**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

43rd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Montenegro***

8 May 2023

Mr. President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the delegation of Montenegro and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria views the election of Montenegro to the Human Rights Council as an international recognition of its achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights.

We note with appreciation the progress made by Montenegro in implementing the accepted recommendations on the inclusive education for children with disabilities and on the fight against human trafficking, made by Bulgaria during the previous cycle the UPR.

Bulgaria would like to offer the following recommendations:

1) Take further measures to increase the representation of women in the political life of the country and in the private business sector;

2) Continue the process of harmonization of national legislation in the field of protection of persons with disabilities in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We wish the delegation of Montenegro a successful outcome of the review!

Thank you, Mr. President!