**Universal Periodic Review – 35th Session**

**Statement by Romania on the review of Armenia**

**23rd January 2020**

Madame President,

Romania welcomes the delegation of Armenia presenting its third report of the UPR. We acknowledge the efforts made by the Armenian Government in improving the human rights record and the positive results in areas such as the conduct of free and fair elections and as regards the freedoms of assembly, expression and of the media.

In line with the expressed desire of the Armenian authorities to step up their efforts to promote and protect human rights, we have the following recommendations:

- to continue to strengthen anti-discrimination policy and the protection of vulnerable groups;

- to finalize the ratification process of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence;

- to further focus on the reform of the judiciary.

Thank you.