



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
14 December 2021

Original: English

---

## Human Rights Council

Forty-ninth session

28 February–1 April 2022

Agenda item 6

Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Ireland

---

\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-ninth session from 1 to 12 November 2021. The review of Ireland was held at the 14th meeting, on 10 November 2021. The delegation of Ireland was headed by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Mr. Roderic O’Gorman. At its 15th meeting, held on 12 November 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Ireland.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Ireland: Germany, Sudan and Ukraine.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Ireland:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Ireland through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation stated that Ireland was committed to maintaining a central place for human rights in its domestic and foreign policies. Ireland was proud of its human rights record, even while recognizing that there was room for improvement. Civil society organizations had played a valuable role in its May 2021 consultation process.
6. Since the 2016 review of Ireland, a significant development had been the change made to the Constitution. In May 2018, a referendum was held on the Constitution regarding permitting the parliament to make laws for the regulation of the termination of pregnancy. The referendum passed by a majority, following which the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Bill 2018 was signed into law in December 2018; the Act came into force in January 2019.
7. In March 2017, the parliament formally recognized Traveller ethnicity. The Government sought to encourage progress through the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017–2021, which included actions, monitored by a committee, on cultural identity, education, employment, health and accommodation.
8. The National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017–2021 had led to the enactment of legislation requiring companies to report on the gender pay gap. Family leave entitlements had been improved and an equality budgeting initiative had been rolled out. The Citizens’ Assembly had presented its recommendations on gender equality to parliament in 2021; the recommendations were being examined.
9. Ireland had ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence on International Women’s Day in 2019.

---

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/39/IRL/1.

<sup>2</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/39/IRL/2.

<sup>3</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/39/IRL/3.

The third national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence was being developed to radically improve services for victims.

10. Progress towards reaching the target of having 40 per cent of seats on State Boards occupied by women had been strengthened by implementing, in 2020, the annex on gender balance, diversity and inclusion to the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. In the private sector, a business-led initiative to increase the number of women on corporate boards had shown positive results.

11. In 2018, Ireland had launched the first-ever LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy, which was followed by its first National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy, in 2019.

12. A consultative review process to strengthen equality legislation had been launched, including to enhance protections on the basis of gender identity and for transgender people.

13. The Government had established the independent National Anti-Racism Committee and tasked it with developing a national action plan against racism to be launched early in 2022.

14. On hate crime and hate speech, plans for new legislation to combat incitement to hatred and hate crime had been announced in 2021. In addition, the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act, covering online and offline communications, had been enacted in 2021.

15. Policing reform entailed implementing the recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland. The Policing, Security and Community Safety Bill would improve the performance and accountability of policing and security services.

16. Human rights training was available across the police service. Hate crime and diversity training and an internship programme for underrepresented groups had been introduced.

17. In 2021, a white paper to end direct provision was published and a new international protection support service was established. The paper set out a new policy on accommodation and support for international protection applicants, centred on a human-rights approach and cooperation with civil society.

18. Ireland had opted into the European Union recast reception conditions directive<sup>4</sup> in 2018. It was reducing processing times for applications for asylum and appeals.

19. Through the International Refugee Protection Programme, thousands of refugees had been offered refuge since 2016. The Government had responded flexibly to other crises.

20. Ireland was investing in developing a fully digital, customer-centric immigration service. It was committed to a new scheme to regularize long-term undocumented people and their dependents, including by enabling them to gain access to the labour market and other State benefits.

21. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 had been passed, with commitments to reach a legally binding target of net zero emissions by 2050 and a 51 per cent reduction by 2030 compared to 2018 levels.

22. Ireland complied with most of the provisions of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Enactment of the Smuggling of Persons Bill 2021, currently before parliament, would allow for ratification of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

23. On the non-punishment principle for criminal acts committed by trafficking victims, it was the independent prosecutor who decided on criminal charges. While it would therefore be difficult to constrain that independent decision-making by statute, in practice, trafficking victims were not prosecuted. Ireland was working on measures to ensure that trafficking

---

<sup>4</sup> Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast).

victims were identified, protected and supported. The criminal justice system would be reformed following a review of the support provided to victims and witnesses.

24. Regarding the repatriation of foreign fighters, the issue was addressed on a case-by-case basis, with consular services provided to all Irish citizens and investigations carried out where evidence indicated that returnees had committed terrorism-related offences.

25. Ireland was conducting a review with a view to increasing the use of alternatives to detention, promote rehabilitation and restorative justice and reduce recidivism. A task force would ensure that the mental health needs of prisoners were met. There were separate facilities in prison for people held on remand and a block for individuals detained for immigration-related issues.

26. For the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response, the Pandemic Ethics Advisory Group was established as a subgroup of the National Public Health Emergency Team. Following the restrictions to individual rights and freedoms imposed in the interest of public health and as a result of the successful COVID-19 vaccination programme, the majority of restrictions had been lifted and measures would become increasingly voluntary.

27. Termination-of-pregnancy services had been expanded starting on 1 January 2019 and were available free of charge in community and hospital settings across the country. A review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 would conclude in 2022.

28. The Mental Health Act had been reviewed in the light of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and a bill amending the Act would be introduced in 2022.

29. Preparations for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography were at an advanced stage. Ireland had passed legislation to ensure compliance and was examining further requirements. It had launched an integrated service to support victims of child sexual abuse.

30. The national policy framework for children and young people 2014–2020 represented the first overarching policy framework for children and young people up to the age of 24 years.

31. For most purposes, the effective age of criminal responsibility was 14 years and the youth justice system ensured that children were prosecuted only as a last resort and when diversion was not appropriate.

32. In 2018, Ireland had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It had submitted its first report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities following the creation of the Disability Participation and Consultation Network. Ireland planned to design, jointly with the Network and persons with disabilities more generally, a corresponding implementation plan. Ireland was replacing the current wards-of-court system with a functional capacity model. Implementation in 2022 of the amended Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015 would result in persons with disabilities having greater control over the choices that affect their lives, livelihoods and well-being.

33. Ireland aimed to have at least 400 multi-denominational schools in the primary system by 2030. Over the previous decade, 119 new schools had been opened, of which 114 were multi-denominational.

34. The €2 billion investment in special education provided additional supports for children with disabilities. Children, including migrant and Traveller children, attended mainstream schools.

35. On housing, the Traveller-specific accommodation budget for 2020 of €14.5 million had been fully utilized. A range of housing options were available to Traveller households and legislation provided for their needs. The 2019 traveller accommodation expert report set out recommendations, and a Board with Traveller representation would oversee implementation.

