



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the  
**37<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council -  
Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues**

Geneva, 14 March 2018

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Mr President,

We warmly welcome you, Mr de Varennes at your first reporting as the Special Rapporteur on minority issues in the Human Rights Council and congratulate you on your appointment.

Slovenia commends your report in which you also outline your priorities and vision for the mandate.

In the report you mention that there are ambiguities and uncertainties about the status of different minorities, that the scope and meaning of the term "minority" needs to be explored and that you will endeavour to clarify the concept of minorities using different approaches and analyses.

Could you, Mr de Varennes, elaborate a bit more on this?

Finally, we would like to express our satisfaction that you have chosen Slovenia for your first country visit and are looking forward to welcome you in Ljubljana next month.

Thank you