

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

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| **WG UPR 42 – Peru**  ***Intervention of Belgium***  25 January 2023 |

President,

Belgium welcomes the progress made since the previous UPR but is concerned by the use of violence by protesters, as well as the disproportionate use of force by law enforcement officials especially during the recent political troubles. We therefore recommends Peru to:

**R1.** Conduct prompt, thorough, independent and impartial investigations into the possible human rights violations, in particular against underage protestors, that have occurred since the beginning of the protests in order to identify, prosecute and punish those responsible, including the chain of command of the security forces up to the highest level.

We welcome the laws and policies adopted to address gender violence. Gender-based violence and disappearances of women and girls remain however a cause of concern. Belgium recommends to:

**R2.** Adopt a comprehensive, gender-sensitive plan to ensure that disappearances of women and girls are effectively, promptly and duly investigated, and provide the National Observatory of Violence against Women and Family Group Members with sufficient budget.

Concerned by the harassment, threats and physical attacks against media workers and human rights defenders, we recommend to:

**R3.** Take concrete measures to provide a safe and secure environment for journalists, media workers and human rights defenders, including environmental and indigenous activists, and conduct impartial and effective investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment, and intimidation against them.

Thank you, President.