

Statement of H.E. Archbishop Ettore Balestrero, Apostolic Nuncio

Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the United Nations

and Other International Organizations in Geneva, at the 45th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review – Jordan

*Geneva, 25 January 2024*

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the presentation of the National Report of the Kingdom of Jordan on the occasion of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

My delegation commends the efforts made by Jordan to advance respect for human rights for all and appreciates the ongoing modernisation of the Country’s political, economic and administrative systems.

While stressing the need to continue along this path for the good of all citizens, the Holy See wishes to offer the following recommendations:

1. To guarantee the full exercise of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion for everyone, including the freedom to change religion or belief, and also the freedom of worship for all religious communities.
2. To continue to advocate for the fundamental rights of women, children and persons with disabilities and to ensure their protection from abuse and discrimination.
3. To establish a nation-wide moratorium on the application of the death penalty, with the view to its eventual abolition.
4. To guarantee the full exercise of freedom of expression for all, without prejudice to the country’s right to monitor and guard against illicit activities.

Thank you, Mr. President.