

**STATEMENT OF ROMANIA**  
**DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR LUCIAN FĂTU**  
**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE OPCW**  
**AT THE 25<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES**  
**(THE HAGUE, 20 – 22 APRIL 2021)**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Mr. Director-General,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Romania fully aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union.

At the same time, I would like to add the following remarks in my national capacity:

During these difficult times, we continue to face new challenges to the security of our states and to the rule of law.

Nevertheless, we continue to keep topics on our agenda that we have discussed several times. We do this because it is necessary to remember that these topics are extremely important for our security and for the rules-based international system. And we will repeat as long as it will be necessary: the use of chemical weapons, these abhorrent weapons, is unacceptable and I express the entire support of Romania for the destruction and the verification of the destruction of all chemical weapons, which must remain a priority of the OPCW, together with preventing their re-emergence. The re-emergence of chemical weapons is one of the most urgent threats to international peace and security and has to be dealt with firmly and collectively.

Romania joins those who continue to urge the Russian Federation regarding an impartial, transparent and in-depth investigation, in full cooperation between Russian Federation and the OPCW, to bring those responsible for the poisoning of Alexei Navalny to justice.

Impunity for the use of chemical weapons must not and will not be tolerated.

We must reiterate that the actions of the CSP, like the previous declarations of the OPCW Executive Council, are not a form of punishment. These actions and declarations are necessary constraints for following the rules of the game without chemical weapons by everyone who wants to be at this table.

As dynamic advocate of the multilateralism, Romania has always had a responsible, constructive and supportive approach with respect to promoting the best ways for achieving a full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. We continue to urge, more than ever, on all States Parties to actively uphold the Convention and reiterate to support the OPCW.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the States Parties and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

Thank you.