**Universal Periodic Review of the United Kingdom**

**4th of May 2017**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of the **United Kingdom** to the UPR’s 27th session. Estonia appreciates the United Kingdom’s outstanding role in promoting human rights, especially the gender equality around the world combined with its longstanding commitment for international development aid.

Estonia would like to make the following recommendations:

* to ratify the First Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (OP-ICCPR);
* to take further action in protecting the rights of the child by prohibiting all corporal punishment of children as required by the Convention of the Rights of Child.

As the British government has made a proposal to replace the 1998 Human Rights Act with a British Bill of Rights, it is important that all relevant stakeholders are involved in the process of developing any new legislation. We consider it important to maintain the established effectiveness and scope of international human rights principles in the domestic law and to ensure their universal application to all individuals under United Kingdom’s jurisdiction.

I would like to conclude by wishing the delegation of the United Kingdom a successful review meeting.

Thank you.