



**Statement of Ireland
76th session of the United Nations General Assembly
Third Committee**

Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Siobhán Mullally

27 October 2021

Thank you Chair,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union.

We reiterate our strong support for the vital work of the Special Rapporteur with whom, along with UNODC, we were pleased to co-host a high-level event on the subject of this report last week in the margins of the WPS Debate.

Ireland welcomes this report, which addresses the intersections between terrorism and trafficking in persons, along with the critical need to address the underlying root causes of exploitation including structural discrimination, violence, poverty and exclusion. We note with concern that trafficking has a disproportionate impact on women and girls.

We agree with the Special Rapporteur's concern that failing to recognise the stigma associated with trafficking in persons and terrorism contributes to a climate of impunity and a lack of accountability for these serious human rights violations. Ireland acknowledges the importance of access to justice, survivor-centred services, and effective remedies for victims of such heinous crimes.

Ireland reiterates its commitment to the implementation of effective prevention and protection measures against all forms of trafficking in persons, with respect to the principles of non-discrimination and non-punishment of victims of trafficking. We note that trafficking can lead to different forms of exploitation like forced labour and marriage. This year, Ireland revised its National Referral Mechanism to make it easier for victims of trafficking to be identified and access advice, accommodation and support.

Special Rapporteur, have you identified examples of good practice in terms of States' responses to trafficking in persons by proscribed groups?

Thank you.

[252 words]