**Human Rights Council**

**41st session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Finland**

*(9 November 2022)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

**Mr. Vice President,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes Finland’s Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Pekka Haavisto and thanks the delegation of Finland for the presentation of its National Report. We highly commend Finland’s commitment to human rights promotion and protection and its active role as member of the Human Rights Council.

We acknowledge the important steps taken by the Government of Finland to implement the UPR Working Group recommendations in order to ensure proper observance of human rights and country’s efforts to combat all forms of violence with a special focus on domestic violence and violence against women.

Ukraine welcomes the recent proposal by the Government of Finland to its Parliament concerning the ratification of the international Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances as such an action is fully in line with the recommendation made by Ukraine during the previous review.

We positively note the reinforcement of institutional capacities by establishment of the Ombudsperson for the Elderly, a special rapporteur on violence against women and the Rule of Law Centre.

Ukraine offers the following recommendations to Finland:

* Further strengthen current policies and initiatives aimed at protection against domestic violence, gender-based violence and violence against women;
* Ensure the effective and continuous assessment of crimes related to all kinds of violence.

We wish the delegation of Finland a successful review.

**I thank you.**