



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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UPR of NICARAGUA

Mr. President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Nicaragua for its presentation today. We welcome Nicaragua's commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia notes with interest that in June 2012 a Comprehensive Law against Violence against Women (Law 779) was adopted. However, in 2013 adopted amendments to the Law 779 on the mediation issue weakened the protection initially provided for women victims of violence.

With regard to sexual and reproductive health, we note that abortion is outlawed under all circumstances, even for medical reasons or in case of rape.

We also note with concern that the right to freedom of expression is not fully ensured, that press is not independent and journalists still suffer threats and harassment and self-censorship.

In light of the expressed concerns we would like to recommend to Nicaragua:

1. to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination;
2. to decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and to ensure that safe and legal abortion services are available for those women and girls whose pregnancy is a result of rape or whose lives or health are put at risk;
3. to fully guarantee the respect for freedom of expression and opinion and fully comply with its commitments under the ICCPR, in particular articles 19 and 22.

Thank you.