**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

36th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Croatia***

10 November 2020

Madame President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Croatia and would like to congratulate it on the progress achieved in the field of human rights since the Second UPR Cycle.

We commend the Croatian Government on the steps taken in the fight against hate crimes and hate speech. We appreciate the implementation of the recommendations on combating domestic violence and gender-based violence.

We welcome the visible progress Croatia made with regard to improving the legislative framework for prosecuting war crimes and identifying missing persons at national and international level.

Bulgaria recommends that Croatia continues its efforts to investigate the fate and whereabouts of all the unresolved cases of missing persons during the armed conflict in Yugoslavia in 1991-95.

Bulgaria further recommends Croatia to ensure the efficiency in the work of social care centers with the aim of protecting the most vulnerable from violence and neglect, especially children.

Thank you!