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**UPR45 – MEXICO**

**Statement by Slovakia**

24 January 2024

Mr. President,

Slovakia appreciates **the leading role of Mexico during its last membership in the Human Rights Council (2021-23)**, in issues such as discrimination against women, minorities or combating terrorism.

**Despite the significant progress made** in the strengthening of women´s rights, **gender equality in Mexico faces a series of structural challenges**. Another human rights challenge in Mexico is **the ever-increasing number of cases of violence and murder of journalists.**

Slovakia encourages Mexico to implement the following **recommendations**:

1. **To increase awareness on sexual and gender-based violence** and provide support and protection to victims;
2. **To improve asylum-system and support human rights approach** to migration governance in line with international standards;
3. **To provide tools and comprehensive training to public servants** in the area of human rights; and
4. **To support and strengthen** **the National Protection Mechanism for HRDs and Journalists,** including its legal and financial framework.

We wish Mexico a successful review.

Thank you.