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

**November 6th, 2020**

**Intervention by Romania**

Madam President,

Romania warmly welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria to the third UPR cycle and thanks it for the national report and an informative presentation.

We recognize the progress made by Bulgaria since its latest review and praise the commitment of Bulgarian authorities to consolidate the national framework on human rights and address remaining challenges. One of these challenges refers to combatting violence against women and domestic violence and to managing a situation of at least apparent struggle between the domestic fundamental norms and the international engagements.

We note with satisfaction the constant and consistent training activities provided during the last years to police members, on various human rights issues; we equally salute all the measures adopted or under consideration for a broader realization of the right to education. We share Bulgaria’s approach that education and training are one of the most critical tools for a genuine advancement of human rights’ full respect.

Romania would like to make the following recommendations to Bulgaria:

- continue to align the legal framework for juvenile justice to the existing international standards and implement restorative justice approaches;

- continue to strengthen the efforts aimed at improving access to employment, education, social and health services and overcoming negative stereotypes, hate speech and discrimination.

We wish the delegation of Bulgaria a successful UPR outcome.

I thank you.