

## — Slovenia and the European Social Charter —

### Signatures, ratifications and accepted provisions

Slovenia ratified the Revised European Social Charter on 07/05/1999 and accepted 95 of its 98 paragraphs.

It accepted the system of collective complaints on 07/05/1999 but has not yet made a declaration enabling national NGOs to submit collective complaints.

### The Charter in domestic law

Automatic incorporation into domestic law.

### Table of accepted provisions

1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.1
3.2	3.3	3.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	5	6.1	6.2	6.3
6.4	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.10	8.1
8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	9	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.5	11.1	11.2
11.3	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	13.1	13.2	13.3	13.4	14.1	14.2	15.1
15.2	15.3	16	17.1	17.2	18.1	18.2	18.3	18.4	19.1	19.2	19.3
19.4	19.5	19.6	19.7	19.8	19.9	19.10	19.11	19.12	20	21	22
23	24	25	26.1	26.2	27.1	27.2	27.3	28	29	30	31.1
31.2	31.3						Grey = accepted provisions				

### Reports on non-accepted provisions

The European Committee of Social Rights ("the Committee") examines the situation of non-accepted provisions of the Revised Charter every 5 years after the ratification. It adopted [reports concerning Slovenia](#) in 2004, 2009, 2015 and 2019.

The Committee invites the Slovenian authorities to accept the following provisions: 13§1, 13§4 and 18§2.

Further information on the reports on non-accepted provisions is available on the [relevant webpage](#).

Monitoring the implementation of the European Social Charter <sup>1</sup>

I. Collective complaints procedure <sup>2</sup>

### **Collective complaints (under examination)**

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### **Collective complaints (proceedings completed)**

#### **1. Complaints inadmissible or where the Committee has found no violation**

##### **a. Inadmissibility**

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##### **b. No violation**

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#### **2. Complaints where the Committee has found a violation which has been remedied**

*Association for the Protection of All Children (APPROACH) Ltd v. Slovenia (Complaint No. 95/2013)*

- Violation of Article 17§1 of the Charter (the right of children and young persons to social, legal and economic protection)

Decision on the merits of 5 December 2014.

Follow up:

- Resolution Res/CM ChS (2015)10 on 17 June 2015 of the Committee of Ministers.
- Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up (20 May 2016).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up (13 September 2017).

*Fédération européenne des associations nationales travaillant avec les Sans-abri (FEANTSA) v. Slovenia (Complaint No. 53/2008)*

- Violation of Articles 31 (right to housing) and 16 (the right of the family to social, legal and economic protection) in conjunction with Article E of the Revised Charter

Decision on the merits of 8 September 2009.

Follow up:

- Resolution CM/ResChS(2011)7 on 15 June 2011 of the Committee of Ministers.
- Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up (20 May 2016).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up (13 September 2017).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up (31 January 2020).

#### **3. Complaints where the Committee has found a violation and where progress has been made but not yet examined by the Committee**

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#### **4. Complaints where the Committee has found a violation and where progress has been made but which has not yet been remedied**

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#### **5. Complaints where the Committee has found a violation which has not yet been remedied**

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<sup>1</sup> The Committee monitors compliance with the Charter under two procedures, the reporting system and the collective complaints procedure, according to Rule 2 of the Committee's rules: « 1. The Committee rules on the conformity of the situation in States with the European Social Charter, the 1988 Additional Protocol and the Revised European Social Charter. 2. It adopts conclusions through the framework of the reporting procedure and decisions under the collective complaints procedure ».

Further information on the [procedures](#) may be found on the [HUDOC database](#) and in the [Digest of the case law of the Committee](#).

<sup>2</sup> Detailed information on the Collective Complaints Procedure is available on the [relevant webpage](#).

*University Women of Europe (UWE) v. Slovenia* (Complaint No. 137/2016)

- Violation of Article 4§3 (Right to a fair remuneration - non-discrimination between women and men with respect to remuneration)
- Violation of Article 20 (Right to equal opportunities and treatment in employment and occupation without sex discrimination)

Decision on the merits of 5 December 2019.

Follow up:

Recommendation [CM/RecChS\(2021\)14](#) (Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 March 2021 at the 1399th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

- [Assessment of the European Committee of Social Rights on the follow up \(February 2023\)](#).

## II. Reporting system <sup>3</sup>

### Reports submitted by Slovenia

Between 2000 and 2024, Slovenia has submitted 23 reports on the application of the Revised Charter.

The [22<sup>nd</sup> report](#), which was submitted on 19/07/2023, concerns the accepted provisions relating to thematic group 4 "Children, families and migrants" (Articles 7, 8, 16, 17, 16, 19, 27 and 31).

Conclusions with respect to these provisions have been published in March 2024.

On 13 February 2024, an [ad hoc report on the cost-of-living crisis was submitted by Slovenia](#)<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Detailed information on the Reporting System is available on the [relevant webpage](#). The reports submitted by States Parties may be consulted in the [relevant section](#).

