures to put an end to all kinds of discrimination, particularly discrimination between men and women in the workplace (France); Further introduce effective measures to enhance gender equity in the labour market (Viet Nam) | Accepted | Italy has never elaborated a single national strategy for the empowerment of women and the fight against gender stereotypes, but single effective measures and policies addressing the problem, such as the following. The Department for Equal Opportunities over the past years has carried out several actions to improve the role of women in the scientific field and fight against the discrimination that women suffer in this strategic sector. The projects financed by the European Commission within the 7th Framework programme for research and coordinated and co-funded by the Italian Government are:

- project STAGES (2012) - “Structural Changes to achieve gender equality in science” that has been designed with the general aim launching structural change strategies addressing the many and interconnected layers of the problem of gender inequality in science from an integrated perspective, deeply involving human resources management in research institutions, modifying and gendering its basic tenets. More specifically, the main objective of the project is concretely applying different self-tailored action plans geared at introducing gender-aware management at all levels in each of the participating organisations, representing different kinds of research institutions. Besides, a second objective is to produce a deeper understanding of the dynamics surrounding structural change efforts by constantly analysing, monitoring and assessing the process activated in each institution, so as to start mutual learning practices among partners. The third objective is to launch a very practical type of dissemination which is not just aimed at informing on programmes activated and their results, but also at spreading, among European universities and research institutes, successful negotiation strategies implemented to build consensus and commitment around structural-level gender-equality initiatives, addressing different leadership levels |
and the many stakeholders directly or indirectly affected by change.

- project TRIGGER (2013) – “TRansforming Institutions by Gendering contents and Gaining Equality in Research” - aims at promoting systemic interventions designed to have deep, long-lasting and widespread impacts at all the different levels in 5 research organisations. The project is carried out with the assistance of an institute specialised in gender and science and involves as co-funders 5 universities from different EU countries (Czech Republic, France, Italy, UK, and Spain). Building on the results of previous projects, integrated actions are being implemented at each university addressing different sides of gender inequality in science, i.e.:

1) **working environment, formal/informal culture and explicit/tacit rules** (awareness-raising; collection of gender-sensitive data; support in the early stages of scientific careers; promotion of work-life balance, etc.);

2) **content and methods of scientific research**, to acknowledge its gender dimension and impact (updating of teaching curricula; gendering the design of research and technological innovation; allocation of funds for gendered research; contrasting stereotypes about women in science, etc.);

3) **scientific leadership at different levels** (selection procedures and criteria for the evaluation of scientific merit; introduction of equality targets in decision making bodies; enhancement of women researchers’ visibility, etc.).

The Italian Department for Equal Opportunities, in cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research, has started to address the stereotypes existing in the educational system by fighting the underrepresentation of girl students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in order to encourage them to embrace STEM careers. Indeed, only 31% of girl students choose to study subjects related to these fields at the university and only 16,3% at the high schools with the effect that they are underrepresented in these working fields.

In order to increase their awareness of the issue and encourage them to study STEM, the above mentioned institutions established,
In February 2016, the organization of the so-called “STEM Month – Women want to count”, a set of dedicated initiatives to combat gender stereotypes and discrimination in schools.

In December 2016, the Department for Equal Opportunities also launched a Call for Proposals entitled “In estate si imparano le Stem. Campi estivi di scienze, matematica, informatica e coding” (In summer, youngsters learn STEM. Summer Camps on Science, Mathematics, IT and Coding). The call addresses primary and secondary schools and was issued within the framework of a broader programme of initiatives to promote equal opportunities and combat gender stereotypes in schools, which was developed in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research, with a view to encouraging youngsters to learn STEM.

1,067 are the schools all over the national territory that have applied for funding. The total amount allocated for this Call is 2,060,052.49 euros, through which 209 schools will be funded.

The call is aimed at financing the organization by schools of summer camps lasting at least 2 weeks and providing in-depth courses on Mathematics, science and technology, IT, and coding, for female (especially) and male students of primary and secondary schools.

A group of experts on language and gender was established within the Department for Equal Opportunities in 2015. It was convened 3 times and started working on the drafting of the Guidelines for the promotion of the correct use of the Italian language from a gender perspective in the public administrations and the media, including with reference to legislative and administrative acts. Due to the change of Government, the mandate of the Group has expired but it will soon be renewed in line with the implementation of the Extraordinary Action Plan on Sexual and Gender-based Violence.

As for the impact of measures to address stereotypical and sexist attitudes in the media and the advertising industry, the Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Italian Advertising Self-Regulation Institute (acronym in Italian, IAP) with a view to enhancing cooperation to monitor and remove offensive and indecent ads. In this regard, in 2015, 93 cases were
examined. 38% of such ads were removed. In 2016, 68 cases were analysed and 32% of ads were removed. As of March 2017, 8 are the examined cases, 25% of ads were removed. In order to strengthen the abovementioned instrument, IAP also signed a similar Memorandum of Understanding with the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI). According to the latest OECD report on entrepreneurship, Italy is second in the ranking of the countries with the highest number of women entrepreneurs or self-employed women. Indeed, they represent 16% of all employed women in Italy. Therefore, the measures taken by the Government over the last years aim not only at promoting the starting of new women’s businesses, but also at extending and consolidating the existing female companies, through two innovative policies:

a) A Special Section called “Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri – Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità” of the Central Guarantee Fund for SMEs.

The Section is a financial engineering instrument exclusively dedicated to female companies and, starting from July 2015, also to women professionals. It facilitates their access to credit through the involvement of a financial entity already operating in the market: the Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium Enterprises set up within the Ministry of Economic Development.

The section was set up by the agreement - signed on 14 March 2013 - among the Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Economy (later approved by decree of 15 April 2013). The section has been operational since 14 January 2014.

The initial 10-million-euro budget of the section financed by the Department for Equal Opportunities was increased by additional 20 million euros by Decree-Law No.145/2013 converted with amendments by Law no. 9/2014 (the so-called “Piano Destinazione Italia”). It currently amounts to 30 million euros, 50% of which is dedicated to female business start-up.

Recently, the Department for Equal Opportunities has allocated further resources for the Section (with its own funds) for a total
amount of 4 million euros besides the above mentioned total budget of 30 million euros.

Following the establishment of the Special Section, the number of female companies accessing the Fund has definitely increased, as well as the total amount of guaranteed funds. In particular, from January 2014 to March 2017, the number of successful applications has been equal to over 16,000 (7,000 of which for start-ups) for a total amount of granted financing equal to 1.2 billion euros and a guaranteed amount of 793.9 million euros.

The endowment of the section allows the granting of benefits in the form of direct guarantee, co-guarantee and countersecurity and covers financial transactions aimed to business activities of enterprises with a majority female ownership.

Furthermore, in December 2014, the DPO, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Economy signed the additional Act to the agreement extending the benefit to self-employed women.

b) Memorandum of Understanding for the Development and Promotion of Women’s Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment

On 4 June 2014, the Department, the Ministry of Economic Development, the Italian Banking Association (ABI), the General Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria), the Italian Confederation of Small and Medium-Sized Industry (Confapi), the Italian Enterprise Network (Rete Imprese Italia) and the Alliance of Italian Cooperatives (Alleanza delle Cooperative Italiane) signed the Memorandum of Understanding providing for a specific plan of interventions to support access to credit for over 1,400,000 SMEs having a prevailing female participation and for self-employed women.

In particular, specific bank ceilings for new investments and the start-up of new businesses will be set up, thus allowing them to benefit from the State guarantee. The aim of the measure is to:
- support women in the business start-up stage;
- finance new investments;
- help women with possible difficult situations occurring in the course of business.

The Memorandum of Understanding provides for the
establishment of a specific plafond dedicated to initiatives promoting female enterprises and self-employed women. As of 31 March 2017, 37 banks have been involved in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, equal to 35% of the national banking sector. The amount of the plafond which has been made available for women entrepreneurs and professionals is equal to about 1,500,000,000 euros funding. The validity of the Memorandum has been recently extended to 31 December 2017. Finally, the Department for Equal Opportunities, in collaboration with the Department for Information and Publishing, has developed an information campaign on all instruments for female enterprises and self-employed women promoted by the Department. The campaign is already ready to be launched and includes adverts to be shown on the main media (TV, radio, the daily and periodical press), as well as the creation of a dedicated institutional website.

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<td>145.61 Continue to fight against all forms of discrimination (Djibouti); 145.62 Continue raising awareness and promoting tolerance and diversity in society (Israel); 145.63 Strengthen the institutional framework to combat all forms of racial discrimination and incitement to hatred, in particular against migrants (Algeria); 145.64 Take concrete steps for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against minorities (Pakistan); 145.65 Continue to combat any form of discrimination, as well as stereotypes of persons belonging to minorities (Romania); 145.66 Increase its efforts to prevent and combat racial and religious discrimination (Azerbaijan); 145.67 Continue focused efforts to address racism, discrimination and xenophobia (Trinidad and Tobago);</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>In terms of overall activities, the National Office Against Racial Discrimination (UNAR) has taken concrete steps to ensure that the protection against discrimination is effectively and properly enforced. First of all UNAR prevents discriminatory behavior through mass media awareness and communication campaigns, educational and information activities in schools and workplaces. Moreover, by publishing opinions and recommendations on its website, the Office spreads information and raises awareness of the anti-discrimination legislation and the rulings of national and supra-national courts, in order to ensure victims by protection and data-collection exercises. An important monitoring mechanism against discrimination is the UNAR Contact Center, that collects reports of victims of discriminatory acts. In 2015 the Contact Center registered 2235 calls, of which 81% were well founded. More than the half concerned racial grounds and, in detail, 1/3 of them was against the community Roma, Sinti and Caminanti (RSC). About the other</td>
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145.68 Continue strengthening mechanisms to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of related intolerance (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
145.69 Prevent all forms of discrimination and vilification and deliberate negative stereotyping of the Roma community, Muslims and migrants (Bangladesh);
145.70 Adopt a national plan against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to prevent and fight racist and xenophobic violence (Brazil);
145.71 To conduct an active campaign against the creation of negative stereotypes in relation to migrants and minorities, to step up measures to prevent discrimination against Muslims and to strengthen the dialogue with the Muslim communities (Uzbekistan);
145.72 Continue with the measures taken to improve the situation of migrants, particularly with a view to reducing the discrimination that they suffer from (Argentina);
145.73 Increase its efforts to combat racial discrimination against Muslims and foster dialogue with Muslim communities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
145.74 Continue the efforts concerning combating discrimination on the basis of religion (Saudi Arabia);
145.75 Redouble efforts in its refusal of religious intolerance and xenophobia (Mauritania);
145.76 Ensure prosecution in cases where xenophobic crimes against racial and religious minorities are being committed (Pakistan);
145.77 Further strengthen existing policies and legislation on non-discrimination to reduce racist and xenophobic behaviour and manifestations (Spain)

factors, the percentages are reduced: 10% are related to the ground ‘sexual orientation and gender identity and 8% to ‘age’ and ‘disability’. In addition, the 0.8% of total reports is represented by multiple discrimination. It should be noted that the highest percentage of acts of discrimination has been recorded in the area of ‘media’ (39%), followed by ‘services by public bodies’ and ‘work’. The lowest values were in ‘payment of financial services’ and ‘law enforcement’.

At the moment, UNAR is studying data for 2016, working on 2939 cases, of which 2657 cases were well-founded. In relation to the ground, on 1703 reports for ethnic-racial grounds, 292 concerned Roma, Sinti and Caminanti.

