

25th session of the Universal Periodic Review (2 – 13 May 2016)

**Statement by Ireland on the review of Hungary
4 May 2016**

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

We commend Hungary for the pledges made in its national report to support the instruments and mechanisms of the HRC and to promote minority rights. We further commend the valuable work undertaken by Hungary at the Council on the issue of reprisals. Ireland is pleased to note the 2013 amendments to *Act LXXX of 2007 on Asylum*, which sets out that the detention of asylum seekers can only be ordered in exceptional cases and prioritizes asylum applications of unaccompanied children.

However, Ireland shares certain concerns of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and **recommends** that Hungary take all the necessary steps to address the placing of asylum-seeking and migrant children in detention, including by repealing relevant legislation which allows for the detention of families accompanied by children.

Ireland welcomes the establishment of an inter-ministerial Human Rights Working Group to provide a platform for civil society consultation. However, we note with concern the introduction of increasingly restrictive regulations on accreditation and funding of civil society organisations and at reports of threats and harassment of human rights defenders.

Ireland **recommends** that Hungary ensure the prompt and independent investigation of all alleged violations against human rights defenders.

Thank you