

**UPR 19 – EQUATORIAL GUINEA**  
**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

*The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Equatorial Guinea.*

Although Equatorial Guinea accepted most of the recommendations made at its last UPR, multiple concerns remain. The Czech Republic has the following recommendations:

- We **recommend** that the Government take measures to effectively guarantee freedom of expression, assembly and association, prevent censorship and undue control of the media, protect journalists and investigate all attacks against them.
- We **recommend** that the Government act in earnest to prevent harassment, politically motivated arrests and arbitrary detentions of political opponents and guarantee their equal access to funding and the media, and that all citizens be granted the right to free participation in public and political life.
- We **recommend** that law enforcement officials be provided with human rights training and that the fight against impunity for acts of torture be intensified. In this regard, we also **recommend** ratifying the OP-CAT.
- Finally, the severely limited space for independent human rights activism is of concern for the Czech Republic. We therefore **recommend** easing requirements for the registration of all NGOs and facilitating unhindered operation of all civil society actors, including human rights defenders.

VIKTOR VELEK