



Statement of Ireland
41st session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation
of human rights in Myanmar

3 July 2019

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

Mr. President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her update and for her continued engagement in providing detailed analysis and recommendations to address the challenging human rights situation in Myanmar.

Ireland re-iterates our deep concern at the ongoing intensified violence in Rakhine State which has led to a new wave of internally displaced people and extremely concerning reports of high civilian casualties including children. Ireland calls on all parties to ensure the safety and protection of children from ongoing violence and for an urgent de-escalation of hostilities. Furthermore, unfettered humanitarian access to those displaced and in need is of paramount importance in Rakhine State as well as in Kachin and Shan states where large numbers of civilians have been displaced over the last 18 months in particular.

Ireland recognises the steps being taken by Myanmar to adopt a national strategy on IDP camp closure and calls on Myanmar to consult with local affected communities on its implementation. We further recognise Myanmar's intention to sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the steps being taken to improve the protection of the rights of the child.

Ireland re-iterates the critical importance of ensuring full accountability for human rights violations that have been committed in Myanmar. This has been brought into sharp focus by recent reports of the early release of seven military officers convicted of some of the most egregious human rights violations in Rakhine State. We are very concerned by this development and call on the Independent Commission of Enquiry to engage with the UN Independent Mechanism to ensure proper accountability for crimes committed in Myanmar.

Special Rapporteur, we note the recently published review of the UN's involvement in Myanmar from 2010-2018 and would be grateful for your assessment of its recommendations.

Thank you