

## STANDARD QUESTIONNAIRES FOR COUNTRY VISITS - ODIHR LAWMAKING ASSESSMENT

*The following questionnaires include an indicative list of standard questions that ODIHR uses as a basis for structuring the discussions during the country visit following the preparation of a Preliminary Opinion that consists of a desk review analysis of the national legal framework regulating the legislative process in the country. The meetings organized during the country visit with the key stakeholders of the lawmaking process aim to inform the preparation of a Comprehensive Assessment Report, which focuses on the legal but also practical aspects of the entirety of the lawmaking process from the initial stages of the policymaking, including impact assessment, to the drafting, consultations, adoption, publication, communication, monitoring of implementation and evaluation.*

*During the country visit, ODIHR seeks to meet with representatives of the Parliament and parliamentary staff, the Government, the national human rights institution, the official gazette or similar, representatives of the judiciary, non-governmental organizations, international partners and other stakeholders, as appropriate/relevant.*

*Depending on the initial findings and recommendations from the Preliminary Opinion, the below list of questions is amended and/or supplemented to be better tailored to the country context and legal culture and not all the below questions may be asked.*

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

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1. *[If data not available from public sources]* Who is the main initiator of draft laws in the country? Parliament, Government, citizen's initiatives if they exist?
2. How do administration, government, parliament and judiciary co-operate in the different phases of the legislative procedure (inter-institutional co-operation, co-operation between different parliamentary committees, co-operation between different ministries, etc.)?

### MEETINGS WITH THE EXECUTIVE

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

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3. Do you find the co-operation between the Government and the Parliament in the area of lawmaking effective enough? If not, what are the existing problems/gaps and how can they be resolved? Is there a formalized legal mechanism in place governing such co-operation?

4. Do the ministries and their staff play an important role in the parliamentary phase of the legislative procedure?
5. Whose opinion about the constitutionality and the legality of a draft law is most important in practice (experts from the ministries, members of the parliamentary committees, staff of the administrative services of the parliament, Constitutional Court, independent experts)?
6. How would you describe the co-operation between the institutions exercising legislative powers on the one hand and civil society or independent experts on the other hand (hearings, public consultation, professional assistance)?
7. How many legislative acts (laws and secondary legislation) are adopted and enacted each year? Which is the annual volume of new legislation (number of pages)?
8. *If/as applicable*: Could you give information about multi-lingual law-making, for example which is the language most used for preparing pre-drafts, to which extent, is there a practice of co-drafting the texts in two or in the three official languages? Any particular challenges?
9. What are the experiences and practices, and possibilities of:
  - use of technology in the lawmaking process,
  - gender mainstreaming,
  - involvement of marginalized groups,
  - legislative planning (consideration concerning invitations setting the agenda, considering amendments, draft laws, different initiatives at any parliamentary bodies or any governments), and
  - preparation for public consultation and participation.
10. As far as the assistance from the Secretaries of the Parliament is concerned, can you speak to the human and financial resources, skills and practice?
11. If citizens may submit legislative initiatives.
  - a. What is your experience with these legislative initiatives?
  - b. Are they often submitted?
  - a. Who does provide drafting services for this legislative initiative?

Beyond the above mentioned, we find it important to learn more on:

- the issue of regulatory oversight;
- the early stages of policy-making and pre-parliamentary phase of lawmaking;
- the involvement of constitutional courts in the semi procedural and procedural review of laws;

- whether there is a mechanism to ensure the actual legal coherence of the legal system at the national level;
- what are the consequences for not complying with the requirements and procedures for drafting laws; and is there a mechanism for checking such compliance?
- To what extent (which % of laws) are laws adopted using fast-track legislative procedure? What are the conditions for using such procedures and which body decides?
- *If applicable*: whether the legal system is organized in a way to properly address the challenges of the European integration process.

## SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

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1. Who usually represents the government in the lawmaking process?
2. What is the practice regarding the optional presence of government representatives regarding drafts laws presented by other proponents?
3. When a rapporteur presents a draft law to a committee, what do such presentations typically involve? Who is normally nominated to present the draft law? Is it one of the actual drafters from the government/ministries?

