



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia

at the
**37th Session of the Human Rights Council -
Item 4: General Debate on Item 4**

Geneva, 14 March 2018

Mr President,

Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and would like to make some additional remarks in our national capacity.

We continue to closely follow the dire humanitarian situation and the continued gross human rights violations and abuses in the **Syrian Arab Republic**. We remain gravely concerned and call for full and immediate implementation of the Security Council Resolution 2401 by all parties to the conflict.

Slovenia continues to closely follow developments in **Ukraine** and reiterates its support for rule of law. We further reiterate our call for full and unrestricted access of international human rights mechanism to the illegally annexed Crimean peninsula and to the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

Regarding **Burundi** and **Myanmar**, we're expressing our concern over the both governments explicit lack of cooperation with HRC Special Procedures and other HRC mandates, and their respective mandate holders. We call upon the governments of Burundi and Myanmar to fully cooperate with the UN mechanisms and to allow their unfettered and unconditional access to the country. In the end effect, we are convinced that this will contribute to a better human rights situation in both countries, which at this moment remains of concern.

Mr President,

Further, we closely follow the human rights situations in **Democratic Republic of Congo** and **South Sudan**. We are concerned by the severe repression of the freedoms of expression and assembly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as by the severe human rights situation in conflict-affected parts of the country. We deplore the dire human rights and humanitarian situation in South Sudan, where for already four years civilians pay the price of the conflict.

Lastly, we remain concerned about the current political and economic crisis with all its implications on humanitarian and human rights situation in **Venezuela**. Additionally to our previously expressed concerns, we would like to add the issue of malnutrition, which is affecting in particular children and the elderly. All human rights violations need to be thoroughly investigated. Moreover, we call upon Venezuela to cooperate with external assistance and grant access to the HRC Special Procedures to enter the country.

Thank you!