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Statement at the 50th Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item: 4 – ID on Belarus

28th June 2022

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein wants to thank the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus for her report.

We are concerned that non-transparent changes to the constitution of Belarus restricting a number of human rights and fundamental freedoms have led to a further deterioration of the human rights situation in the country.

We reiterate our concerns over the crackdown on fundamental rights such as the freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly and association. Thus, the civic space and the media are being forced to engage in an extremely limited margin. Systematic attacks, including arbitrary detention and arrests and different forms of pressure and intimidation on political opponents and human rights defenders, create an environment of fear.

Governments are supposed to create a safe and enabling environment for civil society organizations which in turn will help contribute to the meaningful promotion and protection of human rights.

Additionally, the Belarusian government should urgently tackle the persisting problem of impunity and lack of accountability for the most serious human rights violations. Moreover, the administration of justice and the judiciary have to be able to act independently in order to ensure the rule of law.

We urge Belarus to engage constructively with the Special Rapporteur as well as other mandates of the UN Human Rights Council.

I thank you, Mister President.