**Statement by Romania**

**The 44th session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Cuba**

**November 15th, 2023**

Mr. President,

Romania welcomes Cuba’s delegation and wishes it a successful outcome of the UPR.

We take note of the positive step represented by **the adoption of the new Constitution by Cuba in 2019**.

We would like to constructively recommend Cuba to:

1. **Comply with the schedule to fully harmonize its legislation with the Constitution**.
2. **Ratify the international human rights instruments to which Cuba is not a party yet,** including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
3. **Ensure that civil society members, human rights defenders and journalists can operate freely and safely**, including by repealing restrictions within the new penal code.

Thank you, Mr. President!