



Statement of Ireland

51st session of the Human Rights Council

*Interactive Dialogue on the report by the
Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar*

12 September 2022

Mr. President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the IIMM for their latest report.

Ireland commends the IIMM for its ongoing work in collecting, preserving and analysing evidence of international crimes, human rights violations, and abuses in Myanmar.

We are appalled by the volume of evidence indicating that crimes against humanity, including murder, persecution, unjust imprisonment, enforced disappearance and torture have likely been committed in the aftermath of last year's military coup, including against the Rohingya. Ireland is particularly concerned by reports of sexual and gender-based violence and crimes against children. Those responsible must be held to account.

Despite challenges posed by COVID19 and continued denied access to the territory of Myanmar, the report's findings are substantial. Ireland calls on the Myanmar military to allow full, unimpeded access to UN-mandated investigators, in particular the IIMM. Ireland strongly supports the work of the Mechanism and calls on all Member States to cooperate and meaningfully engage with it, especially those with a critical role in facilitating evidence gathering.

In July, the Myanmar military executed four pro-democracy activists. As stated in your report, these killings could constitute the crime of murder openly carried out by an organ of government. How is the IIMM investigating such crimes and how can the international community best support the Mechanism in its work?