



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

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58th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Haiti with participation of
Independent Expert
28th March 2025

Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President,

Italy aligns with the EU statement and thanks the High Commissioner and the Human Rights Expert for the interim report.

Haiti remains in the grip of a severe humanitarian and security crisis, exacerbated by political instability and the offensive of criminal gangs. These armed groups target civilians, destroy essential infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, prisons and police stations, and fuel displacement, deepening the suffering of the Haitian people.

We are particularly alarmed by the use of sexual violence, tragically affecting women and girls, as a weapon of terror and by the recruitment of children by gangs, depriving them of their fundamental rights. The closure of schools due to insecurity further threatens Haiti's future generations.

We are also deeply concerned about the illicit trafficking of weapons and ammunition, which facilitates violence and human rights abuses. Italy reiterates the urgency of concerted international efforts to disrupt these flows and support the Haitian authorities in regaining control.

The shrinking international presence in the country limits the ability of humanitarian actors to provide essential assistance. Italy calls for reinforced international engagement to address the humanitarian emergency and restore democracy, security, and stability.

Italy stands with the Haitian people and reaffirms its commitment to supporting a peaceful and democratic future for Haiti.

I thank you.