SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

UPR Info Pre-sessions
Situation in Country
Macedonia (FYR)

- No explicit recommendations regarding sexual and reproductive health care in the country and barriers to free and legal services
- Ministry of Health established a working group assigned to review the law
- Amended text of the new Abortion law was posted for public consultation
Amended text of the new Abortion law needs to be improved:

- parental/guardian consent for minors under 18 and for people with intellectual incapacitiy is in violation of the both Conventions of the Rights of Children and the Rights of People with Disabilities

- restricts the provision of abortion services in primary health care only to medical abortion
Recommendations

- **Speed up the process of adoption** of the draft Abortion Law in the Parliament, without further delay, **and make final review** of the legislation barriers in the proposed text related to third party authorization for abortion services.

- **Make medical abortion available** and accessible throughout the country, in line with the WHO Safe Abortion Guidelines.

- **Provide an insurance coverage for the abortion on request**, particularly for socio-vulnerable groups and young people.
Situation in Country Macedonia (FYR)

- NO effective measures to improve services for maternal and child health, as well as sexual and reproductive health for Roma women
- Ongoing illegal payment for health services in the primary healthcare
- Gynecological services at the primary level are not available for all women
- Low coverage by visiting nurses of the Roma women during the antenatal and postnatal period
Recommendations

- Take **systemic measures** on improving the reproductive healthcare system on national level in order to **eliminate widespread illegal charges**
- Take further steps in developing evidence informed polices to **ensure availability and accessibility of reproductive health services at the primary healthcare level**
- **Increase the number of patronage nurses** particularly in rural areas and areas with predominantly **Romani** populations
- Take measures to **integrate Roma Health Mediators in the public health care system** including their employment
Thank you

From all the members of our coalition:

- **HERA** – The Health Education and Research Association
- **Reactor** – Research in Action
- The Coalition “**MARGINI**”
- The **Sexual Rights Initiative**