### *Legislative Planning*

1. How are annual legislative plans prepared? Who coordinates the submission of ministerial inputs to the central apparatus?
2. How are decisions to initiate a new legislative project taken? Does this happen at the Ministry level or at the Cabinet level?
3. How does the government collectively determine its priorities with respect to new proposed legislative projects?
4. Are there fixed time schedules for the preparation of each draft law? Who is responsible for monitoring them, and how?
5. Does each draft law, before it is introduced to the Parliament, have to be approved by the Government and by which body? What is the role of the Ministry of Justice?

### *Policy-making*

6. At the policy stage, is there a process whereby the compliance of policy proposals or policy options with the text of the Constitution is verified? If so, how?

7. At the policy stage, is there a process whereby the compliance of policy proposals or policy options with the requirements of the existing law is verified? If so, how?
8. Is there an examination of whether new legislation is required at all, as the matter may already be dealt with under the existing law or via alternative measures (e.g., administrative action, public awareness-raising, etc.)? In which circumstances could the issue in question be addressed by such other measures? How are decisions on this taken? What factors are taken into consideration?
9. Are outside advisers used in the policymaking process? If so, in which cases, and at which stages?
10. Do you think that stakeholder consultations can be held during initial policy discussions?
11. Are policy discussions and law drafting undertaken as distinct exercises? Are they undertaken by different units or by the same team? If they are undertaken by different units, at what stage does the law drafter step in? How is the policy decision communicated to the law drafter?
12. Is a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) carried out at the early stages of the policymaking?
13. Are there specific measure to ensure the inclusiveness of the policymaking process?

#### *Legal drafting*

14. Does your Ministry have its own specialized unit of law drafters? If so, how many law drafters are engaged in this unit, and what are the required qualifications? Do they have separate portfolios based on different areas of law? If there is no specialized unit of law drafters, who undertakes the task of drafting laws? If it is the legal officers of the Ministry, do they have specific job descriptions, and do these mention this task? Is experience in drafting laws an asset for candidates applying for these positions? Do they undergo targeted and regular professional training?
15. Have you outsourced law drafting projects to consultants? If so, who decides on this, and what type of consultants were they, for the most part? (e.g., international consultants/donor agencies, academia, NGOs) What budget paid for these consultancies? In the case of amendments to laws, are the same experts used? How is the quality of their work?
16. Is it common for more than one law drafter to be involved in the drafting of a particular piece of legislation? Is a law drafter engaged on primary legislation a member of a team of Ministry officers charged with policymaking?
17. How is the quality of law drafting monitored? (e.g., by supervisors, specific body within the government)
18. Is there some specific guidance on how to draft gender- and diversity-sensitive legislation?

19. Who undertakes the drafting of secondary legislation? Is it the same staff that drafts primary legislation? When is secondary legislation drafted?
20. To what extent can the original law drafters be involved in drafting amendments to the draft law put forward by the Parliament?
21. How is the process of law drafting carried out? What are the usual steps that the law drafter follows, and are these, and the overall sequence of the lawmaking process, laid down in a specific document? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
22. Does it happen that staff from more than one Ministry drafts a particular law? How is the process coordinated? Who monitors the progress of law drafting, and how?
23. When do the law drafter's responsibilities in connection with a draft law end? Is the law drafter responsible for proofreading all versions of the draft law?
24. Do officials of the drafting Ministry follow the progress of a draft law in the Parliament? If so, how is this done?
25. If the Government concludes that a draft law currently being considered by the Parliament needs to be altered, can the drafting Ministry itself draft the necessary amendments and submit them to the Parliament? If so, how is this arranged? Does this sometimes involve additional consultations and impact assessment?

#### *Verification*

26. During the law drafting stages, is there a process whereby the compliance of draft legislation with the text of the Constitution is verified? If so, at which stage, and how? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
27. During the law drafting stages, is there a process whereby the compliance of draft legislation with the existing law is verified? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
28. Is any entity charged with monitoring the state of current legislation (e.g., with a view to submitting proposals for repealing legislation that is obsolete or spent) or with preparing and publishing consolidated versions of the primary and/or secondary legislation currently in force?

#### *Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)*

29. How often is a RIA conducted in your view?
30. Are there any criteria for exempting certain legislative proposals from RIA? Do you consider RIA a very time-consuming exercise? Does it put a lot of burden on your unit?

