



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the  
**30<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR working group -  
Review of the Russian Federation**

Geneva, 14 May 2018

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Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Russian Federation to the UPR and thanks them for the national report and its presentation today.

We encourage the Government of Russia to take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society, especially peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and journalists.

We would also like to make the following recommendations to the Russian Federation:

- Bring legislation governing public assemblies and its enforcement into conformity with the international human rights standards, particularly that any sanctions for violation of freedom of assembly do not create undue obstacles to freedom of assembly and expression.
- Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, with the definition of all forms of discrimination in accordance with international standards.

Slovenia is committed to active and open cooperation with civil society. Civil society organizations play an important role in the promotion and protection of human rights.

We are concerned about the numerous adopted laws in the Russian Federation that limit or interfere with freedom of assembly, speech and information as well as about the adoption of laws introducing restrictions on the activities of the civil society organizations, including those working in the field of human rights.

Thank you.