UPR – <u>Turkey</u> – 27 January 2015

STATEMENT by BULGARIA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Turkey.

We express our appreciation of the Government's efforts to comply with the international human rights obligations and commitments. Bulgaria welcomes the progress Turkey has made, in cooperation with the EU, in strengthening its legislative and constitutional framework relating to the promotion and protection of human rights.

We appreciate that in line with the recommendation made by Bulgaria in the first UPR, Turkey has established the independent Ombudsman Institution and a Human Rights Institution designated also as "National Preventive Mechanism", in compliance with the UN Paris Principles.

Bulgaria welcomes the adoption by the Parliament of the six "Judicial Reform Packages" as well as the restructuring of the Constitutional Court and the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors on the basis of best practices.

Following our recommendations from the First UPR Cycle, we would like to confirm the appropriateness of undertaking the adequate steps concerning the property claims of persons from Bulgarian identity from eastern Thrace.

We commend Turkey's cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the extending of a standing invitation to Special procedures.

Thank you!