**Human Rights Council**

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

**Review of Slovakia**

*(6 May 2024)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1 min 20, 206 words)*

**Thank you,** **Mr. President,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes the delegation of Slovakia and thanks for the presentation of its national report. We highly commend country’s commitment to human rights promotion and protection and its active role in the HRC.

We welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture which was recommended by Ukraine during the previous cycle and acknowledge the efforts undertaken by the Government of Slovakia towards elimination of domestic violence, protection of the rights of women and children, equal access to justice and steps taken to ensure inclusive education, in particular school desegregation.

We also note with gratitude the country’s policy towards Ukrainian refugees who had to flee from Russian military aggression and had received temporary protection in Slovakia, along with access to the labor market and education.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, Ukraine would like to offer the following **recommendations:**

* to allocate sufficient resources in order to make full use in practice of a newly created national prevention mechanism under the provisions of the Convention against Torture;
* to take concrete steps to ensure social inclusion of disadvantaged persons with a special focus on their employment.

We wish the delegation of Slovakia a successful review.

**I thank you.**