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Human Rights Council  
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review  
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### Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

**Ireland**

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\* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

## Contents

Page

Introduction.....	
I Summary of the proceedings of the review process.....	
A. Presentation by the State under review.....	
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review.....	
II. Conclusions and/or recommendations .....	
Annex	
Composition of the delegation .....	1

## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fifth session from 2 to 13 May 2016. The review of Ireland was held at the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting on 11 May 2016. The delegation of Ireland was headed by Tánaiste and Minister of Justice and Equality, H. E. Ms. Frances Fitzgerald. At its 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 13 May 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Ireland.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Ireland: Ghana, Republic of Korea and Slovenia.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Ireland:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRE/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRE/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRE/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Ireland through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 23 May 2016]

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\*

*[Paragraph numbers will change after section I is completed]*

5. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by Ireland and enjoy the support of Ireland:

5.1. Ensure the ratification of the human rights conventions, recently signed (Romania);

5.2. Accede to the CRPD and the ICPPED (Sierra Leone);

5.3. Expedite the process that will lead to the ratification of OP-CAT, as well as the OP-CRPD (Mozambique);

5.4. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC and the CRPD (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

\*\* The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

- 5.5. Ratify the CRPD, the OP-CAT and the OP-CRC-SC (Georgia);
- 5.6. Ratify the CRPD and the OP-ICESCR (Spain);
- 5.7. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) (Portugal);
- 5.8. Intensify efforts to ratify Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) to further foster the rights of liberty-deprived persons (Croatia);
- 5.9. Take action towards the ratification of the OP-CAT and set up a national prevention mechanism (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- 5.10. Accede to the OP-CAT and establish a national prevention mechanism meeting the guidelines and requirements as set out in this instrument (Netherlands);
- 5.11. Establish a national preventive mechanism and prompt ratification of the OP-CAT (Hungary);
- 5.12. Without further delay, ratify OP-CAT and initiate the process of establishing a National Preventive Mechanism (Denmark);
- 5.13. Ratify the OP-CAT and establish a national preventive mechanism under the Optional Protocol (Bulgaria);
- 5.14. Complete as a matter of priority and before its third UPR the process leading to the ratification of the OP-CAT and establish a national preventive mechanism without delay (Czech Republic);
- 5.15. Ratify the OP-CAT and set up a national prevention mechanism in the framework of the criteria and safeguards provided by this instrument, as previously recommended (Switzerland);
- 5.16. Conclude swiftly the process of the ratification of OP-CAT (Portugal);
- 5.17. Ratify the OP-CAT (Poland);
- 5.18. Ratify the OP-CAT (Lebanon);
- 5.19. Ratify the OP-CAT (Norway);
- 5.20. Ratify the OP-CAT (Ukraine);
- 5.21. Ratify the OP-CAT (Uruguay);
- 5.22. Ratify the OP-CAT (France);
- 5.23. Ratify the OP-CAT (Germany);
- 5.24. Ratify the OP-CAT (Guatemala);
- 5.25. Proceed with the ratification of the OP-CAT (Togo);
- 5.26. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OP-CRC-SC) (Panama);
- 5.27. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (Senegal);
- 5.28. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (Uruguay);
- 5.29. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (Andorra);

- 5.30. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC signed in 2000 (Czech Republic);
- 5.31. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (Finland);
- 5.32. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (France);
- 5.33. Ratify the OP-CRC-SC (Guatemala);
- 5.34. Proceed with the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC (Togo);
- 5.35. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) (Morocco);
- 5.36. Become a State Party to the ICPPED (Slovakia);
- 5.37. Ratify the ICPPED (France);
- 5.38. Ratify the ICPPED (Ghana);
- 5.39. Proceed with the ratification of the ICPPED (Togo);
- 5.40. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Pakistan);
- 5.41. Ratify the CRPD (Israel);
- 5.42. Ratify the CRPD (Montenegro);
- 5.43. Ratify the UN CRPD, which Ireland signed on 29 March 2007 (New Zealand);
- 5.44. Ratify the CRPD (Ghana);
- 5.45. Ratify the CRPD (Poland);
- 5.46. Ratify the CRPD (Sudan);
- 5.47. Ratify the CRPD (Ukraine);
- 5.48. Ratify the CRPD (Uruguay);
- 5.49. Ratify the UN CRPD (Bulgaria);
- 5.50. Ratify the CRPD (France);
- 5.51. Ratify the CRPD (Guatemala);
- 5.52. Ratify the CRPD (Italy);
- 5.53. Ratify the CRPD (Brazil);
- 5.54. Become a State Party of the CRPD (Slovakia);
- 5.55. Step up its efforts to ratify the CRPD (Republic of Korea);
- 5.56. Ratify promptly the CRPD (Australia);
- 5.57. Ratify CRPD as soon as possible (China);
- 5.58. Ratify the CRPD without further delay (Germany);
- 5.59. Pass the necessary legislation as soon as possible to enable the ratification of CRPD (Hungary);
- 5.60. Accelerate the process towards ratification of the CRPD (Philippines);



