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ORAL STATEMENT
Item 6
Consideration of UPR reports: Kyrgyzstan

UN Human Rights Council
60th session
8 September – 8 October

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Kyrgyzstan's support for recommendations to implement further effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of gender-based violence including domestic violence, to expedite access to justice, to criminalize marital rape and strengthen appropriate protection mechanisms for all survivors of gender-based violence.¹ These are pressing matters in Kyrgyzstan, requiring additional actions. Violence against women and girls remains widespread, despite new legislation on domestic violence, bride kidnapping and forced marriage introduced in August 2024.

We regret that Kyrgyzstan failed to support recommendations² to amend legislation on the right to peaceful assembly. Kyrgyzstan continues to unduly restrict assemblies, imposing bans, limiting locations and imposing fines or jail time for subsequent "violations".

Disappointingly Kyrgyzstan declined to support all recommendations³ to repeal or amend legislation on "Foreign Representatives" and mass media which curb the legitimate activities of human rights defenders, non-governmental organisations and journalists, and severely restrict the exercise of the rights to freedom of association and expression.

We are especially concerned that human rights activists and journalists continue to be imprisoned for their peaceful attempts to hold the authorities accountable for human rights

¹ Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Kyrgyzstan, Addendum, 24 June 2025, UN Doc. A/HRC/60/4/Add.1, recommendations 140.69 (Iceland), 140.92 (Austria), 140.132 - 140.35 (Costa Rica, Brazil, Iceland, Mexico), 140.223 - 140.226 (Croatia, Finland, Japan, Singapore), 140.228 - 140.256 (Latvia, Italy, Nepal, Belgium, Honduras, Gambia, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Philippines, Switzerland, Panama, Denmark, Spain, Hungary, France, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Cyprus, Romania, Canada, Slovenia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Mongolia, Togo, Mauritius, The Bahamas)

² Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Kyrgyzstan, Addendum, 24 June 2025, UN Doc. A/HRC/60/4/Add.1, recommendations 140.111 - 140.126 (Lithuania, Switzerland)

³ On foreign representatives: Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Kyrgyzstan, Addendum, 4 June 2025, A/HRC/60/4/Add.1, recommendations 140.16 (Croatia), 140.22 (Denmark), 140.101 (Belgium), 140.107 - 140.110 (Liechtenstein, Spain, Lithuania), 140.121 - 140.129 (Australia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ireland, Switzerland, Malta, Gambia, Cyprus), 140.289 - 140.290 (Colombia, Kingdom of the Netherlands). On media: recommendations 140.95 - 140.99 (Chile, Cyprus, Czechia, Luxembourg, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), 140.105 - 140.106 (Finland, France), 140.128 (Gambia), 140.131 (Latvia).

violations.⁴

We urge Kyrgyzstan to respect and uphold freedom of expression and association and commit to implementing these recommendations in full compliance with international human rights law.

Finally, we encourage Kyrgyzstan to implement supported recommendations as soon as possible and in good faith. We urge the government to submit a mid-term report on progress towards their implementation and to use an Item 6 General Debate to bring this to the attention of UN Member States.

Thank you.

⁴ <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur58/8776/2024/en/> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/04/kyrgyzstan-detention-of-human-rights-defender-rita-karasartova-is-alarming-sign-of-deepening-repression/> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/05/kyrgyzstan-detention-of-kloop-media-staff-intensifies-crackdown-on-independent-journalism/>