*Check against delivery*

**UPR38 – Estonia**

**Statement by Slovakia**

4 May 2021

Madam President,

Slovakia welcomes the delegation of Estonia to this UPR session and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We value efforts made by the Government of Estonia to promote and enhance the protection of human rights both on the national and international level. We commend Estonia for taking a number of positive steps to address human rights related issues and to advance its human rights legislative framework.

Slovakia praises the expansion of the mandate of the Chancellor of Justice, in particular assigning it with the functions of NHRI as well as granting the competence of the Ombudsperson for Children to the Chancellor. My country also welcomes the creation of an advisory committee to support those new functions.

We note with appreciation a role played by both the Chancellor of Justice and the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner in promoting equality and ensuring and exercising supervision over compliance with current legislation in Estonia.

At the same time, we would like to offer following recommendations to Estonia for further consideration:

1. continue improving the coordination of all activities related to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at cross-sectoral, national, regional and local levels,
2. ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRC on a communications procedure and to strengthen and increase further awareness among children about the individual complaint mechanism,
3. take further measures towards development and implementation of a comprehensive protection against hate speech and hate crimes,
4. take necessary steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

We wish Estonia a successful review.

I thank you, Madam President.