**Universal Periodic Review of MONACO, 28 October 2013**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the high level delegation of Monaco to the UPR’s 17th session. We thank Monaco for their work in preparing the report presented earlier and also for the additional information given in the opening speech.

Estonia notes with appreciation that Monaco has become a party to nearly all of the core international human rights instruments and is fully cooperating with the special procedures of the UN Human Rights Council as well as with treaty bodies.

We acknowledge that human rights are an important part of Monaco’s domestic policies and also an essential dimension in its foreign policy. Since the last review, Monaco has adopted several legislative acts related to human rights. The Government has implemented recommendations made during the first UPR; *inter alia* the adoption of a bill on the prevention and punishment of specific forms of violence, including violence against women.

Estonia positively notes the efforts of Monaco in the area of gender equality, women’s and children’s rights. We call on Monaco to ensure that corporal punishment for children is explicitly prohibited and that domestic violence is punished.

We welcome the fact that the empowering freedoms, primarily the freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and association, are respected and protected in Monaco. We encourage the authorities to decriminalize defamation and place its regulation in the Civil Code.

Estonia would like to make **the following recommendations** to the Government of Monaco:

1. to ratify **the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court** (ICC) **and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC** (APIC)**,** and to fully align its national legislation with the obligations contained therein;
2. to ratify **the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment** (OP-CAT)

We would like to wish the delegation of Monaco a successful review meeting.

Thank You!