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## **Statement of Ireland**

### **52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

*Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights*

15 March 2023

Madam Vice President

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report.

As a country with a long history of migration, we understand that while migration can often lead to cultural bereavement, it can also provide an invaluable opportunity for enriching and dynamic cultural development.

Ireland's Culture 2025 Framework Policy/ Éire Ildánach highlights, amongst its key values, the importance of cultural diversity, informed by the many traditions now in Ireland and the inherent right of everyone to participate in the cultural life. The Irish cultural sector, from our National Cultural Institutions all the way to the local level, has embraced this approach – presenting programmes, performances, workshops and events for and by migrants.

Further, Ireland's Migrant Integration Strategy recognises both the importance of culture to the process of integration and its intrinsic value to society as a whole. Work to develop a successor strategy will begin this year, which will seek to reflect the diversity of migrant experiences in Ireland, including second and third generation migrants.

Ireland's Communities Integration Fund celebrates the rich cultural diversity within local communities and enables local community-based organisations across Ireland to play a greater role in supporting the integration of migrants.

*Special Rapporteur, how can States ensure the meaningful participation of migrants in all decision-making processes that have an impact on their cultural rights?*