



Statement of Ireland
42nd session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4: Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

17 September 2019

Mr President,

Ireland fully aligns with the statement by the European Union.

We meet in the Human Rights Council while the devastating effects of conflict and crisis continue to be felt by civilians around the world. Ireland believes that as a global community we simply must do more to protect the human rights of the most vulnerable.

Ireland remains deeply concerned by the situation in **Myanmar**. We reiterate the need to prioritise the protection of civilians and to allow unrestricted humanitarian access to those displaced.

In **Syria**, eight years on, civilians continue to bear the brunt of vicious, calculated violence. We are deeply troubled by the attacks on medical facilities. We stress the need for accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses.

In **Burundi** we are greatly concerned by ongoing reports of human rights violations. In advance of the forthcoming elections, Ireland emphasises that the Government must ensure that adequate political and civil society space is protected.

Ireland reiterates deep concern at the continued expansion of Israeli settlements in the **occupied Palestinian territory**, a fundamental breach of international law, and is especially concerned by the situation in Gaza due to the ongoing blockade and the crisis in access to medical care there.

Finally, Ireland wishes to restate its strong **opposition to the death penalty in all circumstances**. We urge all States to introduce a moratorium on the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition.

Thank you.