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Statement at the 62nd Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers

25 June 2026

Ms. Alina Brunhart

Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

I thank you, Mister President.

Liechtenstein thanks the Special Rapporteur for this timely and important report.

It is published at a critical moment. Across all regions, countries are affected by democratic decline and autocratization, increasingly threatening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. In this context, the principles set out in the report could not be more relevant.

We underline the importance on merit as a crucial criterion for judicial appointments which encompasses integrity, qualifications, and ability, assessed through objective and transparent methods. Legal safeguards must ensure that political preference and ideological alignment play no role in which candidate is appointed.

Mister President,

We reject any attempts of intimidation of and reprisals against judges at the International Criminal Court, including by imposing sanctions. Undermining criminal justice has a negative impact on the rule of law and fosters instability and uncertainty. Justice cannot only be called for when it's politically convenient but needs to be upheld in an independent and impartial manner.

Thank you, Mister President,