[Check against delivery]



# 40 Session of the UPR working group Recommendations by Finland to Lithuania

# 26 January 2022

Finland highly appreciates the engagement of Lithuania in the UPR process. Finland wishes to thank Lithuania for its role in promoting human rights and democracy, both globally and domestically. We welcome the notable improvements in gender equality and the increasing participation of women in politics and society in Lithuania.

Finland wishes to recommend the following:

1. Firstly, to ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention (Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence).
2. Secondly, to continue building a more LGBTQI+ inclusive society and ensure legal protection of family life of same-sex couples, including by adopting legislation that would provide for legal recognition of same-sex partnerships, and by developing a national strategy on LGBTQI+ equality.

I thank you.