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

**Geneva, 4 November 2019**

**UPR – Republic of El Salvador**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished Delegation of the Republic of El Salvador.

Montenegro recognizes efforts made by the authorities to improve institutional and legislative framework for human rights, including consideration of Montenegrin recommendations from the previous cycle.

We commend completion of ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and withdrawal of the reservations to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment. We also acknowledge improvement of policies that treat rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and LGBTI community.

However, we noted concerns of the SR on the human rights of internally displaced persons, that, in 2015, El Salvador had been the most violent country in the world, despite some reductions. What measures have been taken since then in order to lower the homicide rate and the associated crimes, including femicide, violence against women, vandalism in schools and territorial control?

Montenegro would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of El Salvador:

* to step up efforts in implementing Safe El Salvador plan, particularly its preventive and rehabilitative aspects;
* to make further efforts in providing conditions for lower drop-outs rates from schools, particularly girls’ attendance.

Montenegro wishes the Republic of El Salvador a fruitful and successful 3rd UPR cycle.

I thank you.