



**STÄNDIGE MISSION**  
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

**MISSION PERMANENTE**  
DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE LIECHTENSTEIN

**PERMANENT MISSION**  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

*Check against delivery*

## **Universal Periodic Review of Burundi**

18 January 2018

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Peter Matt  
Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein

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Liechtenstein welcomes the distinguished delegation of Burundi and wishes to thank for the valuable information provided in the introductory statement and in the national report.

Liechtenstein welcomes the statutory establishment of the Independent National Human Rights Commission, but is concerned that the independence of the Commission may be jeopardized as insufficient action is taken to investigate and report on allegations of human rights violations. Liechtenstein recommends that Burundi ensure that the Independent National Human Rights Commission is in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

Liechtenstein is seriously concerned about the exacerbation of violence, in particular against women, since the onset of the internal conflict in April 2015. The lack of prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of violence against women and the victims' lack of access to justice and reparations is of great concern to us. Liechtenstein recommends that Burundi issue orders to the police, the military and the Imbonerakure to refrain from all forms of violence against women, and ensure accountability for perpetrators of such violence.

Liechtenstein deeply regrets the decision of the Government of Burundi to leave the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and recommends that Burundi reconsider its withdrawal. The ICC recently opened an investigation looking into widespread and systematic attacks against the civilian population by State agents and groups implementing State policies, including members of the Imbonerakure. Liechtenstein recommends that Burundi comply with its legal obligations by fully cooperating with the International Criminal Court (ICC) in all stages of the recently opened investigation and proceedings.

Furthermore, Liechtenstein recommends that Burundi close the impunity gap and ensure that all perpetrators of atrocity crimes are held accountable in national courts or at the ICC.