



Statement of Ireland
41st session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Bahrain

7 November 2022

Ireland thanks the delegation of Bahrain for its presentation today.

Ireland notes the efforts to promote religious diversity that Bahrain has made since the previous UPR session; we urge Bahrain to uphold freedom of religion and belief for all persons including members of the Shia community.

Ireland also urges Bahrain to carry out independent and prompt investigations into all allegations of torture or other forms of ill-treatment and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. We note the previous UPR recommendations in this regard that Bahrain supported.

Ireland regrets the reintroduction of the death penalty in January 2017, after a moratorium of six years. Since then 6 people have been executed and 27 people are currently on death row in Bahrain.

Ireland recommends that Bahrain:

1. Immediately release all opposition activists, journalists, human rights defenders and other individuals arbitrarily arrested, including for exercising their right to freedom of expression or association.
2. Create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society organisations and human rights defenders, including child human rights defenders.
3. Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and announce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition.

We wish Bahrain every success in this UPR cycle.