**UPR32**

**Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

*24 January 2019*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic thanks the delegation of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for its comprehensive presentation. We welcome the efforts of the government to make progress in some areas of human rights, such as the rule of law and justice system reform, measures taken to improve the treatment of prisoners and detainees or expanding the list of discriminatory grounds in the Law on the Prevention and Protection against discrimination.

We offer the following recommendations:

* (First), while appreciating the ratification of several international human rights instruments, we **recommend** to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances;
* (Second), we **recommend** to create conducive environment for media pluralism and independence, ensure safety of journalists and media and to guarantee proper and impartial investigation of crimes committed against journalists;
* (And finally), we **recommend** to take measures to increase participation of Roma in public life and decision-making processes, using – as appropriate – the OHCHR *Guidelines for States on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs*.

Thank you.