



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia

at the
29th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of United Arab Emirates

Geneva, 22 January 2018

Mr President,

Slovenia welcomes the delegation of United Arab Emirates to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for their presentation today.

We note that certain efforts have been made to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women. However, many challenges remain and we encourage the United Arab Emirates to take the necessary steps to address them, including by acting on recommendations made by the CEDAW Committee.

While welcoming positive steps taken in the area of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, we hope the same will be done with regard to the rights to freedom of opinion and expression.

Slovenia recommends to the United Arab Emirates to:

1. Consider the possibility of acceding to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
2. Establish a moratorium on the death penalty as the first step toward its abolition.
3. Take concrete measures to ensure the right of freedom of expression and review legislation preventing exercising freedom of expression.

Thank you.