



## **Statement of Ireland**

**76<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Third Committee**

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*Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Mr Michael LYNK*

**25 October 2021**

Chair,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Special Rapporteur for his report and detailed presentation today.

Ireland is deeply concerned by attacks on education in the occupied Palestinian territory, which constitute violations of IHL. The rights of children to access education without fear of violence or attack must be upheld at all times. It is imperative that all violations against children, including and in particular attacks on schools, must end, and that those responsible be held to account.

Ireland reiterates its concern at the expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including recent developments in East Jerusalem which threaten the viability of a future contiguous Palestinian state.

The lack of accountability for the killing and injury of Palestinian civilians, and other possible violations of international human rights and humanitarian law is a matter of grave concern. Ireland calls on Israel to conduct investigations including for incidents of possible excessive use of force by the Israeli Security Forces and ensure full accountability.

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

Ireland shares your concern about the increase in settler related incidents, we would welcome your views on how accountability for settler violence can be ensured.

We again call upon the Israeli authorities to fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur, including by facilitating visits to the occupied Palestinian territory.

Thank you.

**[252 words]**