

United Nations.
Human Rights Council.
Universal Periodic Review.
Iceland.
16th of March 2017

*Dear Human beings,
Mister (vice-)President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Webcasters,
Good afternoon,*

Humanity is immensely rich and Iceland is highly gifted.

Iceland is gender champion and ranks first on the Global Peace Index. Humanity is, we are rich in values and feelings, we live on a bountiful planet and we do have the people, projects and resources needed to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals.

More shall be expected from the ones that go first and though we command a very good UPR for Iceland, not the least because many recommendations made by the Center for Global Nonkilling have been carried out by Member States. However, we still have two comments to make.

First, in the lands of plenty, life should be revered and suicide should never be an option. We recall, quoting the World Health Organization's statistics¹, that after road traffic casualties, suicide is the second cause of all violent deaths.

They are 34 countries where more suicides occur than in Iceland, but as no Member State has raised the issue, we mention or recall that suicide reduction is one of the targets of SDG 3.

Secondly, Iceland received 251 recommendations in both UPR cycles, while until last session Iceland only gave 85 recommendations to other States. We would highly appreciate it, if Iceland, as a gender and peace champion, would participate more in the works of the Human Rights Council, and specifically at the Universal Periodic Review.

Thank you for your good will and for your full attention.

“From the politics of taking life to the politics of affirming it”

¹ 49 casualties in 2012, 14/100'000, decreasing since year 2000, though slightly augmenting for women: « Preventing suicide. A global imperative ». World health organization. Geneva, 2014. P. 83 http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/131056/1/9789241564779_eng.pdf, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_suicide_rate, http://www.who.int/gho/publications/world_health_statistics/2016/whs2016_AnnexA_Suicide.pdf?ua=1&ua=1