36. A new housing strategy had been launched in 2021, with a commitment to eradicate homelessness by 2030. Under the associated plan were actions to increase supply. A total of €4 billion was being invested annually on social and affordable housing.

37. The Government's ambition to support economic recovery while strengthening support for disadvantaged groups, had been outlined in the employment strategy *Pathways to Work 2016–2020*. By 2019, over 90 per cent of the recommended actions contained in it had been implemented.

38. In responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government had implemented a pandemic-related unemployment payment and wage subsidy schemes. Since March 2020, Ireland had spent nearly €17 billion to support workers. The *Pathways to Work 2021–2025* had been launched in 2021, focusing on providing support to groups facing disadvantages before the pandemic.

39. In the context of the mother and baby and county home institutions, the State recognized that it had repeatedly failed to protect vulnerable citizens, as articulated by the Taoiseach in his apology in January 2021, following the publication of a report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes. An action plan with 22 actions to implement the recommendations had been developed and implementation would be monitored.

40. In 2021, Ireland published draft laws to guarantee the right to gain access to birth and early life information for all adopted persons and to allow for the exhumation, identification and dignified reburial of infants at the Tuam burial site. Plans were under way for a scheme to provide eligible survivors and former residents with financial payments and enhanced medical cards, also providing free counselling for survivors.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

41. During the interactive dialogue, 103 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

42. Turkey expressed concern about discrimination against Travellers and the Roma community, notably regarding accommodation, health and education.

43. Turkmenistan noted with appreciation the efforts made towards the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society.

44. Uganda urged Ireland to extend the ongoing positive measures to additional vulnerable groups like refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers.

45. Ukraine noted the progress made in increasing the effectiveness of the judiciary, eliminating hate crime and protecting marginalized groups.

46. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the establishment of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission.

47. The United States of America applauded the national disability strategy and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

48. Uruguay welcomed the efforts made to ensure access to education through the Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools Initiative.

49. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed concern at the increase in attacks against migrants and ethnic minorities.

50. Viet Nam commended Ireland for the variety of steps taken since the 2016 universal periodic review.

51. Zambia commended Ireland for developing strategies to tackle domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.

52. Afghanistan welcomed the positive developments but expressed concern at the failure to fully realize the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

53. Algeria welcomed the ratification by Ireland in 2018 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

54. Argentina thanked Ireland for the presentation of its national report.

55. Armenia welcomed the efforts made to enhance the protection of minorities, especially in the area of access to education.
56. Australia noted the steps taken to recognize survivors of mother and baby homes and the projected publication of redress proposals.
57. Austria commended Ireland for recognizing Travellers as a distinct ethnic group and for repealing the total ban on abortion.
58. Azerbaijan expressed serious concern about discrimination, in particular racial profiling, xenophobic acts and harassment against vulnerable groups in Ireland.
59. Bahamas appreciated the detailed national report by Ireland and the efforts undertaken since the previous universal periodic review.
60. Bahrain praised the efforts made to support the recommendations arising from the previous universal periodic review cycle, especially to combat domestic violence.
61. Bangladesh appreciated the progress made by Ireland in the area of human rights since its second universal periodic review.
62. Barbados thanked the delegation of Ireland for the national report and the additional information provided.
63. Belarus noted the lack of effective legislation against hate crimes or incitement to hatred and discrimination against migrants and refugees.
64. Bhutan commended Ireland for passing the Thirty-sixth Amendment of the Constitution Act 2018 and repealing laws related to offences of blasphemy.
65. Botswana expressed concern about reported incidents of racial profiling by police and of racist hate speech, including by politicians.
66. Brazil welcomed the final report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.
67. Bulgaria appreciated that Ireland had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
68. Burkina Faso noted with appreciation the enactment by Ireland of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017.
69. Cambodia praised Ireland for the legislation enacted and the actions taken to combat gender-based violence and address employment-related matters.
70. Canada wished Ireland success in continuing to implement the Community Sponsorship Ireland programme and for directly sponsoring refugee families.
71. Chile welcomed the creation of the Balance for Better Business Review Group and the implementation of the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy.
72. China expressed concern about systemic racial discrimination against and the poor living conditions of Roma, people of African descent and migrants.
73. Colombia offered to share good practices and successful experiences in combating trafficking in persons.
74. Croatia commended the high level of human rights protection and noted that there was room for improvement in terms of protecting Roma from discrimination.
75. Cuba welcomed the consultation process, including with children and young people, in the drawing up of the national report.
76. Cyprus commended Ireland for the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill of 2021.
77. Czechia expressed appreciation for the progress made in various areas, including in sexual health and reproductive rights.
78. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea expressed concern about racism, xenophobia, hate speech and crime, and sexual violence.

79. Denmark commended Ireland for the legislation on abortion for non-life-threatening reasons but noted with regret that limitations remained.
80. Djibouti highlighted the measures taken to implement the supported recommendations from the previous universal periodic review.
81. The Dominican Republic welcomed the implementation of recommendations on women's rights, including on combating domestic violence.
82. Ecuador noted the participation of civil society in the preparation of the national report.
83. Egypt expressed concern about the abortion law and the targeting of persons of African descent by law enforcement agents.
84. Fiji commended Ireland for recognizing the climate justice principle as a consideration in developing carbon budgets, plans and strategies.
85. Finland noted that civil society had been openly and broadly consulted in the preparation of the national report.
86. France welcomed the legalization of the voluntary termination of pregnancy and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
87. Georgia welcomed the ratification of human rights instruments and the steps taken to tackle domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.
88. Germany commended Ireland for the new legislation on abortion and domestic violence but noted the ongoing discrimination against Travellers and Roma.
89. Ghana welcomed the reforms to the Irish Police Service and to electoral legislation to increase the political participation of women.
90. Iceland welcomed the expanded access to abortion services and encouraged Ireland to take additional legislative steps to improve such access.
91. India noted with appreciation the measures in the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016–2021.
92. Indonesia noted the efforts made to combat domestic violence, integrate ethnic minorities and adopt disability strategies.
93. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern about unilateral coercive measures and the trafficking in women and girls.
94. Iraq welcomed the establishment of the National Anti-Racism Committee and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission.
95. Israel welcomed the fact that Ireland was a member of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance but remained concerned about rises in antisemitism and hate speech.
96. Italy praised the efforts made to tackle domestic, sexual and gender-based violence, including through the adoption of the corresponding second national strategy for 2016–2021.
97. Japan expressed appreciation for the ratification by Ireland of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2018.
98. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted the progress achieved, inter alia, in promoting access to justice and the rights of children.
99. Lebanon commended Ireland for the promulgation of laws addressing domestic violence, sexual abuse and human trafficking and the efforts made to reduce homelessness.
100. Lithuania commended Ireland for its efforts in combating gender-based violence and addressing the challenges posed by distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.
101. Luxembourg commended Ireland for the implementation of previous cycle recommendations, including regarding the 2018 bill regulating the voluntary termination of pregnancy.
102. Malawi commended Ireland for amending the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act to improve the protection of children from sexual abuse, exploitation and grooming.

