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23rd Session of the Working Group for UPR
Interactive Dialogue on Report of **Austria**

Mr. President,

Serbia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Austria and thanks them for their cooperation with UPR mechanisms.

Austria demonstrates its dedication to the protection of human rights, not only through its legislative conformity with international human rights treaties, but also by regular dialogue with representatives of civil society and human rights institutions. We commend Austria for its efforts to provide equal treatment for all and to eliminate discrimination against marginalized groups. However, harmonization of anti-discrimination laws and closing the protection gaps in order to ensure equal protection on all grounds of discrimination should be undertaken.

We offer to Austria the following recommendations:

1. Invest further efforts in political empowerment of representatives of minority communities with a view to encourage their meaningful participation in political processes in local, regional and national level, and thus provide for their better integration in the society.
2. Consider extending additional support to linguistic and ethnic groups other than those officially recognized as ethnic minorities, with aim to further promote diverse cultural identities and practice of multiculturalism.

Thank you for your attention.

(Aleksandar Tomić)