



Permanent Mission of Italy
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Enhanced ID on Afghanistan

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**Delivered by Minister Stefano Pisotti, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations
in Geneva**

Mr. President,

Italy aligns itself with the EU statement and thanks the OHCHR for its report. We renew our solidarity to the Afghan people after the recent earthquake that tragically hit the country.

Four years after the Taliban's takeover, the human rights situation in Afghanistan has sharply deteriorated. The *de facto* authorities continue to impose significant restrictions, such as the Law on the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice and the latest edicts. The growing repression resulting from their enforcement severely undermines fundamental rights and freedoms, in particular of women and girls. Religious minorities remain exposed to discrimination and violence, while media and civil society organizations face increasing constraints and intimidation.

The international community and this Council must remain fully engaged in addressing the human rights situation in Afghanistan. Such violations are unacceptable and call for a strong and coordinated response.

Italy remains committed to supporting the Afghan people in the realization of their rights and justice, and recalls that Afghanistan must uphold its obligations under international law, as also foreseen within the framework of the so-called “Doha process”.

Thank you.