



Statement of Ireland
53rd Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 2: Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's annual report

20 June 2023

Ireland aligns with the EU statement and thanks the High Commissioner for his statement.

Ireland welcomes your focus on the importance of cooperation by States with the UN human rights ecosystem. It is through cooperation that we can each better protect and promote human rights, both domestically and globally.

We encourage all states to implement UPR recommendations, to progress ratification of outstanding treaties, and to issue a standing invitation to all Special Procedures.

Civil society can and does play an important role in the promotion and protection of human rights. Ireland is concerned that the space for civil society engagement is increasingly restricted. Ireland underscores the importance of inclusive and diverse participation of civil society; we encourage States to listen to and engage with underrepresented groups.

We condemn all acts of intimidation or reprisal against those who are working to uphold human rights. We note with concern, continued acts of reprisal against civil society actors cooperating with the Human Rights Council.

In this anniversary year, we encourage all States to be guided by the principle that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration, without distinction of any kind.

We take this opportunity to underline our unequivocal support for your work, High Commissioner, and for the independence of your Office.