



**Statement of Ireland**  
**41<sup>st</sup> session of the UPR Working Group**

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Review of Morocco

**8 November 2022**

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

- Ireland welcomes Morocco's efforts to advance human rights domestically and recognises progress made since the last UPR cycle, including; the designation of a National Mechanism for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and the introduction of mechanisms to improve women's political representation.
- We also note the introduction of 'Law 103-13' criminalising all forms of gender-based discrimination. We encourage Morocco to continue its efforts to promote women's rights, to combat discrimination and to prevent gender-based violence.
- Ireland is concerned that human rights defenders and journalists continue to be targeted for their work and face intimidation, harassment, death threats, criminalisation and physical and sexual assault, including in and in relation to Western Sahara.

Ireland recommends that Morocco:

1. Abolish the death penalty in law and in practice, including by formalising the current moratorium, ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and commuting existing death sentences.
2. Take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the human rights of all people in Western Sahara, including human rights defenders, through enhanced cooperation with OHCHR and by facilitating their monitoring missions.

We wish Morocco every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.