

39th session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of Tajikistan

Statement of Ireland

4th November 2021

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Tajikistan and thanks them for their presentation.

Ireland acknowledges Tajikistan's efforts to advance human rights domestically and notes progress made since the previous UPR cycle. We particularly welcome Tajikistan's signature to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encourages towards ratification of this Convention.

However, Ireland is concerned by restrictions on the right to freedom of expression and we are also troubled by longstanding discrimination, stigma and violence towards LGBTI+ people in Tajikistan.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the Tajik authorities:

1. Revise the Penal Code to remove criminal sanctions for insulting or libelling the President, and other State officials.
2. Create and maintain an enabling environment for the free use of independent media, search platforms and social media websites and end the use of surveillance technologies to monitor online activity.
3. Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, which adequately and effectively protects LGBTI+ persons from discrimination and violence.

We wish Tajikistan every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.