

## Human Rights Council - 37<sup>th</sup> session Item 6 - UPR outcome of Ukraine Oral statement

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Thank you Madam Vice-President, and we thank the delegation of Ukraine

We welcome the acceptance by Ukraine of the recommendations related to the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and note that it has been put on the parliamentary agenda. Civil society and human right defenders consider it as a major step towards the full protection of the rights of women who are too often victims of violence and domestic violence.

Madam Vice-President,

The fact that Ukraine abolished the list of professions banned for women is significant considering that such lists still exist in most ex-Soviet states. It also follows recommendations made by countries to guarantee women access to the labour market. However, the Labour Code of Ukraine still contains discriminative provisions, restricting access of women to certain occupations. All legislation, including regulations in the labour sphere, should clearly include the prohibition of discrimination against women. We also call upon Ukraine to take measures to provide and facilitate women's access to the labour market.

I thank you for your attention.