103. Malaysia welcomed the ratification by Ireland of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
104. Maldives commended Ireland for the amendments made in 2021 to the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act, ensuring application of the climate justice principle.
105. Malta congratulated Ireland for ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.
106. Mauritius applauded the adoption of the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 to ensure non-discriminatory access to education and the establishment of the Women's Health Taskforce.
107. Mexico welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and policies to promote gender equality in care.
108. Montenegro encouraged Ireland to further strengthen its legislative framework and take measures to address discrimination against ethnic minority groups.
109. Morocco saluted the commitment of Ireland to the rights of young people, including more equal access to health care.
110. Namibia positively noted the establishment in 2020 of the National Anti-Racism Committee to address racism and racial discrimination.
111. Nepal noted the national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and expressed appreciation for the Youth Justice Strategy 2021–2027.
112. The Netherlands encouraged Ireland to soon ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
113. The Niger welcomed the involvement of children and young people in the process of preparing the national report.
114. Nigeria positively noted the measures taken to prevent and combat racial discrimination and human trafficking and to protect trafficking victims.
115. Norway positively noted the introduction and speedy implementation by Ireland of the law on abortion.
116. Pakistan praised Ireland for taking legislative and administrative measures aimed at combating domestic violence, promoting gender parity and ensuring access to justice.
117. Panama thanked Ireland for presenting its national report.
118. Paraguay commended Ireland for the public consultations undertaken with children and young people in preparation for the national report.
119. Peru acknowledged the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.
120. The Philippines noted the passage of the Domestic Violence Act 2018 and other legislation against child sexual exploitation and abuse.
121. Poland noted the progress made but expressed concern about the remaining gaps in the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities.
122. Portugal welcomed the efforts made to tackle homelessness by increasing the investment in accommodation and other related services.
123. Qatar praised Ireland for its efforts to implement the recommendations from the previous universal periodic review and the public health measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
124. The Republic of Korea commended Ireland for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
125. Romania commended Ireland for the health, social and economic measures implemented to alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



126. The Russian Federation was concerned, inter alia, about overcrowding in prisons and the increase in violence against prisoners.
127. Senegal congratulated Ireland on the general scheme of the Criminal Justice (Hate Crime) Bill 2021.
128. Serbia welcomed the efforts made by Ireland to reduce and prevent homelessness through significant financial allocations in the 2021 budget.
129. Sierra Leone commended Ireland for its steps to ensure the independence of the national human rights institution but was concerned about reports of discrimination.
130. Singapore recognized the efforts made to combat racism and xenophobia, including the National Action Plan against Racism, but noted reports of racial profiling.
131. Slovakia welcomed the ratification by Ireland of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the addressing of legacy issues.
132. Slovenia expressed regret that the constitutional provisions perpetuating stereotypical views of the roles of women had not been amended.
133. South Africa commended the establishment in 2020 of the National Anti-Racism Committee, tasked with drawing up a new national action plan against racism.
134. Spain congratulated Ireland for its commitment to combating gender inequality through the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016–2021.
135. Sri Lanka expressed appreciation for new strategies on youth justice, combating gender-based violence and strengthening the justice sector.
136. The State of Palestine welcomed the establishment of the National Anti-Racism Committee and the launch of the National Plan on Business and Human Rights.
137. Switzerland welcomed the measures taken since the previous universal periodic review, particularly on women's rights.
138. Thailand commended Ireland for enacting the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act and establishing the multi-stakeholder High-level Homelessness Taskforce.
139. Timor-Leste praised Ireland for the progress made in children's rights, access to justice, the national minimum wage, universal health coverage and combating domestic violence.
140. Togo commended Ireland for its efforts to implement the recommendations addressed to it during the previous universal periodic review cycle.
141. Tunisia welcomed the efforts by Ireland to combat domestic violence and the sexual exploitation of children.
142. Uzbekistan welcomed the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016–2021 and the Commission on the Future of Policing.
143. Costa Rica commended Ireland for the progress made on the rights of young people and on the classification of hate crimes.
144. The Republic of Moldova commended Ireland for its efforts to advance gender equality and deliver equality of opportunity in schools.
145. In closing, the delegation confirmed that Ireland intended to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, for which prior legislation would be required. Measures already existed to protect persons against unlawful detention.
146. Regarding ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the general scheme of Inspection of Places of Detention Bill was being drafted. It would create a new office of the inspector of places of detention as a single national preventive mechanism.

147. In 2019, Ireland had ratified the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), of the International Labour Organization.
148. Electoral legislation reforms in 2016, the Irish Women's Parliamentary Caucus and local caucuses promoted women's representation in politics.
149. Overcrowding was not currently an issue for the prison system, which was operating at 88 per cent bed capacity. The Prison Service had been proactive in responding to COVID-19 and the practice of "slopping out" had been virtually eliminated. The Dóchas Centre, which accommodated the majority of women prisoners, was specifically designed for women, as was the Limerick Prison, to be completed in 2022.
150. The Civil Legal Aid Scheme would be reviewed in 2021 with a view to providing a flexible service with the capacity to respond to the priority legal assistance needs of those of insufficient means.
151. Ireland would continue to receive refugees from Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and other countries in the Mediterranean region and to respond to global asylum crises.
152. Work was beginning on the successors to the strategies on women and girls, Traveller and Roma inclusion and the integration of migrants.
153. Responding to queries raised during the dialogue, the delegation noted that the Judicial Council, established in 2019, enabled a constitutionally independent judiciary. Ireland had a national plan for promoting social inclusion that was overseen by a committee including civil society representatives. It was passing an online safety and media regulation bill to establish an online safety commissioner. Ireland had introduced new domestic violence legislation, including to introduce the offence of coercive control. The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission had had its funding increased for 2022. Finally, abortion services had continued during the pandemic.
154. The delegation thanked member and observer States for the interest shown and said that it would consider their recommendations with a positive and open mindset. The Government would work with civil society in addressing the recommendations received.
155. Regarding implementation, the domestic processes contained structures for assigning recommendations to departments for follow up. Ireland would prepare a voluntary interim report by late 2023 or early 2024.
156. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Ireland to promoting and protecting human rights and to developing responses as new human rights challenges emerged.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

