

Statement by Hungary

Item 72 ID with SR on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

72th Session of the UNGA 3rd Committee, 29 October 2018

Ms. Special Rapporteur,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make a few but very important remarks on behalf of Hungary regarding your recent report on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Hungary rejects all accusations in your recent report portraying Hungary in a most untruthful light. We reject these critiques, as they are baseless and false.

Ms. Special Rapporteur,

Let me take this opportunity to clarify these allegations and present my country's views in their reality in response to your statements:

In your report, you mention the new Hungarian legislative package aimed at reducing illegal migration.

Hungary, as a member state protecting the external borders of the European Union, has an obligation and responsibility to ensure effective action against unlawful mass migration, human trafficking and persons organizing it. The legislative package, as well as the special tax on migration mentioned in your report is aimed at achieving these goals.

Let me also emphasize that there are 65 thousand non-governmental organisations operating in Hungary and it is deeply regrettable that less than a dozen of them dominate the discussion internationally, trying to present a false picture about Hungary. While NGOs represent different interests and causes, they do not, however, represent the Hungarian people as such.

Regarding the allegations concerning Hungary's Fundamental Law, I again have to refuse the false allegations. The quote in your report on ethnic and religious exclusion is completely fabricated and does not appear in the Law at all. We encourage you to read the primary and multiple sources in the report instead of Handbooks and political statements. Moreover, Hungary guarantees the right to asylum for persons who have **directly** arrived from a country where they were subject to persecution or where there is a direct risk of being exposed to persecution. Thus the Amendment to our Fundamental Law remains to be in full compliance with our obligations arising from international law including the non-refoulement principle.