

SUCCESSFUL HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW FOR ARGENTINA

Argentina received praise and recommendations from the UN Human Rights Council after the presentation given by the Argentine Secretary of Human Rights, Martín Fresneda, before the Human Rights Council, in Geneva. In his opening address, he highlighted the important steps taken by the current administration to redress unfair situations of the past by adopting a human rights approach aimed at building a stronger and fairer society.

During the interactive dialogue held with the 62 States that asked for the floor, most of said States commended the enforcement of human rights in Argentina, and subsequently offered recommendations in a commending and positive manner. Furthermore, various achievements were recognized: the National Human Rights Plan; the Law on Audiovisual Communication Services; the construction of housing; the fight against poverty; and the measures adopted to protect and promote the rights of the child, among others.

The States also acknowledged the progress made by Argentina, particularly in terms of Memory, Truth and Justice, as well as the country's leadership in this field within the framework of the UN. Also commended were the social policies of Argentina in education, health, the fight against discrimination particularly the work carried out by the National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism (INADI) and the measures adopted with respect to persons with disabilities.

In addition, Argentina received recommendations on gender-based and domestic violence, the fight against the traffic in persons, the improvement of detention centres and the establishment of a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (which was approved yesterday by the Argentine Senate). Argentina, in turn, noted that, considering the importance it attaches to this exercise, it will allow reasonable time to analyze in detail the recommendations received, in order to answer them no later than the 22nd Session of the Human Rights Council, which will be held in March 2013.