157. **The following recommendations will be examined by Ireland, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council.**
- 157.1 **Ratify the core United Nations human rights treaties to which it was not yet party (Zambia);**
- 157.2 **Take measures to continue the process of ratification of, or accession to, the main outstanding international human rights instruments (Paraguay);**
- 157.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and accept the competence of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as regards the inquiry procedure and inter-State communications (Finland);**
- 157.4 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Cyprus) (South Africa);**
- 157.5 **Conclude the processes for the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the**

**Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal);**

157.6 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

157.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Cyprus) (Czechia) (Dominican Republic) (France) (Italy) (Maldives) (Poland) (Slovenia);**

157.8 **Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Malawi);**

157.9 **Continue with the parliamentary debates for the approval of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Uruguay);**

157.10 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina) (France) (Slovakia);**

157.11 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, signed in 2007 (Italy);**

157.12 **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);**

157.13 **Consider acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Malawi);**

157.14 **Promote the prompt ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);**

157.15 **Become party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Azerbaijan);**

157.16 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile);**

157.17 **Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);**

157.18 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**

157.19 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka);**

157.20 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Togo);**

157.21 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and create an effective and independent national preventive mechanism to inspect all places of detention (Austria);**

157.22 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Afghanistan) (Burkina Faso) (Cyprus) (Denmark) (France) (Germany) (Mauritius) (South Africa) (Switzerland);**

- 157.23 Complete as a matter of priority the process leading to the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a national preventive mechanism without delay, as previously recommended (Czechia);
- 157.24 Finalize the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine);
- 157.25 Continue its efforts to promptly accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);
- 157.26 Finalize the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Lebanon);
- 157.27 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish an effective national preventive mechanism (Lithuania);
- 157.28 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ensure that mentally ill individuals in prison have access to psychiatric care (Norway);
- 157.29 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);
- 157.30 Take concrete steps to ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Canada);
- 157.31 Speed up its efforts in order to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Georgia);
- 157.32 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Croatia) (France);
- 157.33 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Togo);
- 157.34 Allocate sufficient budgetary and human resources to the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission in order for it to discharge its functions effectively (Zambia);
- 157.35 Allocate sufficient budgetary and human resources to the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission to effectively undertake its expanded mandate (Montenegro);
- 157.36 Provide adequate human and financial resources to the national human rights institution (Pakistan);
- 157.37 Designate a national preventive mechanism in line with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia);
- 157.38 Consider the incorporation of the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic law (Armenia);
- 157.39 Implement remaining legislative measures to give full effect to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Australia);
- 157.40 Continue to take steps to incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic legal order (Bahamas);

- 157.41 Continue to take steps to incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic legal order (Brazil);
- 157.42 Domesticate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic legal order (Uganda);
- 157.43 Continue efforts aimed at ensuring compatibility of the new electoral code with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ukraine);
- 157.44 Incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in its national legislation (Iraq);
- 157.45 Establish a permanent national mechanism for the implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose under Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay);
- 157.46 Consider expanding the mandate of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission to include the prevention and prohibition of racial discrimination (Peru);
- 157.47 Bring its national legislation into conformity with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Russian Federation);
- 157.48 Expand the mandate of the national commission for human rights and equality in order to include the prevention and prohibition of racial discrimination (Serbia);
- 157.49 Take further steps to incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic legal order, with a view to closing gaps in the policy and institutional framework for any group of people experiencing racial discrimination (Viet Nam);
- 157.50 Revise the law on the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission to extend its powers to the protection of all rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Togo);
- 157.51 Develop a new national action plan against racism with clear indicators, time frames and resources in compliance with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Zambia);
- 157.52 Develop legislative measures to combat incitement to hatred and instigation of hatred on the Internet, as well as to combat discrimination in the workplace (Uzbekistan);
- 157.53 Pass legislation that prohibits the use of racial profiling, establish an independent complaint mechanism that addresses racial profiling and incorporate issues related to such profiling in police training programmes (Costa Rica);
- 157.54 Take further steps in order to eliminate racist hate speech and racial profiling (Republic of Moldova);
- 157.55 Pursue its efforts to strengthen and increase national programmes for social inclusion (Algeria);
- 157.56 Step up the implementation of measures against racial discrimination, which mainly affect people of African descent and members of the Roma community (Argentina);
- 157.57 Implement effective and durable integration policies for minorities, migrant workers and other vulnerable groups in combating discrimination against them (Azerbaijan);

- 157.58 **Improve the accessibility of effective remedies against any form of discrimination to protect vulnerable groups from hate speech and other hate crimes (Bahrain);**
- 157.59 **Enhance its awareness-raising measures against racism and xenophobia, particularly with regard to migrants and refugees (Turkmenistan);**
- 157.60 **Strengthen efforts, including legislative mechanisms, to root out racism, racial discrimination and hate crimes (Bangladesh);**
- 157.61 **Reinforce measures to address workplace discrimination and the gender pay gap (Bangladesh);**
- 157.62 **Develop new legislation in line with international standards to combat hate speech and hate crimes, and a new national action plan against racism (Belarus);**
- 157.63 **Take additional measures to protect vulnerable communities from racial discrimination, particularly that which may be perpetrated by public institutions and officials (Botswana);**
- 157.64 **Ensure that cases of racist hate crime are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted, perpetrators punished and victims provided with effective remedies (Uganda);**
- 157.65 **Take effective legislative and administrative measures to combat racial discrimination and xenophobic violence (China);**
- 157.66 **Increase efforts and effectively implement measures to combat hate crimes and hate speech, particularly those against migrants, refugees and ethnic minorities (Cuba);**
- 157.67 **Develop a new comprehensive strategy and action plan to eliminate all kinds of discrimination on the basis of race, religion and gender identity, and ensure non-discriminatory treatment of all minority communities within its territory (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 157.68 **Strengthen its legislation on racist hate speech and crime, intensify efforts to tackle the prevalence of those acts and ensure that those crimes are thoroughly investigated, perpetrators punished and victims provided with effective remedies (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 157.69 **Continue to take effective measures to combat all forms of discrimination, particularly focusing on combating hate speech, discriminatory ethnic profiling, racially motivated violence and violence against people of African descent (Djibouti);**
- 157.70 **Take measures to combat incitement to hatred and hate speech, as well as to address discrimination at work and to develop a national action plan against racism (Ecuador);**
- 157.71 **Conduct impartial and independent investigations into the excessive use of violence by the security forces against people of African descent (Egypt);**
- 157.72 **Take the necessary steps to combat racial discrimination and racism, including by addressing the prevalence of racist hate crimes, racist hate speech, particularly online, and racial profiling by the police (Fiji);**
- 157.73 **Intensify its efforts to combat racist hate speech, investigate these cases and bring the perpetrators to justice (Ghana);**
- 157.74 **Finalize and fully implement the national action plan against racism, informed by the principles of participation, non-discrimination, diversity and intersectionality (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 157.75 **Intensify its efforts to combat systemic discrimination and the increasing incidence of racist hate speech, in particular by politicians against**