Even though UNAR is not entitled to take legal action, Legislative Decree No. 215/2003 - implementing European Directive 2000/43/EC - gives a right of action for judicial protection against acts and discriminatory behavior to associations and institutions which are enrolled in a list, approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies and by the Minister for Equal Opportunities. Moreover, in 2014, the Department for Equal Opportunities established a Solidarity Fund, administered by the National Bar Council, which at the request of discriminated individuals, or associations that are entitled to take legal action for them, may provide an advance on procedural costs. From the second half of December 2014 to May 2017, 44 applications have been submitted: 32 were accepted, 9 rejected, 1 resigned and 2 are under evaluation, waiting for document integration or for the outcome of other criminal proceedings on the same subject. So, in the same period, there have been 32 legal actions financed by the Fund (strategic litigations). Most of applications were related to race or ethnic origin (33 cases submitted), 9 applications were on the ground of disabilities. Other cases are not related to a homogeneous sector. Between these :1 case of discrimination on grounds of age (over 50) in relation to re-employment opportunities; 1 case of discrimination - charged to a municipal administration - with regard to the processing of personal data; 1 case of discrimination causing the interruption of Phd's study course, in a third country, for alleged lack of knowledge of the
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<td>145.78 Engage intensively in the struggle against racist speech in politics in order to contain its negative impact on people’s attitudes towards foreigners and in the sports world (Democratic Republic of the Congo); 145.79 Continue to fight effectively against racist statements that persist in political discourse in order to avoid associating migrants, in security and unemployment (Togo); 145.80 Intensify efforts to combat discrimination and intolerance, especially towards Muslims, migrants and people of African descent and encourage senior State officials and politicians to take clear positions against racist and xenophobic political discourse (Tunisia); 145.81 Reinforce measures to combat attacks and hate speech against minority groups, by emphasizing prevention and follow-up of these acts (Côte d’Ivoire); 145.82 Condemn all statements of a racist nature and increase awareness-raising, particularly directed at youth, of the unacceptability of racism (Norway)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>First of all UNAR prevents discriminatory behavior through mass media awareness and communication campaigns, educational and information activities in schools and workplaces. Moreover, to contrast racial stereotypes on the media, UNAR keeps working with various stakeholders, including Carta di Roma. To monitor hate speech on the media and on social network the Office has recently set up a new tool: the Media and Social Network Observatory. This Observatory, to be financed with ordinary funds from the UNAR, officially started in January 2016, with a two-fold aim: first, the need to find hate speech online and report it for removal. Secondly, to analyze, learn and understand. The Observatory is supplied with a software, which works on the basis of a set of search keywords, selected by the Office and based on data from scientific literature and from the practical experience of the Office’s work against discriminations. Thousands of contents are analyzed day-by-day: a substantial part of the contents is catalogued and included in thematic reports (hate speech and politics, hate speech and Roma people, migrants, etc.) and another part, which numerically represents a lesser proportion but, equally, considered of a strongly discriminatory nature is reported to the social networks for the removal or to the law enforcement for investigation and prosecution. At the parliamentary level the Committee on hate, intolerance, xenophobia and racism was set up in May 2016 and renamed the “Jo Cox Committee” the following July in remembrance of the United Kingdom House of Commons MP who was murdered on 16 June 2016. The Committee is chaired by the President of the Chamber of Deputies. Its members comprise one MP for every political group, representatives of the Council of Europe, the United Nations, ISTAT, research centres and civic associations that investigate and campaign against hate speech, and experts. The Committee adopted its final report at its session of 6 July 2017 after 14 months of work that included hearings with 31 people and the collation of 187 documents (studies, research</td>
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papers, monographs, data records, position papers). Based on the above analysis, the report makes 56 recommendations for the prevention and combating of hate. The recommendations are addressed to all the relevant entities, including: the Government, regulatory and supervisory authorities, EU institutions, international organisations, media, the press professional association and the union of journalists, NGOs and similar agencies. The recommendations can be condensed under the following general headings:

1) address the serious gaps in the collection and analysis of data relating to hate at a national and international level, paying particular heed to the issue of sexism;
2) counter all forms of hate by promoting a national strategy that encompasses specific action plans to combat discrimination against individual groups, and implement the National Strategy for the Inclusion of the Roma, Sinti and Traveller communities;
3) approve several important bills currently under examination in the Houses of Parliament, including the bill on citizenship and the bill opposing homophobia and transphobia;
4) subsume sexist hate speech under the laws on hate and discrimination;
5) criminalise campaigns of hate (public insults, defamation or threats) directed against persons or groups;
6) draw on the experience of other countries while protecting the freedom of information on the internet to evaluate the possibility of: • demanding self-regulation by internet platforms for the removal of online hate speech; • making internet providers and social network platforms collectively liable under law, and compelling them to take down without delay any content that has been flagged as offensive by users;
7) require social network platforms to set up offices with adequate human resources to receive complaints and promptly remove hate speech, to activate an alert function on webpages by which users can flag such material, and to set up helplines;
8) strengthen the mandate of the UNAR (Italy’s anti-racial discrimination department) by according it greater autonomy and even giving it the status of an independent authority;
9) promote a greater sense of responsibility among institutional and political figures who influence the public discourse by adopting regulatory instruments for the suppression of hate speech;
10) make victims of violence more aware of their rights, and enable anti-hate organisations to file civil suits against offenders;
11) give effect to and raise awareness of the provisions contained in the Anti-bullying Act (Law No. 71 of 2017);
12) support and promote “No Hate” bloggers and advocates and media outlets that offer counternarratives to hate speech or sponsor information campaigns against it, especially in the non-profit sector, schools and universities;
13) sustain and promote blogs and no hate activists and media adopting counternarrative approaches and information campaigns on hate speech, in particular in no profit settings, schools and universities;
14) oppose stereotyping and racism by raising awareness and inculcating a sense of responsibility in the media, especially online, to prevent all forms of hate speech, which includes baseless, false and defamatory reporting;
15) set up an authority to guarantee accuracy of reporting, as envisaged in bills that have been presented during the current and previous parliaments, and exhort the press professional association and the union of journalists to enforce compliance with their standards of professional conduct.

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<td>145.83 Implement as a priority the National Action Plan against Racism, Xenophobia and Intolerance (Cuba);</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>The National Action Plan against Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was adopted by Ministerial Decree on 7 August 2015. The approach is integrated, participatory and inclusive, so as to involve relevant civil society organizations, all stakeholders working in this field, regional and local authorities, mainly through ANCI and the State-Regions Conference. In terms of overall activities in line with key-priorities of the National Action Plan, UNAR have taken concrete steps to ensure that the protection against discrimination be effective and properly enforced. First of all, the Office prevents discriminatory behaviour,</td>
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<td>145.84 Provide the necessary financial and human resources to strengthen the implementation of its National Action Plan against Racism, Xenophobia and Intolerance, including by intensifying efforts to conduct investigations promptly and taking action against the perpetrators of racist and xenophobic speeches and public statements (Malaysia);</td>
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145.85 Adopt additional measures for the fight against xenophobia, racial discrimination and discrimination of Roma women, and among other measures, strengthen the capacity of the National Office against Racial Discrimination in order to change the perception by the society of women of marginal and minority communities (Chile)

In this context, it is worth mentioning the new Announcements 2017: 1) the APAD (Announcement for the promotion of positive actions aimed at fighting discrimination on ethnic-racial ground, religious affiliation, sexual orientation and gender identity, through the promotion of cultural, artistic, sporting, communication, awareness-raising, training and information), that is restricted only to associations and bodies enrolled in the UNAR Register; 2) the APSAC (Announcement for the promotion of positive actions to promote the contrast of racial ethnic discrimination situations through culture, arts and sport), aimed to the organization of the Week against racism (on the occasion of the World Day against the racism, which is celebrated every year on 21 March) that is addressed to Municipalities, Union of Municipalities and Temporary Aggregations of Municipalities with a population between 5,000 and 50,000 residents.

Moreover UNAR has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with OSCAD, so it communicates substantiated reports on hate-related crimes. According to the Memorandum, UNAR shall forward to OSCAD any case of discrimination liable for prosecution reported to its Contact Centre, whereas OSCAD shall send to UNAR any report received not liable for prosecution. UNAR and OSCAD, with civil society, have launched a vast programme to prevent and combat discrimination and to increase the awareness of law enforcement on all the provisions prohibiting racism and racial discrimination with almost 9500 officers trained since 2012 until now.

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| 145.86 Increase the budget of and strengthen the National Office against Racial Discrimination (Sierra Leone); 145.87 Take measures to ensure that the National Office against Racial Discrimination (UNAR) is independent and adequately resourced (India); 145.88 Continue to strengthen the National Office | Accepted | The European Directive 2000/43 has provided, for each Member State, the establishment of a body for the implementation of equal treatment. In Italy the Directive was implemented by Legislative Decree No. 215 of 9 July 2003, which has created the Office for the promotion of equal treatment and the removal of discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin (UNAR), establishing that the Office performs the task “with independence of judgment and in
against Racial Discrimination with the view to combating hate speech and protect Roma, racial and religious minorities including Muslims from violence and discrimination (Pakistan);
145.89 Strengthen the National Office against Racial Discrimination (UNAR), as Italy had accepted in the previous UPR cycle (Uruguay);
145.90 Address racial discrimination and cases of racist violence involving destruction of property and the murders of a number of migrants (Ghana)

impartiality conditions”.
Therefore, the Director sets out the tasks and initiatives to achieve UNAR goals and operates through the so-called European Network of Specialised Equality Bodies (Equinet) to reach a homogeneous and effective protection and the enforcement of anti-discrimination legislation.
About financial resources, UNAR has no ordinary budgetary allocations, so it finances part of its operation and its activities through the annual “revolving Fund” (Art. 5 of Law No. 183/1987), in application of European Law No. 39/2002, and Legislative Decree No. 215/2003. It amounts to 2.035.357,00 euros per year.
On April 2016 UNAR Director signed an agreement with the General Directorate for Inclusion and Social Policies of the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, in which UNAR is nominated beneficiary of the National Operational Programme Inclusion co-founded by European Social Fund.

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<td>145.91 Strengthen protection of women and children, ethnic minorities, migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons and other vulnerable groups (China)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Several programmatic measures and sectoral strategies have been adopted and are implemented at the national level concerning the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable categories, also aimed to involving them and making them aware about their rights. In relation in particular to Roma the Municipality of Naples highlights difficulties existing particularly in the Municipality of Giugliano in Campania, where various settlements exist, including unauthorized ones, where about 600 individuals live, mainly belonging to the Roma group. In 2015 the “Masseria del Pozzo” camp was seized by the Judicial Authority and an eviction was ordered, in consideration of the serious hygienic-sanitary conditions affecting its residents (300, half of whom were minors). Following this emergency situation the Municipality signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Regional Authority with the aim of establishing a municipal area (eco-village) including 44 housing units, services and facilities, as well as specific inclusion projects. To this end the Ministry of the Interior earmarked an overall funding amounting to 700,000.00</td>
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<td>145.92 Continue paying special attention to the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups of the population, in particular, children, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, national minorities, especially Roma (Russian Federation)</td>
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<td>145.93 Raise public awareness on the rights of vulnerable groups of people, as stipulated in the Italian legal system (Thailand)</td>
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Furthermore, together with parishes and sector associations active on the territory, the Municipality started a preparatory educational project involving 50 Roma children aged between five and ten years.

In relation to the Municipality of Rome-La Barbuta camp, on 4 June 2015, the Tribunal of Rome, II Civil Section, issued an order whereby it highlighted the indirect discriminatory character of the Municipality itself, in compliance with Art. 43 of the Consolidated Text on Immigration, in connection with an inadequate allocation of equipped lodgings in the village under consideration. As a result, the issue of “La Barbuta” camp is still being scrutinized by the competent government bodies. On 18 November 2016, the Municipality of Rome adopted a “Roma Inclusion Project” which envisages the closing down of six Roma camps located in the capital, by means of an implementation plan which has engaged Rome local government from January to June 2017. The plan envisages the involvement of UNAR, of the Regional Authority of Lazio and of ANCI, as well as the publication of a European invitation to tender including relevant specifications and the establishment of a network of organizations. On 16 December 2016, Rome local government adopted decision No. 117, whereby it established the “City Table for the Inclusion of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations”.

In the five year period 2012-2016, 50 persons who had previously been recognized stateless also acquired the Italian citizenship; in the three year period 2013-2016, 13 individuals obtained the administrative recognition of their stateless status by the Ministry of the Interior.

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<td>145.94 Allocate the necessary resources to the fight against discrimination on the basis of gender and sexual orientation, so as to accelerate progress on this matter (Spain); 145.95 Accelerate and strengthen legislative and educational actions to combat discrimination in all its</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>On 20 May 2016 the Parliament approved Law No. 76/2016 (Regulation of civil unions between people of the same sex and discipline of cohabitation). Moreover, in May 2016 the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) amended its Statute, introducing homophobia next to racism and xenophobia, among the factors to counteract (Art. 2, para. 4)</td>
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forms, particularly discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual orientation (Canada);
145.96 Include sexual orientation as grounds for protection against hate speech (Canada);
145.97 Take concrete steps to adopt the legislation necessary to follow up to Prime Minister Renzi’s announcement to work on the recognition of same-sex relationships in Italy, as part of Italy’s efforts to further strengthen measures to combat discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Netherlands);
145.98 Ensure the equal rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people by legally recognizing same-sex marriage and civil partnerships (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

The implementation of the LGBT National Strategy continued in 2015 and 2016 with several actions in all priority axes identified: Education and Education / Labor / Security and Prisons / Media and Communication. For the implementation of these actions, the Department for Equal Opportunities had signed a Cooperation Agreement with the City of Turin in June 2013 (which ended in June 2016), to realize information activities and training courses at national level.

It’s worth mentioning the “Pilot Project to Improve the Condition of LGBT Persons in Prisons with Particular Attention to Trans Gender Persons”, presented by the MIT (Transitional Identity Movement). The project was aimed at improving the conditions of LGBT people in prisons- with particular focus on transgender people - through information, awareness and training activities on LGBT issues for prison staff and prison population. It was implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice (Penitentiary Administration Department) and involved five industry associations with expertise and experience in the LGBT intervention field, both inside and outside the prison sector (Trans- Consultant Transgender - Assassin Dragonfly, Assumption of Air, Metaphor Research Institute, National Observatory of Gender Identity). In the implementation of the LGBT National Strategy, for the Media Axis and Communication of the Strategy, UNAR created a web-based Documentation Portal on LGBT that started working on July 2016. In this regard it is important to highlight that OSCAD (see Country update related to UPR Recommendation 145.52) was involved in the project in order to organize specific seminars for State Police and Carabinieri officers. Overall: 60 senior officers were trained (two-days seminars – ToT, at national level) and 240 officers were trained in half-a-day seminars (at regional level, in Lombardy, Campania and Sicily).

