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## 37<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

## 6 March 2018

Intervention by the Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Mr. President,

We thank both Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for their comprehensive reports and assure both of them our support.

We highly welcome the annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against children that builds upon the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in particular target 16.2. The target on ending all forms of violence against children by 2030 provides us with a unique opportunity to promote our violence prevention efforts. How does the SRSG intend to close the gap between international standards and action promotion in order to bring an end to all forms of violence against children?

The Children and Armed Conflict agenda is sadly of particular relevance today. We reiterate our strong support for the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict. Protecting the independence and integrity is crucial to the effectiveness and credibility of her mandate, including her reporting on violations. We urge all conflict parties to respect the basic rules of international humanitarian law. We strongly condemn all attacks against schools and hospitals as well as their use for military purposes and we fully endorse the Safe Schools Declara-

tion. Where the principles of international humanitarian law are violated, accountability for perpetrators must be ensured. How can states better be assisted to comply with their obligations to fight impunity by investigating sexual violence against children?

I thank you!