

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Czech Republic, led by Mr. Vladimír Galuška, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia recognises Czech Republic's dedication to advance its human rights record since the first review. Following the decades-long history of a common state, Slovakia and the Czech Republic continue to face human rights challenges of similar nature where we enjoy a truly cordial, inspiring, constructive and fruitful cooperation in identifying the most appropriate ways to address them. In this particular context, we welcomed the adoption of the National Plan of Action for Inclusive Education in 2010, establishing a framework for activities promoting equal access to and equal opportunities in education, as well as the creation of the Agency for Social Inclusion in 2008, tasked to improve the life in socially excluded communities. We also commend measures taken in response to the radicalisation of extremism, among those the dissolution of the far-right Workers' Party. As another remarkable achievement we have noted the adoption of the Anti-Discrimination Act in 2009, the new Criminal Code 2009, the amended Code of Civil Procedure and the Code of Criminal Procedure in 2008 with stronger human rights content.

Slovakia would like to present the Czech Republic the following three recommendations:

- 1. to continue pursuing appropriate, efficient policies in combating acts of extremism and xenophobia, such as the Strategy for Combating Extremism or the Crime and Extremism Prevention Programme "Dawn",**
- 2. to consider an early ratification of the newest international HR instrument – the third OP to CRC on a communication procedure,**
- 3. to complete the process of the national legislation's full alignment with all obligations under the Rome Statute, in particular by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court.**

I thank you, Mme. President.