- 5.61. Take concrete steps to ratify the UN CRPD and effectively implement policies and programmes to ensure the full enjoyment of all related rights (Canada);
- 5.62. Continue the efforts to ratify the CRPD (Iraq);
- 5.63. Finalise the consideration to become a party to the CRPD (Malaysia);
- 5.64. Continue making progress towards the ratification of the CRPD (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 5.65. Ratify the CRPD and prioritize measures to further strengthen the existing framework, including to increase the meaningful participation of the persons with disabilities in policy making (Indonesia);
- 5.66. Accede to the UN CRPD while bringing the Mental Health Act of 2001 into line with the provisions of this Convention (Qatar);
- 5.67. Continue to address outstanding barriers to ratification of the CRPD, including legislative changes that need to be undertaken in view of enabling ratification (State of Palestine);
- 5.68. Expedite the necessary legislative reforms and set a concrete timeline towards ratification of the CRPD (Thailand);
- 5.69. Proceed with the ratification of the CRPD and its Optional Protocol (Togo);
- 5.70. Accelerate the ratification of the CRPD to strengthen the protection of persons with disabilities, and to further improve their role in the society (Croatia);
- 5.71. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Portugal);
- 5.72. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Andorra);
- 5.73. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Italy);
- 5.74. Finalize the ratification process of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention (Turkey);
- 5.75. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in a timely manner (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- 5.76. Strengthen human rights education plans oriented towards women's rights, rights of the child and freedom of religion (Panama);
- 5.77. Continue implementing human rights education towards children and women's rights (Timor-Leste);
- 5.78. Further continue the implementation of human rights education towards women and children's rights (Greece);
- 5.79. Provide effective human rights education and training for enforcement officials, including prison guards, and take appropriate actions against human rights violations committed by public actors (Malaysia);

- 5.80. Continue human rights education programmes, including in relation to the prevention of genocide and crimes against humanity through the studies of those crimes committed in the past (Armenia);
- 5.81. Implement public awareness campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for cultural diversity (United Arab Emirates);
- 5.82. Submit its two overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Sierra Leone);
- 5.83. Amend the provisions of the Law on the Defender of the Minor, that impedes the Ombudsman from investigating the claims of children that find themselves in a situation of irregular migration (Honduras);
- 5.84. Provide the Child and Family Agency with adequate resources to be able to meet its targets and effectively implement the Children First Act (Slovakia);
- 5.85. Continue implementing the National Strategy on Children and Young People's participation in Decision making 2015-2020 (Sudan);
- 5.86. Put an end to corporal punishment in all settings (Honduras);
- 5.87. Guarantee the closure of the Saint Patrick's Institution and the effective implementation of the Children (Amendment) Act of 2015 and the Prisons Act of 2015 (Israel);
- 5.88. Eliminate all exceptions permitting the marriage of minors under 18 (Honduras);
- 5.89. Remove all exceptions that allow marriage under the age of 18 years (Egypt);
- 5.90. Ensure that the rights of the child are fully respected in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular its Article 20 when deciding on appointment of a guardian or trustee (Latvia);
- 5.91. Continue to take actions to address the issue of gender pay gap, improve the access to decent work for marginalized women, and ensure adequate social protection system for women in vulnerable situations (Malaysia);
- 5.92. Continue to make efforts to ensure women's participation in political life and in decision making (Pakistan);
- 5.93. Adopt effective measures to increase the representation of women in the public and private sectors, especially in decision-making posts (Panama);
- 5.94. Scale up effective measures to further increase women's representation and their meaningful participation in decision making level in the public and private sectors (Indonesia);
- 5.95. Take all measures to effectively combat all forms of violence and discrimination against women (France);
- 5.96. Strengthen measures to combat domestic and sexual violence against women (India);
- 5.97. Strengthen efforts to combat and prevent domestic and sexual violence against women (Azerbaijan);

