



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN GENEVA

Statement by Malta at the 42nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review – Czechia – 23 January 2023

Intervention by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN

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Malta welcomes the delegation of Czechia and thanks it for presenting its national report. Malta welcomes Czechia's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Malta wishes to make the following recommendations:

- Consider ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).
- Consider strengthening national mechanisms to ensure that free legal assistance is provided, as necessary, to all from the outset of deprivation of liberty.
- Consider amending laws to decriminalise defamation and place it within the civil code.

We wish the delegation of Czechia a successful review session.