

Statement by

the Republic of Slovenia

at the

38th Session of the UN Human Rights Council Interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences Ms Dubravka Šimonović

Geneva, 20 June 2018

Mr President,

Slovenia aligns with the EU statement and would like to make additional remarks in national capacity.

Slovenia remains committed to eradication of all forms of violence against women and girls. With rapidly changing and developing of information and communication technologies, violence against women and girls has also moved to the digital world.

Madame Special Rapporteur,

I wish to express our thanks for your report and presentation today of online violence and violence facilitated by information and communications technology against women and girls.

The Slovenian government is aware that digital violence and harassment is the growing problem of all contemporary societies. We try to follow this new developing reality also by applying changes in our legislation. Thus, in 2017 we saw amendments to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the Criminal Code, both specifically addressing violent acts through the use of information and communication technologies. The Government also pays considerate attention to awareness raising activities to make the use of the internet and communication technologies safer for women and girls, while not discouraging them to use the potential of the ICT. We are currently implementing a project that will run until the end of 2019, specifically targeting cyber violence and harassment against women and girls.

In your report, you point out on the growing problem of different manifestations of online violence against women and girls. This theme is a relatively unexplored frontier and States are coping with the phenomena differently, both when adopting new legislation as also in awareness raising activities. Can you provide any examples of positive trends in this area you have observed?

Thank you!