

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 33rd Session

Universal Periodic Review of Nicaragua

Statement by Australia

15 May 2019

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia welcomes the delegation of Nicaragua.

Australia is gravely concerned by reports of violence and widespread human rights violations in Nicaragua. The Government's repression of protests has resulted in hundreds of deaths, arbitrary detentions, reports of torture and the exodus of tens of thousands of Nicaraguans.

Australia recommends that **Nicaragua**:

1. Cease violent repression of opposition protests, uphold the rights to freedom of association peaceful assembly and expression, and release those arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights.
2. Resume cooperation with international human rights observers and impartially investigate, without impunity, all alleged human rights abuses and violations, and hold those responsible to account.
3. Allow the voluntary and safe return of citizens who have fled the country from fear of reprisal.
4. Eliminate gender-based violence, and discrimination and violence directed at indigenous and LGBTI minorities.
5. Ensure the realisation of sexual and reproductive health and rights, including access to the full range of quality reproductive and sexual health care, services and information.

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