



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the  
**33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Costa Rica**

Geneva, 13 May 2019

---

Mr President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Costa Rica for their presentation today.

Slovenia would like to recommend to Costa Rica to:

- promote equitable distribution of parental responsibilities between men and women, including by adopting legislation which would establish paid paternity leave;
- adopt effective measures to prevent, investigate and punish threats, intimidation or violence against human rights defenders, particularly environmental human rights defenders in view of strengthening their protection.

We applaud Costa Rica for its leadership in the adoption of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters (the Escazú Agreement) establishing among others protection for environmental human rights defenders. We would welcome information on the process of the ratification of the agreement.

We welcome the Government's efforts to address and prevent violence against women. However, concerns remain as reports indicate persisting low prosecution rates especially when compared to the high number of complaints filed. Prevention and care measures at the local level, particularly in rural and remote areas, have also been assessed as insufficient. We urge the Government to strengthen its efforts in promoting measures to prevent and properly address causes of violence against women.

Thank you!