



HRC52 Item 2 General Debate – 7 March 2023

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

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Thank you, Mr. President,

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. We thank the High Commissioner for his updates.

At the outset we offer our deepest condolences and solidarity to the people of Türkiye and Syria following the devastating earthquakes

Various situations around the world remain of high concern.

In Afghanistan, the recent decisions by the de-facto authorities to ban women from education and public life, is deplorable. Afghanistan is the only country in the world to implement such draconian measures.

Malta also remains concerned by the persisting dire human rights situation in the **Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem**, and the continued lack of impunity and accountability affecting both sides.

The impact of the Russian war in Ukraine remains palpable and affects peoples far beyond the territory of Ukraine. We call again for Russia to stop this senseless war.

Mr. High Commissioner,

Your work, and that of your independent Office, is central to overcoming human rights issues around the world. As we celebrate 75th anniversary of the UDHR we remain fully committed to support your quest for justice and accountability.

Thank you.