Albania warmly welcomes the delegation of Austria and thanks it for the comprehensive national report.

We commend Austria for its commitment to protecting and promoting human rights at both national and international levels, and note with appreciation that a human-rights-based approach continues to guide Austrian Development Cooperation.

Albania welcomes the intention of the Austrian Government to adopt a National Human Rights Action Plan, which could also ensure comprehensive and coordinated implementation of international human rights obligations.

Noting the efforts made to comply with the recommendations accepted during the first two cycles of the UPR, we particularly welcome that Austria has withdrawn all reservations concerning CEDAW, CRC, as well as the reservation to Article 5 CAT.

Albania recommends that Austria:

1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.
2. Ensure that the Austrian Ombudsman Board fully complies with the Paris Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.

We wish Austria a successful review.