



# CROATIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE

GENEVA

**Statement by**

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of  
Croatia to the UN**

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MS. IVANA KOZAR SCHENCK

**23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Working Group on  
the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Lebanon**

Geneva, 2 November 2015

Mr. President,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Lebanon and thank them for the presentation of their report.

Croatia welcomes the positive steps made by Lebanon towards creating a more just and equal society, and particularly with regard to the adoption and implementation of the National Ten-Year Strategy for Women's Affairs and increasing the age of compulsory education from 12 to 15 years.

We greatly appreciate the steps that have been taken to combat the discrimination of women in society and we note the passing of the Law on the Protection of Women and Family from Domestic Violence. Notwithstanding the progress that continues to be made we remain concerned that the protection of children against violence and exploitation remains weak. Despite the fact that child protection is recognized as a critical issue, gaps in the child protection system still exist. We are also concerned about domestic violence and gender-related killings, femicide and crimes committed in the name of so-called honor.

Mr. President,

We have two recommendations:

To improve harmonization of national legislature with that of the CRC, in particular the legal status of the corporal punishment of children and provisions on the minimum age of criminal responsibility;

To withdraw reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women and continue with efforts to empower women economically, politically and socially, and to take all necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.

Thank you.