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**UPR 42**

**PAKISTAN**

*30th January 2023*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic welcomes Pakistan´s commitment to the UPR and thanks the delegation of Pakistan for the submitted report.

We note that the recommendations provided by the Czech Republic in the previous UPR cycle are yet to be fully implemented. In this respect, we would respectfully recommend the Government of Pakistan to:

* Implement legislation to protect women and girls from **gender-based violence** including the honour killings.
* Establish independent commissions for the **protection and safety of journalists and media professionals**.
* Ensure the implementation of the “**blasphemy laws**” is not misused to settle personal scores or on account of ulterior motives, neither to prevent the performance of religious rites.
* Revise the **Pakistan Penal Code** and reduce the number of capital offences.

We wish Pakistan a successful review.

I thank you.