**Muslims, Travellers, Roma, refugees, ethnic minorities, asylum seekers and migrants (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

**157.76 Develop necessary policies to prevent serious abuses of human rights affecting people of African descent and indigenous peoples by Irish companies abroad (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

**157.77 Adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism (Israel);**

**157.78 Take concrete steps to combat antisemitism and hate speech at all levels, online and offline (Israel);**

**157.79 Enact legislation to prohibit "conversion therapies" (Israel);**

**157.80 Expand protections against discrimination directed towards persons based on their gender identity, expression, sexual characteristics or sexual orientation (United States of America);**

**157.81 Improve implementation of laws against discrimination, particularly to protect access to housing and health for immigrants and members of racial, ethnic and religious minority groups, including Travellers (United States of America);**

**157.82 Continue to take steps to remove any remaining structural barriers and challenges that preclude LGBTI+ people from achieving their full potential (Malta);**

**157.83 Adopt measures to prevent and punish hate speech and hate crimes against ethnic minorities, migrants and refugees, with an emphasis on online safety and governance of the media (Mexico);**

**157.84 Adopt a national action plan against racism, racial discrimination and other related intolerance (Namibia);**

**157.85 Amend the Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act 1989 to effectively combat, prevent and punish racist hate speech (Namibia);**

**157.86 Sustain its efforts in eliminating racial discrimination and combating hate speech and other hate crimes (Nigeria);**

**157.87 Amend the Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act 1989 and incorporate provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic legislation (Pakistan);**

**157.88 Expedite efforts to finalize legislation on hate crimes and develop a national action plan against racism to combat hate speech, racial profiling and discrimination (Pakistan);**

**157.89 Strengthen measures to combat hate speech against Travellers, Roma, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants (Peru);**

**157.90 Take further steps to combat racism, hate crimes and hate speech, especially against ethnic minorities, including through capacity-building and training of law enforcement personnel (Philippines);**

**157.91 Put an end to the humiliating and discriminatory practices of the police against migrants and minorities by prohibiting controls based on ethnic profiling (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

**157.92 Combat the serious increase in discrimination, racism, xenophobia and hate crimes against migrants and ethnic minorities by adopting a national action plan against racism with clear indicators, deadlines and resources (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

**157.93 Strengthen measures to combat hate speech, including in the virtual sphere (Poland);**

157.94 Intensify efforts to address racist hate speech, particularly online, investigate acts involving hate speech and include them as a crime in criminal law, hold perpetrators accountable and provide effective remedies to victims (Qatar);

157.95 Reinforce its policies and institutional frameworks for a higher level of protection against racism (Republic of Korea);

157.96 Introduce a legislative ban on racial profiling and establish an independent mechanism for the submission and consideration of complaints about racial profiling (Russian Federation);

157.97 Step up its legislation on racist hate speech and activate efforts to combat its dissemination on the Internet; ensure that the draft bill on Internet security and mass media regulation is aligned with international human rights standards; and ensure its swift adoption (Russian Federation);

157.98 Investigate cases of hate speech, including by politicians (Russian Federation);

157.99 Take concrete steps on race crimes, racism and discrimination, in particular in the labour market, and introduce legislation prohibiting ethnic profiling by the police (Sierra Leone);

157.100 Develop a national action plan against racism with clear indicators, time frames and resources (Sierra Leone);

157.101 Strengthen its legislation on racism, including by introducing laws and policies to tackle the prevalence of hate speech both online and offline (Singapore);

157.102 Concentrate especially on the subtle forms of racism and xenophobia such as profiling, prejudice, hate speech and stereotypes; in the increasingly changing demography of Ireland, it is also important to avoid tolerating the narrative about “accepted” forms of racism (Slovakia);

157.103 Ensure that racist hate crimes, particularly when committed on the Internet and through social media, are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted and pass legislative provisions that include racist motivation as an aggravating circumstance (Spain);

157.104 Continue its efforts, focusing on ensuring a zero-tolerance strategy against incidents of racism and racial discrimination (State of Palestine);

157.105 Strengthen its efforts to eliminate all forms of racism and discrimination and ensure that everyone has an equal right to exercise their fundamental freedoms to life, liberty and security of person (Timor-Leste);

157.106 Recognize in its national legislation the right to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment (Costa Rica);

157.107 Implement the 2019 Climate Action Plan and advance on the climate change adaptation framework, particularly in respect of how marginalized groups will be protected (Bahamas);

157.108 Continue to ensure that human rights and environmental protection are considered in its trade and investment strategy (Bahamas);

157.109 Ensure the meaningful participation of women, children, persons with disabilities and local communities in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);

157.110 Take effective steps to avoid contributing to the massive human rights violations of the populations targeted by unilateral coercive measures (Islamic Republic of Iran);



- 157.111 Continue its efforts in ensuring that Irish companies abroad are not impacting the enjoyment of human rights, especially in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation (State of Palestine);
- 157.112 Take measures to complete the reform of law enforcement agencies, including the penitentiary system, ensuring the separation of remand prisoners and sentenced prisoners (Uzbekistan);
- 157.113 Take effective measures to avoid overcrowding in prisons and other detention facilities (Austria);
- 157.114 Reduce prison overcrowding and ensure that conditions in places of detention meet international standards (Belarus);
- 157.115 Ensure that public servants receive training on the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the absolute prohibition of torture (Chile);
- 157.116 Bring its prison conditions in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (Denmark);
- 157.117 Strengthen fundamental safeguards against torture in prisons (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 157.118 Continue its efforts to reduce overcrowding in prisons and improve the conditions of prisoners (Iraq);
- 157.119 Continue efforts to improve conditions in places of detention, consider applying more non-custodial measures and ensure that solitary confinement remains a measure of last resort, imposed for the shortest period possible and never applied to minors (Luxembourg);
- 157.120 Conduct an effective investigation into complaints of torture and ill-treatment in public and private institutions that provide housing to women, girls, boys or persons in vulnerable situations (Mexico);
- 157.121 Continue efforts to reduce overcrowding and improve conditions in prisons, particularly where women are deprived of their liberty (Peru);
- 157.122 Continue efforts aimed at reducing overcrowding in prisons and improve conditions in all places of detention (Qatar);
- 157.123 Investigate thoroughly and impartially all cases of abuse of authority by prison staff (Russian Federation);
- 157.124 Undertake a comprehensive and independent review of the legal aid system for civil cases and ensure equal treatment before the courts (Belarus);
- 157.125 Continue its efforts and consider reform measures related to the legal aid system to ensure improved legal aid schemes, particularly for low-income groups (Bhutan);
- 157.126 Broaden efforts to increase legal and financial aid in enabling the vulnerable, migrants and asylum seekers to fully access justice and addressing their social welfare and equality issues (Cambodia);
- 157.127 Review its civil legal aid system and put into place a mechanism to ensure that disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups benefit from better access to the law, in accordance with target 16.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Switzerland);
- 157.128 Eliminate barriers and restrictions against civil society engagement, including by amending legislation (Azerbaijan);
- 157.129 Improve the system providing children and their parents a real opportunity to choose from among religious, multi-denominational or non-denominational types of schooling and curricula (Czechia);

