**Statement by Romania**

**The 41st session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Algeria**

**November 11th, 2022**

Mr. President,

Romania welcomes Algeria’s UPR report and congratulates it for the election as a member of the Human Rights Council/HRC. We reassure Algeria on this occasion of our full support and count on a further trustful cooperation within HRC.

We appreciate that the amended Constitution of 2020 contains positive steps towards ensuring a better protection for human rights and we hope that they will be reflected in national legislation as well as in practice.

Romania would like to recommend Algeria to:

1. Further amend legal frameworks and take the necessary administrative measures in view of ensuring that freedom of expression, of opinion and association and the right to access information for journalists, human rights defenders, political parties and CSOs are in line with international standards and best practices;
2. Undertake legal reforms in order to eliminate women’s discrimination in matters of inheritance, marriage, divorce, child custody and legal guardianship;
3. Amend the laws on the Supreme Judicial Council and that on the statute of magistrates in order to guarantee full independence of the judiciary from the executive;
4. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and commute all death sentences.
5. Implement previously received recommendations in view of ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

We wish Algeria’s delegation a successful outcome of the UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President!