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**UPR41 – NETHERLANDS**

**Statement by Slovakia**

15 November 2022

President,

Slovakia welcomes the delegation of the Netherlands a thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

Human rights and the rule of law prosper also thanks to free and independent media and journalists.

The way Dutch authorities reacted to the assassination of journalist Peter de Vries in July 2021 has clearly shown their commitment to safety and protection of journalists. Slovakia is on board together with Netherlands, as we shared the similar experience in the last years.

Slovakia offers following recommendations to Netherlands for further consideration:

1. Strengthen the legal protection of journalists and other media personalities, including by criminalising the sharing of personal data online.
2. To ensure the reception of asylum seekers in Ter Apel in a dignified manner and in accordance with the European standards.

I thank you, President.