

**Statement by Slovenia**

**at the**

**51th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on the**

**Enjoyment of all Human Rights by Older Persons**

***Geneva, 19 September 2022***

Mister President,

we welcome the latest report of the Independent Expert addressing the impact of deprivation of liberty on older persons. Older persons must be treated with dignity and respect, their specific needs must be taken into consideration, be it in the context of criminal justice, migration-related detention or in the context of care.

Mme. Independent Expert,

Given the fact that deprivation of liberty is a delicate subject, we concur with your findings in the report that while there is currently no specific legal binding instrument on the human rights of older persons, they are entitled to the same rights as other persons under the international human rights law. However, ageism and age-based discrimination combined with the deprivation of liberty, put them in a different situation. Older persons are heterogeneous group and we agree that chronological age should not be the only factor to determine who is an older person in the context of the deprivation of liberty or any other.

Could you please elaborate what would be best approach to tackle the complexity of ageism and address gaps in the current approaches when it comes to deprivation of liberty of older persons?

Finally, allow me to reiterate Slovenia’s full support for your work and your mandate.

Thank you.