- 157.130 Continue exerted efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking, especially of women and children (Tunisia);
- 157.131 Guarantee legal rights of protection and assistance to all victims of human trafficking, regardless of their nationality or immigration status, and guarantee an early and systematic evaluation (Costa Rica);
- 157.132 Take steps in order to ensure proper investigation of cases of trafficking in human beings and prosecution of perpetrators, as well as legal protection and assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings (Republic of Moldova);
- 157.133 Effectively combat human trafficking targeting women and girls for sexual exploitation and other purposes (China);
- 157.134 Continue to make progress in the development and implementation of programmes and measures to prevent and combat human trafficking (Colombia);
- 157.135 Continue effective implementation of the existing legislation on trafficking in persons (Georgia);
- 157.136 Develop and implement a national action plan to prevent and combat all forms of modern slavery, including a budget, responsibilities and time frame, and reinstate a dedicated anti-trafficking unit (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 157.137 Strengthen measures to identify and assist victims of human trafficking, in particular child victims (India);
- 157.138 Take effective and urgent administrative and legislative measures to combat trafficking of women and girls (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 157.139 Enhance efforts to combat human trafficking by vigorously investigating and, as appropriate, prosecuting and convicting traffickers; addressing systemic deficiencies in victim identification, referral and assistance; and providing specialized accommodation for victims (United States of America);
- 157.140 Effectively implement existing legislation to tackle trafficking in persons, including by ensuring thorough investigation and effective prosecution (Malaysia);
- 157.141 Continue making efforts to reduce cases of trafficking in persons, identifying the factors that encourage it and taking measures to counter them (Uruguay);
- 157.142 Continue taking effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons (Nepal);
- 157.143 Continue to strengthen measures to combat human trafficking, especially of vulnerable groups such as women, children and migrant workers, and ensure provision of adequate support for victims (Philippines);
- 157.144 Implement effectively its current suite of anti-trafficking legislation and ensure that the victims of trafficking receive adequate protection and assistance (Singapore);
- 157.145 Further strengthen national efforts aimed at combating trafficking in persons (Sri Lanka);
- 157.146 Strengthen policies to support the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);
- 157.147 Bring into force the Birth Information and Tracing Bill and the necessary framework to tackle the legacy issues of people who were in institutional care (Romania);
- 157.148 Adopt legislation dealing with the problem of the improper use of technology (Senegal);

- 157.149 Step up efforts to address homelessness and shortcomings in access to adequate housing, particularly for Travellers and Roma communities (Austria);
- 157.150 Further strengthen consultation mechanisms, especially in terms of economic, social and cultural rights (Turkmenistan);
- 157.151 Adopt effective policies, programmes and legislation to ensure availability and affordability of adequate housing for all (Indonesia);
- 157.152 Adopt necessary measures to ensure affordability of housing, including adequate levels of State-provided housing (Malta);
- 157.153 Step up efforts to provide additional support to families in a situation of homelessness, in line with Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 8 and 11 (Paraguay);
- 157.154 Intensify efforts to ensure the realization of the right to adequate housing, especially for children and persons in vulnerable situations (Poland);
- 157.155 Continue to make efforts to tackle homelessness (Portugal);
- 157.156 Continue tackling homelessness with unrelenting vigour (Slovakia);
- 157.157 Develop a national housing strategy to generate affordable housing and combat racial discrimination, with particular attention paid to the needs of vulnerable communities, including Travellers, Roma, migrants and refugees (South Africa);
- 157.158 Work towards ensuring adequate standards of living, particularly equitable access to health, education and housing, for all people, including minorities and other vulnerable populations (Sri Lanka);
- 157.159 Ensure that the homeless have access to emergency accommodation and necessary services (Thailand);
- 157.160 Ensure that the three-year review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 is comprehensive and focused on providing a human rights-compliant framework for abortion, including by identifying and eliminating barriers impacting marginalized groups (Austria);
- 157.161 Work to eliminate barriers to accessing reproductive health services (Canada);
- 157.162 Develop a health-care protocol for intersex children, based on human rights, that ensures that children and parents are informed about all options and that children participate in decision-making, thus avoiding subjecting intersex children to irreversible interventions and medically unnecessary surgical procedures (Chile);
- 157.163 Take steps to address the inclusive health-care needs for all, including marginalized communities from diverse ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, through its Second National Intercultural Health Strategy 2018–2023 (Lao People’s Democratic Republic);
- 157.164 Ensure that the three-year review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 focuses on ways to expand access to voluntary termination of pregnancy, both in law and in practice (Denmark);
- 157.165 Implement the commitment made on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to remove barriers to access to reproductive health services, enhance comprehensive sexuality education provisions and increase financial commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights (Iceland);
- 157.166 Expand access to abortion and repeal the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act (Iceland);

157.167 **Develop a rights-based health-care protocol for intersex children, ensure that children and their parents are well informed of all options and that children are involved in decision-making (Iceland);**

157.168 **Take the steps necessary to provide sufficient resources for the health-care system by ensuring the availability of adequate infrastructure, funding and medical workers (Indonesia);**

157.169 **Build on the steps taken in the area of sexual and reproductive rights by removing the remaining barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion services and making it practically available to all (Netherlands);**

157.170 **Implement the commitment made in Nairobi on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to prioritize the implementation of the national sexual health strategy by ensuring that everyone has access to appropriate sexual health education and information, that high-quality sexual health services are available and affordable and that good-quality data are available to guide the delivery of services (Panama);**

