



Statement of Ireland

46th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 10- Interactive dialogue on High Commissioner's oral Report on Ukraine

19 March 2021

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU.

Ireland appreciates the important work of the OHCHR and the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine.

While the security situation has improved compared to the previous reporting period, Ireland notes with concern that incidences of civilian casualties, including fatalities, continue.

Ireland believes that improving freedom of movement for the civilian population is vital to reduce the impact of the conflict. Attacks on civilian infrastructure have a significant negative impact and Ireland calls on all those involved to desist and allow unimpeded access for repairs.

Ireland notes with deep concern threats, attacks and arbitrary detention of journalists, human rights defenders, LGBTI+ persons, minorities and political parties. Legislation to protect the language rights of minorities is required. Freedom of religion or belief for all must also be fully protected.

Ireland condemns all instances of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement officials and calls for full accountability.

It is crucial that international human rights monitoring missions and OHCHR are granted full and unimpeded access to all of Ukraine, and in particular Eastern Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula.

Ireland does not recognise the annexation and reiterates our support of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Madame High Commissioner, we welcome your views on how Covid-19 may be disproportionately affecting those in particularly vulnerable situations, such as IDPs?