**UPR 33**

**Nicaragua**

*15th May 2019*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Thank you, madame vicepresident.

The Czech Republic thanks Nicaragua for the presented report.

We welcome the agreement between Nicaragua and the ICRC on access to prisons by international partners.

However, we remain deeply concerned over the disproportionate use of force in police interventions resulting, among others, in extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and the use of force by non-regular para-police armed forces during recent protests.

Therefore, our first recommendation is that Nicaragua fully guarantees freedom of association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals or unjust prosecution.

Another area of our concern is the continuing and increasing repression and persecution of media and journalists.

So, the second recommendation for Nicaragua is to ensure freedom of expression and refrain from using administrative and judicial means to unduly restrict exercise of this right.

I thank you.