



INTERVENTION BY THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

14TH SESSION OF THE FORUM ON THE ISSUES FACED BY MINORITIES

Focusing on minority rights and early and effective conflict prevention

Geneva, 3 December 2021

Please stick to the written text



Thank you, Madam President.

We are grateful for the presentations made by the distinguished panellists.

We are concerned about the proliferation of hate speech, xenophobic rhetoric and incitement to hatred towards minorities around the world, as well as the rise of extremist movements and political parties with neo-Nazi and extreme right-wing ideologies, which jeopardise the gains made in protecting the human rights of minorities and vulnerable groups.

We regret that the proliferation of hate speech - which already has a negative impact on indigenous populations in states - is being extended to other vulnerable groups, such as migrants.

Madam President,

Venezuela has constitutional and legal norms, as well as national plans, which are enacted in favour of the protection of the entire population, especially minorities.

Our constitution establishes that everyone has the right to freely express their thoughts, ideas or opinions through any form of expression, with no



limitations other than those established by the constitution and the law, and expressly prohibits war propaganda, discriminatory messages, and those that promote religious intolerance.

The Constitutional Law Against Hate, for Peaceful Coexistence and Tolerance created the necessary conditions to promote and guarantee the recognition of diversity, tolerance and reciprocal respect, expressly prohibiting the dissemination of messages through social networks and electronic media that incite national, racial, ethnic, religious, political, social, ideological and any other kind of hatred, which constitute incitement to discrimination, intolerance or violence, especially against vulnerable groups.

Finally, we wish to highlight that the 2019-2025 Plan for the Homeland includes among its objectives the consolidation of the vision of the heterogeneity and ethnic diversity of the Venezuelan State, under the respect and participatory and protagonist inclusion of all people belonging to our minorities and native people.

Thank you very much.