Checkagainstdelivery

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

**Review of Serbia**

*(10 May 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

 *(Speaking time: 1 min. 15 sec.)*

**Mr Vice-President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Serbia led by H.E. Mr. Tomislav Žigmanov, Minister for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue. We convey our most sincere condolences to the families of the victims of the recent shooting tragedies in and near Belgrade and wish a speedy recovery to those injured. We are grateful to the people of Serbia for the humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and look forward to Serbia’s continue support for Ukraine and international rules-based order in the face of Russia’s ongoing aggression.

 We positively note the efforts made by the Government of Serbia to implement the recommendations it committed to at the last UPR review.

Ukraine acknowledges the efforts taken by the country to improve the institutional and legislative framework on human rights protection and promotion.

We encourage Serbia to continue with further work and would like to recommend:

* to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure;
* to elaborate a comprehensive strategy and action plan to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence;
* to continue its efforts to prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons.

Ukraine wishes Serbia a successful review.

**I thank you.**