



78th session of the UN General Assembly, Third Committee, Interactive Dialogue with Ms. Ashwini K.P., Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, 27 October 2023 PM

Malta Statement delivered by Ms Cara Borg Aquilina, Youth Delegate

Thank you, Chair.

Malta aligns itself with the statement [to be] delivered by the European Union and thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report.

Special Rapporteur,

Malta is unequivocal in its commitment to the global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. At a national level, we continue to advance our work in this area through the Anti-Racism Strategy 2021-2023 which is our first national action plan to combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. The strategy aims to promote intercultural inclusion and involves various stakeholders, including civil society and the media.

As reflected in your report, hate speech in all its forms and manifestations is spreading globally, disinformation can contribute to this proliferation. Hate speech is a cross-cutting phenomenon and therefore requires a comprehensive approach, tackling all aspects and grounds of discrimination.



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Special Rapporteur,

Racism, xenophobia, and related forms of intolerance often intersect with other forms of discrimination, including on the basis of age, disability, socioeconomic status, gender identity and sexual orientation. In conflict situations, these interactions take many forms, in the context of elections, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance and protection.

In light of this, we are keen to hear your insights and recommendations on specific strategies to effectively counteract the proliferation of multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, both online and offline, in conflict affected contexts.

I thank you.