



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA TO
THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
GENEVA**

Statement

50th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

Introduction of draft resolution L.6 on the importance of casualty recording for the promotion on protection of human rights

7 July 2022

H.E. Ambassador Vesna Batistic Kos

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger, Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein:

Thank you, Mr. President.

I have the honor to introduce, on behalf of a cross-regional core group comprised of Costa Rica, Croatia, Sierra Leone, and my own country, Liechtenstein, draft resolution L.6 as orally revised on the importance of casualty recording for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Every day on average, an estimated 100 civilians are killed in situations of armed conflict. Respect for the dignity of the dead is one of mankind's most universal values, shared across cultures, religions and time. Although our customs vary, the personal, societal and legal need to acknowledge an individual's death is common worldwide.

Casualty recording in situations of armed conflict or gross violations of international human rights law upholds this fundamental value by endeavoring to produce a comprehensive and detailed record of every person killed and the circumstances of their death.

Besides States, there are various actors, among them the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as well as many civil society organizations, that conduct casualty recording and thereby contribute to the realization of several human rights. Studying the impact of casualty recording on the promotion and protection of human rights is crucial for the understanding of how the rights of victims are affected.

Therefore, the draft resolution L.6 as orally revised asks the OHCHR to prepare a report on the impact of casualty recording on the promotion and protection of human rights and to present such a report to this Council in the 53rd session.

Mr. President,

Please allow me to pass the floor to my dear colleague, Ambassador Vesna Batistic Kos, the Permanent Representative of Croatia, for the second part of the introduction.

H.E. Ambassador Vesna Batistic Kos, Permanent Representative of Croatia:

Thank you, Mr. President.

As a country that has seen the horrors of war not too long ago, Croatia knows very well the importance of casualty recording and how it is interlinked with a variety of existing human rights.

Among these rights are the right to life, to the truth, to access to justice, to an effective remedy and reparation, to own property, to health and education, to marry and found a family as well as the right to freedom of religion or belief.

Casualty recording can contribute to a better protection of civilians in armed conflicts as well as complement efforts to account for missing persons. Finally, those records can also provide valuable evidence in all forms of accountability, transitional justice, and reconciliation processes.

Mr. President,

The text of draft resolution L.6 as orally revised is the result of several open and inclusive informal consultations and many bilateral discussions with stakeholders across regions. The core group has shown a large amount of flexibility and understanding for numerous views brought forward and tried to accommodate as many as possible in order to reach a balanced text while not losing the focus of the initiative.

I would like to bring to the Council's attention that the core group has circulated a draft for oral revision yesterday. The revisions include changes in PP9, PP10, PP11 and OP1, mainly in order to address concerns raised through two written amendments.

We would like to thank all delegations for their active engagement and the constructive spirit during the negotiation process. We are looking forward to a consensual adoption of draft resolution L.6 as orally revised.

I thank you, Mr. President.