- 5.98. Undertake the necessary steps to strengthen its response to domestic violence as recommended by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Thailand);
- 5.99. Speed up the process of approval of the new Domestic Violence Bill (Israel);
- 5.100. Continue efforts to finalize and then, of course, adopt a Domestic Violence Act (Maldives);
- 5.101. Introduce a domestic violence bill to address domestic and sexual violence against women (Ghana);
- 5.102. Adopt and implement the Domestic Violence Bill (Republic of Moldova);
- 5.103. Renew the national plan of action against racism or elaborate a new one, always in collaboration with civil society (Spain);
- 5.104. Reinforce the policies for the protection against racism, renewing the National Action Plan against Racism (2005-2008) (Holy See);
- 5.105. Conduct more active policy against racial discrimination, including putting in place a robust mechanism against racism (Kyrgyzstan);
- 5.106. Put in place a robust mechanism in order to put an end to racism, racial discrimination and related intolerance, especially against Muslim people and people of African origin (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 5.107. Establish a robust mechanism to monitor all incidents of racism and implement measures to combat them more effectively (Cuba);
- 5.108. Continue to deepen awareness raising measures against racism and xenophobia, particularly with regard to migrants and refugees (Argentina);
- 5.109. Combat racism and all forms of discrimination through education and awareness-raising initiatives and follow-up to cases of racism at the national level (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 5.110. Complete the processes it is undertaking regarding anti-racism (Kenya);
- 5.111. Pursue efforts to combat racism (Morocco);
- 5.112. Continue its efforts to combat racism and xenophobia incidents (Lebanon);
- 5.113. Ensure the full implementation of its national legislation, with a view to combating racism and xenophobia (Romania);
- 5.114. Have further legal procedures to combat racial discrimination and develop a plan to combat racism, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Bahrain);
- 5.115. Combat hate speech and prosecute perpetrators of xenophobic acts (Pakistan);
- 5.116. Ensure accountability for hate crimes (Israel);
- 5.117. Take measures to eliminate racial discrimination and combat hate crime (China);



- 5.118. Strengthen measures to counter the use of racial discrimination and Islamophobia discourse in politics and in the media (United Arab Emirates);
- 5.119. Take further steps to address discrimination of LGBTI persons in access to goods, employment and services, including healthcare (Denmark);
- 5.120. Investigate all cases of abuse of office by the officials of the penitentiary institutions (Russian Federation);
- 5.121. Continue with its efforts to bring incarceration facilities into line with international standards, especially regarding overcrowding, cell sanitation and the separation of young prisoners (Holy See);
- 5.122. Improve prison conditions, including addressing overcrowding; to investigate all cases of torture and ill-treatment by prison staff in an impartial manner and prosecute those responsible (Azerbaijan);
- 5.123. Continue to improve the living conditions and the treatment of detainees and address prison overcrowding (China);
- 5.124. Adopt the necessary measures to ensure the reduction of overcrowding and the improvement of prison conditions (Cuba);
- 5.125. Ensure complete separation of remand and sentenced prisoners, juvenile and adult prisoners and detained immigrants (Egypt);
- 5.126. Continue its efforts, at national and international levels, towards the protection and promotion of the civil society space (Armenia);
- 5.127. Continue to promote pluralism (Bangladesh);
- 5.128. Continue to take effective measures to safeguard the rights and status of the unemployed and vulnerable groups, through focused social assistance and income support (Sri Lanka);
- 5.129. Conduct targeted/focused policy of social support to the population in need, especially children (Belarus);
- 5.130. Take the necessary steps in order to increase the availability of social housing and emergency housing support and to adopt appropriate measures to solve the long-term needs (Turkey);
- 5.131. Adopt measures to decrease the number of homeless persons, including through the availability of social housing (Portugal);
- 5.132. Take all necessary legislative and policy measures to provide access to affordable housing with a view to ending long-term involuntary homelessness (Singapore);
- 5.133. Continue with its efforts to guarantee the Government's commitment to a housing-led approach to end long-term involuntary homelessness (Holy See);
- 5.134. Continue with efforts to implement necessary measures with a view to end long-term involuntary homelessness (Montenegro);
- 5.135. Take measures to strengthen support institutions for homeless persons, including pregnant women left without housing (Russian Federation);
- 5.136. Conduct consultations involving all stakeholders, including civil society organisations, in order to examine whether Article 40.3.3 of the

