**Human Rights Council**

**42nd session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Czech Republic**

*(23 January 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1,15 minutes)*

**Thank you,** **Mr. President,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes the delegation of Czech Republic and thanks for the presentation of its national report. We highly commend the country’s commitment to human rights promotion and protection which is testified, inter alia, by its active role as a member of the HRC and dedicated Presidency in this body.

We acknowledge the importance of the steps taken by the Government of Czech Republic on the legislative level towards the implementation of the UPR Working Group recommendations. We welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which was recommended by Ukraine during the previous review and positively note the work of the Ombudsperson that fulfills the role of the National Human Rights Institution.

We also note with gratitude the Czech policy towards Ukrainian refugees who had to flee from Russian military aggression and received temporary protection in Czech Republic, along with access to the labor market, health care, social support and education.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, Ukraine would like to offer the following **recommendations**:

* to further improve the level of accessibility of social services for children with disabilities and their families;
* to consider ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).

We wish the Czech Republic a very successful review.

**I thank you.**