



Statement of Ireland

51st session of the Human Rights Council

Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms

26 September 2022

Dear chair, participants,

Ireland is pleased to participate in this discussion.

Ireland fully supports events such as this, which highlight the importance of integrating a gender perspective through all mechanisms of the Human Rights Council. I thank the Chair and all the panellists for the rich discussion we have heard today.

It is a simple and clear fact that women should be involved in making the policies that shape their lives and livelihoods. Decision-making processes must be representative of the societies they affect. Women's full, equal and meaningful participation in decision-making processes isn't just desirable: it is essential.

Too often, women who exercise their freedom of opinion or expression or who are active in the public sphere, including women human rights defenders, journalists, politicians and activists, are particularly targeted by threats and acts of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, killings and attempted killings.

This is simply unacceptable. Such gender-based persecution constitutes a violation and abuse of women's human rights and there must be no impunity for such crimes. It is also a tragedy for wider society, cruelly excluding important voices from the public sphere and decision-making processes.

In Ireland's view, it is important that we embed gender considerations in all our work at Human Rights Council. Do the panellists have views on how this can be best achieved?