Constitution could be revised and the legal framework related to abortion broadened (Switzerland);

5.137. Make sure all women and young girls have easy access to information on crisis pregnancy options by health-providers (Sweden);

5.138. Wider availability of multi-denominational and non-denominational schools to better cater to the multi-cultural society in Ireland today (India);

5.139. Establish a system providing children and their parents the real opportunity to choose from among religious, multi-denominational or non-denominational types of schooling and curricula (Czech Republic);

5.140. Ensure that all children have the option to attend a non-denominational school at no extra cost (Slovenia);

5.141. Step up efforts to promote to ensure equal opportunities for all children to quality education (Philippines);

5.142. Step up efforts towards a more inclusive education system, especially by focusing on special education needs (Turkey);

5.143. Continue to improve employment opportunities and remove barriers to employment for persons with disabilities (Singapore);

5.144. Continue to strengthen the basic rights and non-discrimination of the Roma and Travellers (Chile);

5.145. Adopt a progressive Traveller Roma inclusion strategy with clear goals; indicators; timeframes; and ~~budget in consultation~~ with affected groups (India);

5.146. Activate the policies of integration of Travellers and Roma in all social, economic, cultural, political, educational and other spheres (Lebanon);

5.147. Give special emphasis to employment, access to health care and the right to housing in the application of the national strategy on the inclusion of Travellers and Roma (Spain);

5.148. Apply international standards relating to the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers, provide them with adequate services and speed up the processing of their application (Qatar);

5.149. Establish measures to respond more effectively to requests for refuge (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

5.150. Continue its efforts to adopt the National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking (Sudan);

5.151. Speed up the adoption of a national plan of action to prevent and combat trafficking in persons (Belarus);

5.152. Continue to increase development aid to reach the target of 0.7% GDP as this will increase the ability of aid recipients to achieve the right to development and protect and promote human rights (Kenya).

6. The following recommendations will be examined by Ireland which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council in September 2016:

6.1. Consider ratifying those international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

- 6.2. Accede to OP-CRC-SC, ICRMW, CRPD, ICPPED and the Convention Against Discrimination in Education (Honduras);
- 6.3. Ratify the CRPD, the ICRMW and the OP-CRC-SC, as a matter of priority (Egypt);
- 6.4. Ratify CRPD, OP-CAT and ICRMW (Azerbaijan);
- 6.5. Ratify the CRPD, OP-CAT and the ILO Convention 169 (Paraguay);
- 6.6. Accede to the main international human rights instruments to which the country is not yet a party, in particular the ICPPED (Argentina);
- 6.7. Ratify the OP-ICESCR and accept the competence of the Committee as regards the inquiry procedure and inter-state communications (Finland);
- 6.8. Further accelerate the efforts to strengthen the legal framework to protect the rights of migrants, including by considering to ratify the ICRMW (Indonesia);
- 6.9. Ratify as soon as possible the UN CRPD, without any reservation (Sweden);
- 6.10. Ratify the UN CRPD and fully implement the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 as soon as possible (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.11. Repeal Articles 42.1 and 40.3.3 of the Constitution (Slovenia);
- 6.12. Take additional measures aimed at achieving the gender equality, including amendment to the Constitution on the role and status of women in Irish society (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.13. Amend article 41(2) of the Constitution on the role and status of women in order to render its provisions gender-equal (Turkey);
- 6.14. Amend article 41(2) of the Constitution on the role and status of women by moving to a more gender-neutral wording of the article (Iceland);
- 6.15. Further strengthen women's rights and review Articles 40 and 41 of the Irish constitution with a view to abandon formulations that potentially promote gender discrimination and to bring Ireland's laws on abortion into compliance with international human rights standards in law and in practice (Germany);
- 6.16. Establish a Constitutional Convention on article 40.3.3 of the Constitution with the aim to remove all restrictive legislation on abortion (Netherlands);
- 6.17. Revise its legislation on abortion, including its Constitution, to provide for additional exceptions in cases of rape, incest or serious risks to the health of the mother, building on the recommendation from the UN Human Rights Committee (Norway);
- 6.18. Repeal legislation that criminalizes abortion and eliminate all punitive measures, in particular Article 40.3.3 of the Irish Constitution (Iceland);
- 6.19. Take forward the democratic process of repealing the Eighth Amendment of the Irish Constitution with a clear timeline, and take all necessary steps to decriminalise abortion in all circumstances, in accordance with the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on

