



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
33rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Nicaragua

Geneva, 15 May 2019

Mr President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Nicaragua for their UPR report, its presentation today and their commitment to the UPR process.

We wish to submit the following recommendations to Nicaragua:

- to protect human rights defenders, journalists and media workers and to fully guarantee the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly by complying with its commitments under the ICCPR;.
- we wish to repeat the recommendation from the 2nd UPR cycle to decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and to ensure that safe and legal abortion services are available for those women and girls whose pregnancy is a result of rape or whose lives or health are put at risk.

We are concerned about the level of repression in Nicaragua. Political opponents, human rights defenders, journalists and others are subjected to harassment, intimidation, criminalization and different types of reprisals. All human rights violations and abuses need to be thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators held accountable.

We deeply regret the decision by the government of Nicaragua in 2018 to expel the OHCHR from the country. We call on Nicaragua to resume its cooperation with the OHCHR as well as to cooperate with HRC Special Procedures and other international mechanisms.

We also took note that Nicaragua has a substantial backlog in submitting periodic reports to the treaty bodies and would like to encourage Nicaragua, where possible, to take advantage of the simplified reporting procedure to reduce the existing backlog.

Thank you.