

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**43rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Montenegro**

*Geneva, 8 May 2023*

Mr. President,

Slovenia wishes to commend the delegation of Montenegro for the national report, its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

* Provide evaluation of the institutional response in cases of femicide and trafficking in women and girls as well as of judicial practice;
* Improve the system of victim support and protection.

Slovenia calls upon Montenegro to prioritize gender equality in government accountability mechanisms and to focus on the economic and political empowerment of women, combating stereotypes of women's roles, and amending legislation to increase women's representation in Parliament.

We also encourage Montenegro to ensure effective independence and accountability of the judiciary by addressing all outstanding recommendations from the UPR, including the Council of Europe's GRECO and Venice Commission's advices.

Thank you.