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Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Denmark);

- 6.20. Consider creating a dedicated overarching Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and Equality (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.21. Strengthen the consultation mechanism, especially in terms of economic, social and cultural rights (Poland);
- 6.22. Adopt a National Human Rights Action Plan and continue consultations towards this end with stakeholders (Kenya);
- 6.23. Adopt a national plan of action on human rights (South Africa);
- 6.24. Adopt a comprehensive national human rights action plan (Sudan);
- 6.25. Encourage the development of a National Action Plan on human rights (Greece);
- 6.26. Undertake measures to eliminate stigmatization and discrimination against children born out of wedlock by providing legal certainty in respect of their family name (Namibia);
- 6.27. Reinstate the age of criminal responsibility of 14 years of age as prescribed in the Children's Act (Botswana);
- 6.28. Raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18 years for all types of offenses (Haiti);
- 6.29. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ratify the Optional Protocol to CRPD and adopt a legislation on gender pay equity and abolish religious discrimination in the schools (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.30. Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes all grounds set out in the ICESCR (India);
- 6.31. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes all the grounds for discrimination (Israel);
- 6.32. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes all the grounds for discrimination (South Africa);
- 6.33. Close the gender pay gap (Algeria);
- 6.34. Take effective measures to increase women's representation in decision-making positions and close the pay gap (Bangladesh);
- 6.35. Take effective measures to increase women's representation in decision-making positions in all areas, close the gender pay gap and eliminate strong gender role stereotypes and ensure that all women workers benefit from the maternity benefits scheme (Namibia);
- 6.36. Introduce a domestic violence bill, improve data collection on domestic violence and strengthen support services, including shelters and legal aid, for victims (Lithuania);
- 6.37. Adopt the draft law on domestic and sexual violence against women, and strengthen support services in shelters and legal assistance to the victims (Uruguay);
- 6.38. Finalise the adoption of the Domestic Violence Bill and ensure that perpetrators of domestic violence are held to account (Botswana);

- 6.39. Provide shelters and legal aid to victims of domestic violence, and submit a draft law on domestic violence (Bahrain);
- 6.40. Collect accurate statistics of cases of domestic violence against women, as well as strengthen support services to victims of domestic violence, including shelters and legal aid services (Russian Federation);
- 6.41. Improve protection of victims of domestic violence, including by providing with shelter and legal aid (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.42. Continue to strengthen policies and programmes to combat domestic and sexual violence against women, including a system of psychological, legal and physical support for the victims (Chile);
- 6.43. Adopt immediately legislation that prohibits racial discrimination, as previously recommended (Mexico);
- 6.44. Step up measures to combat acts of racism by the law enforcement bodies, including against Travellers (Russian Federation);
- 6.45. Establish acts with racist motivation as a criminal offences (Spain);
- 6.46. Take effective steps to address racism and xenophobia and incorporate the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) into its domestic legislation, to raise awareness and promote tolerance in society and to ensure that violent acts, discrimination and hate speech are systemically investigated and the alleged perpetrators prosecuted (Azerbaijan);
- 6.47. Develop a legislation that sets the line between freedom of expression and hate speech and setup a strong mechanism to monitor all manifestations of intolerance, racism, xenophobia especially against Muslims (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.48. Continue measures to protect the rights of migrant workers, including combatting racism, xenophobia and religious intolerance, and as further gesture of its commitment, consider ratifying the International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka);
- 6.49. Continue legislating so that there is no discrimination against LGBTI persons in the field of pensions (Spain);
- 6.50. Implement the recommendations arising from the Office of the Inspector of Prisons' review of the Irish Prison Service (Australia);
- 6.51. Conduct comprehensive investigation related to reports by human rights non-governmental organisations about abuses in child care institutions and homes for mothers and children, as well as practices of forced labour in so-called 'Magdalene laundries' (Russian Federation);
- 6.52. Provide protection of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of the society (Egypt);
- 6.53. Repeal the constitutional and legislative provisions criminalizing the offense of blasphemy, these provisions could constitute an excessive limitation to the freedom of expression (France);
- 6.54. Take necessary steps to amend its legislation on freedom of expression and remove prohibition of blasphemy in line with ICCPR article 19 and Human Rights Committee's General Comment 34, and the Venice Commission's recommendation (Sweden);



