



R O M A N I A

Statement by

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Round table 1

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- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished colleagues,

It is a great honour to represent the Government of Romania today at the Doha Social Summit, at a time when the world needs solidarity, equity, and a shared vision more than ever. The theme of our meeting – strengthening the three pillars of social development – lies at the heart of any modern and sustainable society.

The first pillar – the eradication of poverty – represents Goal 1 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: “No Poverty.” We understand that the fight against poverty is not limited to passive social assistance measures but requires integrated policies for employment, education, and inclusion. In Romania, we have strengthened the legislative framework for social protection and active inclusion, with the goal of giving every person the opportunity to build a future through work, education, and active participation in society. We are implementing reforms to ensure a fair and accessible social assistance system, expanding access to quality social services while optimizing public spending, carrying out integrated programs to combat poverty and social exclusion, and, not least, developing solutions that support the independent living of persons with disabilities.

The second pillar – full and productive employment – is enshrined in ILO Convention No. 122 on Employment Policy and in Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes the right of every person to work and to freely choose their profession.

Romania has adopted a coherent legislative and strategic framework in the field of employment, supported by active labour market policies that promote lifelong vocational training, digital skills, and the reintegration of young people and vulnerable groups into the labour market. We are increasing employment opportunities, with a focus on youth and vulnerable groups; modernizing the labour market by boosting women’s participation and supporting professional reconversion; promoting labour

mobility and entrepreneurship, especially in disadvantaged regions; investing in lifelong education to adapt to new economic demands; and strengthening public-private partnerships for training programs aligned with new technologies and demographic changes.

At the same time, we align ourselves with the objectives of the European Pillar of Social Rights, which promotes equal opportunities and fair working conditions for all European workers.

The third pillar – decent work and social inclusion – lies at the core of the International Labour Organization’s vision. The concept of decent work encompasses not only access to employment but also respect for fundamental rights, fair wages, safe working conditions, and adequate social protection.

Romania has ratified the main ILO conventions guaranteeing these rights, including those on freedom of association, equal remuneration, and maternity protection. Through the Labor Code and the Law on Social Dialogue, we have committed to strengthening the partnership between government, employers, and workers – an essential pillar of social democracy.

Furthermore, in light of the challenges brought by the green and digital transitions, we are working to modernize legislation concerning atypical work and the protection of platform workers, ensuring that no category is left behind.

These three dimensions – eradicating poverty, achieving full employment, and ensuring decent work – are interdependent. Together, they define the sustainable development model of the 21st century. We cannot fight poverty without creating secure and well-paid jobs. We cannot ensure inclusion without upholding fundamental labour rights.

Through legislative efforts, international partnerships, and the strengthening of social dialogue, Romania reaffirms its firm commitment to the principles of the European Social Charter and the International Labour Organization.

We believe in an economy that leaves no one behind, and in a labour, market founded on respect, fairness, and dignity.

In Romania, we are determined to turn challenges into opportunities, leveraging our strategic partnership with European funds. Our objective is simple yet fundamental: a dignified and prosperous life for every citizen.

Let us work together, globally, to ensure that no one is left behind!

Thank you!