

**29<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review**  
**15-24 January 2018**  
**Review of Romania**  
**Statement by Ireland**

Thank you, Mr President.

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Romania and thanks it for its presentation.

Ireland welcomes Romania's efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle. In particular, we acknowledge the positive results from the implementation of the National Anticorruption Strategy, as well as measures to combat human trafficking by developing legislation, adopting a national strategy, and providing training to relevant individuals.

We note the Council of Europe's concerns regarding hate speech and agree with their recommendations. We would **ask** the Romanian authorities to continue to tackle societal prejudice with regard to the treatment of minorities in the country and to make every effort to foster an inclusive and integrated society. In that context, we **urge** Romania to ensure that sufficient funding is provided to allow for the full implementation of the 'Strategy for Roma Inclusion' (2012-2020).

We have noted positively that Romania has increased its spending on education and would encourage efforts to ensure access to high-quality education to all children, particularly those from minority groups.

Building on the progress made since the last UPR, we **recommend** that Romania further intensify its efforts to prevent human trafficking, by investigating cases proactively, bringing offenders to successful prosecution, and imposing proportionate sanctions.

We **recommend** that Romania take active measures to prevent discrimination against the LGBTI community for example by including gender identity in the list of criteria of non-discrimination and making provision in law for same-sex civil partnership and marriage.

We wish Romania every success in this UPR cycle

Thank you.