

**The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

44rd Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Uzbekistan

8 November 2023

# The Republic of Serbia welcomes the delegation of Uzbekistan at the UPR’s Session and thanks it for presenting its National Report.

 Serbia commends Uzbekistan’s commitment to the UPR process and the progress achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the implementation of the accepted recommendations from the previous UPR cycle. We commend Uzbekistan’s reform process to strengthen the rule of law, respect for human rights and sustainable development. We also commend Uzbekistan for adopting a number of constitutional laws, codes and legislative acts on human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as for establishing new national mechanisms for the protection and monitoring of human rights. We welcome in particular the adoption of the National Strategy for Achieving Gender Equality for the period until 2030.

# Serbia recommends that Uzbekistan consider ratification of the Optional Protocol against Torture, as well as to consider the accession to the 1951 Refugee Convention. We encourage Uzbekistan to increase the duration of free education in its legislation to cover at least 12 years of primary and secondary education.

# Serbia wishes Uzbekistan a very successful review.