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Statement at the 63rd Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 4: Interactive Dialogue on the report of the Special Rapporteur on the Russian Federation

21 September 2026

Mr. Daniel Batliner

Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President.

Liechtenstein thanks the Special Rapporteur for the presentation of this important report.

We are deeply alarmed by the Russian Federation's systematic use of transnational repression to silence dissent beyond its borders. As the report demonstrates, the practices are a deliberate extension of a domestic system of repression that have intensified since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The expanding use of the so-called foreign agent and desirable organization frameworks, as well as the war censorship laws have affected the lives of critical voices in exile and even restricted cooperation of independent Russian organizations with the United Nations.

Particularly concerning is the growing use and scope of digital transnational repression. Cyberattacks, digital surveillance and the use of spyware, online harassment, and smear campaigns are increasingly used to target individuals beyond the Russian Federation's national borders.

Mr. President,

The absence of accountability for the systematic transnational repression remains deeply troubling. Reprisals against organizations that document human rights violations undermine the evidence needed for accountability and independent scrutiny.

In this regard, we would like to ask the Special Rapporteur: what are steps that States should take to close the accountability gap for transnational repression and ensure effective remedies and reparations for victims?

Thank you.