**Universal Periodic Review of MONTENEGRO**

**22 January 2018
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Montenegro to its 3rd UPR, and thanks for the presentation of the comprehensive report.

We positively note that Montenegro has acceded to most of the UN human rights instruments. We further commend Montenegro for its cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms, including timely reporting to the treaty bodies, producing a UPR mid-term report (2015), and the elaboration of a national mechanism for follow-up of international human rights obligations. We are further pleased that Montenegro is taking steps to ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute.

We welcome Montenegro’s efforts to fight violence against women, including the implementation of the Strategy for Domestic Violence Protection (2016-2020). While also commending the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), we encourage further steps to be taken to decrease the tolerance for and perpetration of domestic violence. We **recommend** the government to ensure that all alleged cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated, perpetrators brought to justice and victims adequately protected and compensated.

Estonia acknowledges the government’s efforts to fight corruption, including the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Agency and the new special state prosecution for organised crime, corruption and war crimes. Estonia **recommends** the government to continue to enhance the implementation of anticorruption policies, including by strengthening the independence and effective functioning of the judiciary.

Finally, to safeguard freedom of speech and media freedom Estonia **recommends** the government to take further measures to investigate reports of intimidation and attacks against journalists and media enterprises and bring perpetrators to justice.

We wish the delegation of Montenegro a successful review meeting.

Thank you.