**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**48th Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of Italy**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**Geneva, 20 January 2025**

Mr. President,

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Republic of Italy.

We commend the country's commitment to promoting human rights at home and internationally, including its leadership in calling for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty at the UN fora.

We noted a comprehensive set of legislative and institutional measures taken between the two UPR cycles to address challenges in various human rights areas. However, we would welcome further steps in combating racism, intolerance and hate speech, tackling the high school dropout rate among migrant children and the complex migration situation at the EU's southern borders.

Montenegro recommends:

1. To expedite the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles;
2. To develop and implement the national public campaign against hate speech and intolerance against LGBT persons.

We wish Italy a successful UPR cycle.