

30th session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of the Russian Federation

Statement of Ireland

14 May 2018

Thank you, Mr. President

Ireland welcomes the delegation of the Russian Federation and thanks it for its presentation.

We welcome the efforts of the Russian Federation to combat discrimination against women at all levels through the publication of a national strategy 2017-2022.

Ireland notes the serious concerns that have been raised regarding discrimination against LGBT groups, particularly in Chechnya, and **recommends** to the Russian Federation that it adopts comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation on the grounds of sexual orientation, including measures to allow LGBT persons exercise their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly without fear of harassment.

Ireland remains concerned about the law on “Foreign Agents” in relation to NGOs. We view the extension of the law to include media organisations as a negative development. Ireland **recommends** to the Russian Federation to revise the laws on ‘Foreign Agents’ and ‘Undesirable Organisations’ to ensure that NGOs and media organisations can exercise their legitimate activities in line with international law and human rights standards.

We wish Russia every success in this UPR cycle.

Thank you.