**37th session of the UPR Working group: Austria**

**January 22nd, 2021**

**Intervention by Romania**

Madam/Mr. President,

Romania salutes Austria’s commitment to human rights both at national and international level. We commend the efforts carried out in 2020 by the Austrian presidency of the Human Rights Council, who spared no effort in keeping the human rights high on the international agenda during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While welcoming the progress achieved by Austria since the previous cycle, we have the following recommendations:

- To continue the implementation of policies in the fields of prevention, protection and prosecution in relation to domestic violence and extend it to all forms of gender based violence;

- To strengthen the efforts to increase the participation of women in political decision-making positions;

- To continue in its endeavor of combating acts or advocacy of racial or religious hatred, including by bringing those responsible to justice and envisaging the adoption of a national action plan against racism.

We wish the delegation of Austria a successful UPR process.

I thank you.