**The 44th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Monday, November 13, 2023**

**Review of the Russian Federation**

**Statement by Romania**

Mr. President,

Romania takes note of the report presented by the Russian Federation, under the 4th cycle of the UPR.

We are gravely concerned with the ongoing and widespread violations and abuses of human rights in the country, whose number alarmingly increased in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

We wish to express our concern following the recent antisemitic events in the Republic of Daghestan where, on Sunday 29 October 2023.

The Russian Federation failed to abide by its commitments under the international human rights law, the international humanitarian law, thus losing its membership in the Human Rights Council and the Council of Europe.

Romania would like to make the following recommendations:

* To take immediate measures aiming at eliminating any (all) restrictive legislation impeding freedom of association and expression, create a safe environment for civil organizations and NGO’s promoting human rights, and release all persons arrested for having expressed their opinion on the war against Ukraine;
* To cease the oppressive practices of blocking websites and social media platforms which are critical of the government or considered as discrediting the Russian army;
* To take immediate, strong and public measures aiming at ensuring the physical security of members of the Jewish community, create a safe environment for them and combat the worrying rise in Antisemitism;
* To take effective measures to combat violence against women and domestic violence, and to promote women rights, including through the implementation of the recommendations of UN Treaty Bodies.

Thank you.