



*Check against delivery*

**General Assembly Informal Interactive Dialogue on the  
Report of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect  
A vital and enduring commitment: Implementing the responsibility to  
protect**

**Statement by Romania**

**H.E. Dr. Ion Jinga**

**Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the UN**

- 8 September 2015 -

Mr President,

I would like to join the other speakers in thanking you and your office for the preparation of this timely and important dialogue. At the outset, allow me to greet and express my country's deep appreciation for the continuous efforts of the two special advisors of the Secretary General, Mrs. Jennifer Welsh and Mr. Adama Dieng. Their work is a vital contribution to our joint efforts towards the operationalisation of the responsibility to protect.

Ten years following our pledge of working together to fulfil our common responsibility, we are yet to make substantial progress in living up to the commitments that we made in 2005 Summit Outcome Document. Romania fully stands by the provisions of this document and reaffirms its commitment to engage at all necessary levels in support of making it operational.

In this context, a particularly important and very much welcomed institutional step is the appointment of an R2P focal point by the European Union. It will enable us to further streamline preventive policies at national, regional and global levels.

Another recent development is the upcoming adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution designating an international day for the commemoration of genocide victims. Romania is among the co-sponsors of this resolution which, we believe, shall provide an effective framework of action for the Secretary General's special adviser on the prevention of genocide. We shall fully support him in his endeavours.

Mr President,

Our colleague, the EU representative, has so inspired mentioned that the key word here is “prevent” and that “going from early warning to early action is essential”.

The Secretary General’s annual report on R2P is a very well structured and comprehensive document, enabling us to have a broad exchange of views. Allow me to address, out of time considerations, just a few specific aspects, related to Pillar I, namely advancing participation in key legal instruments.

On the 23rd of June this year Romania became the 72nd state to submit a unilateral declaration for the acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. The declaration is a token of Romania’s commitment to international law and recognition of the prominent contribution of the World Court to international peace. We encourage others to consider taking a action of support towards the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and prevalence of international law.

Recent events have reminded us once more the relevance of the International Criminal Court and the need for the rule of law and justice. We have to reinforce our collective and individual efforts in order to fight impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern. Romania encourages every State, which is not yet a party, to join the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC. We continue to believe that each step towards the universality of the Rome

Statute is a step towards peace and stability. If we ensure peace and stability, we can achieve development.

In addition, it is important that all states parties to the Rome Statute continue their efforts to consolidate national legislative and institutional framework, in line with their obligations. In Romania, a new criminal code recently entered into force. It has special provisions on the crime of genocide and crimes against humanity.

I would like to conclude by expressing my country's entire support for initiatives which aim at ensuring that voting rights in the decision-making of the Security Council in matters which concern R2P situations are exercised in accordance with the R2P goals.

The activity of UN's organs and the exercise of their powers needs to reflect our common commitments.

I thank you for your attention.