**Universal Periodic Review of Ukraine**

**Recommendations BY the Republic of Lithuania**

**Geneva, 15 November 2017**

Lithuania warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Ukraine to the UPR Working Group, thanks it for the comprehensive national report and wishes it a successful review.

Since the start of the illegal occupation of Crimea by Russia and the Russia-designed armed conflict in Ukraine’s Donbas, the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law have become routine in those parts of Ukraine, which are *de facto* controlled by Russia. In these circumstances, **we recommend** the Government of Ukraine to continue to seek effective ways, through international mechanisms, to hold to account those responsible for such violations.

We, further, **recommend** Ukraine:

1. to consider ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; and
2. to consider ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) – a recommendation that my own country has accepted in our ongoing UPR cycle.

I thank you, Mr. President.