

# Report on the visit to Lithuania

from 05 to 09 December 2016

## Women's rights and gender equality

- » a solid legal framework on combating domestic violence
- » progress achieved with regard to preventing and combating domestic and gender-based violence
- » deeply-ingrained stereotypes and prejudices about gender roles and the principle of gender equality
- » marked gender inequality within the academic community
- » certain inconsistencies in legislation relating to domestic violence
- » lack of a unified and systematic approach to preventing violence against women and responding to calls for help

## Rights of children

- » well-developed institutional and policy framework for the protection of children's rights
- » deinstitutionalisation process under way
- » ban of all forms of violence against children, including corporal punishment
- » legal amendments to the Civil Code limiting the placement of children under three in institutions
- » considerable gap between legislation and implementation
- » slow progress towards development of alternative care models
- » reports of ill-treatment in socialisation centres and limited use of rehabilitation measures for children with behavioural difficulties
- » need to develop a justice system more focused on children's rights and needs

## Rights of persons with disabilities

- » ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and adoption of National Programme for the Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities 2013-2019
- » Action Plan on Transition from Institutional Care to Family and Community-Based Services for People with Disabilities and Children Deprived of Parental Care for 2014-2020
- » on-going efforts to establish a supported decision-making system and independent living
- » slow pace of reforms aimed at implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- » persistent practice of placing adults with disabilities in institutions
- » segregated education system characterised by a majority of children with intellectual and psycho-social disabilities attending special schools
- » lack of legislation guaranteeing the right to independent living
- » need to reform the health care system in order to eliminate coercive practices in psychiatry and support persons with psycho-social disabilities in making healthcare choices
- » limited access to employment and quality health care, as well as to housing, transport and public facilities