



Statement of Ireland
42nd session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4: Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar

16 September 2019

Mr President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her latest update on the ongoing human rights situation in Myanmar.

Ireland shares the Special Rapporteur's concern at the pattern of ongoing human rights violations in Myanmar. We reiterate the need to prioritise the protection of civilians and to allow unrestricted humanitarian access to those displaced in Rakhine State, as well as in Kachin and Shan states.

Ireland urges the Myanmar government to prioritise efforts to create conditions conducive to a safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh to Rakhine State. This includes providing a clear pathway for the full implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, including on key issues such as freedom of movement and a path to citizenship.

The pattern of human rights violations, including those identified by the International Independent Fact-Finding Mission, further demonstrates the need for accountability and justice for these crimes. Ireland welcomes the establishment of the Independent Mechanism and urges Myanmar to engage with it to deliver justice.

Special Rapporteur,

This Council has re-iterated the need for a safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees to Myanmar as fundamental in creating conditions conducive to a lasting peace. We would like to ask, what can the international community do to support the creation of the necessary conditions for return?

Thank You