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**38th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Estonia**

04 May 2021

**Statement by Austria**

Thank you,

Austria welcomes the delegation of Estonia to the UPR and thanks them for their report and presentation today.

We note with satisfaction that Estonia has implemented the recommendation made during the second UPR regarding the establishment of an NHRI. We welcome the increasing number of women among decision-makers. Estonia is the only country in the world at the moment that has women as both, head of state and head of government. We would however also like to point out some shortcomings including the gender pay gap, violence against women and the situation of LGBTI persons.

Austria therefore offers the following recommendations:

1. *Study the root causes and take effective steps towards elimination of the gender pay gap.*
2. *Continue efforts to eliminate violence against women and domestic violence and ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.*
3. *Improve the development of rights for LGBTI persons including by adopting implementation provisions for the Registered Partnership Act, to ensure full implementation of the Act.*

I thank you.