**Universal Periodic Review, 28th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Ukraine, 15 November 2017**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark warmly welcomes the Ukrainian delegation and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ukraine has taken positive steps to protect and promote human rights over the past three years. However, violence against women continues to be a problem in many parts of the country. Ukraine signed the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in 2011, but ratification is still pending.

*Denmark* ***recommends*** *Ukraine to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence without further delay.*

Denmark is concerned by the apparent shrinking civil society space in Ukraine where civil society representatives have been met with threats and even violent attacks. Civil society working on reforms in Ukraine, including on anti-corruption, are met with an increasing number of bureaucratic inhibiting requirements and restrictions.

*Denmark* ***recommends*** *Ukraine to ensure that no unnecessary or arbitrary legal or administrative restrictions on the legitimate work of civil society are in effect.*

I thank you.