

Latvian Human Rights Committee

First about a positive example from Latvia. It is possible to be a candidate in local elections right after attaining the age of majority. Then about some problems. We still have thousands of stateless young people. Almost all of them belong to ethnic and also linguistic minorities. Because of that, our first recommendation concerns children.

To give citizenship by default to people born to stateless parents. Currently it's not yet the case in Latvia and every year several tens of people are being born and remain stateless. Despite an initiative from the President of Latvia this year to the contrary, which was rejected by the Parliament. And the second related recommendation from our side is to allow for voting in the same local elections for all the permanent residents of a country. It is especially notable in the modern world when in many countries a significant part of the population does not have the citizenship of the country of residence. Thank you very much.