

7



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

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UPR of LEBANON

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Lebanon for their presentation. We commend the country for its exceptional hospitality towards the people fleeing the conflict in Syria and recognize that this represents an extraordinary burden. We welcome that Lebanon has nonetheless been able to make some progress in the implementation of 1st cycle recommendations. We welcome, in particular, the adoption of a national human rights plan, steps towards the establishment of a national human rights institution, and the revocation of article 562¹ of the Criminal Code.

On the other hand, we note that Lebanon faces serious challenges in the provision of quality education and healthcare for all persons on its territory, and that discriminatory provisions against women persist, partially due to the plurality of legal systems regulating marriage and family relations.

We offer the following **recommendations**:

- to strengthen and expand the education infrastructure in order to offer quality inclusive education to all children on its territory, Lebanese and non-Lebanese alike;
- to withdraw reservations to CEDAW;
- to criminalize marital rape and establish a common minimum age for marriage at 18 years old;
- to repeal Articles 487 and 488², 522³, and 534⁴ of the Penal Code;
- to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 12 years.

Thank you.

¹ providing for mitigating circumstances in cases of so called "honour crimes"

² criminalizing adultery

³ reduced sentences for rapists who marry their victims

⁴ criminalizing "unnatural sexual intercourse"