



ROMANIA

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STATEMENT

By H.E. Mr. Klaus Iohannis

President of Romania

**Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's
Empowerment:
A Commitment to Action**

New York, 27 September 2015

Mr. Secretary-General,

Mr. President,

Let me begin by congratulating you on for convening this meeting dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment, in this very important context of the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women.

Mr. Secretary-General,

Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Non-discrimination, including on gender criteria, is one of the most important values of any modern society as equality between women and men is not only a human rights issue, but also a prerequisite for social justice, development and peace.

The adoption, in 1995, of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, during the Fourth World Conference on Women, was among the most important steps forward in the development of a new long term strategy based on a real political will and commitment of states to move towards achieving gender equality.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that Romania stands for gender equality and will continue to be fully committed to the protection and promotion of all the rights of women, as well as to the implementation of the legal

international instruments such as the Beijing Platform for Action, Istanbul Convention or UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Solidarity movement at the international level for gender equality was more than necessary and I would like to warmly congratulate UN Women for taking the initiative of launching HeForShe Campaign.

The HeForShe Campaign has been launched in Romania as well and I am happy to note that already more than 3,000 Romanians have signed the petition. As far as I am concerned, I am personally committed, within the IMPACT 10x10x10 initiative, to launch a new integrated system to track, report, and prevent all forms of violence; to create a new profession - the gender equality expert - across Romania, as well as to develop and implement programs to engage girls and boys in political, social and economic life, to create the next generation of leaders.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased and, I admit, proud that UN Women has chosen a young lady from Romania to speak here today in the opening of this session, as a representative of the next generation of leaders. It allows me to emphasize once again my country's and my own commitment to promote gender equality and women empowerment.

I thank you all for your attention!