31. What type of strategies and approaches are applied during the RIA?
32. Are there any formal instruments that facilitate the impact assessment of **policy proposals**? If so, please indicate the types of instruments, and the usual purposes and circumstances in which they will be applied.
33. Are any formal instruments used to assist in the impact assessment of **draft laws**? If so, please indicate the types of instruments and the usual purposes and circumstances in which they will be applied.
34. If such formal instruments are used when conducting an impact assessment, who developed them, and who usually uses them?
35. Do they contemplate some forms of gender impact assessment or human rights impact assessment?
36. To what extent is legislation from other countries used either as a model for policymakers or as a legislative precedent for law drafters?
37. Is a cost assessment standard practice for all new legislation? If yes, in which cases is it undertaken, how is it done and at what stage? Are there any cases where it is compulsory? Who has the power to decide whether a cost assessment is required? Are such assessments also made with respect to legislation proposed by the Parliament or in respect of amendments to legislation, whether proposed by the Government or by the Parliament?
38. Does the assessment focus solely on the impact of a proposed law on the central Government's budget or does it also look at the impact on other governmental authorities' (e.g., local governments, autonomous units) budgets? Are these other authorities involved in the consultations? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
39. Are such cost assessments carried out as part of the initial consideration of policy options, or once a particular option has been selected, or once a draft law has been completed, or at several of these stages? If the latter, what are the differences between cost assessments at different stages? Do law drafters play any part in these exercises?
40. What procedures are followed when assessing the impact of proposed new legislation on the Government's budget, in terms of capital and recurring costs, in particular personnel and organizational running costs? What procedures are followed to assess the impact of such proposals on the budgets of other governmental authorities (such as local government or provincial authorities)? What about procedures for assessing the impact on private sector bodies which are likely to be affected by proposed new legislation?
41. Is gender budgeting a common practice when assessing the impact of proposed new legislation, i.e., an assessment of how budget decisions related to a new legislation impact gender equality?

42. What information on projected costs is provided to the Parliament, and in which form? To what extent is such information made available to the public?

*Gender and diversity*

43. What legal basis or guidance exists for ensuring gender and diversity mainstreaming in the legislative process?
44. Are gender impact assessments in place for draft legislation? What does this process entail in practice?
45. Is there a national machinery for the advancement of women in place and/or other body of the government working on gender issues, which is operational? If so, does it/do they have a mandate to review all draft policy and legislation from a gender perspective?
46. In practice, are they systematically involved in the policy- and lawmaking processes, including ex ante and ex post impact assessments, while also being allocated adequate resources for this purpose? Are there mechanisms in place to ensure that where legislation or other acts may have a potential discriminatory impact on the rights of women and men, taking into account their diversity, and other groups, based on their personal characteristics, such initiatives may be identified and assigned to the relevant body for review to ensure that a gender and/or diversity perspective has been taken into consideration?
47. Is there a specific institutional gender equality strategy in place?
48. Do the Rules of Procedure of the Government take into account a gender perspective? Are there mechanisms/procedures in place to take into account gender equality aspects?
49. Is there a specific institutional gender equality strategy in place?

*Consultations*

50. Are all relevant and/or interested stakeholders consulted in the law drafting process? If so, are such consultations undertaken in all legal reform processes, or only in some? If the latter, then in which situations? How are the relevant stakeholders identified?
51. How are consultations organized? Are there mechanisms to ensure the inclusiveness and accessibility of consultation processes (e.g., reaching out to potentially impacted marginalized groups, diversity of consultative modalities, easily accessible documents and facilities for consultation, etc.). In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
52. How is compliance with public consultation procedures monitored? If such consultations are required, how is this requirement enforced? How are consultations made effective, fair, open and inclusive? To what extent public authorities diversify the structures, methods, mechanisms, tools and types of public participation to promote more inclusiveness,

ensuring that they are user-friendly, and include new technologies, but are not limited to the use of online tools?

53. What procedures does the Government need to pursue once the draft law is submitted to the Government for approval?
54. What opportunities does the general public have to comment upon legislative proposals or draft legislation, and at what stage? How is the public made aware of legislative proposals, how accessible are the means of consulting and how are public responses sought, made and considered – including feedback mechanism?
55. Whose responsibility is it to ensure that consultations take place? How are such consultations usually carried out - via formal or informal meetings, or in writing, through the Internet? Are there some guidance tools on how to conduct such public consultations? What information is provided to the persons being consulted? How, and in what form are responses typically provided?

