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**43rd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF SERBIA**

**10 May 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Serbia.

We welcome positive developments in Serbia regarding prevention of discrimination and hate crime, including based on ethnicity. However, we note that hate speech and inflammatory language continue to be used and tolerated in public discourse and media.

Croatia notes the efforts behind the National Strategy for Prosecuting War Crimes and calls upon Serbia to fully comply with its obligation to cooperate with the International Residue Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

We encourage concrete steps by Serbia to tackle issues stemming from the war of the 90s, including the issue of missing persons, war crimes prosecutions and reparations.

We have four recommendations:

1. Actively counter hate speech and hate-motivated crimes.
2. Within bilateral and regional cooperation mechanisms on missing persons, ensure full access to relevant information, including to state and military archives.
3. Adopt necessary measures to ensure reparations to all victims of war crimes and to their families, in line with international standards.
4. Contribute to meaningful regional cooperation regarding war crimes by avoiding conflict of jurisdictions and related issues.

We wish Serbia a successful review session. Thank you.