



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN GENEVA

Statement by Malta at the 42nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review – Sri Lanka – 1 February 2023

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

Check against delivery

Malta warmly welcomes the delegation of Sri Lanka and thanks it for the presentation of the national report. Malta welcomes Sri Lanka's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Malta would like to make the following recommendations:

- Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty.
- Introduce legal provisions that ensure that all rape and non-consensual sexual acts are recognised at law as illegal regardless of sexual orientation or gender.
- Consider amending the Prevention of Terrorism Act to ensure the right to a fair trial, including regular access to legal counsel at all stages of the legal process.

We wish the delegation of Sri Lanka a successful review session.