

**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of
Austria, 9th of November 2015**

Mr. President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Austria and thanks it for the presentation of Austria's national report.

We commend the progress made by Austria since the first UPR cycle to further promote and protect the human rights of its people including the preparation of a National Action Plan on Human Rights.

Since the first UPR review, a number of important measures have been taken by Austria on the subject of integration, both structurally and in substance. We recommend that Austria continue on this path and take further steps to promote integration of asylum seekers, migrants and refugees and their participation in political, cultural and economic life, including by increasing their access to affordable health-care services and to the employment market.

We also welcome steps taken by Austria with regard to business and human rights including the issuance of guidance to businesses to refrain from getting involved in violations of international law abroad. We recommend that Austria strengthen oversight over Austrian companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses.

We wish Austria every success in its future endeavours.

Thank you Mr. President.