



STÄNDIGE MISSION  
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

MISSION PERMANENTE  
DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE LIECHTENSTEIN

PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

*Check against delivery*

## **42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

10 September 2019

### **General Debate on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' oral update**

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Peter Matt,

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mr. President,

We thank the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Michelle Bachelet, for the report she presented to this council. The report highlights many issues that are of great concern to us.

In the oral update, the High Commissioner has put an emphasis on climate change and its impact on human rights. In fact, climate change has and will have an increasing impact on many fields of human rights.

It's not only important to enhance the protection of our environment and our climate but also to protect those who defend both of them. In particular, since the number of attacks and reprisals against environmental human rights defenders and human rights defenders in general has not decreased. On the contrary, they face serious intimidations and risks, only for defending the rights the international community agreed upon. The most recent

report shows that also Members of the Council are among the violators, those who should uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Furthermore, we express our deep concern for the ongoing commitment of serious human rights violations in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as in Myanmar. We reiterate the essential role of accountability in ensuring a sustainable peace. In this regard, we welcome that the Myanmar Mechanism has been declared operational. Alongside with the IIIM, the Myanmar Mechanism will collect and preserve evidence for the most serious crimes committed in the country in order to hold the perpetrators accountable. We call on all states to fully cooperate with and support both mechanisms.

Finally, we would like to assure the High Commissioner and her office of our continued support for her and its work.

I thank you.