



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

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60th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
16th September 2025

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

Mr. President,

We thank the Working Group for its report and reiterate our full support for its mandate and its crucial work.

To this day, the practice of arbitrary arrest or detention remains widespread, and is often associated with torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of individuals. We echo the report's timely reminder that pre-trial detention must remain the exception rather than the rule.

We are deeply concerned by the misuse of State authority to arbitrarily arrest, detain or sentence individuals on questionable legal ground, whether to exercise leverage over foreign governments or to limit citizens' rights to participate in public and political life.

Italy strongly condemns the use of arbitrary detention as a tool of intimidation of political opponents, dissidents, and other individuals exercising their civil and political rights.

We urge all states to ensure respect for international law and the rule of law, and we encourage them to uphold human rights, including by preventing arbitrariness in judicial procedures.

Mr. President, what concrete steps does the Working Group recommend to ensure that alternatives to pre-trial detention are effectively implemented and monitored by States?

Thank you.