

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

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| **WG UPR 43 – Serbia** ***Belgian intervention***10 May 2023 |

President,

Belgium welcomes the efforts and positive steps made by Serbia since its previous UPR. Notwithstanding these efforts, important challenges remain, in particular regarding the fight against impunity, press freedom and LGBTQI+ rights.

Belgium therefore recommends the government of Serbia to:

**R1**. Prosecute all known perpetrators of war crimes from the 1990s decisively, proactively and with respect for internationally accepted practices as recommended by the IRMCT.

**R2.** Conduct prompt, impartial, thorough and effective investigations into all cases of deaths, attacks, harassment and intimidation against journalists offline and online.

**R3.**  Ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and of expression for LGBTQI+ persons and for CSOs and secure protection of both the public events and gatherings they organize.

Thank you, President