

Human Rights Council
47th session
Item 2

Interactive dialogue with the High Commissioner for Human Rights
22 May 2021
Intervention by Denmark

[Check against delivery]

Denmark aligns itself with the EU statement.

Rule of Law and accountability are essential elements in the prevention of human rights violations and abuses. Impunity emboldens perpetrators, neglects victims and enables the recurrence of human rights violations.

The lack of rule of law and accountability have effects that are visible in countries such as **Belarus** and **Myanmar**. The handling of political opponents and civilian protesters is unacceptable.

We remain extremely worried about the recent escalation of violence in Myanmar, especially the continued use of heavy weaponry and even airstrikes against the civilian population, including ethnic and religious minorities. Those responsible must be held to account.

But the cases of Belarus and Myanmar also show us that the Council has relevant tools to apply when human rights violations and abuses are met with impunity.

We take note of the recent establishment of a Commission of Inquiry on Israel/oPt and await the findings of its work.

Finally, we are deeply concerned about the reports on human rights abuses in **Ethiopia**. We look forward to the joint OHCHR/EHRC-report and to further discussions in the Council.