#### *Secondary legislation*

56. What normal steps have to be followed when secondary legislation is being prepared? Do these differ according to the type of secondary legislation?
57. Who decides that secondary legislation needs to be prepared for the purpose of implementing primary legislation? Are there any cases where this requires the collective prior consent of the government?
58. Is secondary legislation ever prepared as part of the same drafting process as the primary legislation which it is supposed to implement?
59. Who undertakes the policymaking with respect to secondary legislation? Are they the same units that developed the policy for primary legislation?
60. Are stakeholders consulted in the process of preparing secondary legislation as well?

#### *Publication and accessibility*

61. Which entity/public body maintains a central registry of legislation? Is the central registry computerized and made public, free of charge? Is it easily accessible and searchable? Is it compliant with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) international standard?
62. Do the Ministries have ready access to all legislation that is likely to concern them? In an updated/consolidated format? Does the staff who undertakes law drafting in respective Ministries have access to a full set of legislation? Is there an electronic legal database? How is it maintained? Does the respective staff have access to it?

63. Are any groups of persons eligible to receive free copies of legislation (e.g., judges, bar associations, etc.)? Can the general public access to laws online, free of charge?
64. Is public information about the lawmaking process for adoption of a specific piece of legislation easily accessible, with different versions of the draft law(s) under consideration? In what instances can a draft law be published before official legislation? Who decides that a draft law should be published?
65. Is there a consolidated collection of all applicable primary and/or secondary legislation (containing the law in force at the moment of publication)? How is it published? Which entity is mandated to undertake such tasks?
66. Is there an official and up-to-date index of legislation currently in force that would also show where amendments were made to earlier legislation that is still in force? What other means of finding applicable legislation are in general use?
67. How do members of the public and lawyers in the private sector acquire access to an authentic and complete collection of legislation in force, or to copies of individual laws? Are such texts readily available throughout the country? Are they provided for free, or do they require a fee?

*If/as applicable – EU integration*

68. Is there a National Programme for Adoption of the Acquis Communautaire (NPAA)?
69. Are there some harmonization guidelines?
70. Do ministries send Statement of EU compliance and Tables of Concordance (ToC) to Secretariat for Legislation/centre of government together with the draft law for compliance checking? Or is there another body checking ToC? Are they also shared with the Parliament?

<b>MEETINGS WITH THE PARLIAMENT</b>
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## **SPECIFIC QUESTIONS**

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*Policy-making & Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)*

1. Is there a general RIA methodology for draft laws initiated by MPs with guidance on how and when to conduct RIA? Are there any support mechanisms provided to MPs to support the preparation of RIA?

2. How would you describe the RIA exercise that is prescribed for the drafting process at the parliamentary stage, if any?
3. How often is the RIA conducted in your view?
4. What type of strategies and approaches are applied during the RIA?
5. What are the consequences for not complying with the requirements and procedures for drafting laws, including where RIA is not conducted?
6. How is the cost assessment done, and at what stage? Does the assessment focus solely on the impact of a proposed law on the central Government's budget or does it also look at the impact on other governmental authorities' (e.g., local governments, autonomous units) budgets? Are these other authorities involved in the consultations? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?

#### *Gender and diversity*

7. Is there *ex post* evaluation of laws that are implemented, including an *ex post* assessment of potential discriminatory impact of laws?
8. What basis exists for ensuring gender and diversity mainstreaming in the legislative process?
9. Are gender impact assessments in place for draft legislation? What does this process entail in practice?
10. Is there a specific institutional, parliamentary gender equality strategy in place?
11. Do the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament or other similar legislation take into account a gender perspective? Are there mechanisms/procedures in place to take into account gender equality aspects, in the performance of the Parliament's key functions of lawmaking, representation and oversight?
12. Is there a Committee or other body tasked to review gender issues pertaining to draft legislation, systematically or on an *ad hoc* basis? Is it equipped with adequate human and financial resources to carry out such tasks?
13. Are there processes in place to ensure that where legislation or other acts are reviewed that have a potential impact on rights of women and men, taking into account their diversity, and other groups, based on their personal characteristics, they will be defined, identified and assigned to the relevant body for review to ensure that a gender and/or diversity perspective has been taken into consideration?

#### *Legislative planning*

14. How are the parliamentary legislative agendas compiled?
15. How are the agendas for committee sessions prepared? Are these agendas communicated to external actors? Who may be present at committee sessions?

