

Universal Periodic Review – 21st Session

Statement by Ireland on the review of Spain

21st January 2015

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

Ireland commends Spain for its positive actions on human rights since the first cycle, in particular its ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Ireland also commends Spain for publishing a draft national plan on implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in 2014.

We are pleased to note the adoption of a National Strategy for the Elimination of Violence against Women in 2013. To further support efforts in this regard, Ireland **recommends** Spain undertake an evaluation of the operation of the specialised courts on violence against women, to identify and encourage best practice.

We take positive note of steps taken to improve legal safeguards for detainees through the 2011 Criminal Procedure Bill. To ensure basic legal safeguards for all detainees, Ireland **recommends** that Spain review the incommunicado detention regime to ensure compliance with international human rights law.