



**Address by Mr. László Borbély, Vice-president of the Romanian Group to the IPU
The 135th General Assembly of the Interparliamentary Union
General Debate**

Ladies and gentlemen,
Esteemed colleagues,

The agendas for good governance, participatory development, human rights and democratization are clearly interlinked. It is really important to remind ourselves that stable societies are built upon the respect of the human rights.

Allow me to continue with a few remarks on the institutional framework that the Romanian Parliament established in order to protect human rights.

In our two Chambers, a specialized standing Committee sees if the draft legislation does not break the standards in the field; this is one of the most efficient ways to include in the normative framework the dimension of the human rights.

At the level of the Committee on Legal matters, we established a subcommittee that follows the implementation of the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

The Committee on Petitions is another parliamentary organism that is investigating any possible abuse from a state authority.

A landmark institution in the field is the Romanian Human Rights Institute, which is under parliamentary control and which was established as early as 1991, by a Prime-Minister who subsequently held two mandates of Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

I would like to pinpoint that in safeguarding human rights, an important role plays the contribution of the parliamentarians in international assemblies specialized in human rights and democracy.

At the level of IPU, we organized in 2014 a regional seminar on human rights and we continue to develop our contribution, indirectly, by working hard towards the implementation of the SDGs.

All these contributions lead to the improvement of monitoring the situation of human rights in the member countries. At the same time, in the framework of these Assemblies, the parliamentarians learn about standards, instruments, best practices and, hopefully, they will channel their national activity towards meeting these standards.

Thank you!

