



Statement by Slovenia
at the
45th Session of the Human Rights Council

**Interactive dialogue with the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on
the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

Geneva, 23 September 2020

Madame President,

Slovenia aligns with the EU statement and thanks the FFM for its report. We regret that the Mission has not been granted access to Venezuela.

Slovenia is appalled by the findings on the extent of human rights violations and crimes that took place since 2014, including extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, cases of torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment. Some of these practices amount to crimes against humanity.

We call on Venezuela to ensure an immediate end to these atrocious practices as well as full compliance with all of the recommendations from the report. Impunity is widespread and must end. We urge Venezuela to immediately carry out prompt, independent and impartial investigations into all human rights violations and crimes documented in the report to ensure accountability for perpetrators, including those at higher levels of command and responsibility and to provide justice and reparation for victims and their families.

We further urge Venezuela to take all the necessary measures to release unconditionally all political prisoners and arbitrary detained persons.

The extension of the mandate of the FFM is of vital importance for further investigations of alleged gross human rights violations in Venezuela. We thus strongly encourage Venezuela to continue cooperating with the OHCHR and establish unimpeded conditions for the FFM to work on the ground.

I thank you.