

Statement of Ireland 41st session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Finland

9th November 2022

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

We commend Finland's concerted efforts to advance human rights domestically, as reflected in the substantial progress made since the last UPR cycle. We welcome the recent progress made on LGBTI+ issues including the upcoming motion to amend Finland's transgender legislation, which, if adopted, would represent progress in legal gender recognition for transgender persons and remove the requirement of sterilisation prior to legal gender recognition of transgender persons.

We also note the assurance provided in Finland's National Report that the definition of rape will be amended in the Criminal Code to be based on the absence of consent.

Ireland makes the following recommendations:

- Continue to address sexual and gender based violence, including by adopting specific legislation criminalising forced marriage.
- Review the Act on the Sámi Parliament with a view to progressing the rights of indigenous peoples, specifically facilitating the right of the Sámi people to self-determination.

We wish Finland every success in this UPR cycle.

Thank you.