

Human Rights Council -31st session (29 February-24 March)
**Clustered ID on Joint Compilation with Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of
peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial,
summary or arbitrary executions**
Statement by Ireland
9 March

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and would like to add the following.

Mr President,

Ireland welcomes both the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and thanks them for their joint report and presentation on the proper management of assemblies. Ireland values the collaboration between both mandates, which enriches our understanding of the human rights issues concerned. We welcome the comprehensive recommendations contained in the report, organised across 10 principles. We hope this substantive work will contribute to establishing in law and in practice a safe and enabling environment for the full exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

We note in this regard the challenges to the right to freedom of peaceful assembly online, as spaces for online dialogue are increasingly curtailed and under surveillance, while organisers and other online participants may face acts of intimidation and attacks. *We would like to ask both Special Rapporteurs if they can elaborate further in relation to the proper management of assemblies online.*

Finally, we are interested in the section of the report on the responsibilities of business to respect human rights in the context of assemblies. Ireland is currently elaborating a National Plan on Business and Human Rights and *we would be interested in any examples of best practice in ensuring that human rights defenders and civil society actors are protected from human rights abuses by non-State actors in the exercise of their right to freedom of assembly.*

Thank you.