<sup>4</sup> In accordance with the [decision of the Ministers' Deputies](#) adopted on 27 September 2022 concerning the [new system](#) for the presentation of reports under the European Social Charter, the European Committee of Social Rights and the Governmental Committee have decided to request an *ad hoc* report on the cost-of-living crisis to all State parties.

## Situations of non-conformity <sup>5</sup>

### Thematic Group 1 "Employment, training and equal opportunities" - Conclusions 2020

► *Article 10§5 – Right to vocational training - Full use of facilities available*

Equal treatment of nationals of other States Parties residing or working lawfully in Slovenia is not guaranteed with regard to fees and to financial assistance for training.

► *Article 15§2– Right of persons with disabilities to independence, social integration and participation in the life of the community – Employment of persons with disabilities*

It has not been established that persons with disabilities are guaranteed an effective access to employment.

► *Article 20 – Right to equal opportunities and equal treatment in matters of employment and occupation without discrimination on the grounds of gender*

- Pay transparency is not ensured;
- There is no sufficient measurable progress in respect of the obligation to promote the right to equal pay.

### Thematic Group 2 "Health, social security and social protection" - Conclusions 2021

► *Article 3§4 - Right to safe and healthy working conditions - Occupational health services*

It has not been established that there is a strategy to progressively provide access to occupational health services for all workers in all sectors of the economy.

► *Article 12§1 – Right to social security– Existence of a social security system*

The duration of unemployment benefit for the insurance period of 10 months to five years is too short.

► *Article 12§4 – Right to social security – Social security of persons moving between States*

The maintenance of accruing rights is not ensured.

### Thematic Group 3 "Labour rights" - Conclusions 2018

According to the applicable rules, Conclusions 2022 only refer to the information submitted by the Slovenian Government on the follow-up given to the relevant decisions of the European Committee of Social Rights in the framework of the collective complaints procedure (see above).

For the most recent Conclusions adopted concerning the relevant Articles, see Conclusions 2018.

► *Article 2§1 – Right to just conditions of work – Reasonable working time*

In some collective agreements on-call time spent at home in readiness for work during which no effective work is undertaken is assimilated to rest periods.

► *Article 4§4 – Right to a fair remuneration – Reasonable notice of termination of employment*

Notice periods applicable in ordinary dismissals for economic reasons or incompetence are not reasonable for workers with more than five years of service.

### Thematic Group 4 "Children, families, migrants" - Conclusions 2023

► *Article 7§1 - Right of children and young persons to protection- Prohibition of employment under the age of 15*

During school holidays children under 15 years of age can work seven hours a day and 35 hours a week, which is excessive and therefore, cannot be regarded as light.

► *Article 7§3 – Right of children and young persons to protection - Prohibition of employment of children subject to compulsory education*

The duration of light work for children subject to compulsory education during school holidays is excessive and therefore, may deprive them of the full benefit of education.

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<sup>5</sup> Further information on the situations of non-conformity is available on the [HUDOC database](#).

► *Article 7§4 – Right of children and young persons to protection - Working time*

The daily and weekly working time for young workers under the age of 16 is excessive.

► *Article 7§5 - Right of children and young persons to protection – Fair pay*

Apprentices allowances at the end of the apprenticeship are not appropriate.

► *Article 16 – Right of the family to social, legal and economic protection*

Family benefits do not constitute a sufficient income supplement for a significant number of families.

► *Article 17§1 – Right of children and young persons to social, legal and economic protection – Assistance, education and training*

Immediate expulsion of children in an irregular migration situation can be carried out by the authorities without providing them with any assistance.

► *Article 19§4 – Right of migrant workers and their families to protection and assistance – Equality regarding employment, right to organise and accommodation*

Equal treatment is not secured for migrant workers with respect to access to housing, and in particular to assisted rental schemes and subsidies.

► *Article 19§6 – Right of migrant workers and their families to protection and assistance - Family reunion*

- The required length of residence of two years for migrant workers before their family members can join them is excessive;
- Family members of the migrant workers do not have an independent right to stay and that they can be deported as a consequence of the migrant worker's expulsion;
- Social benefits, with the exception of parental protection insurance and benefits resulting from the migrant worker's inability to work, are excluded from the calculation of income of the migrant worker for the purposes of family reunion.

► *Article 19§8 – Right of migrant workers and their families to protection and assistance – Guarantees concerning deportation*

Migrant workers may be expelled in situations where they do not endanger national security or offend against public interest or morality.

► *Article 19§10 – Right of migrant workers and their families to protection and assistance - Equal treatment for the self-employed*

The grounds of non-conformity under Articles 19§4, 19§6, 19§8, and 19§9 apply also to self-employed migrants.

► *Article 31§1 – Right to housing – Adequate housing*

- The supervision of housing standards is not adequate;
- The measures taken by public authorities to improve the substandard housing conditions of a considerable number of Roma are insufficient.

► *Article 31§2 – Right to housing – Reduction of homelessness*

- The measures in place to reduce the number of homeless persons are inadequate in quantitative terms;
- The absence of sufficient measures in place to ensure that evictions of Roma are carried out in conditions respecting the dignity of the persons concerned;
- The law does not prohibit eviction from emergency accommodation/shelters without the provision of alternative accommodation.

