**Universal Periodic Review 42– Czech Republic**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of the Czech Republic for the presentation of its national report. We welcome the decision to adopt the law on compensation for the cruel practice of unlawful sterilization of Roma women.

We are, however, concerned about the lack of progress on violence against women and girls and we see room for improvement when it comes to LGBTIQ+ acceptance.

The Netherlands **recommends** the Czech government to:

1. Ratify, and transpose into domestic law, the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence.
2. Amend the Criminal Code to ensure that victims of crimes motivated by hate towards LGBTIQ+ persons receive the same protection as victims of other hate motivated crimes;

The Netherlands wishes the government of the Czech Republic every success with the follow-up and implementation of all accepted recommendations it receives during this UPR cycle.

Thank you.