

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**39th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Hungary**

*Geneva, 2 November 2021*

Madame President,

Slovenia wishes to commend the delegation of Hungary for the national report, its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia welcomes Hungary's positive steps for the protection of the rights of the Slovenian national community in the Raba region, as improvement has been noted in many areas since the last UPR.

In this context, Slovenia welcomes Hungary's efforts in support of the economic development of the Raba region and in particular the adoption of the 2020-2023 development program for the region by the Hungarian government.

Furthermore, Slovenia underlines the importance of modernizing road and other infrastructure that is necessary to enhance connectivity and create opportunities in the areas populated by national communities.

Despite notable progress, challenges remain in certain areas. More efforts are needed to improve the efficiency of bilingual education, including the training of teachers / educators. Slovenia would also like to draw attention to the need to increase the broadcasting in the Slovenian language (radio and television) as well as technical upgrade and modernization of the Slovenian language media outlets.

In particular, Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

- to fully implement visible bilingualism (i.e. bilingual signs) in the Raba region.

- to promote of the use of Slovenian language in public life.

- to increase the scope and frequency of radio and television programmes in Slovenian language.

Thank you.