



Statement of Ireland

54th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue following the report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Nicaragua

12 September 2023

Thank you Mr Vice-President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the High Commissioner for his update.

Ireland remains concerned by the human rights situation in Nicaragua, which has deteriorated further in the last year.

We condemn the Nicaraguan authorities' decision to deprive former political prisoners and dissidents of their citizenship and the seizure of their property.

The ongoing repression of political opponents and dissidents is alarming. We urge the Nicaraguan authorities to work to facilitate genuine political dialogue.

We are concerned by the continued tightening of civic space in Nicaragua, which has led to the closure of more than 3000 NGOs. A vibrant civil society is essential for the promotion of human rights and the achievement of sustainable development. We urge the Nicaraguan authorities to change course.

We also remain deeply concerned that some of those arbitrarily detained remain in prison, and call for their unconditional release.

Ireland deeply regrets Nicaragua's continued lack of cooperation with regional and international human rights mechanisms and urges Nicaraguan authorities to re-engage with this Council and its mechanisms, and allow access to the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner.

High Commissioner, could you discuss the impact the actions of this administration have had on the ability of Nicaraguans to access educational opportunities?

Thank you.

