



**Statement of Ireland**  
**43<sup>rd</sup> session of the UPR Working Group**

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Review of The Bahamas

**3 May 2023**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of The Bahamas and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland notes progress made since the last UPR cycle and welcomes the efforts of The Bahamas to advance women's rights, including through the introduction of a bill to criminalise marital rape under the Sexual Offences Act.

Ireland welcomes the elimination in 2021 of all forms of corporal punishment at alternative care institutions for children. However, we regret that no measures have been taken to prohibit corporal punishment at home or at schools.

Ireland is concerned by reports of hostility, discrimination, and violence suffered by the LGBTI+ community in the Bahamas and encourages The Bahamas to implement a public awareness campaign to represent LGBTI+ identities positively.

Ireland recommends The Bahamas:

1. Prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including in homes and schools.
2. Ensure that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity are explicitly prohibited in its legislative framework.

We wish The Bahamas every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.