



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN GENEVA

43rd Session of the Universal Periodic Review France – 1 May 2023

Statement by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the UN in Geneva

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Mr. President,

Malta warmly welcomes the delegation of France to this session of the Universal Periodic Review. France's engagement with the Human Rights Council, the UPR process and the human rights treaty bodies demonstrate France's consistent engagement on human rights and its efforts in implementing international human rights standards including its ratification of the CoE's Additional Protocol No. 16 to the Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms; as well as Convention No. 190 of the ILO.

We also welcome recent legislation in 2022 banning conversion therapy targeting LGBTIQ+ persons.

Malta would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Consider enhancing training programs for police and other law-enforcement agencies to avoid instances of ethnic profiling during stop-and-search activities.
2. Consider repealing or revising legal criminal provisions that may unduly restrict the exercise of freedom of assembly and protest.
3. Consider introducing legislation that bans medically unnecessary and irreversible surgery and other treatments that are routinely performed on intersex children as identified by various HR Treaty bodies.

We wish France a successful UPR session.