**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of Romania,**

**43rd Session, May 2, 2023**

**Delivered by Ms. Branka Bell, U.S. Delegation to the HRC**

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

The United States welcomes the delegation from Romania.

The United States commends Romania’s longstanding commitment to the promotion of democracy and human rights and its support for UN agencies.

We recommend that Romania:

1. Strengthen efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, hate crimes, and unlawful discrimination.
2. Work to protect members of marginalized communities, including Roma and LGBTQI+ persons, from violence and threats of violence.
3. Take steps to ensure persons with disabilities can access education, health services, public spaces, and transportation on an equal basis with others.
4. Vigorously investigate and prosecute corruption, including official corruption, and enhance current efforts to combat and prevent trafficking in persons.

I thank you.