

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**42nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Switzerland**

*Geneva, 27 January 2023*

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks Switzerland for the report, presentation and commitment to the UPR process.

After carefully reviewing the documentation and other information, we warmly welcome information on Switzerland's:

* ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, and the adoption of a national action plan for its implementation;
* establishment of a national human rights institution;
* adoption of the Equality Strategy 2030;
* recent adoption of consent-based definition of rape by the Swiss Parliament; and
* inclusion of information on the situation of older persons in the national UPR report.

We note the information on persisting high gender pay gap, the prison overcrowding in parts of the country and the high rates of suicide among persons held in detention.

Slovenia would like to **offer the following recommendations**:

* to continue with efforts to effectively address the gender pay gap, including any underlying structural causes, and to report on progress achieved in the Fifth Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review;
* to provide sufficient and accessible mental health care and support to persons held in detention;
* to report on the changes to the capacity of the Swiss prison system in the Fifth Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

Thank you.