**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 39th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Greece**

**Statement by Australia**

**1 November 2021**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia welcomes Greece’s continued efforts to improve its human rights framework including through ratification of the Istanbul Convention. Australia commends Greece on concrete steps made in respect of: LGBTI rights; gender equality; the rights of persons with a disability; controls on the armed forces and police; the status of Greece's Muslim minority in the Thrace region; and, combating anti‑Semitism and hate speech.

Australia encourages Greece to take further steps to promote full observance of its human rights standards, including in relation to gender inequality and gender-based violence, and the treatment of minorities and vulnerable and marginalised groups in Greek society.

Australia recommends that **Greece**:

1. **Build upon the institutional framework established under Law 4604/2019, to drive substantive gender equality and the elimination of gender-based violence.**
2. **Continue to strengthen efforts to ensure all crimes committed with a discriminatory motive are fully and effectively investigated.**
3. **Take further steps to end discrimination against minority groups including its Roma population, and meaningfully integrate Roma children within its education system.**

**[171 Words]**