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Statement at the 57th Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 4: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Russian Federation

24 September 2024

H.E. Ambassador Frank Büchel

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein thanks the special rapporteur for the presentation of her report.

We are deeply concerned about the long and extensive list of the Russian Federation's structural State-sponsored human rights violations that have been identified in the report.

The use of legal mechanisms to close down civic space and crack down on dissent from the war in Ukraine is alarming. We deplore the systematic harassment and intimidation of war critics and perceived dissenters, and the use of disproportionate punishment, as well as the widespread use of torture in detention. The death of imprisoned opposition leader Alexej Navalny has been a shocking example of the Russian Government's systematic and targeted attack on political dissent.

Civil society organizations, media outlets and individuals face being labeled as foreign agents or as undesirable and have their assets confiscated – solely for expressing dissent, and in violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The lack of independent institutions in the country undermines the right to fair trial and the rule of law.

Mister President,

We call on the Russian Federation to implement the recommendations made and to engage with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur.

The Russian Federation must halt its crackdown on civil society and immediately and unconditionally stop its war of aggression against Ukraine.

I thank you, Mister President.