

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION  
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION  
Sixty-ninth session  
31-July-18 August

QUESTIONS PUT BY THE RAPPOREUR IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
CONSIDERATION OF THE 6<sup>th</sup> AND 7<sup>th</sup> PERIODIC REPORTS OF  
ESTONIA

(CERD/C/465/Add.1)

**Composition of the population**

1. Please provide disaggregated data on the composition of the population living in the State party's territory, in particular in relation to: a) immigrants, b) refugees and c) ethnic minorities, including Roma.

**Article 1**

2. Does a definition of racial discrimination exist in domestic law? If so, is it in keeping with the definition contained in article 1 of the Convention?

**Article 2**

3. Please provide further information on the composition and initiatives undertaken by the Round Table created on 10 July 2003 (State report, para.126).
4. In the light of information set out in paragraph 41 of the State report, please indicate which are the national minorities recognized by the State party and what are the legal and practical implications for persons belonging to minorities not recognized as such.
5. Please further elaborate on activities undertaken and on programmes implemented by the office dealing with integration of minorities (State report, para. 89).
6. Please indicate what measures have been undertaken by the State party to implement decision No. 3-4-1-2-01 of the Supreme Court Constitutional Review Chamber, referred to in paragraph 88 of the State report?

**Article 4**

7. According to information before the Committee, written media have published openly racist articles about the Roma community. Please indicate whether prosecutions have been carried-out under Article 151 of the Criminal Code, and provide examples if possible.

8. Please indicate measures undertaken by the State party to combat hate speeches posted on the Internet.
9. Please indicate if in 2004-2006, discrimination-related cases were reported by the Labour Inspectorate and Labour Disputes Resolutions Commissions (State report, para. 152).
10. Please indicate whether the Security Police has carried-out any pre-trial investigations following the independent experts assessment referred to in paragraph 59 of the State report.

#### **Article 5**

11. According to information before the Committee, the proportion of persons of national minorities in prisons is extremely high in Estonia. Please comment and provide disaggregated data if any.
12. Paragraph 127 of the State report indicates that the Roundtable of Religious Associations is not included in the register of the Ministry of Internal Affairs as a legal person. Please explain the reasons.
13. Paragraph 101 of the State report indicates that the amendment to the Citizenship Act reduces the processing time of applications for citizenship. Please indicate to what extent people have taken advantage of this reform.
14. Please provide information on the results of the programme "Supporting the integration of stateless persons" implemented in 2005 (State report, para. 103), and indicate if a study on the socio-economic consequences of statelessness in Estonia has been undertaken.
15. According to information before the Committee, persons belonging to national minorities continue to be significantly more affected by unemployment than the majority of the population. Please provide information on measures taken by the State party to address this situation.
16. Taking into account information set out in paragraph 155 of the State report, please explain whether the State party has envisaged alternative ways to obtain information on the level of wages among different ethnic groups, in order to enable an assessment of their situation.
17. Please indicate if there is legislation in the State Party prohibiting discrimination in housing, access to education and public services.
18. Please provide detailed information on the implementation of the Basic Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act (State report, para. 168). Please also indicate in which language instruction in basic schools is delivered, and provide statistics on classes opened under this system.

19. Please comment on information before the Committee, according to which there is an alarming rate of HIV/AIDS amongst persons belonging to national minorities.

#### **Article 6**

20. Please provide examples of cases of violations of rights set forth in the Convention, which have been dealt with by the State party's courts. Have compensations been granted to victims (State report, para. 182)?
21. The State party indicates that "the Chancellor of Justice has rarely received any applications concerning direct racial discrimination" (State report, para. 196). Please provide examples of such complaints, dealt with by the Chancellor of justice, which were considered founded.

#### **Article 7**

22. According to the report of 2001 on the implementation of the Integration Programme (State report, para. 213), "people's attitude towards the integrative form of relations between nationalities has become more positive [...] however, more attention should be paid to the recognition of multiculturalism of Estonia society." Please indicate whether the State party has undertaken measures in this regard.
23. Please provide information on any assessments done on the implementation and effectiveness of the sub-programme "Social competence" (State report, para. 219).
24. According to paragraph 226 of the State report, the Estonian Television and the Estonian Radio "have been unable to cater to the need of society for certain types of programmes; in particular the programmes oriented to children and minority groups as well as educational and cultural programmes have been insufficient". Please elaborate on the measures undertaken by the State party to address this situation, and provide information on its results.