

AD



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

Rue de Vermont 37-39, CH - 1202 Geneva
Tel.: +41/22/716 1780, Fax: +41/22/738 6665

UPR of ESTONIA

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Estonia for their national report and presentation today.

Slovenia would like to acknowledge the high level of promotion and protection of human rights by Estonia, which is demonstrated across the spectrum. We especially commend your country's involvement and initiatives in the field of the right to participate in public and political life, such as the trailblazing e-voting system. Among recent developments we also commend the ratification of the CRPD and its Optional Protocol, as well as amendments to the Citizenship Law which simplifies naturalization requirements for several categories of people, including children.

While understanding that no country's human rights record is perfect and can certainly always be improved, Slovenia notices strict language requirements for employment in both the public and private sectors, which can put ethnic minorities at a disadvantage.

We would like to make the following **recommendations** to Estonia:

- to condemn discrimination based on ethnic origin and language in employment and take active measures to prosecute such cases;
- to develop and adopt legislation that would explicitly recognize hatred on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity as a motive and make it an aggravated circumstance in a crime;

Thank you.