



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!



STATEMENT
by the Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Slovenia to the UN Ambassador Darja Bavdaž Kuret at the First
Committee of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly
New York, October 29, 2019

Mr. Chairman,

Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and I wish to contribute a few further remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Advances in communication technology have provided us not only with fresh opportunities, but also with new challenges. Addressing them is especially important for democratic societies, which rely on a free and open flow of information.

In Slovenia, we strongly believe in the need for a cyberspace that is both global and secure. In our view, this security should be based on existing international law, including the Charter of the United Nations in its entirety, as well as on international humanitarian law, and international human rights law. We therefore do not see the necessity for a new international body of law on cyber issues

Slovenia is engaged in sharing best practices with countries of the Western Balkans. This cooperation includes management of classified data and wider cyber issues. The Slovenian national cyber security incident response centre is engaged in training of computer emergency response teams from the region.

Similarly, the Ljubljana-based Centre for European Perspective has been running a special program on digital diplomacy for participants from the region, with a special focus on disinformation. We believe that this program could serve as a possible model for other regions as well.



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Slovenia is also in the process of upgrading its own national crisis response system in the area of cyber security. A new specialized agency is being set up. Slovenia joined the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats in Helsinki. Slovenia is also in the process of joining the NATO Co-operative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Tallinn.

We believe that this will provide us with additional know-how and expertise to assist ourselves and others in advancing responsible state behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security.

Thank you.