**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 15 May 2019**

**UPR 3 Cycle, Review of the Republic of Nicaragua**

**Statement by Montenegro**

I thank you Mr. President.

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Nicaragua.

We commend progress achieved from the second UPR cycle, particularly the increased access to water, sanitation and health services.

In relation with the crisis in 2018 and 2019 we strongly condemn the restrictions of the right to freedom of assembly and expression, freedom of press and media, and the freedom of work of NGOs and human rights defenders. The reported related acts of violence require immediate judicial response.

Violence and sexual abuse against girls and the very high level of child pregnancy, together with domestic violence represent a serious problem. We also share the concerns of UNICEF regarding child labor.

We consider that the access of representatives of the OHCHR, special procedures and regional human rights organizations must not be the subject of any kind of restriction.

Montenegro recommends:

1. to ratify the International Convention from Enforced Disappearances;
2. to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Child on a Communications procedure.

Thank you.