**42nd Session of the WG Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Czechia**

23 January 2023

**Statement by Austria**

Austria welcomes the Czech delegation and thanks them for their presentation.

We acknowledge Czech Republic’s active engagement in international human rights fora, including the Human Rights Council.

Austria commends Czech Republic’s efforts to follow up on and implement the recommendations received in 2017. While some have been fully implemented, others may need further attention.

Austria would like to offer the following recommendations:

* Ensure the full and timely implementation of the Roma Integration Strategy 2021-2030, including with regards to effectively ending the segregation of Roma children in the education system.
* Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children by law and promote non-violent education methods.
* Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul convention).
* Further strengthen and implement more effective legislation and policies to enhance gender equality, including in the framework of the Strategy for Equality of Men and Women (2021-2030).

Thank you.