Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
United Nations in Geneva

Check against delivery

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
60th Regular Session

EID on Afghanistan

8 September 2025

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

Austria aligns itself with the EU Statement.

We thank all speakers for their presentations.

Austria remains deeply concerned about the ongoing human rights violations and abuses in Afghanistan. The deteriorating situation, particularly affecting women, girls, minorities, journalists, and human rights defenders, continues to be alarming. There is an urgent need for robust monitoring and reporting to document violations as a step towards accountability.

We strongly support the International Criminal Court and welcome the issuance of recent arrest warrants for individuals responsible for serious international crimes in Afghanistan. Accountability for perpetrators of atrocity crimes, including gender-based crimes, torture, and extrajudicial killings, is essential to justice and deterrence.

Austria reiterates its call on the de facto authorities to abide by Afghanistan's international human rights obligations, including under the CEDAW, and to uphold the principles of non-discrimination and the rule of law.

It has been a year since the introduction of the so-called “Law on the Promotion of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice” which further institutionalized the systemic gender oppression. We would like to ask the speakers what mechanisms, if any, exist for Afghans to challenge or appeal decisions made by the Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice or by the morality inspectors?

I thank you