



Statement of Ireland

46th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

11 March 2021

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Commission for their reports.

Both reports set out the harsh reality of sustained and widespread human rights abuses and violations that continue to be inflicted on the Syrian people after 10 years of conflict. The suffering must end. Ireland reiterates its strong support for Special Envoy Pedersen's efforts and calls on all parties to renew momentum towards a political solution.

The Commission rightly observes that the issue of detainees represents a national trauma that will affect Syria for decades. Arbitrary detentions blatantly violate human rights and the conditions of fear that they continue to generate impede efforts towards a political solution. Ireland calls on the government of Syria and all parties holding information on the fate of detainees to release that information to families.

Ireland once more stresses the need for accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses perpetrated during the conflict. We reiterate our support for the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism and call for the situation in Syria to be referred to the International Criminal Court.

Members of the Commission: What measures can be taken by the international community to ensure that victims of human rights violations and abuses, including family members of the disappeared, can receive effective and appropriate support?

Thank you