



**Statement of Ireland**  
**45<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group**

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Review of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**8 January 2024**

Ireland thanks Saudi Arabia for its presentation today.

Ireland acknowledges Saudi Arabia's efforts to improve educational opportunities for women and girls and we encourage continued efforts towards reducing gender inequality.

Ireland is deeply concerned at the continuing use of the death penalty and the use of anti-terrorism laws to restrict fundamental freedoms.

Ireland recommends Saudi Arabia:

1. Place an immediate moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition, and to commute existing death sentences.
2. Adopt legislation to guarantee the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association, including protections for journalists, human rights defenders and civil society, in accordance with international human rights law and relevant international human rights standards.

Thank you.