

Statement by Slovenia

at the

**47th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the High Commissioner on Ukraine and interim report of Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Crimea**

*Geneva, 9 July 2021*

Excellencies,

We thank the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General for their reports. Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement.

Allow me to begin by reconfirming Slovenia's continued unwavering support to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and independence of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.

Slovenia deplores the ongoing human rights violations and abuses in the Crimean Peninsula, primarily targeted at Crimean Tatar community and ethnic Ukrainians. We call on Russia to uphold its commitments under the international humanitarian law. Providing international human rights observers full, free, and unrestricted access to the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea and eastern Ukraine is essential.

Slovenia is also highly concerned by the deterioration of human rights situation in eastern Ukraine. Despite improved security situation compared to the period before the agreement of July 27, civilian population suffers exacerbated conditions also as a result of the covid-19 pandemic. We believe full implementation of the Minsk Agreements on both sides is a prerequisite to provide for comprehensive enjoyment of human rights and basic freedoms in the region.

We will continue to offer humanitarian and development assistance to Ukraine and closely cooperate on initiatives led by Ukraine in the Human Rights Council.

Thank you!