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**Statement of Ireland**

**43rd session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of Romania

**02 May 2023**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Romania and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland acknowledges Romania’s efforts to advance human rights domestically and notes progress made since the last UPR cycle. In particular, we welcome the adoption of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy in 2022 and also the publication of a National Strategy for Roma. We hope that sufficient funding will be allocated for the effective implementation of both.

We welcome the recent legislative changes that removed the statute of limitations for trafficking cases and encourage Romania to continue its efforts to counter human trafficking, including through the investigation of cases, accountability of perpetrators and appropriate sentencing.

Ireland recommends Romania:

1. Take necessary measures to combat hate crimes, including by training police and prosecutors and actively engaging with minorities and vulnerable groups.
2. Take necessary measures to legislate for same-sex marriage and civil unions.
3. Amend legislation to provide for the prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of gender identity.

We wish Romania every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.