



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN GENEVA

HRC 52 – Item 2 - Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Afghanistan 6 March 2023

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

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Thank you, Mr. President,

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and thanks Special Rapporteur Bennett for his report.

We deplore the recent edicts issued by the de-facto authorities in Afghanistan which aim to exclude women from education and public life. We fully support the SR's call for an immediate end to this ban and call for the re-implementation of all fundamental human rights without discrimination between women and men, girls, and boys, and to create an enabling environment for all women and girls to have full, equal, and meaningful participation in society.

We also express our serious concern on the violations against children, persons with disability, LGTBQ+ persons and other vulnerable persons identified by the Special Rapporteur in his report and call on the de-facto authorities to ensure their human rights.

We would like to ask the Special Rapporteur what prospects for positive developments by the authorities he sees in light of the recent setbacks?

Thank You.