

Statement by Romania**Working Group on UPR – 22nd session
- examination of Croatia – May 12, 2015 -**

Mr. President,

The delegation of Romania extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Croatia and thanks the Government for the presentation of its second UPR report.

We commend the authorities of Croatia for the broad range of measures adopted since the first UPR cycle, with a view to improving the protection and promotion of human rights in their country.

More specifically, we would like to express our appreciation for the good practices signaled in the report, as well as for the adoption of various strategies and plans of action, such as the National Policy for Gender Equality 2011–2015, the National Strategy for the inclusion of the Roma 2013–2020 and its relevant Action Plan, the National Plan for combating human trafficking 2012–2015. We also applaud measures to combat hate crimes.

While being aware of the positive action taken by the Government of Croatia including in the fields of treatment of persons belonging to minorities and education, Romania would like to recommend the Government of Croatia the following:

1. to adopt further measures in order to ensure the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the decision-making process;
2. to continue its efforts aimed at ensuring equal access to education, including to children in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations.

Thank you, Mr. President.