



63rd Session of the Human Rights Council
Benelux Intervention
**Interactive Dialogue with the Group of Independent Experts on the Situation of
Human
Rights in Belarus**
18 September 2026

Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Belgium, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and my own country, Luxembourg. We align ourselves with the statement of the European Union.

We thank the Group of Independent Experts on the Situation of Human Rights in Belarus for their report. It presents a deeply concerning picture of the continued and coordinated repression of individuals who oppose, or are perceived to oppose, the Belarusian authorities. It documents persistent patterns of arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment, violations of fair trial guarantees, discriminatory conditions of detention, post-release harassment and surveillance, and cases of forced expulsion from Belarus.

We are particularly concerned by the findings regarding the persistent impunity, the systemic lack of accountability, and the continued persecution of human rights defenders and other civil society actors. We are deeply alarmed by the deliberate targeting of human rights organizations, aimed at silencing all their activities and erasing civic space.

The continued repression of individuals for exercising their fundamental rights and freedoms must end. We call on Belarus to immediately and unconditionally release all persons arbitrarily detained, to ensure independent and impartial investigations into all alleged human rights violations, and to cooperate fully with UN human rights mechanisms, including the Group of Independent Experts on the Situation of Human Rights in Belarus.

Thank you.