**44th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of the Russian Federation**

13 November 2023

**Statement by Austria**

Thank you, Mr. President,

We thank the Delegation for the presentation of their report.

Austria is concerned about increasingly repressive crackdowns on the peaceful exercise of human rights in Russia, as well as politically motivated rulings and arbitrary detention of members of the political opposition or civil society, in particular since February 2022.

We also note with grave concern serious allegations of potential war crimes and crimes against humanity. We call on Russia to immediately withdraw from all occupied Ukrainian territory.

Austria would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. Ensure full compliance with obligations of the Russian Federation under international law, in particular IHL and International Human Rights Law
2. Ensure independent and transparent investigations into allegations of human rights violations, both domestically and during armed incursions into third states
3. Establish an independent judicial system with a view to guaranteeing fair trials
4. Repeal or revise legislation to ensure conformity with obligations under the ICCPR and protection of the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, association and assembly

Thank you.

*MAX 1min*