



The Monitoring Network Against Gender-Based Violence presented in the pre-session of the UPR Report for Albania some issues and recommendations for improving the situation with regard to the prevention and combating violence against women and domestic violence in Albania.

The pre-session took place today, on the 4th of April, 2019, at 09.00 -10.00, at the Palace of Nations in Geneva.

The Monitoring Network Representative, Av. Aurela Anastasi, raised some concerns about the progress made so far by the Albanian state and presented some recommendations to improve the situation of protecting girls and women from gender-based violence and domestic violence.

Attention was devoted to the establishment and strengthening of state mechanisms for the effective implementation of the adopted acts in the framework of legal reforms to improve the legislation against domestic violence and legal aid guaranteed by the State, as well as the drafting of the law on protection against gender - based violence. These recommendations included accelerating the implementation of the judicial reform, as the strengthening of justice institutions contribution to addressing issues of concern over violence against women and domestic violence. As a key concern, the extension of state-run activities in all municipalities of the country and the support of women in rural areas for denouncing domestic violence was expressed. Meanwhile, the Albanian state should prioritize the effective implementation of new laws in order to narrow the gap currently created between international standards adopted in drafting laws and the weaknesses of institutions for their implementation.

In an overview of the contribution of all the panelists (spoke representatives of the national and international civil society organizations operating in Albania and the representative of the People's Advocate), it turned out that the issue that got more attention was the protection of children's rights and youth activism in society.

The presentation by our Network raised issues related to young people and children. It is worth mentioning the awareness and legal education of young people, school students, etc., with the purpose of denouncing cases of domestic violence, as well as improvement of pre-university teaching programs related to the knowledge and discussions that take place on these issues.