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Statement of Ireland

52nd session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4 General Debate

22 March 2023

Thank you Mr Vice President.

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

We have previously highlighted our deep concern at the human right situations in **Iran, Ukraine, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Syria, Ethiopia, and Belarus** in the relevant Interactive Dialogues.

Ireland reiterates our grave concern at the finding of the Commission of Inquiry on **Ukraine** that war crimes have been committed, including attacks on civilians, forced transfers and deportations of children, unlawful confinement, torture, killings, and rape. We again condemn Russia's illegal and unjustified full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

We also remain concerned at the human rights situation within the **Russian Federation**, including the ongoing persecution of journalists, arbitrary arrests and detentions of protestors, and the severe clampdown on civic space.

In **Afghanistan**, Ireland is deeply concerned by continued erosion of the rights of women, girls, LGBTI+ persons and other minorities, including religious and ethnic minorities.

Ireland remains very concerned by ongoing restrictions on civic space in **China**, and the treatment of minorities, including Uyghurs and Tibetans. We renew our call on China to implement the recommendations of the OHCHR assessment, and the subsequent UN Special Procedures recommendations.

Finally, we once again emphasise the need for accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law for the people of **Yemen**.

Thank you