16. How are committee hearings, interpellation, parliamentary question sessions organized? How are committees of inquiry organized? How is the quality of legislation ensured – is this the individual responsibility of each committee, or is one committee in particular tasked with coordinating this?
17. Are there some gender balanced and/or diversity requirements in terms of representation within the committees and other working bodies of the parliament?

### *Legal drafting*

18. How is the process of law drafting carried out in the Parliament? What are the usual steps that the law drafter follows? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
19. When do the law drafter's responsibilities in connection with a draft law end? Is the law drafter responsible for proofreading all versions of the draft law?
20. Who drafts amendments put forward while the draft law is being reviewed in the Parliament? To what extent are the original law drafters involved?
21. In cases where draft laws were introduced by the Government, do officials of the drafting Ministry follow the progress of the draft law in Parliament? How is this done?
22. If the Government concludes that a draft law currently being considered by the Parliament needs to be altered, can the drafting Ministry itself draft the necessary amendments and submit them to Parliament? If so, how is this done from a procedural point of view?
23. Is any parliamentary body specifically charged with monitoring the preparation of draft laws, to ensure that the standards set are being followed? If so, how does it carry out its responsibilities, and is it effective?
24. Is there a drafting manual containing guidance on the standard legal wording and are the same guidance rules applicable to laws drafted by Ministries and/or any other administration bodies and/or the Parliament?
25. Is the drafting of laws ever outsourced to consultants? If so, who decides this, based on which criteria, and which types of consultants are habitually used? What is the quality of their work?
26. To which extent is legislation influenced by the *acquis communautaire* of the EU and which legislative techniques are used in this context?
27. What are the procedural rules existing for the administrations and for the governments with regard to the preparation and drafting of laws and secondary legislation (by-laws **implementing the laws enacted by the parliament**)?

28. Are the persons who prepare and draft laws and secondary legislation specialized for this tasks? Are most of them part of the staff of the ministries or the administrative services of the parliaments or independent experts?
29. Do they have special professional education and training (legislative lawyers, etc.)? Who offers special education and training: universities and/or other institutions?
30. What are the auxiliary instruments which may (or may not) exist and be used by the professionals preparing and drafting legislation: manuals, guides, etc.?

### *Committees*

31. Is there a systematic or an occasional practice of hearings by a committee while examining a draft law, and what criteria apply for holding hearings?
32. What are the criteria, if any, for selecting a closed or a public hearing on a draft law?
33. How many hearings (public, closed) have been held in average per year (if applicable: in each house)?
34. What is the committees' practice with respect to public hearings?
35. When a rapporteur presents a draft law during committee discussions, what does such a presentation typically involve and focus on? Who is normally nominated to present the draft law? Is it one of the actual drafters of the draft law?
36. Are there sometimes controversies regarding the decision on which committee is competent to consider a draft law?
37. In which cases does the Parliament make use of expert opinions from officials, external experts or members of the public when considering a draft law? How frequently does this happen?
38. Does it frequently happen that subcommittees or working groups are established for preparing a draft law?
39. What is the practice regarding requests for professional assistance of the Legislative/Legal Sector/Department when developing a draft law? Are such requests frequently made?
40. Does it often happen that the competent committee presents a negative report on a draft law?
41. Does it happen that draft laws are amended at the plenary stage?
42. What is practice with respect to the summary or emergency procedures?

### *Consultations*

43. Are all relevant stakeholders consulted in the law drafting process? If so, are stakeholders consulted in all legal reform efforts? If they are only consulted in certain cases, please specify in which cases?
44. How are relevant stakeholders identified, and if a selection of stakeholders takes place, what criteria is this based on?
45. How are consultations organized? In your view, is there room for improvement? If so, what would you recommend?
46. To what extent such consultations are inclusive and seek to involve all those who may be potentially impacted by the legislative proposal?
47. Whose responsibility is it to ensure that consultations take place? How are such consultations usually carried out - via formal or informal meetings or in writing or online? How, and in what form are responses typically provided?
48. Are consultations of certain institutions/organization compulsory? If it is the case, which institutions/organizations?
49. To what extent are outcomes of consultations taken into account? Any examples of amendments included in a draft law as a follow-up to consulted institution/organization recommendation?
50. What are the different parliamentary or ministerial roles in holding hearings and consulting institutions/organizations/experts are coordinated?
51. Can you assess the degree of awareness of civil society organizations, of the general public, groups of interest, academics and their level of participation in public/closed hearings? What is the role of the media in outreaching such hearings?
52. Can you assess administrative bodies participation and openness when they are requested by committees?
53. How are consultations made effective, fair, open, accessible and inclusive?

