



## Statement of Ireland

### 45th session of the Human Rights Council

#### *Item 4 General Debate*

25<sup>th</sup> September

Madam President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU

Ireland reiterates deep concern at the human rights situation in **Belarus**. We are alarmed by continuing violations of human rights, including mass detentions and the treatment of those detained.

In **Yemen**, the dire humanitarian situation continues with violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. We reiterate the need to protect civilians and allow unrestricted humanitarian access. We call on all parties to cooperate fully with the Group of Eminent Experts.

Ireland welcomes the suspension of Israel's annexation plans; these must now be permanently withdrawn. We reiterate our deep concern at ongoing settlement activities in the **occupied Palestinian Territory**, in contravention of international law. The situation in Gaza is particularly worrying, notably the restrictions on access to medical care and supplies.

Ireland is deeply concerned about the credible reports of the treatment of ethnic Uighurs and other minorities in Xinjiang. Ireland urges **China** to allow unrestricted access to the region for the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Ireland shares the concerns of the High Commissioner and UN Special Procedures on the human rights situation in **Egypt**, including in respect of freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and the work of human rights defenders.

In **Iran**, we remain troubled by ongoing human rights violations, including use of the death penalty, restrictions on freedom of expression and the media, and treatment of religious minorities.

Ireland remains concerned by the worsening humanitarian crisis, human rights violations and shrinking democratic and civic space in **Venezuela**.

Thank you.