**34th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**13 November 2019**

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Christopher Grima,**

**Permanent Representative**

Thank you, Madam Vice-President.

Malta welcomes the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and thanks it for the presentation of its national report. We positively note the progress that the Government of Bosnia & Herzegovina has achieved since its second review cycle. We commend the steps it has taken to curb gender-based violence, especially domestic violence; the efforts to enhance cooperation between government and civil society organisations and the progressive implementation of the Action Plan for Children 2015-2018.

We also take good note of the government’s efforts to improve the human rights situation of minorities in Bosnia & Herzegovina and in this context recommend the following:

1. Intensify existing efforts aimed at the sensitisation and training of the authorities to tackle discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender;
2. Amend the electoral law in line with the ruling of the Constitutional Court in order to guarantee full equality of all the constituent peoples at all political and administrative levels;
3. Take meaningful steps to ensure the use, equality and public broadcasting in all of the state’s official languages.

We wish the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina a successful review.

Thank you.