



60th session of the Human Rights Council

***Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the
Central African Republic***

10 October 2025

Mr. President.

I speak on behalf of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

We thank Mr. Agbetse for his report.

The Central African Republic stands at a critical juncture today. The upcoming elections constitute a historic opportunity towards a democratic, inclusive and peaceful society.

Armed violence continues however to lead to grave violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law, including forced displacements. We strongly condemn the crimes committed by all parties. The situation remains particularly unstable in the eastern regions, where spillover effects of the conflict in neighboring Sudan have led to increased smuggling activities.

We welcome the recent advances made in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration scheme, and in particular the return of the armed groups *Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique* (UPC) and *Retour, Réclamation et Réhabilitation* (3R) to the peace process and their subsequent dissolution. We call upon other groups to follow suit and lay down arms.

We call on the government of the Central African Republic to respect and protect the right to freedom of expression and assembly, to halt arbitrary detentions and to end the use of torture and other forms of inhumane ill-treatments. Only with this enabling environment in place, will elections be free, fair and transparent.

Finally, we commend the Central African Republic for the ratification of the Maputo protocol on Women's Rights last July.

Thank you