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47th Session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus

5 July 2021

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger,
Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Madam President,

Liechtenstein thanks the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus for her report and her important work.

Liechtenstein remains deeply concerned about the massive and systematic human rights violations in Belarus and we strongly condemn all violence against as well as arbitrary detention of peaceful protesters, human rights defenders, journalists, members of labour unions, opposition parties and others.

Liechtenstein condemns the forced landing of a civil aircraft as an illegal and indefensible act that violates basic principles of international law, endangered aviation safety and jeopardised the safety of passengers and the crew. In this context, Liechtenstein calls for the immediate release of Raman Pratasevich and his partner, and for the full respect of

their human rights. We further strongly call on the Belarusian authorities to conduct and enable independent, transparent and impartial investigations into these cases as well as all other human rights violations allegedly committed.

Finally, Liechtenstein urges Belarus to cooperate with the relevant UN mandates, inter alia the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus as well as the recently appointed examination mandate by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, including by granting full and unhindered access to the country. An inclusive, open and constructive dialogue with civil society is the only solution to the deterioration of the situation and we strongly hope that the authorities will step up their efforts in this regard.

I thank you.