#### *Verification*

54. Is there a screening mechanism at the Parliament to assess the quality of legislative proposals submitted by the government to the parliament and rejecting at the outset those not complying with procedural/technical requirements?
55. During the different stages of drafting laws, is there a process whereby the compliance of draft legislation with the contents of the Constitution is verified? In your view, is there room for improvement in this regard? If so, what would you recommend?
56. Which is the practice regarding the explanations attached to draft laws? Which is the usual volume of these documents?

57. In your experience, do the explanations to the laws comply with the respective legal requirements?
58. Can you provide examples of draft law which have been regarded as lacking conformity with the constitution and /or the legal system and standard legal wording? What were the consequences of such negative assessments?
59. Would conformity with the legal system include effects of the draft law on the present legislation?
60. Would the content of a draft law include a list of affected present legislation and, if necessary, abrogation of present legislation in order to avoid laws contradictions?

### *Oversight*

61. What parliamentary techniques are used when fulfilling the Parliament's regulatory oversight function?
62. What oversight tools do the parliamentary committees dispose of and how do they apply them?
63. Are there some ex post evaluation mechanisms in place, their scope and implementation in practice?

### *Publication and accessibility*

64. At which stage of the procedure are draft laws published?
65. Does it frequently happen that published texts of laws must be corrected? What does "typographic errors" mean in practice?
66. How do members of the public and lawyers in the private sector acquire access to an authentic and complete collection of legislation in force, or copies of individual laws? Are such texts readily available throughout the country? Are they provided for free, or do they require a fee?
67. Is there an official and up-to-date index of legislation currently in force that would also show where amendments were made to earlier legislation that is still in force?
68. Is any body charged with monitoring the state of current legislation (e.g., with a view to submitting proposals for repealing legislation that is obsolete or spent) or with preparing and publishing consolidated versions of the primary and/or secondary legislation currently in force?

<b>MEETINGS WITH THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION</b>
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69. Do you have a mandate to initiate legislative proposals? If yes, what is the scope? Are there limitations?
70. Do you have the mandate to provide opinions on draft laws assessing whether draft policies or laws are human rights-compliant and providing recommendations or otherwise contribute to the lawmaking process (e.g., human rights impact assessment of draft laws, contribution to ex ante ad/or ex post RIA processes, participation in public discussions and/or parliamentary debates)?
71. Do you have the mandate to request a review of the constitutionality and human rights compliance of draft laws prior to their promulgation? Ex ante or ex post?
72. Do you have the mandate or do you in practice monitor government and parliamentary legislative planning and initiatives?
73. Do you have any suggestion on how to enhance the human rights compliance of adopted legislation?

<b>MEETINGS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES/OTHER STAKEHOLDERS</b>
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74. Are there meaningful opportunities to regularly contribute to legislative processes, including at the early stage of policymaking and in public consultations and/or working groups.
75. Do you consider that the government and/or parliament provides entry points for inclusive and participatory legislative processes, including by organizing consultations and events to ensure the participation of marginalized or under-represented people or groups.
76. Do you consider that there is easy and user-friendly access to draft laws and other supportive documents (e.g., RIA, explanatory report, policy documents, etc.)?
77. Does the timeline for public consultations allow for enough time to provide feedback/comments on draft laws?
78. Is there an effective outreach mechanism to inform interested CSOs and the public about the consultation process?
79. Are their meaningful feedback mechanisms in place when public consultations and draft laws are carried out (i.e., does the body organizing the consultations provide participants with meaningful and qualitative feedback on the outcome, including clear justifications for including or not including certain comments/proposals)?

80. Is there a regulatory framework for lobbying activities? Do you consider it as being effective to promote transparency and accountability of the lawmaking process? Does it unduly impact your work as a CSO?
81. How would you assess the quality of the lawmaking process and adopted legislation?
82. When working groups for drafting legislation are composed, what are the criteria for participating and do you consider that there are clear, open, transparent and inclusive processes for selecting participants in the working group from among civil society representatives? Are gender balance requirements provided / gender parity required in line with CEDAW General Recommendation 40?
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