

## UPR Working Group 36<sup>th</sup> Session, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **Bulgaria**

Delivered by Mrs. Adi Farjon Israel Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

Israel welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria to the UPR, and would like to thank it for its National Report.

Israel would like to commend Bulgaria for concluding the adoption of its first National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325, and for the adoption of the National Action Plan for the Promotion of Equality between Women and Men by the Council of Ministers.

We also welcome the adoption of amendments to the Criminal Code, increasing the protection of victims of violence, including domestic violence. In that regard, Israel **recommends** (i) that Bulgaria steps up the efforts in eliminating violence against women and girls.

We also commend Bulgaria's efforts in promoting freedom of religion and countering hate speech in traditional media and social networks alike.

Finally, we **recommend** (ii) to take further steps for the inclusion and integration of minorities, including by strengthening the provision of education and health care services to members of minorities.

Israel would like to take this opportunity to wish Bulgaria much success in its Review.

Thank you, Madam President.