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<td>145.99 Implement effective domestic measures to ensure all acts of torture are offences under its criminal law (Australia); 145.100 Adopt additional measures to prevent all</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>From a legislative standpoint (reverse chronological order), mention has to be made of: Law No. 110/2017 which introduces the crime of torture in the Italian Penal Code (Article 613-bis, covering all conducts of relevance, including those ones which can be</td>
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forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of persons in detention (France);
145.101 Pursue further its endeavours to combat prison overcrowding and to guarantee that all detainees are treated with dignity (Hungary);
145.102 Take measures to enhance the efficiency of the judicial system and reduce overcrowding in prisons (Australia);
145.103 Adopt a national strategy for improving the situation in the penitentiary system (Russian Federation)

committed by private authors) jointly with the crime of incitement to torture by public officials (Article 613-ter); Law No. 103/2017 entitled “Changes to the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Penitentiary Act” which introduces a large number of novelties, inter alia: (a) possibility to extinguish the offense by means of a redress-type conduct, (b) modification of the procedural rules for certain offences, (c) extension of the rights of the injured party, (d) clear timelines to conclude preliminary investigations by the Public Prosecutors, (e) rise in the use of the financial penalty replacing the fine, in light of the economic situations of the defendant, (f) reform of the Penitentiary Act by delegation entrusted to the Government by decrees aimed, inter alia, at simplifying procedures before the oversight magistrate, facilitating the use of alternative measures, promoting reparative justice further; Law No. 47/2015 (to further reduce the resort to detention precautionary measures); Law No. 28/2015 (in case of light conducts); draft laws No. 2798/C, 631-B/C (to increase the use of non-custodial measures before the imposition of a sentence); in the penal sector: Law No. 67/2014 (to improve the efficiency of the judiciary, envisaging inter alia probation and the clustering of crimes, the penalty of which can be transformed into an administrative sanction); Law-Decree No. 146/2013 on extension of the electronic tagging to those under house arrest; Legislative Decree No. 101/2014, transposing EU Directive 2012/13, on the right to be informed in the criminal proceedings, which amends the Criminal Procedural Code by envisaging – as per general rule - the submission, in writing, of a list of rights, and draft Law No. 2798/C; in the civil sector: Law Decree No. 90/2014, converted into Law No. 114/2014; Law Decree No. 132/2014, converted into Law No. 162/2014; and Law Decree No. 69/2013, converted into Law No. 98/2013.
Law-Decree No. 146/2013, converted into Law No. 10/2014, provides for, inter alia a ‘Special Early Release’ and a new judicial complaint under Art. 35-b of the Penitentiary Act.
Furthermore, regulatory changes designed to limit the use of remand in custody are as follows (chronological order): Law No. 199/2010 to enforce sentences in premises outside the prison
facility; as for the access to home detention, following the extension to eighteen months for the minimum detention penalty by Law Decree No. 211/2011, inmates admitted to home detention have increased significantly. Plus, the arrested person for acts of lesser social alarm can wait for the validation of the arrest in home detention; Law No. 9/2012, adopted with the aim of reducing prison overcrowding; Law-Decree No. 78/2013, converted into Law No. 94/2013, with regard to the limit-requirement for the applicability of the precautionary measure of custody in prison, raised from 4 to 5 years.

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<th>145.104 Further improve the living conditions in State penitentiaries and juvenile detention centres (Thailand)</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
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| In order to ensure the youngsters conflicting with law their rights and overall to meet their needs, each I.P.M. carries out school, professional, cultural, sport and recreational activities aimed at promoting their upbringing and maturity. Compulsory vocational training to job activities is ensured under EU or national, regional Funds or from the budgets of Regional and local authorities; and it is delivered by local bodies and cooperatives. Juveniles over 18 are directed to wage-earning jobs or training. As for the individual treatment of juveniles, each child is granted a customized program. A team, made up of social workers, psychologists and pedagogy experts, conceives each individual treatment program and it is conditioned upon the approval of the Sentencing Judge. Specific attention is paid to health education, which includes the treatment of any disease, as well as general prevention plans: each Centre secures the regular presence of one physician and one or more nurses. With the Reform of the Penitentiary Health Care Sector, implemented by Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers No. 230/2008, the health functions carried out by the Department of Prison Administration and the Department of Juvenile Justice, have been transferred to the National Health Service. Thus, health local services ensure health-care and psychological support to children involved in the penal system through specific agreements. At the national level, this has been identified within the Unified Conference of Regions and local authorities, through ad hoc agreements, including, as a way of example, “Guidelines for the operations of the National Health Service to protect the health of detainees and inmates in prisons and...
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| 145.105 Develop and implement the national anti-violence action plan at the earliest possible date (Germany); 145.106 Continue with its efforts regarding violence within the family and with the enforcement of the three categories of aggravating circumstances included in the Italian Criminal Code, in order to prevent violence in all its forms (Dominican Republic); 145.107 Consider adopting specific laws on combating violence against women, both at home and in the workplace (India); 145.108 Strengthen domestic legislations to prevent sexual violence against women and provide necessary support to the victims (Maldives); 145.109 To adopt effective measures to combat violence against women and prevent their occupational segregation (Uzbekistan); 145.110 Pass and implement legislation to address violence against women (Sierra Leone); 145.111 Combat violence against women by implementing the Istanbul Convention, which entered into force August 1, 2014, and finalize Italy’s National Action Plan (United States of America); 145.112 Undertake comprehensive measures to address violence against women and to ensure that victims have immediate protection (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); 145.113 Take all necessary measures to address violence against women as well as gender inequality in particular in the workplace and in the context of pregnancy or family status (Ireland); 145.114 Address the legal gaps in the area of child custody and include relevant provisions relating to juveniles subjected to criminal action” | Accepted | Institutional framework. On 7 July 2015 the Extraordinary National Action Plan against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence was adopted by Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the aim of establishing a multi-level governance system of public policies for combating such phenomena and supporting their victims, through a total allocation of 40 million euros for 4 years. Within the framework of the above mentioned Extraordinary National Action Plan, on 25 July 2016, an Inter-institutional Steering Committee was established. The Committee is chaired by the Undersecretary of State in charge of gender equality and composed by the Minister of Health, Minister of Regional Affairs, Autonomies and Family Policies, as well as by the representatives of the competent Ministries (Interior, Justice, Education, University and Research, Foreign Affairs, Economic Development, Defense, Economy and Finance, Labour and Social Policies, Simplification and Public Administration), and of the Regions and local Authorities. Within the framework of the Plan, a National Observatory on Violence was established at the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the aim of supporting the Steering Committee through the carrying out of studies and researches, proposals, monitoring actions on the implementation of the Plan and evaluation of the impact of such policies. Within the Observatory, 3 Working Groups have been established as follows: 1. Working Group No. 1 on “Legislation” – it is aimed at proposing amendments to the legal framework on gender-based violence; 2. Working Group No. 2 on “Protection paths” – it is aimed at defining specific Guidelines on new protection paths for victims of gender-based violence; 3. Working Group No. 3 on “Strategic Framework” – it is aimed
protection of women who are the victims of domestic violence as recommended by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women (Botswana);

145.115 Take the necessary measures to ensure that national protection laws against sexual violence, including in the domestic context, be applied at all levels consistently and effectively to fight against impunity (Switzerland);

145.116 Take the necessary measures to maintain existing and/or set up new anti-violence shelters to assist and protect women victims of violence (Malaysia);

145.117 Allocate sufficient funds for the effective protection of victims who report gender-based violence and focus on training and education in order to prevent such acts of violence, especially within the family (Germany)

at defining the future strategic framework of the next National Action Plan against gender-based violence.

In line with the provisions established by the Plan, on 15 November 2016, the structure for the setting up of a specific National Database on gender-based violence was defined and will be implemented through the Memorandum of Understanding with ISTAT. It envisages, *inter alia*, that ISTAT be the coordinating body of the National Database and the entity mainly responsible for it. In its coordination activity, ISTAT will collaborate with experts from the Entities and Ministries producing administrative data on this topic, including shelters. The National Database will collect data deriving from sample surveys, as well as administrative data and data collected by shelters.

On the occasion of the International Day on the Elimination of Violence against Women, on 25 November 2016, 5 Memoranda of Understanding between the Department for Equal Opportunities and, respectively, ISTAT, *Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Group* (the national railway company), *Poste Italiane* (the national post company), the *Carabinieri* Corps and the State Police, were signed with the aim of developing specific actions supporting the implementation of the Extraordinary Action Plan against sexual and gender-based violence. The Memorandum of Understanding signed with the *Carabinieri* and State Police are aimed at promoting training initiatives for the law enforcement agencies’ personnel, as well as for the Department for Equal Opportunities’ staff and the 1522 helpline operators, with a view to making the identification and fight against sexual and gender-based violence and stalking more effective. The Memorandum of Understanding with ISTAT is aimed at devising and implementing the abovementioned National Database on gender-based violence. Whereas, the Memorandum of Understanding signed with *Poste Italiane* and *Ferrovie dello Stato* are aimed at officializing the already existing collaboration with the Department on this topic and especially for the dissemination of information on the 1522 toll-free helpline.

On the same occasion the Department for Equal Opportunities presented the new communication campaign against gender-based
violence entitled “Mettiti nei suoi panni” (Put yourself in her shoes). The TV advert is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sgf3BqqLa0&feature=youtube.

In line with the comprehensive approach of the Action Plan, also the following legislative measures have been adopted:
- Legislative Decree No. 80/2015 on “Measures for reconciliation between care, work and family life”: it envisages, inter alia, the setting up of a special paid leave for working women victims of violence following duly certified protection programs.
- Law No. 124 of 7 August 2015 on the reorganization of public administrations, according to which the working woman victim of violence is entitled to ask to move to another public administration based in a different Municipality from the one of residence.
- Reform of the national education and training system (Law No. 107 of 13 July 2015), which provides for, inter alia, the inclusion of education to gender equality, the prevention of gender-based violence and discrimination in the school curricula.

As for migrant women in irregular situations who are victims of violence, Law No. 119/2013 converting Decree Law No. 93/2013 establishing “Urgent provisions on safety and for the fight against gender-based violence, as well as on civil protection and compulsory administration of provinces” (Disposizioni urgenti in materia di sicurezza e per il contrasto alla violenza di genere nonchè in tema di protezione civile e di commissariamento delle province) provides for that protection is extended to foreign victims, for whom it is introduced the possibility to obtain a humanitarian residence permit, established by Legislative Decree No. 286/1998 consolidating the provisions regulating immigration and the rules relating to the status of foreign national.

According to this new norm, it is aggravating circumstance “to have committed the act in front of or against a minor of age eighteen or against a pregnant person when it concerns premeditated crimes against life and individual safety, against the personal freedom, and the crime referred to in Article 572 of the CC”.

In this regard, it is noted that the new legislation is in line with the
Istanbul Convention (ratified by Law No. 77/2013), according to which “the Parties adopt legislative and other measures necessary to introduce among the aggravating circumstances the fact that the offense was committed on a child or in the presence of a child” (Art. 46, D-Istanbul Convention).

The theme of domestic violence is closely related to the equally relevant crime of the so-called Special orphans (orphans due to feminicide). On this issue, the Department for Family Policies, aware of the delicacy and severity of this phenomenon, signed on 10 October 2016 a Collaboration Protocol with the National Authority for Childhood and Adolescence. The Collaboration Protocol aims at encouraging, in the interest of minors, the cooperation between the institutional actors dealing with the protection of the rights of minors.

In particular, the Protocol also provides that the Parties commit to:

a. promote awareness-raising campaigns on intra-family violence and on aspects related to the trauma suffered by the minors who have been witness of violence or who are victims of abuses;
b. promote initiatives, even of a regulatory nature, which aim at ensuring an adequate support to orphans of murder that has been perpetrated by one parent against the other. In accordance with Art. 2 of the Protocol, a Joint Committee was established, consisting of representatives of the Department for Family Policies and the National Authority for Childhood and Adolescence.

The above-mentioned Committee, set up on 14 December 2016, has identified among the priority thematic areas of study and analysis also the one related to orphans of feminicide.

Also, it should be noted that the recent Law No. 232/2016 (Art. 1, para. 146, of the 2017 Budget Law) in order to amend Art. 11 of Law No. 122 of 7 July 2016 (European Law 2015-2016) has included among the victims of intentional violent offenses who have the right to be compensated, also “the children of the victim in the case of homicide committed by the spouse, whether separated or divorced, or by a person who is or has been emotionally bound to the victim”.

This legislative provision contained in Art. 1, para. 146, of the 2017 Budget Law provides that in determining the limits of
compensation for victims of intentional violent offenses, it is ensured, in particular, a greater relief to the children of the victim whose murder was committed by the spouse or partner.

For the sake of completeness, it is necessary to report the text of Art. 11, para. 3, of the above-mentioned Law No. 122/2016 as amended by the 2017 Budget Law: “By decree of the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Justice, in agreement with the Minister of Economy and Finance, to be issued within six months from the date of entry into force of this law, the amount of the indemnity is determined within the limits of the availability of the Fund referred to in Art. 14, ensuring greater relief for the victims of sexual abuses and murders, and, in particular, to the children of victims whose murder has been committed by a spouse, whether separated or divorced, or by a person who is or has been emotionally bound to the victim.”

