



Statement of Ireland

49th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue on the report of the High Commissioner on the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice

4 March 2022

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the High Commissioner for her report.

Ireland shares the serious concern expressed in the High Commissioner's report regarding the lack of accountability for alleged violations of international human rights law, and international humanitarian law by duty bearers in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Gaza.

We are particularly concerned by the intensification of settler-related violence. The disparity in conviction rates between Israeli settlers and Palestinians who have committed acts of violence is acutely worrying. Ireland calls on the Israeli authorities to ensure that those responsible are held fully accountable.

In the context of the recent escalation in tensions across the West Bank, we are deeply disturbed by continued reports of the use of excessive force by Israeli Security Forces. It is the responsibility of the Israeli authorities, as the Occupying Power, to ensure that all incidents of disproportionate use of force are thoroughly investigated.

The shrinking space for civil society in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory remains a source of concern. Ireland supports the High Commissioner's call on Israel to revoke the designations against Palestinian civil society organisations as terrorist entities.

High Commissioner, noting the increase in settler violence, we would welcome your views on how accountability for such acts of violence can be ensured.

Thank you.