

Permanent Mission of Hungary

[?] as outlined in its first report to the UN Human Rights Council, Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues has identified critical challenges of tackling hate speech, xenophobic rhetoric and incitement to hatred against minorities as one of thematic priorities of his mandate, and welcomes that the thematic report, providing a detailed analysis, and highlight the issue of hate speech, social media and minorities will be presented at the next session of the Human Rights Council.

Hungary is committed, in line with the pertaining international standards protecting and promoting the human rights of minorities, including national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and urges all relevant stakeholders in this respect, to take appropriate action against any forms of hate speech or advocacy of hatred, which might constitute incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. International instruments contain provisions on different types of expressions that would be considered as constituting hate speech, but it would also be pertinent to elaborate legally binding instruments on combating hate speech, in line with the existing strategies and recommendations adopted by the UN, as well as for instance the Council of Europe Recommendation no. 97/20 on hate speech, or the Guidelines on National Minorities and the Media in the Digital Age of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE.

Madame Chair,

Hate speech is a manifestation of discrimination that may lead to other serious human rights violations towards social groups and that damages social cohesion. Therefore, in our view, it is of utmost importance that relevant stakeholders at national, international as well as expert level, extend their efforts to adequately respond to the challenge.

Thank you!