



## **Statement of Ireland**

### **46th session of the Human Rights Council**

#### **Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

**9 March 2021**

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU.

Ireland thanks the Special Rapporteur for his report, and for addressing the important issue of justice and accountability for serious human rights violations. We regret that there continues to be no improvement in the human rights situation in the DPRK, that the Government continues to reject cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, and that a culture of impunity continues to exist in the country.

Ireland remains deeply concerned about human rights violations in the DPRK, the gravity, scale and nature of which were found by the 2014 Commission of Inquiry report to be without parallel in the contemporary world.

We commend the work of the Special Rapporteur and the OHCHR office in Seoul for their ongoing work in capturing information and testimonies to strengthen accountability efforts and the realisation of victims' rights.

We urge the DPRK Government to take immediate steps to halt all human rights violations, to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur's mandate and to fully implement the human rights treaties to which they are party.

Special Rapporteur, you have noted that some progress has been made in recent years in areas where the DPRK Government has facilitated international cooperation on human rights. Have you identified any additional entry points that could potentially open up dialogue? How can the international community play a role in this?

Thank you.