



STÄNDIGE MISSION
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

MISSION PERMANENTE
DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE LIECHTENSTEIN

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Check against delivery

Statement at the 51st Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item: 2 – ID on Sri Lanka

12 September 2022

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein wants to thank the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for their report on promoting reconciliation, accountability, and human rights in Sri Lanka.

We are concerned about the current situation in Sri Lanka, which is characterized by an economic crisis and violations of many fundamental human rights. Peaceful protests resulting from the crisis situation are met with violence, live ammunition, tear gas and other harmful practices that infringe upon the right to peaceful protest and assembly.

In addition, the state of emergency has already been imposed three times this year and appears to be used as an instrument to expand state powers. The new government should commit itself to not abusing the state of emergency to its advantage.

Despite the establishment of numerous transitional justice mechanisms in recent years, the promise to ensure accountability, *inter alia* for the impunity for corruption and abuse of power, has never been fulfilled. Liechtenstein therefore supports an ongoing monitoring of the situation by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

We urge Sri Lankan authorities to fully implement the recommendations made by the OHCHR in the report and to cooperate with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms in the process of ensuring accountability and reconciliation.

I thank you, Mister President.