**36th session of the UPR Working group: Belarus**

**November 2nd, 2020**

**Intervention by Romania**

Madam President,

Romania fully supports the demarches of the international community to address the situation of human rights in Belarus and, in particular, the HRC Resolution 45/1.

Taking into consideration the discrepancies between the current situation and what it is outlined in the national report, Romania would like to make the following concrete recommendations to Belarus:

* to fulfill the obligations under the international human rights treaties, related to freedom of expression, freedom of media, free and fair elections, peaceful assembly, protection against reprisals, ill treatment or torture;
* to put an end to all acts of intimidation and repression against its own population and engage in transparent, inclusive dialogue with the opposition;
* to fully cooperate with the OHCHR and Special Procedures mandate holders, including the Special Rapporteur on Belarus;
* to enable independent, transparent and impartial investigations into all allegations of human rights violations, aimed at ensuring access to justice, redress to victims and accountability for perpetrators;
* to reform the electoral code in order to put it in line with international standards of fair and democratic elections;
* to
* take into consideration the full abolition of death penalty and the accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

I thank you.