



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the  
**37<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council -  
Annual Debate: Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Geneva, 7 March 2018

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Mr President,

Slovenia welcomes today's debate. Let me begin by stressing that our Constitution explicitly mentions the right of persons with disabilities to equality before the law and underlines that no one should be discriminated against for reasons of disability.

As an example of good practice I would like to present Slovenian Court Rules, which were amended in the beginning of 2017. Those rules instruct the courts to include in every invitation to the court hearings a special notification. That notification touches upon the right to equal participation in the proceedings by participants who are disabled or persons with special needs, as well as calls upon them to inform the court in advance whether they will exercise the right to equal participation in the court proceedings. This approach enables the courts to be properly prepared, e.g. to provide an appropriate and easy accessible courtroom, a court interpreter for sign language or special translation unit for persons who are hard of hearing.

Besides that, let me also add that in recent years Slovenian Judicial Training Centre has commenced systematic training for judicial authorities concerning the treatment and consideration of persons with disabilities.

Mr President,

Slovenia presented its national report on the implementation of the Convention on the rights with disabilities just recently. In the dialogue with the Committee we highlighted some of our most important programs, policies and activities. With that in mind let me conclude and reaffirm my government's commitment in support of the full realization of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Thank you.