**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**46th Session of the UPR Working Group**

*Geneva, 2nd May 2024*

**Recommendations by Czechia**

**to NORTH MACEDONIA**

Czechia warmly welcomes the delegation of North Macedonia.

We commend North Macedonia’s constructive engagement in increasing the inclusion of the Roma community, including the adoption of action plans. We appreciate the amendment of the Criminal Code and the adoption of the Law on Civil Liability for Defamation that raised the overall protection of journalists.

We once again wish to recommend to:

* Continue the efforts to **implement reforms aimed at strengthening the rule of law**, including through reinforcing the impartiality, independence and efficiency of the judicial system, and avoiding any type of discrimination based on disability or gender;
* Ensure sufficient **funding of the Ombudsman Office**,thus increasing its independence, and include the mandate for promotion of human rights, positioning them in line with the Paris Principles;
* **Address** the persistent issue of **inadequate detention conditions** in prisons, police stations, social care and psychiatric facilities in line with the recommendations in the last CPT report;

We further recommend to:

* Continue the process of **ratifying important human rights instruments** and their optional protocols, especially the Convention for the Protection from Enforced Disappearance.

We wish North Macedonia a successful review.

I thank you.