

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**44th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Russia**

*Geneva, 13 November 2023*

Mr. President,

Slovenia takes note of the national report presented by the Russian delegation.

We are deeply concerned about the numerous laws that restrict the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, resulting in the shrinking of civic space. Slovenia recommends the Russian Federation to guarantee the rights of freedom of expression, both online and offline, freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and to enable a safe environment for all human rights defenders, journalists, civic activists, political opposition and critical voices.

Slovenia reiterates its recommendation from the last cycle and recommends to Russia to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, with the definition of all forms of discrimination in accordance with international standards and prohibiting discrimination against women.

Thank you.