*Check against delivery*

**Universal Periodic Review – 44th session**

**Russian Federation**

**Statement by the Republic of Poland**

*Geneva, 13 November 2023*

*Thank you Mr. President,*

Poland is gravely concerned about the continued deterioration of the human rights situation in Russian Federation. The human rights violations, including the systematic crackdown on civil society, human rights defenders, independent media outlets, political opposition and persons belonging to minorities, largely intensified since Russia’s brutal, unprovoked, full scale military aggression against Ukraine.

We recommend Russian Federation to:

1. **refrain from arbitrary use of the law to limit civic space, political dissent, and freedom of expression and religion;**
2. **guarantee and protect the right of peaceful assembly and expression and immediately release all those detained for exercising those rights;**
3. **release political prisoners and ensure humane treatment of all detainees and prisoners;**
4. **start cooperation with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation,**

*Thank you,*