

## **Universal Periodic Review – 23rd Session**

### **Statement by Ireland on the review of Austria**

**9 November 2015**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Austria and thanks it for its report and presentation today.

We would like to thank the Austrian Government and NGO community for their efforts to welcome the unprecedented number of asylum seekers who have arrived in the country this year.

Ireland shares the concerns of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that women continued to be disproportionately represented in poorly paid part-time jobs and often received lower remuneration than men for work of equal value.

Ireland welcomes Austria's adoption of the Registered Partnership Act. However we note that Austria does not legally recognise a marriage between same-sex partners.

Ireland recommends Austria abolish all legal inequalities between registered same-sex partnership and marriage.

Ireland recommends that Austria ensure equal opportunities for women in the labour market, including by strengthening equal access of migrant women to effective job training and placement services in order to alleviate the concentration of qualified migrant women in low-paying jobs.