

PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA ROUMANIE  
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**Statement by**  
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**ROMANIA**

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Mister Vice-president,  
Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In Romania, the equal opportunities and treatment for women and men are a fundamental principle of human rights, implemented both at the legislative level as at the public policies level. This principle is established by Law no. 202/2002 on equal opportunities and treatment for women and men, republished, which regulates the measures to promote equal opportunities and treatment for women and men in all spheres of public life in Romania.

The Romanian experience in the field of gender equality includes already a well-structured legislation, institutional mechanisms and also a developing civil society and an important academia sector.

Discrimination and gender inequality continues to manifests on all levels, in fields such as labour, education, access to decision making, balanced distribution of roles and family responsibilities. There for, is important to have measures as reconciling family and professional life, encouraging women access to university education and to male professions, encouraging raising number of women to high level decisional positions, promoting gender equality as key factor in combating poverty, promoting training for expert on equality, and reducing gender pay gap.

In order to have same opportunities as men, women have to overcome some specific obstacles such as, family responsibilities, which in most of the case are

theirs. The traditional role of women in most societies is more as genitor and services provider for the benefit of their families. There is a need for self-development regarding unjustified fears connected to the gender stereotypes promoted in the society and in families.

Direct, indirect discrimination and the existence of the segregation in the labour market are the main factors that still led to the existence, of a gap between the incomes of women and men. The statistics featured by the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) show that the percentage of the wage gap between women and men, on European level, was of 16.4% and in Romania, of 9.7%. Although Romania is under the European average, intervention measures are still required, especially in the private sector, among companies and corporations, where this situation is mostly encountered.

Regarding the need for strong legislative and institutional measures aiming on one hand, to limit the phenomenon by applying punitive measures against perpetrators and, on the other hand, to support victims by providing a range of services appropriate support, NAEOWM implemented, between October 2014 and December 2015 the project "START - A quality life in safety!", funded by HROP 2007-2013, totalling 170.207.156 lei (38 million euros). The project aimed to implement at a holistic and integrated development of mechanisms, policies, procedures and tools applied nationwide, generating long-term benefits for people in situations of gender inequality, domestic violence or human trafficking risk.