



Statement of Ireland
34th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Iraq

11 November 2019

Thank you, Mr (Vice) President.

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

Ireland wishes to recall its previous recommendations to Iraq on violence against women and the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

Ireland is disturbed by reports of violations of the right to due process and to a fair trial as guaranteed by the ICCPR, including large number of arrests without warrants, and long periods of detention without access to a lawyer.

Ireland is gravely concerned that the application of the death penalty has increased considerably since 2018.

In the context of the current public protests in Iraq, Ireland notes with deep concern the number of deaths of those protesting. The rights to freedom of expression and assembly are enshrined in Iraq's constitution. Those responsible for unlawful use of force against protestors should be investigated and prosecuted.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the Iraqi authorities:

1. Establish a moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
2. Ensure that the right to due process, to a presumption of innocence and to a fair trial, as guaranteed under the ICCPR, is fully vindicated. Those who are detained must have access to legal advice, and must be given an opportunity to defend themselves.

We wish Iraq every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.