**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**UPR 41st Session - Review of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

**Geneva, 10 November 2022**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of the United Kingdom.

We commend the United Kingdom for its long-standing tradition of ensuring the protection of rights and liberties in the country and fulfilling its international human rights obligations. Likewise, the UK’s well-established engagement in protecting and promoting respect for universal human rights globally.

We acknowledge that the UK has shown global leadership on a number of issues such as gender and equality, tackling child sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as modern slavery [racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.]

Montenegro recommends to the United Kingdom:

1. To withdraw its interpretive declaration with regard to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
2. To raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years.

Thank you.