**46th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Vietnam**

7 May 2024

**Statement by Austria**

Austria warmly welcomes the delegation of Vietnam and thanks them for their presentation.

We welcome the proposal of a new “gender transition law” and encourage its swift adoption.

We are concerned about restrictions on the freedom of expression and the increasing number of arrests and convictions of activists, journalists and bloggers.

Austria would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Guarantee the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and assembly, including by bringing relevant provisions of the penal code and the Cyber Security Law in line with international human rights standards.
2. Ratify the ILO-Convention No. 87 on the Freedom of Association.
3. Establish a moratorium on capital executions and further reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty is imposed with a view of ultimately abolishing it.

Thank you.