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Review Session
Romania

**Romanian intervention during the session “Review of the implementation
of OSCE commitments in the area of good governance”**
(September 12, 14:30-16:30)

I would like to thank the Basel Institute for the Report and to make only a few short remarks:

The report is primarily based on open sources and less on the official information provided by governments. Some data included in this report are outdated, for instance, the mentioning of a 2008 OECD report on anticorruption efforts which refers to a situation in Romania in 2005. According to that report, I am quoting:

“There has been a reluctance to investigate cases of high-level corruption as prosecutors did not feel sufficiently protected from political influence to engage in investigations regarding politically powerful persons - a situation which had led to substantial internal reforms in the course of 2005.” (end of quote)

In this context, I want to point out that the periodical reports of the European Commission show updated and even opposite developments. The last report, which evaluates the progress made by Romania, under the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism, for the interval 2007-2012, is highlighting that, quote:

“Many important institutions also contribute to this solid basis (*the anticorruption legal framework*), including the National Anticorruption Directorate (DNA) and the National Agency for Integrity (ANI).

This framework has been carried forward in many ways. For instance, the track record of DNA and ANI, the steps taken by the High Court to tackle key high-level corruption cases, and some examples of government bodies addressing corruption in their ranks are steps in the right direction.

The performance of the National Anticorruption Directorate in the investigation and prosecution of high-level corruption cases can be considered one of the most significant advances made in Romania since accession. DNA has been

able to deliver a constantly increasing number of indictments year by year, with investigations carried out swiftly and in a pro-active way. Since 2007, cases at the highest levels of political life and within the judiciary have been raised by DNA against people from all major political parties. The performance of DNA has led to a consequential increase in court decisions and convictions in high-level corruption cases, in particular since 2010”.

Thank you very much for your attention.