**40th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Republic of Moldova**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

**Geneva, 28 January 2022**

Madame President,

I would like to extend **a warm welcome to the delegation of Republic of Moldova** and thank them for the presentation of their report.

The Republic of Croatia **welcomes the reported progress in terms of the legal and institutional framework** for the protection of human rights, as well as **the efforts deployed to strengthen the role and independence of the institution of the People’s Advocate**.

We would also to congratulate Moldova for the recent ratification of Istanbul Convention as a significant step forward in combating violence against women and domestic violence.

**We would like to recommend the following:**

1. **Ensure effective implementation of Istanbul Convention**.
2. **Ensure stronger and more comprehensive protection against discrimination, intolerance and hate speech against minorities and marginalized groups**, including LGBTI persons and persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities.
3. **Broaden the mandate of the Council for the Prevention of Torture** to include regular, unhindered and unannounced visits to all places where persons are deprived of their liberty, including psychiatric hospitals and psychoneurological institutions, as well as residential institutions for children, in line with the CAT recommendation.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Croatia would once again like to compliment the Government of Republic of Moldova for the progress achieved and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.

1. *CAT/C/MDA/CO/3, para.16* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)