**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

44th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of the Federal Republic of Germany***

9 November 2023

Mr. President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the high level Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany and thanks for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria would like to praise the consistent efforts taken at federal and regional level in Germany to promote tolerance, understanding, respect for cultural diversity, and social inclusion. We highlight the legislative, institutional, and policy measures that aim to ensure genuine equality between women and men, advance the empowerment of women and girls, strengthen the protection of the rights of the child, and realize the rights of persons with disabilities.

Bulgaria commends that the protection and promotion of human rights are key foreign policy priorities that Germany is pursuing in the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international fora, in its bilateral relations and in various human rights dialogues.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Germany:

1. Continue efforts to develop regulations and implement policies that will protect the rights, privacy and safety of children in the digital environment;
2. Take further measures to provide appropriate assistance and consolidate welfare services to all persons with disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President.