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**43rd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF ROMANIA**

**2 May 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Romania and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We commend Romanian Government for the measures taken to prevent human trafficking, primarily through campaigns and relevant educational projects.

We welcome the establishment of an informal network for the hearing of child victims, primarily of sexual offences, as it will provide a new possibility of cooperation between the specialists and therefore contribute to a better instrumenting of these cases.

Croatia welcomes recent ratification of the regional Convention on preventing and combating violence against women as well as relevant national programs, projects and strategies aimed at addressing domestic violence.

The National Strategy for preventing and combating Antisemitism, Xenophobia, Radicalization and hate speech is another positive development in the country.

We have two recommendations:

1. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.**
2. **Consider further strengthening the efforts aimed at identifying child victims and provide them with necessary assistance.**

Croatia wishes Romania a successful review session. Thank you.