**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of Spain,**

**35th Session, January 22, 2020**

The United States welcomes the delegation of Spain to the UPR Working Group.

The United States recommends that Spain:

1. Prevent, investigate, and prosecute hate crimes, including those motivated by the victim’s religion or belief, and devote additional resources to understanding the problem of harassment and violence motivated by xenophobia or the victim’s religion or belief.
2. Hold accountable those responsible for crimes against journalists or that otherwise undermine the enjoyment of freedom of expression, regardless of whether they are non-state or state actors.
3. Ensure access to basic services for migrants and refugees and commit sufficient resources for authorities to fairly and efficiently evaluate the claims of asylum seekers.

We commend Spain for its continued commitment to protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.