NETHERLANDS

Roma

- Could the delegation elaborate on plans and policies towards stimulating the Roma communities to emancipate in a way that stimulates enrollment and lowers drop-out rates especially among Roma women and girls? And how will the Government ensure that local governments will spend the available money for education in an equitable way?

- One of the challenges in the field of education is to ensure the same level of educational quality in the whole country. Could the delegation elaborate on measures to create such equality and eliminate regional differences?

- We received reports of recent marches by paramilitary groups, linked to Jobbik in villages and settlements with Roma inhabitants. The Hungarian government has made clear that they will do everything to prevent harassments and provocations to local residents in these villages. From reports in villages like Gyöngyöspata and Hajdúhadház, it appears that despite these intentions and the presence of police, there were incidents where in particular Roma people were intimidated and vocally harassed. How does the Government intend to prevent further harassment and intimidation by paramilitary groups?

Human Trafficking

- What are the Government’s plans to combat human trafficking and how does it cooperate with third countries in this field? Does the Government plan to install a National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings?

Media law

- How will the Government engage with the UN, OSCE and other international organizations and bodies to ensure that their concerns regarding the media law are being dealt with?

Domestic violence

- Does the Government consider to adopt specific legislation that prohibits domestic violence and marital rape?

Gender

- Could the delegation elaborate on plans for adopting legislation with a definition of discrimination against women in accordance with CEDAW?
Concerns have been voiced over the new media legislation in Hungary with regards to editorial freedom and independent press. Which steps are taken to address these concerns?

What are the main reasons for reorganizing the structure of the Ombudsman’s Office and how will the subordination of the Ombudsman for National and Ethnic Minority Rights to the new Ombudsman’s office affect the efforts in this important area?

How is the government dealing with the issue of discrimination against the Roma minority and what is being done to ensure justice to victims of Roma hate crimes?

In the new Constitution of Hungary, there are references to marriage, defined as an institution between a man and a woman, and the protection of life starting from conception. What will be the direct impact of these stipulations on individual human rights (e.g. the equal treatment of individuals regardless of sexual orientation or women’s right to self-determination) in the legal/judicial practice?

How is the Hungarian government addressing issues of inequality between men and women, especially reflected in the labour market, difference in wages, as well as under-representation of women in politics and high-level positions?