

Estonia

Right of Reply, HDIM 2018

WS 11 Fundamental Freedoms II (incl Freedom of movement)

Thank you, Moderator,

Estonia would like to exercise the right of reply and respond shortly to some misleading remarks presented in this panel.

) In response to the statement of the Legal Information Centre for Human Rights Estonia would like to recall our statements from earlier meetings and remind LICHR that the persons with undetermined citizenship have travel documents, resident permits, right to equal treatment and access to social services, as well as the right to vote at local elections, which can be used by all long-term legal residents of Estonia. In addition, residents with undetermined citizenship can travel visa-free to the EU, which is more than 15 countries, as mentioned in LICHR oral statement. The Estonian government has worked continuously over the last 25 years, and will continue to increase citizenship through naturalisation. The number of persons with undetermined citizenship in Estonia has decreased remarkably, comprising the fraction of less than 6% (76 027 as of 1st August 2018) of the population, compared to 32% in 1992.

) In response to the delegation of Russian Federation, we can confirm that Estonian government has repeatedly condemned the crimes and ideology of all totalitarian regimes in strongest possible terms. Estonia rejects and deplores any glorification of ideologies, war crimes and crimes against humanity perpetrated by such regimes and is working together with international community to raise awareness of these atrocities.

Thank you.