**UPR 36**

Honduras

*5 November 2020*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic thanks Honduras for its National Report and active participation in the UPR process.

In response to our previous recommendations, we appreciate the establishment of the Office of the Special Prosecutor for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Professionals and Justice Officials. As reports indicate, these persons, such as environmental and indigenous activists, face significant challenges. We **recommend** to provide the National Protection System and the Office of the Special Prosecutor the necessary funding and operational capacity by the next UPR.

We note the development of the Institutional Strategic Plan 2017–2021. In this context, we **recommend** to ensure the independence of the judiciary by establishing clear rules and objective criteria with regard to the judicial service, including for the appointment, promotion and dismissal of judges, and the application of disciplinary sanctions.

Since the first cycle, the Czech Republic has focused on the fight against discrimination of women and girls. As we observe streghtening of the institutional framework on gender-related crimes, we remain concerned about the level of violence and **recommend** to allocate sufficient resources to programmes under the initiative “Ciudad Mujer” and secure their availability across the country.

Similarly, we continue to follow the situation of sexual and other minorities. We **recommend** to ensure prompt and effective investigations and prosecution of killings of LGBT persons and other related crimes.

We wish Honduras a successful review.