



Statement of Ireland

43rd session of the Human Rights Council

Item 5: Human Rights Bodies and Mechanisms

15 June 2020

Madam President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU.

Ireland is a staunch supporter of the UN human rights system. We reiterate our commitment to engage with and support its human rights mechanisms, including the Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies.

We call on all States to do the same, including by issuing a standing invitation to all Special Procedure Mandate Holders.

Ireland welcomes this year's annual report. We commend in particular the work of the Coordination Committee, including the implementation of decisions adopted last year in an effort to enhance both methods of work and engagement with States and other stakeholders.

The Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies remain an integral part of the UN human rights system. It is our duty and obligation as States to support and defend their integrity and independence, as well as to ensure they have adequate financial and human resources to carry out the work mandated to them, by us. We pay tribute to the efforts made by these mechanisms to continue with their work in recent months.

The contribution of civil society is also critical.

As such, acts of intimidation and reprisal against those seeking to cooperate with the mandates must be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

We urge all States to take the necessary measures to prevent such acts, which not only violate the rights of individuals, but threaten and undermine the effective functioning of the multilateral system.

Thank you.