Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR42 – Czechia

23rd January 2023

Thank you, Mr. President.

We warmly welcome the delegation of Czechia and thank it for its National Report.

Lithuania commends the progress made by Czechia since the last UPR cycle. In particular, we welcome the ratification of the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* and the adoption of the *Government Strategy for Gender Equality 2021-2030*. We also note positively actions taken to further improve protection of the rights of the child and persons in vulnerable situations.

Lithuania commends Czechia’s commitment to provide refuge for hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian people in the context of Russia’s war of aggression in Ukraine.

Lithuania would like to provide Czechia with the following recommendations:

* One, strengthen the Ombudsperson’s mandate to act as the main national human rights institution in compliance with the *Paris Principles*;
* Two, continue active efforts to combat all forms of violence, especially domestic and gender-based violence;
* Three, continue to strengthen access to mental health services, especially for children and persons in vulnerable situations.

We wish Czechia every success in this UPR.

I thank you.