



STALNO PREDSTAVNIŠTVO REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE PRI URADU ZDRUŽENIH
NARODOV IN OSTALIH MEDNARODNIH ORGANIZACIJAH V ŽENEVI

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

34th session

**Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi
Geneva, 13 March 2017**

Statement by Slovenia

Mr. President,

Slovenia aligns itself with statement delivered by the EU and thanks the Commission of Inquiry for its valuable presentation.

We strongly believe that serving in the Human Rights Council comes not only with its rights but also its obligations.

Last year this Council had tasked the Commission of Inquiry to first and foremost conduct an investigation into human rights violations and abuses in the country since April 2015.

Only with cooperation of Burundian authorities human rights violations and abuses can be thoroughly investigated with alleged perpetrators brought to justice.

We call upon the Government of Burundi to cooperate with the Commission.

Slovenia remains concerned over the worrying scale of reports of arbitrary arrests and detentions of people including children, enforced disappearances, extra-judicial killings, ill-treatment as well as cases of sexual and gender based violence.

We are concerned that the political and civil society space had shrunk at unprecedented levels and call upon authorities to lift the restrictions on civil society, human rights and media organizations.

We commend all the efforts by the UN, the African Union and the East African Community to end the political crisis in Burundi. We encourage Burundi to fully cooperate and give access to the international and regional actors in order to find a peaceful and sustainable solution to the crisis.

Thank you!