Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
United Nations in Geneva

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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
60th Regular Session

Interactive Dialogue with the Fact-finding mission on Venezuela
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Thank you, Mr. President,

Austria aligns with the EU statement and welcomes the report by the Fact-Finding Mission. We fully support the Mission's important work in documenting human rights violations in Venezuela.

We are deeply concerned about the repression and harassment against dissenting voices, members of the opposition, civil society, human rights defenders, journalists and other media workers, as well as their lawyers. The continued reports of enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and deaths in detention are alarming and unacceptable.

Austria calls on the Venezuelan Government to cease all forms of repression of the civic and democratic space, including the censorship of independent media, as well as to immediately release all political prisoners and arbitrarily detained, including dual and foreign citizens. We further reiterate our call to take immediate steps to effectively end and prevent acts of torture and ill-treatment during detention and to ensure access to adequate medical care for everyone held in detention.

We reiterate our call on the Venezuelan Government to restore the cooperation with OHCHR and to grant access to international human rights mechanisms.

Madam Chair,
Could you elaborate on the state of civic space in Venezuela and what are your recommendations to address this?

Thank you.