



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
38th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 4: General Debate

Geneva, 27 June 2018

Mr President,

[Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement and would like to make some additional remarks in its national capacity.]

Slovenia remains a strong supporter of this Council's mandate to address the deteriorating human rights situations around the globe.

We would also like to reiterate that each member of this distinguished Council should always fulfill its human rights obligations and uphold the highest human rights standards at home. This, unfortunately, is not always the case.

Mr President,

The continuous human rights' violations and abuses in Burundi are of our concern, since it affects all efforts for reconciliation, peace and justice. We regret that Burundi continues refusing the cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and the OHCHR experts, who are deployed in accordance with the Human Rights Council Resolution 36/2 proposed by Burundi itself.

We are also concerned by the reports on human rights situation in Democratic Republic of the Congo, especially on continued and growing inter-communal and militia violence in the region of Kasai as well as in other regions, including Tanganyika, Ituri and Kivu. Slovenia particularly deplores violations and abuses committed against children, including excessive use of force by security forces and the recruitment and use by militias.

We also remain alert about the current political and economic crisis that directly impact on the worsening of the humanitarian and human rights situation in Venezuela. We call upon the government to take immediate action to alleviate the pressing humanitarian needs of the Venezuelan people, and to grant unhindered access to the Human Rights Council Special Procedures and OHCHR to visit the country.

Mr President,

As to the human rights situation in Syria and Ukraine, we would like to refer to our interventions in the respective interactive dialogues, whereas in the case of Belarus, we would like to express our supports for the functioning and independence of the Human Rights Council special procedures, and in this context to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus. Slovenia is vocally opposing the use of the death penalty around the world and calls on Belarus to introduce a moratorium on the use it with a view to its permanent abolition. We welcome the steps towards public debate on the application of capital punishment and would like to encourage the Government to continue the discussion with the civil society.

Thank you!