**UPR35**

**Recommendations by Canada for Turkey’s UPR**

**28 January 2020**

Thank you, Madame President.

Canada notes the first package of Turkey’s judicial reform strategy as a step towards strengthening the rule of law, and welcomes Turkey’s leadership in hosting nearly 4 million refugees.

Canada recommends that Turkey:

1. Reform the judicial appointment process to ensure the separation of powers and guarantee judicial independence and impartiality.
2. Ensure that anti-terrorism and defamation legislation do not interfere with freedom of opinion and expression to enable the work of journalists, artists, academics and human rights defenders.
3. Uphold the Law on Assemblies and Demonstrations to limit arbitrary restrictions on freedom of assembly, including on peaceful gatherings by the LGBTI community, women’s rights organizations, and opposition parties.
4. Take further steps to expand national and local resources to respond to all forms of gender-based violence.