- 6.55. Continue consolidating and increasing its national social inclusion programmes (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 6.56. Implement and support the particular government programmes of social integration and community activation (Iraq);
- 6.57. Continue strengthening its sound social policies in order to improve the quality of life of its people with an emphasis on vulnerable groups, in particular ethnic, racial and cultural minorities (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 6.58. Launch measures to promote and protect the rights of peasants and other people who work in rural areas (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 6.59. Expedite the adoption of a national action plan on food security and nutrition (Algeria);
- 6.60. Develop and strengthen financially the state-sponsored legal aid framework, so that lawyers avoid cases of evictions from social housing (Haiti);
- 6.61. Strengthen the policies of supplementary payments of income and housing assistance, in order to avoid more families being unable to pay their mortgages (Chile);
- 6.62. Set up an inclusive system for access to quality health care for all social categories, in particular disadvantaged and marginalized groups, in consultation with concerned communities and stakeholders (Haiti);
- 6.63. Put into effect its undertaking of previous commitment to implement this year, in strengthening the free health care sector to include all children under the age of twelve (Libya);
- 6.64. Ensure availability of safe abortions, at a minimum in cases where the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest and in cases of severe and fatal foetal impairment (Iceland);
- 6.65. Take all necessary steps to revise the Protection of Life during Pregnancy Act 2013 in line with International Human Rights standards (India);
- 6.66. Amend the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act 2013 that the women interests and health are better protected, especially in instances where the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest, or in cases of severe foetal impairment (Lithuania);
- 6.67. Consider revising its relevant legislation on abortion in line with international human rights standards on sexual and reproductive health and rights (Republic of Korea);
- 6.68. Broaden through an inclusive public debate the access to abortion for pregnant women, in particular in cases of threat to health, rape and incest (Czech Republic);
- 6.69. Take the necessary steps aimed at revising the relevant legislation with a view to decriminalize abortion within reasonable gestational limits (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- 6.70. Ensure the full right for women to abortion and implement the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights regarding this right (Slovakia);

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6.71. Take necessary steps to revise its legislation on abortion and provide for clear exceptions, in line with international human rights law and standards, so as to ensure the right to abortion in cases of rape and incest, as well as cases entailing serious risks to the health of the mother or fatal foetal abnormality (Sweden);

6.72. Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and, as a minimum, ensure access to safe abortion also in cases of rape, incest, serious risks to the health of the mother and fatal foetal abnormality (Slovenia);

6.73. Review the law on abortion to expand the circumstances in which it can be carried out (Uruguay);

6.74. Adopt a comprehensive sexual and reproductive health policy for adolescents and ensure that sexual and reproductive health education is a part of the mandatory school curricula and targeted at adolescents (Lithuania);

6.75. Ensure that the new system of universal health care guarantees availability and access to services to boys and girls and contraception methods to adolescents, while allowing access to these services in general without discrimination on any grounds (Mexico);

6.76. Adopt a comprehensive sexual and reproductive health policy for adolescents and ensure that sexual and reproductive health education is part of the mandatory school curriculum and targeted at adolescent girls and boys, with special attention on preventing early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (New Zealand);

6.77. Identify and address gaps in reproductive health legislation to ensure the protection of women's sexual and reproductive health and rights (United States of America);

6.78. Take all necessary measures to ensure the full respect of sexual and reproductive rights (France);

6.79. Protect and promote reproductive rights without any discrimination, recognising reproductive rights include the right to the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health, the right of all to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children, as well as decide on matters related to their sexuality, and to have the information and means to do so free from discrimination, violence or coercion (Canada);

6.80. Review and amend laws, as appropriate, to ensure that publically-funded schools provide equal access to education for all, irrespective of one's faith or religious affiliation (United States of America);

6.81. Undertake thorough consultations with persons with disabilities, representatives and labour organisations, and civil society prior to entering any reservation to Article 27 of the CRPD upon ratification, with respect to reasonable accommodation (Canada);

6.82. Achieve the implementation of the national strategy for persons with disabilities and introduce a legal regime of subsidized transport for persons with disabilities (Haiti);

6.83. Conduct and finalize a timely review of the request for recognition of the Travellers as an ethnic group (United States of America);

