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Statement of Ireland

57th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Burundi

20 September 2024

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Special Rapporteur for his update.

Ireland urges Burundi to fulfil its human rights obligations and commitments, and to build on the constructive engagement which took place during the visit by the then European Union Special Representative for Human Rights, Eamon Gilmore, in February 2023. We are deeply concerned by credible reports of human rights violations, including killings, disappearances, torture, ill-treatment, and arbitrary arrests and detention of political opponents, human rights defenders and journalists, as well as threats against LGBTI+ persons.

We call on the authorities in Burundi to facilitate the opening up of civic space, particularly ahead of elections in 2025, and to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all people in Burundi to participate in public life. Ireland also calls on Burundi to engage meaningfully with the UN Special Rapporteur and other human rights mechanisms, and to grant them the appropriate access, protections and information required to fulfil their mandates.

Special Rapporteur, what role is there for the international community in respect of Burundi organising transparent, free and fair elections in 2025?

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