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

**Review of the Republic of Lithuania**

**Wednesday, 26 January 2022**

Mr. President,

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

We command the amendments to the Criminal Code establishing criminal liability for acts of discrimination on the basis of sex, gender and sexual orientation, as well as the improvements to the legislative framework aimed at ensuring equality between women and men.

We also warmly welcome the prohibition of all forms of violence against children. We are glad to witness the increased focus on the needs of children and young people, including the most vulnerable among them.

In our view, consultations and dialogue with the representatives Council of National Communities is a good step in ensuring the protection of the rights of all national minorities.

Croatia would like to make following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).
2. Continue the efforts aimed at Roma inclusion, including the support to Roma children and young people in their completion of compulsory education.
3. Adopt the Law on National Minorities.

Croatia wishes to the Delegation of Lithuania successfull UPR session.

Thank you.