**Universal Periodic Review 34 – (Bosnia and Herzegovina)**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– (13 novermber 2019)**

Thank you, Madam Vice President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the presentation of its national report.

The Netherlands welcomes the organization of the first Pride March for Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo on September 8th. It was well-attended and peaceful.

The Netherlands remains concerned about broader human rights issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Press freedom is undermined by violence, political pressure and threats against journalists. Furthermore, the European Court of Human Rights has concluded repeatedly that in the electoral system of Bosnia and Herzegovina not all citizens have the same rights.

The Netherlands **recommends** Bosnia and Herzegovina to:

1. Ensure adequate judicial follow-up on violence, threats and political pressure against journalists and media workers, in line with SDG 16.
2. Ensure the right to equality and non-discrimination for all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in line with SDG 10.

The Netherlands wishes Bosnia and Herzegovina success with the follow-up of all recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you, Madam Vice President.