157.171 **Implement human rights-based mental health policies aligned with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and provide community-based mental-health services with a view to eliminating stigma, discrimination and coercion in mental health (Portugal);**

157.172 **Establish an action plan to ensure the access and availability of safe abortion services (Switzerland);**

157.173 **Prioritize equitable access to quality education opportunities at all levels (Botswana);**

157.174 **Consider introducing a legislative guarantee of free primary and secondary education (Ukraine);**

157.175 **Fully implement the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

157.176 **Continue its efforts in ensuring equal access to the Internet and the technologies necessary for remote learning, as well as taking care of children's mental health (Lithuania);**

157.177 **Ensure fair and equal access for all children to quality education (Qatar);**

157.178 **Continue the exerted efforts to consolidate gender equality and support the empowerment of women (Tunisia);**

157.179 **Continue efforts aiming at ensuring equal opportunities for women in the labour market and eliminate the gender wage gap (Republic of Moldova);**

157.180 **Continue efforts and measures taken towards ensuring the protection of women and child rights (Bahrain);**

157.181 **Continue to strengthen the legislative interventions made to enhance the enjoyment of human rights for vulnerable populations, including women, girls and persons living in poverty (Barbados);**

157.182 **Implement the commitment made in Nairobi on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to continue to raise awareness about female genital mutilation (Burkina Faso);**

157.183 **Continue to strengthen coordination and provide adequate resources to the advancement of the rights of women in all sectors (Uganda);**

157.184 **Intensify efforts to guarantee equal opportunities for women in the labour market and create more opportunities for them to have access to full-time jobs (Chile);**

- 157.185 Increase efforts to eliminate gender gaps, including in terms of political and social representation, and the gender wage gap (Cuba);
- 157.186 Exert further efforts to decrease the gender pay gap (Cyprus);
- 157.187 Implement additional measures to guarantee greater pay and gender equality in the workplace (Dominican Republic);
- 157.188 Review articles 40 and 41 of the Irish Constitution with a view to abandoning formulations that potentially promote gender-based discrimination (Germany);
- 157.189 Take necessary steps to reduce the gender pay gap (India);
- 157.190 Eliminate the wage gap between men and women in the labour market (Iraq);
- 157.191 Investigate all allegations of ill-treatment of women at the Magdalene laundries, ensure accountability for all perpetrators and ensure that all victims obtain redress (Israel);
- 157.192 Strengthen the national machinery for the advancement of women (Japan);
- 157.193 Encourage youth initiatives, international exchange projects and discussions on gender equality issues, also ensure sufficient financial and technical support (Lithuania);
- 157.194 Continue measures to ensure gender balance in political and public life and close the gender pay gap (Nepal);
- 157.195 Change the wording of article 41 (2) of the Irish Constitution to make it gender neutral (Norway);
- 157.196 Set up public policies for substantive gender equality, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 5, in particular with regard to reducing the gender pay gap and representation in decision-making posts (Paraguay);
- 157.197 Continue its endeavours to achieve more gender equality, including through the review of article 41 (2) of the Irish Constitution (Republic of Korea);
- 157.198 Intensify efforts to guarantee equal opportunities for women in the labour market and create more opportunities for women to gain access to full-time employment (Viet Nam);
- 157.199 Intensify efforts to guarantee equal opportunities for women in the labour market (Spain);
- 157.200 Take measures to eliminate violence against women and girls (China);
- 157.201 Strengthen measures, including legislative measures, to combat domestic and gender-based violence (Cuba);
- 157.202 Incorporate into the legislation a specific definition of domestic violence in its psychological, emotional and economic dimensions, classify it as a crime and provide legal protection against emerging forms of gender-based violence (Ecuador);
- 157.203 Finalize the adoption of the third national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence (Georgia);
- 157.204 Take all measures to effectively combat all forms of violence and discrimination against women (Ghana)
- 157.205 Criminalize domestic violence and introduce a specific definition of domestic violence and other emerging forms of gender-based violence (Iceland);
- 157.206 Continue efforts to ensure that all allegations of violence against women are swiftly and effectively investigated, perpetrators prosecuted and victims provided with adequate remedies (Malaysia);

- 157.207 **Criminalize domestic violence while clearly defining domestic violence and other emerging forms of gender-based violence (Maldives);**
- 157.208 **Criminalize domestic and intimate partner violence and develop public policies to address this issue (Mexico);**
- 157.209 **Criminalize domestic violence and introduce a specific definition of domestic violence and other emerging forms of gender-based violence (Montenegro);**
- 157.210 **Put an end to the sexual abuse of children and women and domestic violence; assist victims of trafficking without discrimination based on their immigration status (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 157.211 **Keep clear statistics on cases of domestic violence against women, as well as strengthen support services for victims of domestic violence, including shelters and legal aid services (Russian Federation);**
- 157.212 **Implement the commitment made in Nairobi on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to change social attitudes towards domestic, sexual and gender-based violence, as well as improve care and services for victims (Spain);**
- 157.213 **Ensure that children receive training on the dangers of online spaces and incorporate international legal frameworks on the sexual abuse of children online (Costa Rica);**
- 157.214 **Continue to implement existing legislation and policies designed to give effect to the rights and obligations in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to give due regard to this Convention when developing new legislation or policy (Barbados);**
- 157.215 **Take additional steps to promote and protect the rights of homeless children and those with special needs, including by offering enhanced flexibility in the education system and equality in health care delivery without discrimination (Cambodia);**
- 157.216 **Cease torture and other cruel or inhuman treatment of children in places of reform and industrial schools operated by religious institutions, and prosecute and punish perpetrators of such abuse (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 157.217 **Take further measures to promote the rights of the child, especially in its COVID-19 response (Japan);**
- 157.218 **Collect data and conduct independent and effective investigations into all allegations, and ensure that victims obtain redress, regarding reports of acts of violence and mistreatment in Catholic reform institutions and vocational schools, as well as in mother and baby homes and the Magdalene laundries administered by the Catholic Church (Luxembourg);**
- 157.219 **Effectively implement the provisions of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 as amended in 2019 to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of children, assist victims and prosecute perpetrators (Malawi);**
- 157.220 **Sign the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action (Panama);**
- 157.221 **Fulfil its obligation to ensure truth, justice and reparation for all survivors of human rights violations and abuses in the mother and baby homes, among others, through a State investigation and the prosecution of perpetrators (Panama);**
- 157.222 **Provide an apology for the serious violations suffered by mixed-race children in institutions or unsuitable families and provide them with fair reparations (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

