**Fortieth Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group**

**Review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

**Tuesday, 25 January 2022**

Mister President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Venezuela and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We remain concerned with the suppression of civic and political rights, the reports of torture and ill-treatment, enforced disappearances and arbitrary detentions as well as the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

Therefore, we have following recommendations:

1. Strengthen the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture and ratify the Optional protocol on Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment.
2. Take urgent measures to conduct exhaustive and impartial investigations on excessive use of force and ensure accountability for human rights violations committed by State actors.
3. Adopt a national action plan on combating sexual and gender based violence.

We encourage the Government to continue its cooperation with OHCHR in meeting the international human rights norms.

Thank you.