



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**37<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council -  
Item 7: General Debate**

Geneva, 19 March 2018

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Mr President,

While recalling the EU's principled position on the Human Rights Council Agenda Item 7, we remain deeply concerned about the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

Slovenia advocates a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the framework of a two-state solution, and recognizes the right of Palestinian people to self-determination.

We are deeply concerned about the continued Israeli settlement policy in the West Bank and in East Jerusalem, and the demolitions of Palestinian properties in the Area C of the West Bank and in East Jerusalem, which continue to result in high number of displacements of Palestinian people. We are in particular concerned about reports of Palestinian minors, above the age of 12, in Israeli prisons and detention centres, including reports of their ill-treatment. We also raise concerns regarding the high numbers of Palestinian fatalities and injuries, particularly during the recent protests.

Mr President,

Slovenia is concerned with the absence of peace process and lack of perspective for both sides to finally resolve the conflict. We wish to emphasize the mutual responsibility of both parties to resume peace talks and refrain from violence and any other actions that could undermine the credibility of peace endeavors. The viability of the two-state solution must be maintained.

Lasting and peaceful co-existence of Israel and Palestine is the only viable way for establishing a lasting peace and stability in the region. We wish to reiterate that a sustainable, just, secure and lasting peace between Israel and Palestine must be based on international law, respect for human rights, rule of law, equality, dignity, security and accountability. This is the responsibility of both sides.

Thank you.