



# European Women Lawyers Association

The Voice of Women Lawyers Across Europe

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## PRESS RELEASE

### EWLA encourages Romanians to continue their fight for the rule of law within their Presidency of the Council of the European Union

The present international criticism regarding the rule of law and lack of consistency in fighting corruption at upper echelons of power in Romania give rise for concern. Ongoing protests of local



people on the streets show that democratic values and human rights are still deeply rooted within the country and the people and need our moral support. EWLA welcomes these signs of vital democratic forces that uphold democratic and human rights standards as they are also enshrined in our EU Treaties.

With BREXIT and the crucial European elections ahead EWLA emphasizes the necessity to remind the Romanian EU Presidency to observe human and democratic rights and to become a role model in times of EU Presidency.

On behalf of the weakest in society EWLA stresses the need to improve the situation of 1,7 million children in Romania who live without their

mother or father and 43.000 children who reportedly still live in the ex-communist orphanages where their parents have abandoned them. In order to improve the general situation of children means also to improve the situation of women as a first step forward.

EWLA President, Katharina Miller, states: "We hope that the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will in its own interest focus even harder on gender equality during the next six months and will also promote the latest EU legislative initiatives such as the adoption of the **Work-Life-Balance Directive**".

The European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is registered in Belgium as an international non-governmental, non-profit, association (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif). It is a federation of national women lawyers associations from amongst the European Union countries and those of EFTA countries. Members of EWLA are also individual women lawyers and academics from these countries. EWLA pursues the co-operation of European women lawyers, in order to combine their specific expertise in monitoring law and politics seen from the angle of fundamental rights, and in particular gender equality.

The European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is registered in Belgium as an International Non-profit Association (AISBL)

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