**UPR32**

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

**24 January 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada welcomes the positive steps taken by the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to ratify the Istanbul Convention and to introduce the draft Law on Protection and Prevention of Discrimination in parliamentary procedure.

Canada recommends that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:

1. Take steps to adopt the newly-drafted Law on Prevention and Protection against Discrimination as soon as possible.
2. Take further steps to improve education, housing and social protection of Roma, particularly Roma women, including promoting inclusion of Roma in the education system and decreasing the number of Roma children placed in special education.
3. Take further steps to investigate effectively and prosecute hate crime and hate speech against vulnerable groups, including LGBTI persons.
4. Address discrimination against women and LGBTI persons, including by removing discriminatory references to gender and gender identity in high school and university textbooks.

We are concerned about reports of illegal deportation of refugees and migrants to neighbouring countries without official procedure.