

Human Rights Council 38th Session

**Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on international solidarity and the
Special Rapporteur on the right to education**

18 June 2017

National Statement of Ireland

Thank you Mr President.

Ireland aligns itself with the EU statement and adds the following.

Ireland welcomes the Independent Expert on international solidarity and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and wishes to express its thanks for both presentations yesterday.

We shall direct our comments today towards the Special Rapporteur on the right to education. We wish to thank the Special Rapporteur for her Report on governance and the right to education.

Ireland is a strong supporter of the right to a quality education for all, both at home and abroad. Education is an important human right in and of itself, but it also acts as a multiplier, supporting the fuller promotion and realisation of a whole range of human rights. For example, equal access to quality education can promote gender equality and the inclusion of marginalised groups. In this 70th anniversary year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is important to recall the indivisible and interdependent nature of human rights. The right to education is inextricably linked to all rights.

We welcome the Special Rapporteur's focus in her report on how the right to education must be mainstreamed into governance in education. We take note of her recommendation that particular emphasis should be given to including the perspectives of women, youth and vulnerable groups in laws, policies and governance mechanisms.

We would like to ask Dr. Boly Barry to elaborate on how best to ensure inclusive participation in education governance mechanisms, taking into account the needs of traditionally excluded or marginalized groups.

Thank you.