



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

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UPR of HONDURAS

Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Honduras to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for their presentation today.

We welcome the efforts undertaken by the government to bring Honduras' legislation in line with international standards, in particular by incorporating offences of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and membership in an indigenous minority or an Afro-descendent community into article 321 of the Criminal Code. Slovenia further welcomes the inclusion of the crime of femicide in the Criminal Code.

We note with concern that CERD deplored the fact that human rights defenders, especially indigenous and Afro-Honduran leaders, as well as journalists, continue to be subject of serious physical assault and recommended the adoption of the bill on protecting human rights defenders, journalists, media professionals and persons responsible for the administration of justice. We note that a draft bill on the protection of human rights defenders is currently undergoing its final reading in Congress.

Bearing this in mind, we would like to **recommend** to Honduras:

- to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination;
- to undertake awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to promote tolerance and to address violence against the LGBTI persons;
- to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Criminal Code, which sanctions the crime of femicide;
- to ensure prompt investigations into attacks and threats against human rights defenders, indigenous people, and journalists as well as to ensure that they can carry out their activities without fear of reprisals.

Thank you.