6.84. Take concrete measures for the issuance of medical cards in Traveller and Roma communities, to guarantee that such children enjoy the

same access to and quality of health-care services as others (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

6.85. Strengthen measures to eliminate discrimination against Roma and children on the basis of religion in health and education sectors (Bangladesh);

6.86. Introduce measures to improve the living standards of Travellers in society and ensure the legislation in place does not hinder their nomadic customs and practices (Turkey);

6.87. Continue giving the broadest possible scope, flexibility and coverage to its immigration policy (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

6.88. Ensure that the legislation that provides individual consideration of the status of refugee includes the provision of sufficient resources for its implementation in order to avoid delays in the effective determination of the requests for the concession of refugee status (Mexico);

6.89. Improve the protection of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers and improve their living conditions and access to social security and guarantee other human rights (China);

6.90. Ensure family reunification and the conditions of the reception of refugees and asylum-seekers, in the implementation of the Law on International Protection, are in accordance with international law (Guatemala);

6.91. Accelerate the entry into force of the new programme for the protection of refugees and ensure that it guarantees the protection of the best interest of the child and fully complies with international standards regarding unaccompanied migrant children and family reunification (Mexico);

6.92. Amend the General Scheme of the International Protection Bill to address family reunification, best interests of the child and the legal framework of reception conditions (Egypt);

6.93. Address concerns about family reunification and the best interests of the child in its legislation on refugees (Brazil);

6.94. Modify the administrative provisions on immigration to protect the victims of trafficking of persons and integrate the prevention of trafficking in persons into the policies for asylum seekers (Honduras);

6.95. Continue efforts to pass legislation to combat human trafficking in the form of sham marriages (Latvia);

6.96. Take steps to move towards increased renewable energy production, in-line with their pledges on Climate Action (Maldives);

6.97. Ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serve to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation (State of Palestine).

7. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Ireland and would thus be noted:

7.1. Withdraw its reservation on pertinent articles of the ICERD, ICESCR, ICCPR and OP to the CRC on armed conflict (South Africa);

7.2. Accede to the International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Turkey);

7.3. Accede to the ICRMW (Chile);

7.4. Consider ratifying the ICRMW (Philippines);

7.5. Ratify the ICRMW (Morocco);

7.6. Ratify the ICRMW (Senegal);

7.7. Ratify the ICRMW (Timor-Leste);

7.8. Ratify the ICRMW (Algeria);

7.9. Ratify the ICRMW (Ghana);

7.10. Ratify the ICRMW (Guatemala);

7.11. Avoid maintaining special criminal courts in its penal legislation (Paraguay);

7.12. Study the possibility of mitigating the negative impact of budget cuts on access to health and an adequate standard of living (Paraguay);

7.13. Consider establishing an adequate policy for a universal basic income for all its citizens (Haiti).

8. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Ireland was headed by Ms. Frances Fitzgerald, Tánaiste and Minister of Justice and Equality, T.D., and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Ambassador Patricia O' Brien, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations Office, Geneva;
- Ms. Marion Mannion, Special Adviser to the Minister, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Stephen O'Shea, Special Adviser to the Minister, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Chris Quattrociochi, Private Secretary to the Minister, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Carol Baxter, Assistant Secretary, Head of Asylum Services, Integration and Equality, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Michelle Shannon, Director, Youth Justice, Adoption and Legal Division, Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Deaglán Ó Briain, Principal Officer, Equality Division, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Eugene Banks, Principal Officer, Reception and Integration Agency, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Brian Kenny, Principal Officer, Homelessness and Housing Inclusion Supports, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Mary O'Sullivan, Principal Officer, EU / International Division, Department of Social Protection, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Gavan O'Leary, Principal Officer, Central Policy Unit, Department of Education and Skills, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Kieran Smyth, Principal Officer, International Division, Department of Health, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Geraldine Luddy, Principal Officer, Tobacco and Alcohol Unit, Department of Health, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Brídín O'Donoghue, Legal Counsellor, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Dublin, Ireland;
- Mr. Niall Colgan, Press Officer, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Nuala Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Deputy Permanent Representative (Human Rights) of Ireland to the United Nations, Geneva (Delegate);
- Ms. Caroline Phelan, Deputy Director of Human Rights Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Dublin, Ireland;
- Ms. Layla de Cogan Chin, Assistant Principal, Equality Division, Department of Justice and Equality, Dublin, Ireland;