**Statement by Romania**

**The 40th session of the UPR Working Group: Review of the Syrian Arab Republic**

**January 24th, 2022**

Mr. Chair,

Romania welcomes Syrian Arab Republic's delegation and notes its involvement in the UPR process.

Underlining the importance of upholding international human rights and humanitarian obligations and commitments, Romania would like to recommend the Syrian Arab Republic to:

1. Continue implementing the recommendations arising from the UPR and its human rights obligations, including the core international human rights treaties;
2. Continue its involvement in the UPR and submitting periodic reports to the human rights bodies overseeing the treaties to which Syria has acceded;
3. Fully and unconditionally cooperate with OHCHR, the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, in particular the Commission of Inquiry, including for an independent inquiry into all human rights violations allegations, as previously recommended and ensure their full access into Syria;
4. Take all necessary measures to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure from the impact of the conflict, in line with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry;
5. Ratify and effectively implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
6. Engage in the process aimed at abolishing the death penalty.

Thank you, Mr. Chair !