Lastly, on the issue at hand, please note the bill proposed by the Parliament, Act No. 3772, unanimously approved by the Chamber of Deputies on 1 March 2017 (“Amendments to the Italian Civil Code and Code of Criminal Procedure and other provisions in favour of orphans of domestic crimes”). The legislative proposal, among the various measures, provides adequate protection to minors who are orphans of feminicide and access to support measures to guarantee them the right to study and enter the labour market; free patronage; the prohibition on the reversibility of the pension in favour of the murderer, starting from the request for commitment for trial of the suspect, and not at the time of the judgment; the possibility of changing his/her last name when it coincides with that one of the convicted parent. The bill mentioned above is currently being examined by the Commission of Justice of the Senate.

Data and financial resources
Within the framework of the allocation of funds envisaged by the Plan, on the International Women’s Day in 2016, a 12-million-euros Public Call for Proposals was released for the financing of projects for strengthening of shelters and assistance services to women victims of violence and their children, as well as for the enhancement of the local services network was
Through Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 25 November 2016, the Italian Government has also allocated further 18 million euros for the period 2017-2018 to Regions to finance the opening of new anti-violence centres and shelters and the strengthening of the already existing ones. Furthermore, within the framework of the implementation of para 4 of the Extraordinary Action Plan, through an additional Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 25 November 2016, the Italian Government has allocated further 13 million euros to be distributed among Regions and Autonomous Provinces for the implementation of projects and actions on: training of health personnel of hospitals’ emergency rooms; promotion of victim’s entry in the labour market; access to public housing for victims; establishment of systems for the collection of data on the phenomenon at the local level.

According to the 2015 ISTAT Survey on Violence against Women, 6,788,000 women have been victims of some forms of violence, either physical or sexual, during their life, namely 31.5% of women aged 16-70 in Italy. As of May 2017, 501 are the safe shelters (anti-violence centres and women’s refuges) in Italy. Last but not least, on 11 November 2016, the Department for Equal Opportunities, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research, issued a public Call for proposals for the presentation of school educational initiatives on preventing and combating all forms of gender-based violence addressing all public schools on the national territory. The Call for proposals also encouraged the establishment of collaborations between schools and NGOs working in this sector. The total allocated amount is equal to 5 million euros.

Communication campaigns
CREATIVE (Changing Relationships through Education and Awareness Towards ending Violence against women)
Within the framework of the Restricted action grants to support national information, awareness-raising and education activities aimed at preventing and combating violence against women, issued by the European Commission in August 2016, in December
2016, the CREATIVE (Changing Relationships through Education and Awareness Towards ending Violence against women) project developed by the Department for Equal Opportunities was awarded.

The main objective of the project will be to elaborate, develop, produce and widely disseminate, for the first time in Italy, a comprehensive multi-target educational and awareness campaign on eliminating violence against women having a strong impact on the general public and being able, through targeted actions, to reach and increase the awareness of the future generations of men and women on the problem.

The project is aimed at promoting the necessary cultural change by deeply involving on the one hand, the educational and school system and, on the other, the Italian football fans and the general public, through the development and implementation of activities in schools addressing children and youth from 3 to 19 years of age (as well as their parents and teachers), and the production of a TV advert mainly addressing men and boys to be disseminated through the main media platforms working on football (the Italian major league stadiums, TV programmes on football and during TV football matches, etc.), as well as in social media and traditional media channels.

The project activities have formally started on 1 February 2017.

Ongoing activities for future actions
- The Department for Equal Opportunities is currently working on the elaboration of a new National Call for proposals for the financing of projects aimed at supporting:
  1) treatment programmes for perpetrators;
  2) innovative actions for the entry into the labour market of women victims of violence;
  3) the strengthening of anti-violence centres’ capacity to assist and support women victims of multiple discrimination and serious vulnerability;
  4) the strengthening of anti-violence centres’ capacity to assist and support migrant women;
  5) experimental actions for women victims of economic violence;
  6) prevention actions, such as projects to increase public awareness...
on the topic at the local level through the carrying out of communication campaigns, educational initiatives, as well as cultural, artistic and sport activities.

The Call for Proposals, envisaging a total amount of 10,275,000 euros, was issued the summer of 2017.

- The Department for Equal Opportunities is also currently working on the elaboration of the new National Action Plan against Gender-Based Violence. The Plan, which will be fully in line with the main national and international standards, including the Istanbul Convention and the G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, is being elaborated in collaboration with civil society and will be focused on the 4 dimensions of prevention, protection, prosecution and integrated policies.

The Plan will provide for:

- innovative training courses for, inter alia, municipal police and social workers;
- actions on types of gender-based violence that had not been included in the previous Plan, such as economic violence;
- sustainable actions for the rehabilitation of perpetrators;
- specific actions for children involved in violent family relations (femicide orphans, etc.)
- innovative actions for women victims of violence and multiple discrimination (women with disabilities);
- a specific focus on migrant women victims of violence (both asylum seekers and resident in Italy);
- a specific focus on forced marriages and female genital mutilation;
- the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation system of the Plan based on concrete indicators for each commitment envisaged in the document.

### UPR Recommendation

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<td>145.118</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Institutional framework</td>
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<td>145.119</td>
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<td>The first National Action Plan against Trafficking in and Serious Exploitation of Human Beings was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 26 February 2016, in line with Legislative Decree No. 24/2014 transposing Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and...</td>
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<td>the trafficking of persons (Armenia);</td>
<td>combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.</td>
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<td>145.120 Take further steps in order to strengthen the protection of victims of trafficking (Azerbaijan);</td>
<td>The Plan is aimed at identifying multiannual intervention strategies for the prevention and fight against these phenomena, as well as measures aimed at increasing public awareness, social prevention, emergence and social integration of victims.</td>
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<td>145.121 Continue its efforts regarding the combat of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons (Sudan);</td>
<td>With a view to enhancing the national response to human trafficking, through prevention, prosecution, protection interventions and actions for the social integration of victims, the National Action Plan envisages measures aimed at:</td>
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<td>145.122 Expand efforts to combat human trafficking and account for other forms of trafficking, such as labour exploitation and forced begging (Australia);</td>
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<td>145.123 Finalize the first national plan to combat trafficking in persons, and provide all necessary resources to ensure the successful implementation (Qatar);</td>
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<td>145.124 Improve identification of victims of trafficking in human beings by setting up a coherent national mechanism of identification and referral of such cases, including among unaccompanied minors, irregular migrants and asylum seekers (Republic of Moldova);</td>
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<tr>
<td>145.125 Provide follow-up to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings with a particular concern on unaccompanied minors (Holy See)</td>
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The Plan is in line with the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings (2012-2016).

The Plan involves all the competent Administrations. Therefore, on 2 August 2016, a political and institutional Steering Committee (Cabina di regia), which is chaired by the Undersecretary of State in charge of gender equality, was established. The Committee is composed by the political and technical representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, University and Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, as well as by the representatives of the National Anti-Mafia Directorate, Carabinieri Corps, State Police, Guardia di Finanza, Regions and local authorities.

Within the Steering Committee, 4 specific working groups have been established with a view to ensuring the implementation of all aspects dealt with by the Plan. In particular, 3 out of the 4 groups work on the traditional dimensions of “Prevention”, “Protections” “Cooperation”. The fourth is an ad hoc group established to facilitate coordination between the protection system for refugees and asylum seekers and the system for the protection of human trafficking victims.

On the occasion of the EU Anti-Trafficking Day, on 18 October 2016, the Department for Equal Opportunities launched the new awareness campaign (TV advert) aimed at increasing knowledge of the National Toll-free Anti-Trafficking number 800 290 290. The campaign was broadcast on the main national public network and was developed in collaboration with NGOs within the framework of the above mentioned Steering Committee.

Data and financial resources
As a general context, it useful to bear in mind that only in 2016, about 176,554 migrants have been welcomed by Italy.

Through Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 16 May 2016, a single Programme for the emergence, assistance and social integration of victims was set up with a view to guaranteeing temporary adequate board and lodging conditions
and healthcare and, subsequently, the continuation of assistance provision and social integration for victims of human trafficking and exploitation.

With the aim of implementing the Programme and in line with the abovementioned Plan, on 10 June 2016, the Department for Equal Opportunities published a public Call for proposals to fund assistance projects for victims of trafficking in human beings, including women and children, for a total amount of about 14 million euros. The 18 funded projects started their activities on 1 September 2016 and is going to be closed in November 2017.

In 2017, the Italian Government has issued a new Call for Proposals for a total amount of about 23 million euros. The Call will fund, *inter alia*, projects specifically dedicated to the assistance of child victims of human trafficking.

Further 200,000 euros have been allocated for 2017 for the starting of the activities related to the development of the new National Database against Human Trafficking.

As Italy’s equivalent mechanism, the Department for Equal Opportunities uses a special database (the so-called SIRIT – *Sistema Informatizzato di Raccolta Informazioni sulla Tratta* – Computerized system for the collection of information on trafficking in human beings) to monitor the phenomenon.

The Italian Government receives data on victims of human trafficking who are protected under the specific funded protection projects. According to this data, as of May 2017, the victims of human trafficking protected within the framework of the abovementioned projects are 1,382 totally, about 90% of whom are women.

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<td>145.126 Enact legislation to enshrine the 1996 Supreme Court ruling in legislation and explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment of children in the home (Liechtenstein) 145.127 Explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment of children, bringing legislation into line with the 1996 Supreme Court ruling against violence in</td>
<td>Noted; 145.128: accepted</td>
<td>The protection of children from all forms of violence within the family, including even mild corporal punishment, was enshrined in Arts. 2, 3, 29, 30 and 31 of the Italian Constitution, clearly flowing from the CRC. Moreover, the Criminal Code firmly provided for the punishment with imprisonment for any ill-treatment of children within the family. Art. 572 of the Criminal Code punishes with imprisonment any</td>
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child-rearing (Sweden);
145.128 Protect children from all types of abuses by ensuring rigorous implementation and monitoring of existing frameworks to capture all threats to all children (Maldives)

ill-treatment of children within the family. In Italian law ill-treatment means “any form of physical or psychological abuse, any behaviour likely to result in a state of physical or spiritual prostration or any form of submission” and “all forms of harassment of a child by an adult or a person belonging to the same household”. The penalties are more severe when the ill-treatment results in physical injury or death, and depending on the presence of aggravating circumstances. In addition to the criminal sanctions against abusers, there is a whole range of measures in civil law to protect children who are victims of abuse. When bringing proceedings under Art. 572 of the Criminal Code, the Public Prosecutor is required to inform the Youth Court that has territorial jurisdiction and to ensure that the child concerned is assisted by the social services (Art. 609decies of the Criminal Code). The Youth Court may order the abuser to stay away by means of the protection orders provided for in Art. 342bis of the Civil Code, or may have the child taken away, if necessary (last paragraph of Art. 333 of the Civil Code).

The Court of Cassation has extensively interpreted Art. 571 of the Criminal Code asserting that the use of any degree of violence may not be regarded as a lawful correctional measure, but comes under the category of ill-treatment which is explicitly prohibited by Art. 572 of the Criminal Code. Correctional measures (jus corrigendi) are therefore to be understood to mean only a system of instructions, guidelines and potential orders and advice, as well as prohibitions and mild penalties for failure to comply, all falling within the sphere of the bringing up of children.

On the issue it is worth of mentioning the collaboration among the National Observatory on childhood and adolescence, Save the Children Italia, Società Italiana di Pediatria (SIP) and the Associazione Nazionale dei pedagogisti italiani (ANPE), which have promoted the campaign against corporal punishments that was disseminated all over the country, in the framework of the European project "Educate, do not punish".

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<th>UPR Recommendation</th>
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| 145.129 Increase use of non-custodial measures | Accepted | In general terms preventive custody in prison is a last resort (Art.
during the period before the imposition of a sentence (Hungary)

275, para. 3, Code of Criminal Procedure), under the strict circumstances set by Art. 273 and ff. In order to revoke this measure, the Code envisages an expeditious sub-proceeding. Preventive custody in prison can be imposed only as a last resort when there is a clear and convincing evidence of a serious offence. In this case, a maximum of two years of preliminary investigation is permitted with the exception of extraordinary situations. Plus, preventive custody is not permitted for pregnant women, single parents of children under the age of 3, persons over the age of 70, or those who are seriously ill. Art. 657 envisages that pre-trial detention must be included when calculating the duration of the penalty; and Art. 314 provides for compensation. From a legislative standpoint mention has to be made of draft laws No. 2798/C, 631-B/C to increase the use of non-custodial measures before the imposition of a sentence. In the meantime regulatory changes designed to limit the use of remand in custody are as follows (chronological order): Act No. 199/2010 to enforce sentences in premises outside the prison facility; as for the access to home detention, following the extension to eighteen months for the minimum detention penalty by Law Decree No. 211/2011, inmates admitted to home detention have increased significantly. Plus, the arrested person for acts of lesser social alarm can wait for the validation of the arrest in home detention; Act No. 9/2012, adopted with the aim of reducing prison overcrowding; Law-Decree No. 78/2013, converted into Act No. 94/2013, with regard to the limit-requirement for the applicability of the precautionary measure of custody in prison, raised from 4 to 5 years. More recently, Act No. 47/2015 has introduced several amendments to the Code and to the Penitentiary Act, as follows: in case of risk of absconding or risk of crime recurrence, the precautionary measures can be applied only when the risk is “current and concrete”, meaning that it cannot be presumed from the gravity or the type of the crime; pre-trial detention can be ordered only when other measures are not adequate; when the judge orders pre-trial detention, the motivation behind the inadequacy of the house arrest and electronic tagging have to be provided; when the accused under house arrest infringes the exit ban, the judge must order the withdrawal of the house arrest
unless the person is accused of a low gravity crime; strict rules have been adopted regarding both the pre-trial detention motivations and the time-limit for taking a decision by the Oversight Tribunal (if such requirements are not met, pre-trial detention will go ineffective).

