

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**41st Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

*Geneva, 10 November 2022*

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks the UK for the report, presentation and its commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia warmly welcomes the information on the ratifications of the Lanzarote Convention (Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse) in 2018 and the Istanbul Convention (Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence) in July 2022. We also welcome the information on the first ever government-led Women's Health Strategy for England.

We note the Guidance by the UK Ministry of Justice on Minimising and Managing Use of Separation and Isolation in the Children and Young People Secure Estate. We would like to ask about the maximum time that would be considered acceptable to keep a juvenile separate or isolated under this guidance.

Slovenia would like to recommend to the UK:

- to consider raising the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 across the UK;

- to consider prohibiting the use of solitary confinement for juveniles;

- to apply a combined gender and age perspective in tax and benefits policy changes to avoid disproportionate negative effects on older women.

I thank you.