



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the  
**40<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Human Rights Council**

**Item 2: Interactive dialogue with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**

Geneva, 7 March 2019

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Thank you, Mr President.

*Slovenia would like to thank Madam High Commissioner for her strong stand against inequalities and effects they have on the respect for human rights. My country firmly believes that inequalities advance social instability and must therefore be addressed early on, in every policy making exercise. It is especially unacceptable, if these inequalities rise at times of economic growth. Let me stress in this regard once more, the pledge we all made by adopting 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and committing to leaving no one behind.*

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement and would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mme High Commissioner,

Slovenia strongly supports your Office's engagement on contemporary threats to respect of human rights such as climate change, technological developments, civilian suffering in armed conflicts, displacement and youth unemployment. It is important to deal with these issues in a comprehensive manner and to take advantage of the vast knowledge accumulated on these and other issues, throughout UN system. My country sees also a demand for addressing the protection and promotion of rights of older persons, as demographic changes present also one of the aforementioned contemporary challenges that some parts of the world face today. Another one is environmental degradation, and we welcome the focus of your office in that regard.

Let me end this short intervention by thanking you, Mme High Commissioner, for your dedication to the preventive role of your Office. As you, we are concerned over the cases of reprisals against anyone cooperating with the UN. Your voice is, in the wake of escalating human rights violations, much needed and appreciated. We call upon all countries that were mentioned in this regard in yesterday's speech, to take advantage of OHCHR's support and address their challenges.

Thank you!