



Statement of Ireland
43rd session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4: Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation
of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

9 March 2020

Mr Vice-President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

Ireland would like to thank Special Rapporteur Rehman for his report and presentation on the human rights situation in Iran.

Ireland remains gravely concerned at the continued use of the death penalty in Iran, in particular against juvenile offenders. Ireland calls on the Iranian Government to establish an immediate moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Reports of deaths in Iran at the hands of its security forces during protests in November 2019 are a cause for alarm. Ireland urges the Iranian authorities to undertake prompt, independent and impartial investigations into all violations that have taken place and hold those responsible accountable.

Ireland calls on Iran to release all those detained for peacefully exercising their rights of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists, labour rights activists, artists and environmentalists.

Ireland remains concerned by reports of continued discrimination against members of ethnic and religious minorities, in particular those that are not recognised under the Constitution in Iran. We call on Iran to ensure full respect for its international human rights obligations and to take all steps necessary to protect the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, including the Baha'i community.

Mr Rehman, what has been your recent experience in obtaining the cooperation of the Iranian authorities and has there been any progress in your efforts to obtain a visit to Iran facilitated by the Iranian government?

Thank you.