► *Article 31§3 – Right to housing – Affordable housing*

- The supply of social housing is inadequate;
- The remedies in case of excessive waiting periods for social housing are not effective;
- Nationals of other states parties lawfully residing or working regularly are not entitled to equal treatment regarding eligibility for social housing.

The Committee also considered that the failure to provide requested information on Article 19§4 amounts to a breach by Slovenia of its reporting obligations under Article C of the Charter.

**The Committee has been unable to assess compliance with the following rights:**

**Thematic Group 1 "Employment, training and equal opportunities"**

- ▶ Article 1§2 - Conclusions 2020
- ▶ Article 15§1 - Conclusions 2020
- ▶ Article 15§3 - Conclusions 2020

**Thematic Group 2 "Health, social security and social protection"**

- ▶ Article 3§2 - Conclusions 2021
- ▶ Article 3§3 - Conclusions 2021
- ▶ Article 11§3 - Conclusions 2021
- ▶ Article 23 - Conclusions 2021

**Thematic Group 3 "Labour Rights"**

- ▶ Article 2§2 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 2§5 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 4§1 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 4§3 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 4§5 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 26§1 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 26§2 - Conclusions 2018
- ▶ Article 29 - Conclusions 2018

**Thematic Group 4 "Children, families, migrants"**

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III. Examples of progress achieved in the implementation of the rights under the Charter  
(non-exhaustive list)

**Thematic Group 1 "Employment, training and equal opportunities"**

- ▶ The Employment Act (2002) contains provisions against discrimination in employment.
- ▶ Article 14 of the Constitution has been amended in order to guarantee equality irrespective of personal circumstances, including disability. The Principle of Equal Treatment Act guarantees equal treatment for persons with disabilities in the fields of employment, labour relations, education, etc.
- ▶ Integration and participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the community.
- ▶ The 2003 Employment Relations Act (ERA) prohibits discrimination on the ground of disability with respect to recruitment, employment and work conditions and dismissal in both the public and private sectors
- ▶ A Constitutional Court decision in February 2003 overturned the provision of the existing regulation stipulating that Slovenian nationals were favoured for receiving national grants.

**Thematic Group 2 "Health, social security and social protection"**

- ▶ As of 1 January 2019, all family-related austerity measures were abolished (after six years): the paternity and parental allowance are back to 100% of the person's average salary for the last 12 months (previously it was 90%); the large family allowance is once again a universal entitlement and can be granted to all large families regardless of their income (previously it was limited to a certain income threshold); the maternity allowance is not limited and the parental allowance is 2.5 times the average salary (previously it was twice the average wage). As of 1 July 2019, child benefits, state scholarships, childcare allowance, large family allowance, birth allowance and parental allowance were increased.

**Thematic Group 3 "Labour Rights"**

- ▶ Following the adoption of the new Labour Relations Law which came into force in 2014, the obligatory elements of an employment contract have been expanded to include, in addition to all the elements listed in the previous law (see Conclusions 2014) the reason for temporary employment in a fixed-term contract.
- ▶ The Employment Relationship Law (No. 21/2013) entered in to force in 2013. Under the new law, the employer is obliged to submit organisational general acts to the trade unions to obtain their opinion. If there is no trade union present, the workers may take part through their directly elected worker's representatives in the adoption of general acts governing workers' rights. Prior to the adoption of such a general act, an employer must submit the proposition to the works council and/or the worker's representative to obtain their opinion. The respective body then must submit its opinion within eight days and the employer must examine and take a relevant position on the submitted opinion prior to adopting the act in question. If no works council or worker's representative is organized, the employer must inform the workers directly about its content prior to adopting the act.

**Thematic Group 4 "Children, families, migrants"**

- ▶ The Aliens Act which entered into force in November 2002 abolished the housing condition for migrant workers who wished to be joined by their families.
- ▶ The Ministry of Education no longer authorises the creation in schools of special classes for Roma children. A special working group on integration strategies into the school system for Roma has been established.
- ▶ The Parental Care and Family Benefits Act entered into force on 1 January 2002. It contains provisions on maternity leave, paternal leave, childcare leave and adoption leave.
- ▶ The new Employment Relations Act provides protection against notice of termination of contract and dismissal during worker's pregnancy. A woman unlawfully dismissed is entitled to be reinstated.



- ▶ The Parental Care and Family Benefits Act which entered into force on 1 January 2002 abolished the condition of nationality to which the childbirth allowance was subjected.
- ▶ The Employment Relationships Act (ZDR-1), as amended in 2013, prohibits the employer from terminating the worker's employment contract during her pregnancy or when she is breastfeeding a child of up to one year of age, nor may the employer terminate the employment contract of a worker who is on an uninterrupted parental leave, taken in the form of full-time absence from work, and for one month after the end of such leave.
- ▶ Paid nursing breaks have been introduced by the new Parental Protection and Family Benefits Act (ZSDP-1), that entered into force in April 2014 and has been applicable since 1 September 2014.