

National Statement at COP27

Romania

Delivered by H.E. President Klaus Werner Iohannis

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The times we live in are the most challenging in a generation. We face a war on the European continent with global effects, energy insecurity, food shortages and economic instability. These should not divert our attention from climate change. On the contrary, delivering on climate is key to addressing many of these challenges and safeguarding the well-being of present and future generations.

Climate change is not an abstract concept, but a daily reality, with consequences on human health, nature and the economy. My country, Romania, experienced this year severe drought with negative implications regarding access to water, food production and power generation. Therefore, adaptation efforts are crucial to increasing the resilience of societies and ecosystems facing climate risks.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Romania fully supports the EU leadership on climate change and our joint commitment to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions. We must ensure an orderly green transition with multiple benefits: investments in research-development-innovation, development of the green economy and job creation.

Furthermore, energy access at affordable prices can be secured through investments in low-carbon energy, resilient networks and adequate regulation for renewables.

The costs of climate inaction exceed by far the costs of action. Climate change generates economic and non-economic loss and damage across the world.

Fellow leaders,

Our strongest allies in the fight against climate change are our citizens. We need to prepare and empower them for this battle.

The youth in Romania is very motivated to act on climate change and this dedication should serve as inspiration to all of us.

I strongly believe in the power of education to generate climate-friendly behaviour. Education and research systems need to be better aligned with climate goals and equip our citizens, particularly our youth, with the skills needed in a low-carbon economy and society.

I look forward to a comprehensive COP27 outcome. Let me conclude by kindly inviting you to work together on this, with dedication and determination!