**UPR47 - Albania**

**4th November 2024**

Statement by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN, Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

We warmly welcome the delegation of Albania. Malta commends Albania’s strong ratification record of international covenants and optional protocols thereto. We also note positively Albania’s national report which highlights progress on several issues since the last UPR cycle, including various national action plans covering among others, cross-sectoral justice and juvenile justice strategies, children’s rights, gender equality and the action plan for LGBTI persons. We urge Albania to intensify its efforts to implement these and other national programs.

Malta recommends the following:

1. Increase the number of shelters for women and girls who are victims of domestic violence, especially in rural areas.
2. Consider enacting legislation to legally recognise same-sex partnerships.
3. Increase education campaigns to combat instances of child labour and other forms of exploitation of minors.

We wish Albania a successful review.