



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the

**43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**

**Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues**

Geneva, 11 March 2020

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Mr Special Rapporteur,

We would like to thank you for your report.

Slovenia would like to reiterate its longstanding commitment to the promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities. We pursue this aim on the national, regional and international level, including as a member of the core group on minorities of the HRC, together with Austria and Mexico.

Slovenia is well aware of the importance of the minority language education as we cannot ignore the important heritage languages bring. We further believe the knowledge of the mother tongue is the basis for learning and understanding other languages, including Slovene. We have a number of good practices that support this, which we were happy to share at the 12<sup>th</sup> Forum on Minority Issues.

We look forward to further working with the mandate and strongly support its renewal at this session. We further remain committed to the full implementation of the ICCPR and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities as the main frameworks of our work at the UN level.

Thank you.