



STÄNDIGE MISSION
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

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DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE LIECHTENSTEIN

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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48th Session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue on the report of the Secretary-General on Reprisals

22 September 2021

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

Thank you, Madam President,

Liechtenstein thanks the Secretary-General for the submission of his report on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.

Liechtenstein strongly condemns any threats, attacks and reprisals, both online and offline, against individuals and groups that cooperate with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights as well as against their families, conducted by both, state and non-state actors.

The engagement of a broad range of civil society actors is indispensable for the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations and its mechanisms. Reprisals against such an engagement, as well as legislative or operational measures taken to block access to international organisations are therefore unacceptable. In too many countries, such

unlawful practices have already led to self-censorship. Developments like these immediately need to stop and be reversed as a matter of priority. The promotion and protection of human rights in every society indispensably require a safe, free and unhindered environment for all civil society actors to be able to conduct their work, including human rights defenders, journalists, activists and lawyers, and in particular those facing gender- or sexual orientation-specific barriers.

Liechtenstein is unequivocally committed to and strongly supports civil society's safe and unhindered access to the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms, and strongly calls on all States to refrain from restricting access in any form, and to provide justice to victims and survivors when cases occur.

I thank you.