



## **Statement of Ireland**

### **49th session of the Human Rights Council**

*Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran*  
**17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur.

We regret that access for a country visit has yet to be granted, and call on Iran to cooperate fully with the mandate.

Ireland remains deeply concerned about the persistent human rights violations in Iran, including of the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly. Harassment and intimidation of civil society, including those who cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, must end. It is vital that the Government create a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders, journalists and media workers.

We call on Iran to immediately and unconditionally release all those arbitrarily detained, including political prisoners and prisoners of conscience. Continued human rights abuses and deplorable conditions in prisons must also be addressed.

Ireland strongly condemns the continued use of the death penalty, including against child offenders. We call on Iran to impose an immediate moratorium on executions.

Ireland notes with concern the reports of continued discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities, including members of the Baha'i faith.

We also share concerns about the situation for women and girls, particularly around sexual and reproductive health, child marriage, and domestic abuse.

What role can the international community play in strengthening human rights protections for women and girls in Iran?

Thank you.