



Statement of Ireland
43rd session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Montenegro

8 May 2023

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

Ireland welcomes Montenegro's efforts to advance human rights domestically and notes progress made since the last UPR cycle. In particular, Ireland welcomes the adoption of the law on Life Partnership of Persons of the Same-Sex and of the Strategy for Improving the Quality of Life of LGBTI Persons for 2019–2023.

We commend Montenegro's ratification of the Istanbul Convention, and the corresponding National Action Plan for its implementation, as an important step towards combatting gender-based violence.

We welcome the recent appointments made to the Constitutional Court, allowing this key institution to continue functioning.

Ireland recommends Montenegro:

- 1) Accelerate judicial reform, in particular, those reforms needed to ensure greater judicial independence.
- 2) Amend relevant legislation to raise the minimum marriage age to 18 years, without exemption, and criminalise all forms of marriage with a person under age 18. .

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