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Statement of Ireland

57th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4: General Debate Statement

24 September 2024

Ireland aligns with the EU statement.

We have previously highlighted our concern at the human rights situations in **Venezuela, Burundi, Syria and Belarus**, in the respective dialogues.

Ireland is gravely concerned by the State-sponsored system to suppress fundamental freedoms in Russia. The intensifying internal repression in Russia and its war of aggression against **Ukraine** are intrinsically linked.

Ireland calls for an immediate ceasefire in **Gaza**, and the release of all hostages. We urge respect for international law, and for accountability for violations and abuses. We again call for unimpeded access to increased humanitarian aid. We condemn ongoing settlement activities, demolitions, and evictions in the **occupied Palestinian Territory**, in contravention of international law and welcome the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ.

In **Afghanistan**, the rights of women, girls, and persons in vulnerable situations, including LGBTI+ persons and religious and ethnic minorities continue to be denied. Ireland strongly condemns the abhorrent virtue and vice law.

The scale of serious violations and abuses in **Sudan,** in particular attributed to the RSF, has created a catastrophe. Collective action on civilian protection is urgently needed.

Ireland reiterates our concerns over restrictions on civic space in **China**. We remain concerned by the findings of OHCHR's Xinijang assessment and repeat our call to China to implement its recommendations. We also continue to be concerned by the treatment of Tibetans, and the continued erosion of fundamental freedoms in **Hong Kong**.