



SLOVENIA

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STATEMENT

BY

**Ms Petra Langerholc, Minister Plenipotentiary and Legal Adviser at the Permanent
Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations on**

Agenda item 84: The Rule of Law at the national and international levels

**77th Session of the General Assembly
Sixth Committee**

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We call upon the international community never to use any crisis such as the pandemic as an excuse to misuse a declared state of emergency. Fundamental freedoms of movement, assembly, and expression were subject to limitations, and in many instances, used as means of repressing the political opposition, civil society, and the media. Moreover, the rights to health, education, and decent work were in most cases subject to severe impediments.

In addition, restrictive measures affected the work of courts at the national as well as international level, having an impact on people's access to justice, which is important for ensuring the right to an effective remedy and a fair trial.

People who were already in a vulnerable position have ended up in an ever-harder situation as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and related measures.

Mister Chairperson,

Strengthening the rule of law by protecting the rights of the individual is at the forefront of Slovenia's foreign policy.

Moreover, support for the rule of law as a building block of peace and security