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<td>145.130 Review criminal and civil justice procedures in order to improve the efficiency of the judiciary with a view to significantly reducing the backlog before the courts, and the time taken for cases to be continued, before its next Universal Periodic Review (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); 145.131 Take further measures to reduce the backlog of judicial cases, both nationally and at the European Court of Human Rights (Norway)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>The backlog of the ECHR concerning Italy has been considerably reduced in the recent years. According to the Official Analysis of Statistics of the European Court, in 2016 the applications allocated to a judicial formation were 1409 compared to 1885 in 2015 and 5490 in 2014. Furthermore, the number of unilateral declarations and friendly settlements has significantly increased thus facilitating the work of the ECtHR.</td>
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| 145.132 Provide, in accordance with its obligations under international human rights law, effective protection for the family as the fundamental and natural unit of society (Egypt)                                                                                                                   | Accepted         | **Family Centres**  
The 2012 National Family Plan promoted the support and the diffusion of the Family Centres described as “driving centres within a network of services, interventions, bodies and actions (in social, health and education fields) for policies concerning family and care services”.
The National Plan says also that the Family Centres have to be designed and managed together with the families associations networks, so to be really able to understand the different needs of the territory and to offer flexible and articulate answers to them. Among the services offered by the Family Centres there are: social care; listening and giving information; legal advices; meetings and discussions – also through mutual or self-help groups – for families facing difficulties and time of crisis. During 2015 the Department for Family Policies made a first national monitoring and data collection concerning Family Centres. The Department sent all Italian Regions a form with a list of questions concerning qualitative and quantitative data (number and type of services) about the Family Centres. These are the results of the monitoring: in 10 Regions there are the
Family Centers (Calabria, Campania, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, Marche, Apulia, Piedmont, Umbria, Valle d’Aosta, Veneto and Trento e Bolzano Autonomous Provinces); in some other Regions there are bodies not called Family Centres but carrying out similar services. In Tuscany, for example, there are the “Centres for children, teenagers and Family” (C.I.A.F.).

The Family Centers address the following needs: support to the couple; support to parenthood (adoption and work life balance) child protection; transition to adulthood; generational solidarity.

The users are mostly parents with children and teenagers.

**Birth or Adoption Premium “Mamma Domani” (Law No. 232/2016, Art. 1, para. 353)**

Art. 1, para. 353, of the Budget Law for 2017 states that “starting from 1 January 2017, a birth or adoption premium of 800 euros will be granted. The premium, that is not included in the total income, pursuant to Art. 8 of the income tax consolidation act, as set forth in the Presidential Decree No. 917 of 22 December 1986, is granted by INPS and is to be paid in a single tranche, upon the application of the future mother, from the seventh month of pregnancy or at the time of the adoption”.

General requisites: the birth or adoption premium is allocated to pregnant women or mothers meeting the following requisites: Italian residency; Italian or European citizenship; in case she is a citizen of a country outside the European Union, she needs to have a long-stay EU residence permit.

Eligibility for the birth or adoption premium: the benefit of 800 euros can be granted only if one of the following event occurs starting from 1 January 2017: the mother reaches the seventh month of pregnancy; childbirth, even prior to the start of the eighth month of pregnancy; national or international adoption of the minor, ordered through a binding sentence; pre-adoptive national fostering decided by an order of the Juvenile Court or pre-adoptive International fostering.

The premium of 800 euros is granted in a single tranche, following one event (pregnancy, delivery, adoption or fostering), regardless of the children being born or adopted/in foster care.

**Support Fund for an Higher Birth Rate (Law No. 232/2016,**
Art. 1, para. 348)

Art. 1, para. 348, of the Budget Law for 2017 states that “In order to support families and encourage a higher birth rate, the Presidency of the Council of Ministers established a specific revolving fund, called “Fondo di sostegno alla natalità” (“Fund for a higher birth rate”) aimed at fostering the access to credit of households with one or more children, born or adopted, starting from 1 January 2017, through the issuing of direct guarantees and surety agreements to banks and financial intermediaries”.

General requisites: such legislative provision is aimed at facilitating the access to credit of households with one or more children, born or adopted, starting from 1 January 2017. The measure has been introduced in a structural and definitive manner. Parents with one or more children, regardless of their income, can benefit from small loans at fixed and subsidised rates simply submitting to the banks an application along with a birth or adoption certificate.

A list of the banks that will finance the loans for the families will be available on the institutional website of the Department for Family Policies (www.politichefamiglia.it). The Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers will define the details regarding the implementation, included the maximum size of the loan and the terms and conditions for the repayment to be make by the recipients.

Nursery Voucher (Law No. 232/2016, Art. 1, para. 355)

Art. 1, para. 355, of the Budget Law planned for the 2017 states that: “With regard to children born as from 1 of January 2016, for the payment of the fees related to the attendance of public and private nurseries, as well as for the introduction of various forms of home care in favour of children under three years old, suffering from serious pathological conditions, a voucher of 1000 euros shall be allocated, starting from 2017, on an annual basis and in the form of eleven monthly instalments. The voucher shall be granted by INPS to the applicant parent, only after the submission of sufficient documentation confirming the inscription and the payment of fees to public and private structures”.

General requisites: the so called “nursery voucher” is granted to
parents who incur the payment of fees for the attendance of public and private nurseries and applies to every born or adopted child starting from 2016.

In order to be eligible, the applicant parent needs to meet the following requisites: Italian residency; Italian or European citizenship; in case the parent is a citizen of a country outside the European Union, they must have a long-stay EU residence permit. The so-called “nursery voucher” measure has been introduced in a structural and definitive manner as from 1 January 2017.

The parent receives a monthly benefit for the payment of the nursery fees up to a maximum amount of 1000 euros. The grant of 1000 euros is allocated for a three-year period as it refers to the 0-to-3 age bracket.

The entitlement to the grant of 1000 euros is irrespective of the applicant parent’s income.

The grant of 1000 euros is assigned also to parents with children under three years old who suffer from severe chronic conditions and therefore cannot attend nursery.

Economic contribution for the introduction of various forms of home care in favour of children under three years old, suffering from serious pathological conditions

As for the introduction of various forms of home care in favour of children under three years old, suffering from serious pathological conditions, who cannot attend the nursery, an economic contribution of 1000 euro per year is given to the parent with whom the child is living. This contribution will be disbursed, with a single transfer, after the parent has submitted a certificate made by a paediatrician, freely chosen, stating that for the entire reference year “for the child is impossible to attend the nursery because of serious pathological conditions”. The contribution is combinable with the benefits stated by Art. 1, paras. 356 and 357, of Law No. 232/2016.

**Directive on Smart Working**

As far as it concerns reconciliation of work and private life, please note the relevance of the normative disposition included in Art. 14 of Law No. 124 of 7 August 2015 (“Mandates to the Government on the Reorganization of Public Administrations”).
Pursuant to the provisions of para. 3 of the above-mentioned Art. 14, the Prime Minister issued on 5 June 2017 the Directive on Smart Working in the Public Administration. The Directive stipulates that, within three years, public administrations will have to allow at least 10% of employees, if they so request, to use flexible working methods (teleworking, smart-working), ensuring that employees who use them do not suffer penalties for the recognition of professionalism and career progression.

In order to facilitate adherence to the new ways of organizing work, each public administration is asked in particular to: promote and disseminate the use of digital technologies to support work performance; promote training paths; implement the discipline in telework, smart working and reconciliation of work and private life, by giving priority criteria for the use of relevant measures, compatible with the organization of offices and work, in favor of those who are in personal, social, and family disadvantages and of employees engaged in voluntary activities.

**Mandatory Paternity Leave**

Please note the legal disposition included in the 2016 Stability Law (Law No. 208/2015) which extends for the year of 2016 the measure of the mandatory paternity leave, introduced by the Law No. 92 of 28 June 2012, raising the duration of the leave from one to two days to be taken also not-continuous.

The mandatory paternity leave, to be taken within five months from the time of the birth, has been confirmed by the Law No. 232/2016 (Art. 1, para. 354) – 2017 Budget Law.

The norm provides that fathers can take a period of leave of two working days for the year of 2017; while starting from 2018, the norm extends the leave to four working days that can be taken even not-continuous. To these four days, it would be possible to add another day of leave that can be taken with the agreement of the mother and in relation to the mandatory leave taken by her. Please find below a summary.

**COMPULSORY AND VOLUNTARY PATERNITY LEAVE**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Period of Mandatory Paternity Leave</th>
<th>Days of Voluntary Paternity Leave</th>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2 working days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4 working days</td>
<td>1 additional day with agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4 working days</td>
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Please note that starting from 2014 (Law No. 92/2012; Law No. 208/2015, Law No. 232/2016), it is possible for female workers, even autonomous, to apply for an economic contribution (600 euros per month for no more than three months) which can be used alternately for baby-sitting or to meet the costs of the public service network for infancy or of private accredited services. The contribution to the purchase of childcare services may be required as an alternative to parental leave (according to Art. 32 of Legislative Decree No. 151 of 26 March 2001). Applicants are eligible whether they are mother having the right of maternity leave, public administration employees or private employers, or are included in separate management.

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<td>145.133 To promote and protect mass media pluralism by including in relevant legislation the principle of incompatibility of holding elected or government office with ownership and control of the mass media (Uzbekistan); 145.134 Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and intimidation crimes against journalists (Azerbaijan); 145.135 Take the necessary legal measures to protect journalists and investigate all acts of intimidation and violence against journalists (Botswana)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>The legislative measures aimed at resolving the conflict of interest between ownership and control of companies and discharge of public office were adopted in Italy by Law No. 215 of 20 July 2004, which entrusts the responsibility of implementing these provisions to two independent administrative Authorities, the National Competition Authority, AGCM, and the National Regulatory Authority for the communications sector, AGCOM. AGCOM, in particular, is given specific responsibilities in order to avoid the risk that the holder of a governmental position can receive a “special support” by the media that he/she (or his/her family’s members within the second degree) owns. As a matter of fact, AGCOM carries out audits against companies that operate in the so-called Integrated Communications System (the acronym in Italian is “SIC”) and are headed by the holder of governmental position (or by the relatives indicated above), so as to ensure that these companies do not undertake any conducts in contrast with the so-called Parameter-Laws, including the Par Condicio Law — the compliance of which is overseen by AGCOM —, such as getting a special support (an undue advantage).</td>
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From 2011 to early 2016, about 250 cases of intimidation against journalists, mainly involving threatening letters (containing bullets or cartridges) and online posts, have been registered by the competent Central Directorate of Prevention Police. If these cases are not attributable to acts of vandalism, they usually are emulations or expressions of personal distress by individuals who, when identified, result to be under treatment at some national healthcare facilities for mental disorders. Four are the most serious intimidation cases. Five events have a political subversive origin. The competent Judicial Authorities have been informed of all the intimidation cases and some of them are still under investigation. From 2012 to February 2017, 181 measures were taken to protect journalists from intimidation, and among them 20 individual protection measures were issued by the Central Multi-Agency Office for Personal Security (UCIS), and 161 surveillance measures were adopted at a local level by Prefects.

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<td>145.136 Eliminate the practice of indefinite internships for graduates of universities and technical schools and replace these with paid employment opportunities, both in the public and private sectors (Mexico); 145.137 Facilitate the development of small businesses for both Italian citizens and migrants and establish programmes to encourage the economic and social integration of refugees (Mexico); 145.138 Mainstream the issues of immigrant women into its employment policies and programmes (Kyrgyzstan); 145.139 Continue its efforts to take further action to prohibit discrimination in employment and take further measures to reduce unemployment, especially among immigrants (Sri Lanka); 145.140 Develop credit mechanisms and programmes to facilitate the acquisition of housing (Mexico)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Art. 22 of the Legislativ Decree No. 142/2015 (transposing Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection and Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection) allows asylum applicants to work as from 60 days after the initial submission of their asylum application. The stay permit ‘for asylum application’ authorises the applicant to work only until the application procedure is settled, and cannot be converted into a regular stay permit for work reasons. In May 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding that allows refugees to participate in civil service activities was signed by the Department of Youth at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, National Civil Service, Ministry of the Interior Ministry and Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. They collaborated on the development of targeted actions aimed at guaranteeing social integration of individuals who qualify for international and humanitarian protection. Such actions will entail the participation</td>
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of these individuals in civic programs, especially in the areas of civil protection; environment; art and culture; education and cultural promotion. The specific interventions will be carried out within the context of social solidarity, protection of civil rights, training, promotion of the culture of lawfulness, as well as integration and social inclusion.

