



PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA
to the International Organizations in Vienna

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PC.DEL/518/14
14 May 2014

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Statement by Romania in response to H. E. Natalia Gherman, Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova (Permanent Council, 8 May 2014)

Romania fully subscribes to the statement delivered by Ambassador Thierry Bechet on behalf of the European Union and would like to make a few additional remarks in our national capacity. We would like to extend the warmest welcome to H.E. Natalia Gherman, vice-Prime-Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of a neighbouring country with which Romania shares a strategic partnership based upon special cultural and historical links.

Romania extends its strong support for the Republic of Moldova on its European path; we believe in the European identity and vocation of the Republic of Moldova that should materialize in its becoming a member of the European family, where it belongs; the recent visa liberalization for short stays in the European Union of the citizens of the Republic of Moldova with biometrical passports as well as the upcoming signing of the Association Agreement/Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area are part of this process. All citizens of the Republic of Moldova, no matter on what side of the Nistru river they live have this opportunity and should not miss it.

The deterioration of the security situation in the region, as a consequence of the crisis in and around Ukraine is a source of major concern; the respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine and all the OSCE participating States, non interference in internal affairs, non use of force or threat to use force are essential.

Occurrence of new protracted conflicts should be prevented and the existing ones should be resolved. Protracted conflicts are detrimental to the security of the whole OSCE area, not only to the security of the States that have such conflicts on their territory. There can be no Security Community if protracted conflicts are not resolved. There can be no Security Community if there is growing mistrust and lack of transparency, if there is no full implementation of commitments from the Helsinki Final Act to the Istanbul commitments and all those commitments to which the OSCE participating States have agreed. These commitments must be observed. Part of demilitarization is the transformation of the peace-keeping mission in a civilian mission, under international mandate. We look forward to starting reflection on these aspects.

In the 5+2 format, discussions on institutional political, institutional and security aspects should start, with a view to enable tangible progress in the resolution of the protracted conflict in the Republic of Moldova, with full respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova. Confidence building measures are important as well, in particular in those fields in which unilateral measures and provocations by Tiraspol created problems. Latin script schools should function properly and in a sustainable way, free of interferences and hindrances and the right to education in the language of own choice must be observed. Moreover, negative evolutions should be prevented as they have negative impact in the process of conflict resolution.

OSCE can do and can achieve a lot if it is allowed to. It has a multitude of tools and instruments that can be put at work if the participating States bring the political will. Among these tools and instruments, field presences are essential assets. The OSCE Mission in the Republic of Moldova has a clear mandate related to



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conflict resolution and security-related aspects; it should be allowed to fully accomplish it, including in the Transdnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova, and enjoy full and unhindered access.

In conclusion, Madame Minister, we wish you every success in your endeavours and reaffirm our firm and steady support for the Republic of Moldova.