



Statement of Ireland

46th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 3: Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

4 March 2021

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

Ireland warmly welcomes Special Rapporteur Fionnuala Ní Aoláin and thanks her for her report.

Ireland has consistently maintained that measures taken to combat terrorism must comply fully with international law, including human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law.

In this regard, we appreciate the guidance to States provided in the report addressing “the effect of terrorism on the protection and promotion of human rights”.

Ireland believes that the report’s particular focus on the human rights of women and girls is a timely and critically important topic.

We commend the Special Rapporteur’s engagement with women civil society actors and are deeply concerned by the impacts of increased securitisation and expanded counterterrorism measures on women human rights defenders.

We fully support the recommendations that states should adopt human rights-compliant and equality focused gender mainstreaming in counter-terrorism policies, as well as take into account the gender-specific needs and rights of women and girls who are victims of terrorism.

Improved gender representation in the security sector can have significant positive effects on the implementation of counter-terrorism law and practice including for women and girls. .

Special Rapporteur, gender mainstreaming is a priority for Ireland, especially in the context of our support for the Women, Peace and Security agenda. What actions should States prioritise to step up efforts on gender mainstreaming in the counter-terrorism space?

Thank you.