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47th Session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

28 June 2021

Intervention by Ambassador Kurt Jäger,
Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Madam President,

Liechtenstein thanks the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, for her report.

The COVID-19 pandemic has sadly led to an increase in domestic violence disproportionately affecting women. Liechtenstein strongly condemns all forms of sexual and gender based violence, rape as one of its most severe forms in particular. We are proud to announce that Liechtenstein has ratified the Istanbul Convention two weeks ago. This underscores our strong commitment to combating violence against women and domestic violence.

We call upon all States to put effective measures in place to prevent, combat and punish all forms of sexual and gender based violence. A definition of rape in line with international standards, criminalising all forms of this crime, including marital rape as well as rape of men and boys, should only be the first step of many.

Liechtenstein emphasises the importance of responding to victims and survivors in an adequate and sensitive manner and for this reason pays particular attention to the training of law enforcement professionals handling cases of sexual and gender based violence, including rape. Victims and survivors are treated with care and provided with effective protection, support and legal assistance.

Finally, Liechtenstein would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for her important work over the past six years and wishes her all the best for the future. We reiterate our strong support for the mandate and welcome that the Consultative Group for the appointment of Special Procedures mandate holders was in a position to present candidates to the President of the Human Rights Council in order to avoid a protection gap.

I thank you.