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Statement at the 62nd Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls

22 June 2026

Ms. Alina Brunhart

Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Mothers play an irreplaceable role in the life of families and communities, yet the report reveals their specific vulnerability to violence.

The report shows that violence against mothers takes many forms. For instance, economic violence against mothers includes the failure to recognize caregiving as socially and economically valuable, as well as financial harms such as the motherhood penalty, loss of property rights, or lack of affordable housing.

Moreover, reproductive violence may include mistreatment during maternity care, medical interventions without free and informed consent. Mothers are also exposed to physical and sexual violence, including intimate partner violence.

Mister President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for highlighting the specific groups of mothers who face heightened risks of discrimination and violence, including migrant, stateless, Indigenous, incarcerated and surrogate mothers, among others identified in the report. Their experiences are too often absent from data, policy and law, leaving them without adequate protection or recourse.

Violence against mothers is a distinct form of violence against women and girls and requires as such adequate response measures.

I thank you, Mister President.