**51st session of the UN Human Rights Council**

**Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar**

*21 September 2022*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

Mr. President,

*The Czech Republic aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU.*

We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for his oral progress report.

Since the military coup in February 2021, we have heard repeatedly in this forum that the most serious crimes are committed on a daily basis by the Myanmar authorities, including sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children.

August 2022 marked a five-year anniversary of the violent attack against the Rohingya people in 2017. The Rohingya continue to live in horrendous conditions, both inside and outside of Myanmar, waiting for a possibility to safely return to their homes.

Instead of seeing an improvement, the situation in Myanmar worsens and the scope of crime expands according to the newest reports. The military junta ignores international human rights law and disposes of those who express a slightest form of opposition.

We urge the Myanmar authorities to stop all human rights violations immediately and to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur as well as the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar. We repeat our call on the authorities to release all arbitrarily detained persons.

The Czech Republic continues to condemn the coup and wants to express the deepest regard for those who so bravely stand up to the military junta and provide an invaluable testimony of the crimes and HR violations committed, knowing that their own lives are at stake.

*Mr Special Rapporteur,*

*What steps can be taken in order to effectively protect witnesses on the ground?*

I thank you.