

31st session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Saudi Arabia
Statement of Ireland
5th November 2018

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Saudi Arabia and its engagement with the UPR.

Ireland is concerned about the imprisonment of Human Rights Defenders, both women and men, under a broad definition of terrorism.

We echo the concerns of the UN Secretary General and High Commissioner regarding the tragic death of Mr Jamal Khashoggi. We support calls for full accountability of all those responsible.

Ireland is concerned about restrictions on civil society space, notably as highlighted by CEDAW, and restrictions on freedom of expression and association.

Ireland recommends that Saudi Arabia bring its laws into line with international standards under the ICCPR for the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.

Ireland is gravely concerned at the use of the death penalty in Saudi Arabia, in particular in the case of minors, and the continued practice of public executions.

Ireland recommends that Saudi Arabia announce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition.

Thank you