**Universal Periodic Review of Ukraine**

**15th November 2017**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of Ukraine to its third UPR.

Since the last UPR session in 2012, we have witnessed the Maidan Revolution of Dignity in 2014, Russian military aggression that is still ongoing in Donbass and Crimea that are illegally annexed by the Russian Federation. The conflict has brought about 1,6 mln of internally displaced persons (IDPs), directly affected more than 4,4 mln people and killed over 2000 civilians. We note with appreciation Ukraine’s efforts in tackling the very difficult problems caused by this ongoing aggression.

We welcome the Law on the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and encourage the Government to continue to alleviate the situation of the IDPs especially in terms of social protection. We urge the Government to continue with the investigations into the serious violations and abuses during the 2014 Maidan protests and the violence in Odessa in May 2014, where some progress has been made. Estonia further acknowledges the Government’s efforts in addressing gender-based and domestic violence. While we welcome the steps taken to improve the judiciary, we encourage Ukraine to take all necessary means to tackle corruption and to continuously engage with the civil society organisations in the reform processes.

Estonia would like to make the following **recommendations** to the government of Ukraine:

* Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention);
* Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC);
* Create a special anticorruption court and ensure its proper functioning.

We wish the Ukraine every success in the implementation of accepted recommendations.

Thank you.