**UPR36**

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

**10 November 2020**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada welcomes the positive steps taken by Croatia to combat violence against women, and towards reconciliation with cultural minorities.

Canada recommends that Croatia:

1. Ensure all migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are treated in accordance with international human rights law by providing training for border authorities on their obligations, and by providing immediate and unrestricted access to the Ombudsperson for Human Rights to ensure transparent investigations into reports of mistreatment.
2. Ensure that all individuals have access to a fair judicial process, including at the local and regional levels, by ensuring the impartiality and independence of judges and increasing access to legal aid.
3. Improve services and support for survivors of gender-based violenceby implementing the obligations under the Istanbul Convention for protection against domestic violence, including ending the practice of prosecuting victims.
4. Protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly for all by ensuring prompt, independent and thorough investigation into all reports of assault and harassment against journalists and bringing those responsible to justice.