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**Recommendations by Canada for Belarus’ UPR**

**November 2, 2020**

Thank you Madame President.

Canada remains seriously concerned about the state of human rights in Belarus, which have significantly deteriorated following the fraudulent presidential elections of August 2020.

As a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and UN Convention against Torture, Belarus must uphold its international responsibilities and obligations.

Canada recommends that the Republic of Belarus:

1. Take immediate measures to prevent all torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment or punishment; investigate promptly and impartially all allegations of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable.
2. Take immediate measures to allow journalists and other media workers to work without fear of detention or undue restriction and improve access to information.
3. Respect the right of peaceful assembly; release all individuals arbitrarily detained for participation in peaceful protests.
4. Abolish the death penalty.