In September 2017 the Ministry of Interior published the first National Plan for the integration of beneficiaries of international protection, including both refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. The Plan identifies 8 priorities and related measures: 1) interreligious dialogue; 2) access to Italian language courses for both children and adults; 3) access to the educational system and recognition of foreign qualifications; 4) trainings and access to the labour market; 5) access to the health system; 6) access to housing and permanent residence; 7) family reunification; 8) information on individual rights and duties. The Plan pays special attention to the vulnerable position of women and non-accompanied minors.

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<td>145.141 Further strengthen the existing mechanisms on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Ethiopia); 145.142 Double the efforts to protect and strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities (Saudi Arabia); 145.143 Continue strengthening with specific measures the implementation of the two-year programme of action to promote the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities (Spain)</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Following the ratification of ICRPD, Italy has established the National Observatory on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, “in order to promote the full integration of people with disabilities, implementing the principles enshrined in the Convention [...] and the principles set out in Law No. 104 of February 5, 1992” (Art. 3, para. 1). The Observatory is charged with important tasks (Art. 3, para. 5): a) to promote the implementation of the Convention under Art. 1 and to prepare a detailed report on the measures taken under Art. 35 of the Convention, in connection with the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights, b) to provide an every-two-year action programme for the promotion of the rights and integration of people with disabilities, pursuant to national and international legislation, c) to promote the collection of statistical data in order to illustrate the condition of people with disabilities, including with reference to different territorial situations, d) to prepare a report on the implementation of disability policies, according to Art. 41, para. 8, of Law No. 104/92, e) to promote studies and</td>
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research that may help identify priority areas towards which actions and interventions for the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities are directed.

By Inter-ministerial Decree No. 167/2010 the Observatory has been defined as an advisory body providing scientific and technical support for the development of national policies on disability. In accordance with the provisions of Art. 33, para. 1, of the Convention, on the need for coordination between the different sectors of public administrations, the central government involved in the formulation and implementation of policies to the benefit of people with disabilities, Regions, local authorities, social security institutions, ISTAT will be represented in the Observatory. Trade unions representing workers, pensioners and employers, national associations representing the third sector associations operating in the field of disability, as well as three experts with proven experience in the field are also part of the Observatory.

The Observatory, which met for the first time in 2010, is chaired by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies or the Deputy State Secretary, and is based at same Ministry, which performs support functions. It is integrated by 40 members appointed by decree by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies upon designation of authorities and other bodies, 14 of whom participate as representatives of the associations working in the field of disability. In order to contribute to increasing knowledge and experience on the condition of people with disabilities, the Observatory will be joined by up to 10 permanent guests with no right to vote. The Observatory’s Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) carries out internal analyses and addresses scientific issues relating to the activities and tasks of Observatory itself.

The activities of the Observatory, which have been developed through and during the sessions of the STC, the plenary sessions and meetings of the working groups, are focused around three key points: 1) the statistical information on the condition of persons with disabilities, 2) monitoring the implementation of policies, 3) the definition of the action plan for disability. These three components also define a rational reference cycle of the work of
the overall organization and help make transparent coordination, integration and monitoring of the implementation of the CRPD the Observatory is called upon to perform.

Since 2010 the Observatory has been engaged with a specific working group on the topic. In the first biennial Action Plan, approved at the end of 2013, a section has been devoted specifically to the revision of the assessment criteria of disability aimed at overcoming the notion of “civil invalidity” based on percentage systems. In 2015 the National Observatory was heard by the Parliamentary Commission on Labour with regard to the reform of labour market legislation. The national guidelines of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies on Independent Living specifically requested that Regions and local authorities actively involve organizations of persons with disabilities in drafting and implementing independent living projects.

By October 2016 the Observatory has introduced in the new Action Plan a proposal for the amendment of the current system in the framework of a consistent application of the CRPD envisaging the introduction of the definition of “person with disabilities”, associating to the functioning of the person an evaluation/assessment process of his/her global condition of disability. Persons with disabilities are actively involved through the organization in the development and implementation of legislation and policies and in all decision-making processes concerning issues relating to disability. The new Biennial Action Program for the Promotion of Rights and Integration of People with Disabilities represents the commitment that Italy has made to the international community with the ratification of the CRPD and marked the definitive transition to a vision of disability based on respect for human rights aimed at enhancing human beings’ diversity, in terms of gender, sexual orientation, culture, language, psycho-physical condition, and so on - and at considering the condition of disability not as a result of the subjective qualities of people, but from the relationship between the characteristics of the people and the way in which the society organizes the access and enjoyment of rights, goods and services. The Plan is in line with the previous one. The priorities for action have been declined in 8
lines of action: the first seven lines of action include those already developed in the first (revision of the access system, employment, organizational services and models for independent living and inclusion in society, mobility implementation, school inclusion, right to life and rehabilitation, international cooperation) and are carried out according to a holistic approach and involving all levels of administration, both local and central. Particular attention should be paid to the 8th line of intervention: the development of the statistical and reporting system on policy implementation, which will be followed by ISTAT, in line with the requests of the UN CRPD Committee.

UPR Recommendation | Country position | Country update
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145.144 Further protect and promote the rights of minorities in the country (Armenia); 145.145 Take concrete steps to implement the national Roma strategy within the next two years (Germany); 145.146 Effectively implement the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma (United States of America); 145.147 Ensure a consistent and rapid implementation of the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Travellers Communities through concrete measures at the local level (Finland); 145.148 Follow up regularly the implementation of the strategy by actively involving representatives of the communities concerned and based upon the findings from the follow-up of the strategy to make necessary revisions to the strategy in order to improve the living conditions of the Roma, Sinti and Travellers communities (Finland); 145.149 Continue efforts for implementation of the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti, and Travellers and toAccepted
It’s important to mention the start of the National Roma, Sinti and Caminanti National Platform, that is aimed to create a link between associations and institutions. The start of the Platform was preceded by a side-event promoted by UNAR, in collaboration with the European Commission and the Council of Europe in Rome on 17 October 2016. That event was attended by 25 young representatives of the RSC communities who have distinguished themselves for a course of study and / or self-employment and meaningful. The goal of the Platform is well matched with what was already foreseen and indicated in the National RSC Inclusion Strategy, which includes, in its own governance system, a Forum of RSC Communities, “with interface, relationship and consultation functions with the PCN, National Tables, both in relation to the implementation of the Strategy and its periodic review and evaluation”.
The Roma National Platform, Sinti and Caminanti is linked to the European Platform Platform, promoted by the European Commission as an operational tool for dialogue between UNAR, RSCs and Associations, central and local public administrations involved in the Strategy. In the first year activities up to 2017 there have been a series of national and local meetings - to be held by geographic areas in the national territory (north, central and south / islands) - open to the participation of associations.
further promote Roma inclusion in local communities, with specific regard to providing necessary assistance and support to children and adolescents in the field of education (Serbia);
145.150 Adopt further legislative and educational measures that diminish economic inequality, joblessness and discrimination, especially for the Roma, Sinti, and Travel communities (Holy See);
145.151 Consider taking further measures to combat all forms of discrimination against the Roma community, and ensure equal opportunities for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, including education, health and housing (Sri Lanka);
145.152 Adopt legislation on access to vocational training and develop programmes to improve the integration of foreigners and minority children in schools (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
145.153 Take steps to prevent discrimination against women belonging to disadvantaged groups as well as institute measures to decrease dropout rates among Sinti and Roma girls (Ghana);
145.154 Provide the necessary resources to improve the schooling of children which belong to vulnerable groups and to combat the early dropout rates of children (Algeria);
145.155 Take concrete measures to ensure effective access to education by Roma and Sinti children as well as other vulnerable groups (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
145.156 Continue to strengthen the laudable initiatives to ensure a fully integrated school

In order to guarantee the possibility, for each European Member State, to fund the activities of the RSC National Platform, the European Commission has also launched a call devoted exclusively to the objective to maximize the involvement of all stakeholders. About Housing axis, on the occasion of the International Day of RSC (8 April 2016), UNAR, as the National Contact Point for the realization of the Strategy has convened an inter-institutional working group, made up of: central government (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, Ministry of Education, University and Research, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure), ANCI, ISTAT and the representatives of the metropolitan cities of Milan, Naples and Rome.

This working meeting has been organized to provide a clear framework of relevant actions, with particular attention to those which aim to overcome the camps, in accordance with the directions of the Strategy. Among the main issues of the working group the following ones have been debated: 1. strengthening the UNAR's role with regard to its coordination of the Strategy activities (with regard to the four axes: education, work, health and housing); 2. recognition of the overcoming of Roma camps as a priority objective for each action and measure; 3. commitment to ensure complementarity in the use of national, regional and local funds, bearing in mind the indications of the European Operational Programmes.

About the axis Education, UNAR, together with the Ministry of Education, University and Research and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, is working in a coordinated way to allocate financial resources (PON Inclusion) to projects addressing the issue of education and culture. Projects are especially aimed at contrasting early school leaving of RSC children in primary and secondary schools.

Furthermore, UNAR and the Ministry of Education, University and Research have had several bilateral meetings for planning initiatives within the Strategy, discussing issues concerning RSC children and possible way to involve RSC communities, tools and financial opportunity for the promotion of school inclusion RSC
The RSC project for inclusion and integration of RSC children is promoted by the Italian Ministry for Labour and Social Policies, with the Ministry of Education, University and Research and the Istituto degli Innocenti, and the first implementation dates back to December 2012. The project’s purposes are to develop processes of inclusion for RSC children, to reduce their discrimination and to strengthen local communities by creating integration between school, RSC families and children and social services. The organizational structure of the project is based on a strong network between the central management of the project and the beneficiary cities; important aspect of governance are the multidisciplinarity of the teams established to coordinate the actions at a local level and the role of the evaluation as part of planning and implementation processes within a mid-term time schedule. The implementation of actions have three core elements: the cooperative learning as an educational strategy; the empowerment of families towards school and local services; the strengthening of the capacity of the municipality to act through multidisciplinary and multi-level teamwork, and the exchange of expertise and practices at national level. The project, strongly influenced by the approach determined by the Law No. 285/1997, involves the following cities: Bari, Bologna, Catania, Florence, Genoa, Naples, Palermo, Reggio Calabria, Rome, Turin, Venice. It has already experienced three implementations, involving more than 3500 pupils, among which 500 of them were RSC students. The main goals of the project in this three-year implementation are as follows: it comes out as clear evidence that there has been a constant increase of schools, classes and students (RSC and not-RSC students) involved in the project. From the second to the third year the increase has been more than 70% concerning classes and students involved (40% of the students were RSC pupils). Moreover, RSC students involved in the project have had less school absences in comparison to the RSC students not involved in the project. Other relevant signals of improvement have been pointed out. First of all, the school results of the RSC students have relevantly improved; during the first year of implementation,
there has been 84% of RSC passing students, while during the third year of implementation the number has increased up to 90%. The improvement of the results and school attendance is linked to a better inclusion of RSC students in the class; this aspect has been analysed through several questionnaires, submitted to all the involved students, concerning the index of inclusion, the climax in the classroom and the relationship among peers and with the teachers. Other positive aspects concern the access to health and social services from RSC children’s part: starting from the second year of the project there has been an increase of vaccinated children (10% increase), of children cured by a dentist (30% increase) and by a pediatrician (90% increase). There has been also a relevant improvement of the support net for the coordination of activities in the school and in the living context. The inclusion of RSC population is a priority of the PON (National Operational Program) “Inclusion” 2014-2020, that supports the definition of common patterns of intervention for the fight against poverty and that promotes, through coordinated actions and pilot projects, new models of social interventions and integration of people and communities that risk social exclusion. Therefore, the prosecution of the implementation of RSC project inside the PON Inclusion 2014-2020 represents a scaling up of its relevance and support. During the period 2017-2019, the aims of the project will be the consolidation of interventions and their progressive self-sufficiency. So far the first year will schedule: starting up of the project’s activities, strengthening of local governance with the creation of an interinstitutional table, building of the multidisciplinary team and adoption of a local plan for the inclusion of RSC community. The school integration and inclusion will be achieved through the involvement of a group of teachers in a training pathway for trainers that will be scheduled during the second and the third years of the project and it will have to be sustainable after the conclusion of the implementation. Final targets of the project are children and adolescents aged 6 to 14 years and their families. Particular attention will be given to children aged from 3 to 5 with activities to promote their early schooling provision and to adolescents that are attending
vocational training and are at risk of school dropping out. The resources devoted to the financing of the projects for RSC children inside PON Inclusion for 2017-2019 amount overall to 1.750.000 euros.

About Health axis, under the coordination of the Ministry of Health, the Health Action Plan for and with Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Communities has been adopted. It aims at implementing actions for the protection and promotion of RSC community health and identifies the division of the action fields into three macro-areas: 1. Training of healthcare staff and other; 2. Knowledge and access to RSC services; 3. Prevention, diagnosis and care services. In order to ensure the full application of the health objectives of the National Strategy throughout the country, the above mentioned Plan was submitted on 31 December 2015 to the Health Departments of the Regions and Autonomous Provinces for the dissemination in territorial health services and the implementation of the actions planned for achieving the objectives identified in the three intervention macro-areas. The Plan is accessible on the Ministry of Health's website.

