**42nd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF CZECHIA**

**23 January 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Czechia and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We welcome legal steps that will provide reparations for Roma women who have been forced or coerced into forced sterilization procedure, as well as the new Strategy of Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation.

We also welcome adopted measures that ended the practice of placing children without appropriate parental care, under the age of three, into institutional care.

We are concerned that corporal punishment of children remains legal in the country.

 We have three recommendations:

1. Ratify, and implement into domestic law, the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.
2. Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in law, in all forms and settings, and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline.
3. Amend criminal code in order for the legal definition of rape code to be based on a lack of consent, rather than use of force or threat.

We wish Czechia a successful review session.

Thank you.