



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

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57th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the SR on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation

24th September 2024

Mr. President,

Italy aligns itself with the EU statement and thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report.

It is with deep concern that we observe the severe repression of fundamental freedoms in the Russian Federation, particularly since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The clampdown on freedoms of opinion, expression, and peaceful assembly has notably targeted civil society organizations, human rights defenders, independent media, and any dissenting voice. These actions appear aimed at silencing both human rights advocacy and anti-war sentiments, a deeply troubling development for the international community.

Furthermore, Italy expresses profound concern over the reports of torture, ill-treatment, and sexual violence perpetrated against Ukrainian prisoners of war. Italy calls upon the Russian Federation to promptly put an end to these practices, to ensure full respect of the rights of all persons detained, and to grant the OHCHR and independent monitors unrestricted access to all facilities where prisoners of war and civilian detainees are held.

In light of these concerning developments, Italy firmly supports the renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation. We believe that continued scrutiny and engagement are essential in addressing the persistent violations.

In conclusion, Italy reiterates its commitment to ensuring accountability for human rights violations and to promoting peace and justice.

I thank you.