



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the

33rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Brunei Darussalam

Geneva, 10 May 2019

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Brunei Darussalam for their presentation today and for their dedication to the UPR process.

We wish to submit the following recommendations to Brunei Darussalam:

- to ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular the Convention on Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- to repeal the revised Penal Code Order and to ensure that any measures introduced are consistent with Brunei's international human rights obligations and international human rights law;
- (repeat the recommendation from the 2nd UPR cycle) to consider revising relevant acts restricting the freedom of expression and media in order to ensure that they conform with international human rights standards.

Slovenia welcomes the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Slovenia is very concerned about the revised 2013 Penal Code Order that came into effect on 3 April 2019 and contains a range of harsh penalties including amputation, whipping and stoning to death for specific acts identified as offences according to the Code. We believe that these punishments constitute a form of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Moreover, offences punished by death do not meet the threshold of "most serious crimes" as determined by international law.

We are concerned about further discrimination of vulnerable groups, namely women, children, LGBTI persons and the impact of the recently adopted Penal Code amendments and its adverse impact on human rights of these groups.

Thank you!

Advance questions:

1. Following the recommendations by Slovenia from the 2nd UPR cycle, we noted that Brunei withdrew some reservations to CRC. We would be interested to learn if there have been any considerations to withdraw the remaining reservations to the CRC and CEDAW?
2. What kind of implications would the recently adopted revised Penal Code Order have on children? Would the punishments from the Penal Code Order also apply for children?