



**Statement of Ireland**  
**33rd session of the UPR Working Group**

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Review of Nicaragua

**15 May 2019**

Thank you, Mr. (Vice) President.

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Nicaragua and thanks it for its presentation

Ireland is deeply concerned by the human rights situation in Nicaragua, in particular by the ongoing reports of repression, arbitrary detention and intimidation of civil society leaders.

We commend the reopening of national dialogue last February and strongly urge the government of Nicaragua to continue efforts to engage in a credible and inclusive national dialogue.

We appeal to the Government to renew its commitment to resolve political differences through dialogue, to build public confidence in the process by meaningful measures in relation to prisoner release and engage with the international community on electoral reform and all outstanding human rights issues.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to Nicaragua:

1. Ensure that international human rights standards for freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including press freedom, are upheld.
2. Allow the return of international and regional bodies, including the OHCHR country team, the Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua, and the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts of the IACHR, and grant them full, unhindered access to all parts of the country, including detention centres.

We wish Nicaragua every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.