- 157.223 **Implement the Youth Justice Strategy 2021–2027 to help address a full range of issues connected to children and young people at risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system (Romania);**
- 157.224 **Continue its efforts to combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including the dissemination of child sexual abuse material (Thailand);**
- 157.225 **Finalize its next Traveller and Roma inclusion strategy with a robust implementation and monitoring plan (Turkey);**
- 157.226 **Ensure that the new national Traveller and Roma integration strategy to be developed by the Irish Government prioritizes measures to combat racism and discrimination and preserve and develop Traveller culture and identity (Australia);**
- 157.227 **Take further steps to ensure non-discriminatory access to social housing by all ethnic minorities and migrants (Bangladesh);**
- 157.228 **Develop specific programmes that address the vulnerabilities of the Roma minority, as well as a monitoring mechanism towards Roma inclusion (Croatia);**
- 157.229 **Introduce a complete integration policy for Travellers, who continue to suffer from discrimination, as previously recommended (Czechia);**
- 157.230 **Continue to address anti-Traveller and anti-Roma racism and discrimination in the forthcoming national action plan against racism (Finland);**
- 157.231 **Take necessary steps to tackle racism and discrimination against Travellers and the Roma community (India);**
- 157.232 **Ensure that vulnerable communities, including Travellers, Roma, migrants and refugees, have full access to and are actively informed about their rights, such as in the areas of education and employment (Netherlands);**
- 157.233 **Continue with its efforts in protecting the rights of migrants, combating human trafficking and protecting the rights of victims of human trafficking (Nigeria);**
- 157.234 **Follow up on the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017–2021 to address the intersectional racism and discrimination experienced by Traveller and Roma women (Norway);**
- 157.235 **Promote the enactment of legislation that facilitates the integration of ethnic minority groups and their social inclusion in Ireland, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Paraguay);**
- 157.236 **Place special emphasis, in developing the next national Traveller and Roma inclusion strategy, on ensuring access to health care and increasing participation in higher education (Republic of Korea);**
- 157.237 **Continue applying the current National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy beyond 2021 until a new strategy is developed (Romania);**
- 157.238 **Ensure appropriate resources are allocated to improve the situation of Travellers and Roma regarding employment (Senegal);**
- 157.239 **Continue exerted efforts to protect the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities (Tunisia);**
- 157.240 **Pursue its efforts to eliminate obstacles to education and employment for persons with disabilities (Algeria);**
- 157.241 **Reform the legislative and policy framework in order to meet necessary standards for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including to comply with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Azerbaijan);**

- 157.242 Continue developing various policies to ensure the full enjoyment of rights by persons with disabilities (Turkmenistan);
- 157.243 Consider a reform in the legislative and policy framework related to persons with disabilities with a view to fully meeting the standards set by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Bulgaria);
- 157.244 Improve coordination and resource allocation to address the rights of children with disabilities and, in particular, eliminate barriers faced by children with disabilities, including delays in assessing their needs and in providing services (Bulgaria);
- 157.245 Pursue the policy of strengthening the rights of persons with disabilities, including by ensuring their inclusion and active participation in society, and allocate adequate resources for this purpose (Djibouti);
- 157.246 Adopt legislative reforms and implement policies in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that ensure their inclusion in the labour market (Ecuador);
- 157.247 Pursue the efforts undertaken in favour of the inclusion of people with disabilities (Lebanon);
- 157.248 Develop a strategy to address the marginalization of people with disabilities (Norway);
- 157.249 Bring its legislation into line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, increasing their rates of employment (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 157.250 Continue working to ensure the effective participation of people with disabilities in decisions about the health care they receive, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);
- 157.251 Abide by the Government's commitment to abolish direct provision centres and establish a new international support service, and put them into practice in the short term (Turkey);
- 157.252 Adopt measures to improve the protection of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers by fully incorporating into domestic law the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Afghanistan);
- 157.253 Ensure the protection of refugees and migrants in accordance with international standards (Belarus);
- 157.254 Take measures to ensure adequate treatment of unadmitted foreigners and asylum seekers, including by providing them with accommodation in appropriate facilities (Brazil);
- 157.255 Develop a plan to ensure the commitment to end "direct provision" by 2024 and the timely introduction of an alternative system for supporting those seeking international protection in Ireland (Canada);
- 157.256 Continue to promote social inclusion, equality, diversity and the participation of migrants in the economic, social, political and cultural life of their communities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 157.257 Take further measures to protect and respect the rights of migrant workers and their families, including by sensitizing the State apparatus on the importance of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);
- 157.258 Commit further to promoting policies that integrate migrants by valuing their social inclusion, equality, diversity and their active participation in economic and social life (Morocco);



157.259 **Strive to establish an effective monitoring mechanism for the process of temporary accommodation and treatment of migrants and asylum seekers (Serbia);**

157.260 **End the so-called direct provision system for asylum seekers and establish a mechanism for the accommodation, treatment and reception of asylum seekers in accordance with regional and international standards (Switzerland).**

158. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Ireland was headed by H.E. Mr. Roderic O’Gorman, TD, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Michael Gaffey, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN in Geneva;
- Ms. Carol Baxter, Assistant Secretary, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Ms. Laura McGarrigle, Assistant Secretary, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Ms. Jane Ann Duffy, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Mr. Shane O’Connor, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Ms. Una Ní Dhubhghaill, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Mr. Niall Brunell, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Mr. James Gibbs, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Ms. Lara Hynes, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
- Mr. Deaglán O’Briain, Principal Officer, Department of Justice;
- Ms. Mary O’Regan, Principal Officer, Department of Justice;
- Ms. Antoinette Doran, Principal Officer, Department of Justice;
- Mr. Gerry Cunningham, Director, Human Rights Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Carl Grainger, Legal Counsellor, Department of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Anne Murray, Principal Officer, Department of Education and Skills;
- Ms. Olivia Clarke, Principal Officer, Department of Social Protection;
- Mr. Johnathan Patchell, Principal Officer, Department of Health;
- Mr. Niall McLoughlin, Principal Officer, Department of Environment and Climate Change;
- Mr. Paul Benson, Principal Officer, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Mr. Eamonn Waters, Principal Officer, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Ms. Eimear McDermott, DPR (Human Rights), Permanent Mission of Ireland, Geneva;
- Mr. Anderson Finlay, Deputy Director, Human Right Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Aoife O’Brien, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Health;
- Mr. Adam Monaghan, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Health;
- Mr. Pat Phelan, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment;

- Ms. Janet Lacey, Principal Officer, Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
  - Mr. Aongus Horgan, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Social Protection;
  - Ms. Aoife Daly, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Ireland, Geneva;
  - Ms. Róisín Dunbar, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Ireland, Geneva.
-