

31st session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Malta
Statement of Ireland
14th November 2018

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

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

Ireland welcomes Malta's efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle. We also commend Malta's engagement on human rights in international fora.

In particular, we welcome the steps taken to amend the anti-discrimination legal framework to include sexual orientation, gender identity and religion as prohibited grounds for discrimination.

We welcome Malta's draft legislation to launch a National Human Rights Institution and recommend that it be established as an independent body, in full conformity with the Paris Principles.

Ireland appreciates Malta's commitment to undertake measures to combat human trafficking and assist victims, including steps on the enhancement of victim identification and the updating of human trafficking indicators. We recommend that Malta take further steps to assist the victims of trafficking, such as the provision of safe accommodation, adapted to the specific needs of victims.

We wish Malta every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.