Moreover a Central Action entitled “Interventions for the Implementation of the Health Action Plan for and with Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Communities” has been funded by the Ministry of Health with the objective to support and monitor the implementation of the actions identified for the three macro-areas in which the plan is articulated. This Central Action will be carried out in close collaboration with the National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty (NIHMP) and will last one year starting in December 2017.

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<td>145.157 Adopt the appropriate measures to ensure the full implementation of Article 26 of the Law no. 38/2001 on facilitation of the election of candidates belonging to the Slovenian minority, also in light of the present institutional reforms (Slovenia); 145.158 Continue to fully implement the</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Within the framework of Law No. 38/2001, in order to strengthen the cooperation activities and the dialogue with the Slovenian speaking minority as well as to identify the instruments to reinforce the guarantees to the rights of those communities, the Permanent Institutional Panel on Issues concerning the Slovenian Speaking Minority in Italy was established by means of a decree</td>
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legislative provisions guaranteeing oral and written use of Slovenian language in public administration, public life and as teaching language at schools (Slovenia)

of the Minister of the Interior dated 4 July 2012; its tasks include research work and in-depth study on issues concerning the implementation of Law No. 38/2001 and concerning general issues related to the protection of minorities. An operational section of the Panel was established at Trieste Prefecture, by means of the above mentioned decree. The Panel is convened to discuss issues concerning the implementation of Law No. 38/2001 and it had positive repercussions on the minority itself. Representatives of the Joint Institutional Committee for the Slovenian Minority, of the Slovenian Cultural Economic Union and of the Confederation of Slovenian Minorities also take part in the meetings in the position of permanent members. Executives and experts of the various items dealt with are invited to participate in the various meetings of the Permanent Panel. In addition to monitoring the activity of the implementation of legislation, the Panel took part in the elimination of a number of hindrances and in overcoming delays, particularly with reference to funds allocated by the central Government to the minority to be transferred to the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, as well as with regard to the release of part of State allocations to the publication sector in Slovenian. During its most recent meeting the Panel has dealt with the issue of the Bilingual Comprehensive Institute of San Pietro al Natisone, whose building has been declared unsafe and whose pupils have been moved to other provisional locations. During the meeting various solutions have been outlined, to be studied and evaluated. However, the renovation works of the building cannot start because of the need to comply with the constraints of the internal Stability Pact, laid down by means of a State Law. Also Law No. 107 of 13th July 2015 entitled “Reform of the National System of Education and Training and Delegation for the Reorganization of Legislative Provisions in Force”, according to Art. 1, paras. 197 and 198, lays down that the Minister of
Education, University and Research issues a decree to adapt the application of the provisions of the above mentioned law to the schools with Slovenian as teaching language or with bilingual teaching in the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia; for these schools special provisions concerning, in particular the teaching and recruiting of teachers as well as the adjustment of the educational offer to the specific needs of the schools with Slovenian as teaching language must also be introduced. To implement Art. 1, para. 197, the Ministry of Education, University and Research relied on the Office for Teaching in Slovenian and issued Decree No. 809 of 8 October 2015, which envisages, among others, the adjustment of both the National Plan for Digitalized Schools and the Data Single Portal to the specific needs of schools with Slovenian as teaching language and of Slovenian-Italian bilingual schools; the Special Office set up at the Regional Education Agency took care of the adjustment (Art. 3). The above mentioned Plan, mentioned in Art. 1, para. 56, of Law No. 107/2015, envisages interventions and activities to improve the digital skills of students as well as to implement the digital innovation of the education system. The above mentioned Decree also provides for the translation of the existing software to enable the beginning of the on-line school enrolment procedures by the concerned community members that refer to the above mentioned schools. Furthermore, the digitalization must be based on the correct spelling of first names and surnames of school users and school staff, as well as use the correct denomination of schools in Slovenian.

As regards the recruiting and training of teachers, the above mentioned Decree No. 809/2015 envisages various provisions concerning the training and recruiting of teachers as well as the adjustment of the educational offer to the specific needs of schools with Slovenian as teaching language:
- the schools with Slovenian as teaching language or with bilingual teaching identify the requirement in term of posts within the staff of the schools themselves, which are granted a given degree of autonomy, also in consideration of the need to reinforce the teaching of Slovenian, which is considered a priority educational
objective;
- the three-year Educational Policy Plan (P.O.F.) can include activities and interventions to be carried out in collaboration with schools, institutes and bodies of the Republic of Slovenia;
- the students of schools with Slovenian as teaching language and with bilingual Slovenian-Italian teaching can follow part of their didactic, educational pathway attending schools of the Republic of Slovenia, according to modalities laid down in the three-year Educational Policy Plan;
- the National Plan for Digitalized Schools and the Data Single Portal are being updated. More specifically, the “online enrolment” service for enrolment in schools at all levels of education (with the exclusion of nursery schools and kindergartens) is already active as of this year for schools with Slovenian as teaching language;
- the National Evaluation System is being updated to make it possible to use Slovenian to translate and fill in the papers included in the National Survey on the level of learning attained as well as using Slovenian for the single national written paper which is part of the State Examination at the end of the first cycle of education;
- the teachers of schools with Slovenian as teaching language can use their training electronic cards also to enrol in courses and activities aimed at refreshment of knowledge and certification of professional skills, organized by Slovenian entities accredited with the Special Office, which is empowered to conclude conventions with the Universities of the Republic of Slovenia and/or with external experts;
- as far as the Special Employment Plan for school-year 2015/2016 is concerned, the Regional Education Agency of Friuli Venezia Giulia allocates the number of posts, both for ordinary and special education teachers, for schools with Slovenian as teaching language or with bilingual teaching, with reference to the regional overall number of posts mentioned in table I of the above mentioned law;
- in order to guarantee the right of representation and participation to the schools of the Slovenian linguistic minority a given number
of posts is devoted to them in collegiate bodies, both at national and at local level.

Recently, the Italian Republic and the Republic of Slovenia held the sixth meeting of the Coordination Committee of Ministers on 10 October 2017 in Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia. This form of collaboration is based on the 2007 Memorandum of Cooperation and is aimed at further strengthening the relationship through shared initiatives in fields of common interests. The Memorandum stipulates that the scope of activity may be expanded to other fields of interest by the two States. Italy and Slovenia therefore welcomed the participation of the Ministries of Interior at the sixth meeting. Both Parties underlined the significance of the autochthonous Slovenian and Italian national minorities living in Italy and in Slovenia – and their potential contribution to the economic growth of the Area - and confirmed their commitment to consistently guarantee and enforce their rights in line with the adopted national and international legal acts. The two countries further reiterated the importance that both minorities are involved in the decision making process regarding their rights. Italy and Slovenia welcomed the Interreg project developed by the two minorities in order to promote multiculturalism and multilingualism as touristic and cultural assets of the territory. The Parties welcomed the forthcoming entry into force of the Agreement between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on cooperation in culture and education and will endeavour for its implementation.

UPR Recommendation | Country position | Country update
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145.159 Develop policies that further enhance the protection of the rights of migrants and minority populations (Trinidad and Tobago); 145.160 Reinforce measures aiming at the protection of the rights of migrants and asylum seekers and the improvement of their conditions (Côte d’Ivoire); 145.161 Continue reinforcing measures to guarantee respect for the human rights of migrants (Cuba); | Accepted | As for the migratory phenomenon, it cannot be considered of a transitional or temporary nature. On the contrary, it does require comprehensive measures. Over the years, Italy has demonstrated its ability to deal with this situation, which is mainly caused by political instability, conflicts, and economic unbalances. We expect that this situation will persist in the coming years. No country can tackle this challenge by itself. It is thus necessary to work, both nationally and at EU level, with all States concerned, particularly countries of origin and transit. Between April – October 2016, we
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<tr>
<td>145.162</td>
<td>Continue reinforcing and protecting the rights of migrants (Djibouti);</td>
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<td>145.163</td>
<td>Fully align its migration and asylum policy in accordance with international law (Kenya);</td>
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<td>145.164</td>
<td>Continue to give consideration to the human rights perspective in its migration policy and implementation, in collaboration with other European countries which are final destinations of migrants (Japan);</td>
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<td>145.165</td>
<td>Reactivate the dialogue on migration with the North African States, namely Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Egypt (South Sudan);</td>
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<td>145.166</td>
<td>Continue to review and periodically assess its immigration laws and policies, taking into consideration the recommendations made by relevant United Nations agencies, human rights treaty bodies and special procedures, and to ensure that the rights of migrants are fully safeguarded, in accordance with international human rights standards (Philippines);</td>
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<td>145.167</td>
<td>Take further efforts to improve the conditions of migrants and asylum seekers who arrive to the Italian territories, and ensure that they are provided with their guaranteed rights (Qatar);</td>
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<td>145.168</td>
<td>Continue working at the national level to protect the human rights of migrants, including those who have requested refuge or asylum, and in particular with regard to the principle of non-refoulement (Guatemala);</td>
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<td>145.169</td>
<td>Continue to strengthen its national migration policy, bearing in mind important pillars like protection, integration, non-discrimination</td>
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This document (SOP) effectively offsets the need of a correct recorded a daily disembarkations average of over 4000 people. Within this framework, we recently carried out specific missions to Tunisia and Libya and we recently signed an agreement with Tripoli. On the occasion of the February 2017 Summit in Malta, the EU expressed its appreciation in this respect. This agreement is of specific relevance since it envisages, *inter alia*, an Italian-Libyan Joint Committee - being established – and Italy’s commitment to supplying means and training relevant Libyan personnel. This agreement also envisages a strong action against trafficking in human beings and against smugglers.

Moreover, mention has to be made of the many Police-related agreements signed to fight against trafficking and for crime prevention purposes. At present, 273 international acts, including bilateral technical agreements for Police-related international cooperation, are in force.

Also worthy of mention is the so-called humanitarian corridor-initiative aimed at facilitating the arrival of pre-identified groups of refugees, mostly via Lebanon and Morocco.

In this context, mention has to be made of the recent Law-Decree No. 13/2017 ("Urgent provision to speed up proceedings in the field of international protection and to fight against illegal immigration"), converted into Law No. 46 of 13 April 2017, which aims at, *inter alia*: 1) closing down Expulsion and Identification Centres; 2) setting up small permanent repatriation Centres; 3) ensuring full access to the newly-established National Authority for the protection of detainees’ rights, establishing 26 specialised sections on migration, international protection and freedom of movement of EU citizens within the Italian tribunals. It also aims at 4) reducing the duration of the asylum-related proceedings, *inter alia* by increasing the staff to be devoted to this area. Italy highlights that all hotspots are regulated by the existing Standard Operational Procedures (S.O.P.) which have been drawn up and fully shared with all stakeholders involved (Italian authorities, UNHCR, OIM, EASO, FRONTEX and EUROPOL representatives,) in the first reception of third country nationals upon disembarkation. This document (SOP) effectively offsets the need of a correct
and non-refoulement (Nicaragua);
145.171 Strengthen other efforts already in practice which provide life-saving assistance for migrants and initiate the new Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2014–2020 (Holy See);
145.172 Finalize the Programme of Action for the new Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2014–2020 in due timeframe (Turkey);
145.173 Develop a comprehensive national system of data collection, analysis and dissemination regarding immigration policies and practices to be used as a foundation for rights-based policymaking on migration (Israel);
145.174 Ensure that all those involved in the reception process for migrants have the training, time and ability to identify persons who want to apply for asylum. Anyone claiming to be an unaccompanied minor should benefit, without exception, from the specific protections guaranteed under Italian law, pending a properly conducted age determination (Netherlands);
145.175 Ensure that the system for receiving and registering immigrants and asylum seekers is of a high standard, both in regards to capacity and expediency. In particular, that extra attention is given to minors (Norway);
145.176 Work with international partners in responding to the protection needs of maritime migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, by developing standardized processing procedures and making necessary upgrades to improve conditions of reception and expulsion centres (United States of America);
145.177 Improve the facilities in the reception identification of third country nationals with the due guarantees of their rights and regulates all important steps of the procedures to be carried out in hotspots and in all other disembarkation places, as summarized below: information on the access to asylum given to third country nationals are provided in a clear and comprehensive way, using languages understandable to foreigners; supplementary information are provided to each step of asylum process and/or relocation procedures; a specific “SOP” Coordinating and Monitoring Table, where also UNHCR and OIM representatives are included, has been established in Rome and is tasked with fast providing operational solutions in case of possible criticalities arising in the course of first reception of third country nationals, from disembarkation to their transfer to the reception centers; thanks to its team-building feature, the hotspot approach is provided with a built-in monitoring system which allows to identify difficulties deriving from each actors and therefore to alert the Table in Rome; the presence of operators, both male and female, is always assured during to security checks; the assessment of vulnerabilities, being of the utmost importance, is regulated by specific operational provisions: in each hotspot area it is possible to ascertain all different types of vulnerabilities such as, trafficking victims (women), unaccompanied minors, persons affected by mental disorders and other; special attention to human rights of migrants is given during the nationality identification procedures where the access to international protection is always guaranteed regardless the nationality ascertained or declared; drinkable water and food are provided as soon as third country nationals are disembarked and all operators at ports or inside the facilities are able to provide additional assistance promptly; hotspot personnel includes cultural mediators, legal advisors, psychologists, operators for the assistance to unaccompanied minors; both hotspot and international organization/NGO’s personnel is highly qualified and specifically trained to carry out all operations required (the Italian Ministry of the Interior has recently organized specific training courses for hotspot operators); medical care is regularly provided at the presence of a cultural mediator.
Allow undocumented migrants to protect their rights and to file complaints irrespective of immigration status (Kyrgyzstan);

As far as the Italian reception system it is worth of mentioning the Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, by which Italy has implemented Directive 2013/33/EU, on standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (‘recasting’ Directive 2003/9/EC), and Directive 2013/32/EU on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection status (‘recasting’ Directive 2005/85/EC) - thus completing the transposition of the main provisions of the common European system of Asylum. Legislative Decree No. 142/2015 contains in: Chapter I (Arts. 1-24), the new rules on reception (it repeals Legislative Decree No. 140/2005, except for financial coverage provided for by Art. 13 of the latter); Chapter II (Arts. 25 and 26) introduces changes to Legislative Decree No. 25/2008, which thus remains in force, though partially modified; Art. 27 introduces changes to Art. 19 of Legislative Decree No. 50/2011 (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5596_it.htm).

