

**28th session of the Universal Periodic Review
(6-17 November 2017)**

Review of Czechia

Statement of Ireland

6 November 2017

Thank you, Mr. President

Ireland welcomes the delegation of the Czech Republic and thanks it for its presentation of its third national report.

On the rights of children, we welcome the advances made in recent years. However, we regret that the Czech Republic has not yet implemented accepted recommendations regarding the creation of an Ombudsman for Children's Rights. Ireland therefore **recommends** that the Czech Republic considers the creation of an Ombudsman for Children's Rights in order to further advance the status of children.

We also appreciate that a number of educational reforms have been introduced to improve access for Roma children to mainstream education. However some practices of concern continue. Ireland therefore **recommends** that the Czech Republic end all forms of segregation in the education system and develop an awareness raising campaign for educational staff and parents to curb negative societal perceptions about inclusive education.

Thank you