

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**52nd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**

**Interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteur**

**on Minority Issues**

Geneva, 23 March 2023

Mr. President,

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement.

We thank the Special Rapporteur on minority issues for his report and presentation today.

Last year we commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to Minorities. This milestone highlighted the need to intensify our collective engagement to promote and advance the rights of minorities worldwide. Significant gaps remain in the protection of minorities.

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

In relation to your recommendations and proposals for action from your latest report as well as from the high-level commemorative event in New York and the Forum on Minority Issues, we would particularly be interested in more detail regarding the recommendation on the permanent forum on minorities.

In conclusion, taking into account that this is your last interactive dialogue to the Human rights Council we would like to use this opportunity to thank you for your valuable engagement and determination to enhance the protection and promotion of minority rights throughout your mandate. Slovenia will continue its active engagement as a core group member for minorities.

Thank you.