**UPR 29, January 22, 2018**

**Recommendations by Canada for Montenegro’s UPR**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada welcomes the positive steps taken by Montenegro, including upholding the right to free assembly and expression by permitting Pride Marches in Podgorica and by addressing the issue of discrimination against LBGTI community members.

Canada recommends that Montenegro:

1. Take further steps to ensure the full exercise of freedom of expression and media, including by: (i) ensuring effective investigation and prosecution of alleged threats and attacks on media personnel and property, (ii) ensuring equal opportunity for all media to access funding available from governmental sources, and (iii) ensuring the independence of national TV broadcaster RTCG.
2. Address corruption in the public sector and ensure the proper use of public authority in managing and disposing of public property.
3. Allocate adequate resources for the accommodation and care of victims of domestic violence. Break down the culture of impunity for domestic violence through public dialogue and advocacy.

We are concerned about reports of media outlets and journalists being exposed to economic pressures and threats, many of which have not been resolved through the judicial system. We stress the importance of the government taking measures to protect freedom of expression and media.