

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR – Thailand** ***Belgian intervention***10th of November 2021 |

Mr./Madam President,

Belgium congratulates the government of Thailand with the adoption of its first National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. My country is however concerned about the arrests of prodemocracy activists, also amongst the youth, and calls for their immediate release.

Belgium therefore recommends the government of Thailand to:

**R1.** Amend art. 112 of the Criminal Code to bring it in line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

**R2*.***Enact legal protection against SLAPP cases.

As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium recommends Thailand to at least:

**R3.** Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the “most serious crimes” threshold under international law.

Thank you, Mr./Madam President.