**UPR 38**

**Paraguay**

*5th May 2021*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Paraguay and thanks for the presentation of its national report. We appreciate that since the last review, Paraguay has implemented several recommendations, including in the areas of international criminal law or rights of the child.

While acknowledging the progress made, we would like to present the following recommendations:

Firstly, we **recommend** adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the right to life and safety of human rights defenders and journalists.

Secondly, we **recommend** that Paraguay strengthen its efforts to eradicate all forms of interference in the judiciary by other branches of government.

Thirdly, we **recommend** that Paraguay step up its efforts to prevent, combat and punish femicides and all acts of violence against women.

Fourthly, (noting the high rates of maternal mortality, mainly owing to unsafe abortions,) we **recommend** legalize abortion in cases of risk to the health of the woman, rape or severe fetal impairment and decriminalize it in all other cases.

Thank you.