



Statement of Ireland

51st session of the Human Rights Council

*Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in
Burundi*

Thursday 22 September, 2022

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thank the Special Rapporteur for this update.

Ireland welcomes the progress outlined in the report relating to governance and the legal framework, however we are gravely concerned by the wider human rights situation.

Ireland remains deeply concerned by reports of torture as well as other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in official and non-official detention centres including instances of sexual and gender-based violence against both men and women.

Ireland condemns instances of arbitrary arrest and detention, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings, particularly against political opponents and trade union activists. The Burundian authorities must fully respect the right to freedom of expression and freedom of association and address all violations giving due respect to existing constitutional frameworks, as well as judicial independence. Ireland urges the Government of Burundi to hold all perpetrators, regardless of their affiliation, accountable for violations of human rights.

We reiterate our support for the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and once again strongly urge the Government of Burundi to cooperate fully with international and regional human rights mechanisms, including by facilitating a country visit of the Special Rapporteur.

Special Rapporteur, what recommendations do you have for the international community to promote a meaningful improvement in the human rights situation in Burundi in the medium and long term?

Thank you.