**30th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Germany**

8 May 2018

**Statement by Austria**

Austria warmly welcomes the delegation of Germany to the UPR and thanks them for their presentation.

Austria commends Germany for its active engagement with civil society throughout the UPR Process and the positive steps taken towards the implementation of the recommendations received during previous reviews. We particularly welcome the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UN-CAC) in 2014 and the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) in 2017.

We further commend Germany on its active role and engagement as a member of the Human Rights Council from 2016-2018.

Austria offers the following recommendations:

* Further sensitize authorities at a federal, Länder and municipal level in recognizing and identifying cases of trafficking and exploitation of children and enhance ways and means to guarantee adequate protection for and comprehensive assistance to the victims;
* Lower the voting age to the age of 16 in all voting processes to ensure a stable and continuous political participation of young people;
* Consider the possibility of revising the German language translation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities so that it represents more accurately the meaning of the Convention

I thank you.