



**Statement of Ireland**  
**43rd session of the Human Rights Council**

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Item 4: Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on situation of human rights in Myanmar

**10 March 2020**

Madam President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her final report and for the dedication, and commitment, she has shown in discharging her mandate. We wish her well for the future.

Ireland remains deeply concerned at continuous reports of violence and human rights abuses in Myanmar, particularly in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States.

2020 is a year of critical importance in the democratic transition of Myanmar and the future of its people. We urge the Government to take the opportunity to shape a better, more peaceful future for all in Myanmar that is rooted in an inclusive human rights based framework that leaves no one behind.

Ireland encourages the swift ratification of outstanding international human rights instruments, including the ICCPR, and urges the Government to respect and protect the peaceful exercise of freedom of expression and association, as well as the free operation of civil society ahead of national elections later this year.

Crucial also to securing a peaceful future for the people of Myanmar is the holding to account of those responsible for grave human rights abuses and violations of international law. We note the recent work of the Independent Commission of Enquiry but urge that further steps be taken swiftly to deliver justice and adequate supports for victims and survivors.

*Madame Special Rapporteur, ahead of elections later this year, what practical steps can the international community take to support this next crucial step in Myanmar's democratic transition?*

Thank you.