

Statement by Romania  
Ambassador Maria Ciobanu

**WORKING GROUP ON UPR**  
**- examination of UK – May 24, 2012 -**

Madam President,

The delegation of Romania welcomes the distinguished delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and thanks it on the extensive presentation made.

We commend the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for its strenuous activity aimed at upholding the highest standards in the field of human rights, demonstrated, among others, by the great number of measures taken over the last years.

We also express our appreciation for the efforts made so that a balance is struck between various rights or between rights and other values, such as between freedom of expression and the right to reputation, when it comes to defamation; between human rights and security of citizens, in the context of the fight against terrorism.

While appreciating the implementation of a number of initiatives promoting gender equality, in particular by setting up a Women's Business Council, my delegation would be interested to learn more about measures to advance gender equality, especially in the rural area.

Thank you, Madam President.