



Parliament of Romania

Chamber of Deputies

COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Bucharest, 16 July, 2018

TO: Ms. Henrietta H. Fore
Board Chair of Global Partnership to End Violence against Children

Dear Madam,

I would like to convey to you my sincere congratulations on the occasion of your nomination as Chair of the Board of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children.

I avail myself of this opportunity to introduce myself to you: my name is Biró Rozália-Ibolya. I am a deputy in the Parliament of Romania, the President of the Committee for Foreign Affairs in the Chamber of Deputies and the Vice-president of the Women's Organization in the European People's Party.

Being concerned with the issue of gender equality and the elimination of violence against women, I organized last year, for the fourth consecutive year, in cooperation with the Inter parliamentary Union (IPU), an international Seminar whose theme was "Making Laws Work to End Violence Against Women and Girls". This regional event which reunited parliamentary delegations of 20 countries, governmental officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations and experts, offered the framework for an exchange of opinions, information and good practices, in order to identify efficient ways for multi-sectoral cooperation, so that to ensure the promotion and the implementation of laws for eliminating the violence against women, also protecting them and holding the offenders accountable.

At the same time, starting from Goal 5 of the UNO 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, "*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*" - which Romania adopted, together with the other 193 UNO Member States, being included in the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, it was set up, upon my initiative,

a Working Multi-sectoral Group for Gender Equality, which operates within the Committee for Foreign Affairs, and reunites parliament members, representatives of the governmental institutions which have responsibilities in the field of the prevention of violence against women, representatives of the associations which are involved in the prevention and combat of family and gender violence and representatives of the NGOs which activate in this field. This Group reunites periodically, so that to meet the proposed objectives.

At the same time, I proposed to change the existing legislative framework, taking into account the recommendations of the Istanbul Convention for the elimination of the violence against women, a modification which was subsequently taken over by the Government of Romania.

We must not be indifferent to such phenomena, as the violence against children and the violence against women, which are real threats for the citizens of our countries. Our commitment to improve the lives of children and of women is very important to prevent and to end such kind of violence forms.

We can succeed in our endeavors only if we prove determination and if we are united in front of such challenges.

Being very attached to these subjects, I would like to convey to you, once again, my deep appreciation and congratulations for your appointment, wishing very much to share experiences and best practices regarding these phenomena of our contemporary times.

I wish you full success in your activity.

Hoping in a future fruitful cooperation, I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

President,

Biró Rozália-Ibolya