Review of Ukraine – intervention by Poland

*(Geneva, 15 November)*

Poland would like to thank the delegation of Ukraine for its informative national report and constructive participation in the UPR process.

The situation of human rights in Ukraine has dramatically changed since the last UPR in 2012 and is heavily influenced by the conflict in the Eastern Ukraine and the illegal annexation of Crimean peninsula by Russian Federation. This situation constitutes grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law. In this context, Poland welcomes the efforts of the Ukrainian authorities to protect those who are most vulnerable, the IDPs or Crimean Tatars. The adoption of ambitious national human rights strategy 2015-2020 or creation of Commissioner for the Crimean Tatar Issues seem to be steps in the right direction.

Having in mind that the most severe cases of human rights violations and impunity are being recorded in areas not under Ukrainian government control, we would like to draw attention to the issues that require additional efforts. The delegation of Poland would like to recommend to Ukraine:

* To increase efforts to fight effectively with corruption, therefore National Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor’s Office established in 2015 should intensify their work in prosecution of high-level corruption in the Government, Parliament and the courts. Establishment of the separate Anti-Corruption Court should be the next step in this direction.
* To strengthen existing law and practice to counteract trafficking in human beings for sexual and labour exploitation, particularly of young women, focusing also on the situation in conflict-affected regions where the risk of being exposed to sexual violence or trafficking is higher.