



Statement of Ireland
36th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Bulgaria

6 November 2020

Thank you, Madame President

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland acknowledges Bulgaria's efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle.

Ireland welcomes the passage of new legislation on the provision of Social Services. This is an important step forward towards protecting the most vulnerable members of society, including women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and minority and Roma communities. We encourage Bulgaria to continue to strengthen and fully implement this legislation.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the Bulgarian authorities:

1. Ensure compliance with laws requiring public disclosure of media ownership to improve transparency.
2. Amend its Criminal Code to include marital rape and domestic violence as specific crimes and ensure the definition of rape is fully in line with international standards.

We wish Bulgaria every success with this UPR cycle,

Thank you.