



Statement of Ireland

47th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

25 June 2021

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report.

This sobering report captures an impressive breadth of information on the harrowing issue of rape.

We share the Special Rapporteur's contention that states have failed to adequately protect victims or provide accountability. The report makes it abundantly clear that systematic changes are urgently required in countries in every region of the world.

This report also makes clear the value and importance of harmonising instruments, which define and propagate good practice. In this regard, this report makes an important contribution to that body of expert knowledge.

Madame Special Rapporteur

In Ireland, we continue to work to improve our laws and our policy and practices, last year launching a new policy to support victims and vulnerable witnesses in sexual violence cases.

We strongly support the Istanbul Convention, which we ratified in 2019. However, recently we have witnessed criticism of the Convention and misinformation about its purpose in several states, posing a threat to the important progress that has been made.

Madame Special Rapporteur, in your view how can such misinformation best be countered so that we maintain momentum in universalising good practice?

Thank you