Within this framework, mention has to be made of the Agreement (Intesa) at the State-Regions Conference, dated 10 July 2014, which establishes and has made operational a relevant integrated strategy between different levels of the national and local Government, besides approving the first National Plan to deal with the extraordinary flow of Non-EU citizens, adults, families and unaccompanied minors. This Agreement (Intesa), to be considered as a policy reference document, has been expressly confirmed in the Legislative Decree No. 142/2015.

Art. 8 of Legislative Decree No. 142/15 stipulates that the Italian reception system for international protection applicants is based on cooperation between the various levels of government concerned, in accordance with national and regional coordination forms referred to under the following Art. 16, which establishes and defines the powers and functioning of both relevant national and regional working groups. Art. 16 provides for the national and regional coordination working modalities. The national working group (also known as the National Coordination Committee) is set up within the Ministry of the Interior (see Art. 29 of Legislative Decree No. 251/2007, as amended), with the aim, among other things, to improving the reception system of international
protection. This WG is tasked with drafting the National Plan for the reception and identification of the reception capacity/availability at the regional level and the relating distribution - to be later determined in consultation with the above Conference (Conferenza Unificata). In terms of governance, at the territorial level, there are regional WGs established at the main local Prefectures, with the task of implementing the plans elaborated by the above national WG.

The National Plan identifies the need for places to be allocated for reception purposes, based on the estimated arrivals in a given period of time. Each regional WG identifies the criteria for the distribution of migrants within a given Region, besides identifying the facilities of first reception, as well as extraordinary ones. The composition and working modalities of both the national and regional WGs are determined by decree of the Minister of Interior. To sum up, Art. 8, para. 2, indicates the facilities for rescue and first assistance. Art. 9 defines the measures for the first reception; Art. 14 confirms the role of the SPRAR system (standing for, the System of protection of asylum-seekers and refugees) as the only system for the so-called second level of reception. Art. 11 identifies the extraordinary and temporary measures of reception (the so-called CAS, standing for Extraordinary Reception Centres), should accommodations in the above-mentioned facilities lack. Arts. 18 and 19 provide for principles and pathways for the reception of minors.

Ministerial Decree dated 3 April 2017, adopting the “Guidelines on assistance, rehabilitation and treatment of the mental disorders of refugees and people who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, including any training and updating programs specific to healthcare personnel”, has been published on 24 April 2017. These guidelines are a useful tool to ensure appropriate and uniform interventions throughout the national territory for refugees who have been subjected to violence and torture through a multidisciplinary approach and provide for a victim assistance path, starting with early identification, not particularly easy in this kind of situation, up to rehabilitation. The aim is to protect those who require
international protection under particular vulnerability conditions, especially women and children, at any stage of their protection and wherever they are hosted, so that victims of traumatic events can effectively access the procedures provided by the rules and their condition can be adequately protected. Moreover, particular attention should be paid to the certification, that is essential in the request for asylum, and the cultural mediation, that is essential to building the relationship.

| 145.170 Suspend summary returns to Greece (Sweden) | Noted | All the operational procedures carried out at sea by Italy had been always implemented according to a case-by-case approach. In other words, each migrant had properly been identified and all personal details had been managed by the competent authorities in order to monitor the single case and related assistance measures. |
| 145.179 Introduce legislation to ensure assistance and protection for unaccompanied children seeking asylum (Denmark); 145.180 Ensure that every child, particularly unaccompanied minors, whether on the high seas or on its territory, who seeks to enter Italy, has the right to an individual consideration of his/her circumstances and is provided prompt access to asylum and other relevant national and international procedures and protective measures (Brazil); 145.181 Strengthen mechanisms to integrate migrant children in the school system (Angola) | Accepted | Italy has effectively managed the serious inflow of migrants – adults and accompanied/unaccompanied minors (AMs/UAMs), seeking for asylum or better economic conditions. **Asylum seekers and refugees minors** The National Commission for the right to asylum has adopted the Circular No. 5708 of 26 November 2015 concerning personal data/age assessment, recognition of international protection status and release of the residence permit. Foreign minors could be expelled only for public order and security reasons but this measure has never been applied. Furthermore there are not been repatriation cases concerning minors. Asylum is disciplined by the Unified Text on Immigration and Legislative Decrees implementing European Directives. Migrant minors are hosted in ad hoc shelters with very rare exceptions to this rule. In relation to the request for international protection, the Police forces in charge for identification procedures are supported by cultural mediators and interpreters. Data collection concerning UAMs is managed by the Directorate General for immigration and inclusion policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. **Unaccompanied minors** The aforementioned data collection has been established according to Legislative Decree No. 142/2015 (Art. 19) and Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers No. 535/1999, and personal data protection of concerned foreign minors is guaranteed. A |
monthly report is released containing information per gender, age, nationality and reception placement, missing UAMs; furthermore a periodic 4 monthly monitoring report contains information on the legislative framework, UAMs territorial distribution, UAMs seeking for international protection, reception structures, release of residence permits, family conditions and assisted voluntary repatriation, financial resources. As far as AMs/UAMs requests for asylum, they are under monthly monitoring of the Ministry of the Interior. Minors with international protection status are assisted by the SPRAR system.

The reception procedure is under the mandate of Police forces: they immediately inform the competent judicial authority for the appointment of a tutor as well as the General Prosecutor. The latter will ask to file the case to the competent juvenile court and to the Directorate General for immigration and inclusion policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies to confirm assistance measures. This procedure is also carried out for UAMs landing on the Italian coasts who are assigned by Prefectures to local authorities. As it concerns adolescents who turn 18 who are not self-autonomous and who do not satisfy the requirements for obtaining a residence permit, their status can be extended. In relation to UAMs in conflict with the law, the juvenile judges submit the information directly to the attention of tutelary judge during preliminary investigations; for UAMs put under custody or arrest the information is submitted by the competent judge to the juvenile judge to facilitate the intervention of the tutelary judge. In case of positive outcome, also by request of the defendant, the Juvenile Prosecutor could transmit the file to the competent Questura calling for the issue of the residence permit.

At present the Italian Parliament adopted Law No. 47 of 7 April 2017 providing for a new comprehensive legislation for UAMs, and stating, inter alia, some peculiar innovations such as:

- refoulement of UAMs is strictly forbidden: no border rejection of UAMs;
- UAMs will be hosted in temporary government-run dedicated reception centers for no more than 30 day, instead of previous 60 days, prior to be transferred to ordinary reception centers;
- in case of doubtful age assessment response, the legal minority will be presumed;
- promotion of UAMs foster care as a more suitable alternative to accommodation in reception centers;
- a personal social file has to be filled out for each minor;
- setting up of lists of voluntary ad hoc trained guardians;
- in case the guardian has not been appointed yet, minors seeking for asylum can submit the request assisted by the managing director of the reception center they are hosted.
Several activities are provided for in this Law, i.e. giving minors information, legal assistance, cultural mediation, identification and protection, monitoring on reception standards, promotion of family reunification with parents in Italy or in other European Countries. In particular this Law establishes: the full reception of UN CRC principles; a coherent and timely ruled framework for UAMs; ad hoc high quality reception shelters for UAMs; a monitoring system at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and an individual profile of the UAM to know him/her and to provide for the best accommodation; ad hoc social, educational and job opportunities measures while granting his/her right to education/health; age assessment mechanisms in compliance with international standards only when the minor does not have ID, so that social and health investigations are needed with the support of cultural mediators and with UAM consent/compliance options; the systematic use of the National Fund established to this purpose, in support to concerned Municipalities; the promotion of UAMs foster care, involving local communities for the appointment of voluntary ad hoc selected and trained guardians; UAMs direct participation in all decision-making processes concerning them.
An ad hoc Protocol for age assessment through holistic and multidisciplinary methods has been adopted by the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces on 3 March 2016 and provides for the presumption of minor age in case of doubt. The Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers No. 234/2016 has entered into force on 6 January 2017 to rule on age assessment of UAMs as victims of trafficking. Moreover, always with regard to the identification and age assessment procedure for
foreign unaccompanied minors, to harmonize the relevant procedural rules nationwide a draft Protocol is currently being finalized. The Ministries of Health, of the Interior and of Labour and Social Policies were jointly involved in the drafting of the Protocol.

Several local multi-disciplinary protocols on age assessment of UAMs are in force (i.e. Naples, Palermo and Turin). More in general new procedural standards have been set up:
- the harmonization of UAMs, seeking or not for international protection, reception measures within the SPRAR system;
- the creation of the National Fund for UAMs reception (FAMI, implementing EU Regulations No. 514/2014 and 516/2014);
- the approval of the national plan on the management of migratory flows of migrants, families and UAMs, leading to the adoption of the Circular of the Ministry of the Interior of 25 July 2014 aimed at creating ad hoc reception shelters for UAMs, to facilitate identification, age assessment and status, possible family reunification, and UAMs inclusion in the SPRAR system. It provides also for the establishment of temporary reception shelters authorized by Regions and in collaboration with Prefectures and local authorities, and for the enlargement of SPRAR system/local shelters (up to 25%) accommodation. Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, transposing EU Directives 2013/33/EU and 2013/32/EU, provides for standard procedures for releasing the international protection status, articulated along three levels. The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies is in charge for this activity, in collaboration with IOM since 2008 for family tracing & assessment operations, very useful for local authorities to determine the reception and assistance measures and to evaluate the voluntary assisted repatriation option. The Ministry has also the competence to authorize the assisted voluntary repatriation according to the expressed consent of the UAM, of the guardian or legal assistant, the authorization of the competent juvenile judge. From 2011 to 2015 36 authorizations were released;
- 4th National Action Plan for childhood and adolescence explicitly refers to UAMs to encourage their inclusion and to improve the reception system;
- the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies has promoted national interventions to support gradual social and labour inclusion of UAMs, i.e. through the Welcome Kit, a passport of rights giving them basic information, created by the participation of UAMs hosted in a centre under the coordination of the National Authority for Childhood and Adolescence.

As it concerns the operational framework, the basics are the following:

- First Level: since 2015, in order to sustain the above-mentioned system, the Ministry of Interior has launched 15 projects financed within the framework of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and which have been selected through two different calls for tender for the presentation of projects dedicated to temporary reception of UAMs in highly specialized structures with the aim of delivering reception services to 50 UAMs per day, during a period of 60 – 90 days. The 15 projects have operated in Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia-Romagna, Lazio, Liguria, Apulia, Sicily and Tuscany Regions until 22 August 2016, in collaboration with project partners such as IOM, Italian red Cross, Save the Children, ANCI (Association of Italian Municipalities) and UNHCR. Until 22 February 2016, the projects were financed within the framework of AMIF – Emergency Assistance funds; since 23 February 2016 to 22 August 2016, the projects were supported by ordinary financing of the Fund. The aim of those projects was also to ensure an adequate transition to the second level of reception under the Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (SPRAR). Following another call for tender, since 23 August 2016, 19 reception centers dedicated to the reception of almost 950 UAMs have been gradually operating and financed within the framework of the AMIF Fund (period 23 August 2016 – 27 March 2019).

- Second Level: since August 2014, the Ministry of Interior has implemented interventions aiming at increasing the number of places in SPRAR facilities both demanding the increase of additional places and adopting a new call for tender; as at 30 September 2017, 2865 places dedicated to UAMs are available. Finally, 15 projects have been selected for 243 additional places to
be financed by European funds within the AMIF Fund. It is worth noting that it has been provided for the possibility to assist vulnerable UAMs (suffering from mental disorder or impairments) by granting an extra 30% of the daily reception costs.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>UPR Recommendation</th>
<th>Country position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>145.182 Include all migrants irrespective of their status within the national plans and programmes to integrate and ensure their human rights (Bangladesh)</td>
<td>Noted</td>
<td>In Italy integration programs were regularly made available to all regular migrants entitled to stay in Italy. As for migrants arriving in Italy by sea, Italy was fully committed to receive and host them with full respect for their human rights. As to their inclusion within national plans and integration programs, this was allowed only to refugees, asylum seekers or to those entitled to humanitarian protection.</td>
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The steady increase of ODA notwithstanding the current political and financial framework is a significant evidence of the importance Italy attaches to development cooperation as a means to eradicate poverty, promote peace, security and sustainable development.