**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

28th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of the Czech Republic***

6 November 2017

Mr. President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the Czech Delegation and thanks Deputy Minister Martina Stepankova for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria notes with appreciation that most of the accepted recommendations of the Second UPR have been or are being implemented by the Czech Republic. We are impressed by the detailed information on implementation of these recommendations and on recent ratification of a number of major international human rights instruments, which has been provided in the national report and the annexed table of implementation.

Commendable are the adoption by the Czech Government of the Strategy for Equality of Women and Men 2014-2020 and the Plan of Action for balanced representation of women and men in decision making positions.

We praise the adoption and the progress in implementation of the National Strategy for the Protection of the Rights of the Child, the Migration Policy Strategy, and other social inclusion and integration strategies aimed at vulnerable groups.

We would like to request information on the first Strategy on Prevention of and Solution to Homelessness and its implementation.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendation:

• Undertake further legislative and policy measures to discontinue the institutionalization of children under three years of age.

We wish the Czech Delegation a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!