

**Speech of Maj. Gen. MASTAN Alin – Ionel, general inspector of the Romanian Gendarmerie, during Session 3 – “STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION”**

**Mr. Chairman/Madam Chair,**

**Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me to express my sincere appreciation to the Department of Peace Operations and the Police Division for organizing the 5th edition of this significant Summit and for providing Romania with the opportunity to address this distinguished audience.

First and foremost, we offer our deepest gratitude and respect to UN peacekeeping personnel, with particular recognition of those who have lost their lives or sustained injuries while serving in the field.

**Distinguished Delegates,**

Today, I stand before you to emphasize, once again, the central goals of our collective mission: preventing conflict and violence and, most importantly, sustaining peace.

Peacekeeping has been traditionally the very fabric of the work of the United Nations and at the core of the peace and security pillar. This is more relevant than ever, in light of the growing number of conflicts and the emergence of new threats to international security.

However, we are witnessing a decline in the peacekeeping activity, exacerbated by the recent financial constraints and activation of contingency plans, with a significant effect on the Police Components of UN Peace Operations. In this context, we reiterate the crucial role of UNPOL in maintaining public safety, protecting civilians and building the capacity of host-state police forces, thus creating the conditions for sustainable peace.

Against this backdrop, we welcome the Secretariat's work to redefine UNPOL in response to a growing set of challenges and underline the importance of a coordinated, system-wide UN approach to policing activities.

**Esteemed colleagues,**

Since 1998, the Romanian Gendarmerie and the Romanian Police have consistently contributed with Individual Police Officers and Formed Police Units to United Nations peace operations in challenging and often unpredictable environments.

In addition, Romania has supported global capacity-building efforts for peacekeepers through certified training courses, as well as by providing trainers and facilitators to activities organized by the Department of Peace Operations.

Our engagement also reflects a strong commitment to advancing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, including the promotion of women's meaningful participation in policing and peace operations. Furthermore, Romania actively participates in the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing initiative, contributing to the development and exchange of best practices aimed at strengthening gender-sensitive policing approaches across peace operations.

Overall, all these contributions reflect our conviction that international solidarity, professional excellence, and collective action are essential for maintaining global peace and security.

We believe that strong support from Member States, along with close cooperation with host governments, local communities, and regional actors, is essential to the successful implementation of peacekeeping mandates.

Perhaps more than ever, we must stand united in our collective, coordinated, and sustained efforts to advancing global peace and security.

**Thank you for your attention.**