*UPR 43: Session of the UPR Working Group*

*Statement at UPR of Montenegro*

Monday 08 May 2023, 09:00 – 12:30

Speaking time: 01 minute and 25 seconds

Albania welcomes the delegation of Montenegro and thanks it for its comprehensive national report and its presentation today. We praise the progress and achievement since the last UPR.

We commend Montenegro for the steps taken in strengthening the legislative framework in promoting, protecting, and improving human rights in the country. Particularly, Albania welcomes the adoption of a National Plan for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention, and the National Gender Equality Strategy, as well as the Minority Policy Strategy.

Albania would like to make the following recommendations:

1. While acknowledging the efforts made so far regarding the protection of the rights of minorities, we recommend that Montenegro intensify its efforts to cooperate more with the national minorities to increase their participation in judicial bodies as well as in the health structures.
2. To continue undertaking further steps to promote women's empowerment and amend legislation to increase women’s representation in the Parliament.

We wish the delegation of Montenegro a very successful review during this cycle.