



Promoting and strengthening
the Universal Periodic Review

Recommendations & Pledges

IRELAND

First Review Session 12

Review in the Working Group: 6 October 2011
Adoption in the Plenary: 15 March 2012

Ireland's responses to recommendations (as of 07.06.2012):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
62 recs. accepted; 15 rejected; 50 pending	Out of the 50 recs. pending, 29 were accepted, 17 accepted in part (underlined in blue) and 4 not accepted (-> rejected)	No additional information provided	Accepted: 108 Rejected: 19 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0

Paragraph headers are as in the Report of the Working Group, but the nature of responses to recommendations may have subsequently been changed.

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/19/9:

106. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined and enjoy the support of Ireland:

A - 106.1. Complete the ratification process (Indonesia), consider the ratification (Chile, Ecuador) or the possibility of ratification (Argentina, Peru), ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Austria, Canada, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Spain) already signed in 2007 (Algeria), at the earliest possible time/as soon as possible (France, Hungary);

A - 106.2. Become a party (Estonia), consider accession (Brazil), ratification (Chile), ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) (France, Greece, Slovenia, United

Kingdom) and set up a national prevention mechanism that meets the criteria and guarantees under this instrument (Switzerland);

A - 106.3. Continue the efforts for a speedy ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Peru);

A - 106.4. Pursue efforts to ratify (Iraq), complete the ratification process (Indonesia), consider the possibility of ratifying (Argentina, Ecuador), ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) (Spain) as soon as possible (France);

A - 106.5. Continue the process of accession to or ratification of the pending main international human rights instruments, in particular CED and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Costa Rica);

A - 106.6. Consider the ratification (Chile, Ecuador), ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OP-SCR) (Portugal, Slovenia, Turkey), as soon as possible (France);

A - 106.7. Reinforce the independence and the capacity of the Irish Human Rights Commission to fulfil its mandate effectively in accordance with the Paris Principles (Moldova), by endowing it with adequate and sufficient resources (Ghana);

A - 106.8. Ensure and strengthen the independence of its national human rights infrastructure (Egypt);

A - 106.9. Implement its commitment to holding a constitutional referendum on children's rights with a view to incorporating those rights into the Irish Constitution (Australia);

A - 106.10. Ensure a comprehensive and effective incorporation of children's rights into its legal framework in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), by incorporating children's rights into the Constitution (Portugal);

A - 106.11. Give further effect to international human rights instruments in the domestic legislation, including from the provisions contained in the CRC (Indonesia);

A - 106.12. Ensure that the current budget cuts do not result in stifling the activities of human rights bodies (Turkey);

A - 106.13. Work with all sectors to ensure the Human Rights and Equality Commission is an effective agent for enhancing the country's commitment to human rights (Australia);

A - 106.14. Continue to provide support for human rights education and training domestically in order to enhance awareness and respect for human rights (Moldova);

A - 106.15. Take measures to make access available to people with disabilities, on an equal footing, to education, employment, housing, transport and cultural life and facilitate their access to public places and services (Costa Rica);

A - 106.16. Continue with the efforts related to the protection of the rights of people with disabilities (Ecuador);

A - 106.17. Enact laws that protect adequately the rights and the well-being of separated and unaccompanied minors seeking asylum, in conformity with standards established under international laws (Uruguay);

A - 106.18. Take the measures required to respect economic, social and cultural rights (Iraq);

A - 106.19. Continue the efforts to ensure the exercise of human rights by the sections of society needing special attention from the authorities (Romania);

- A - 106.20. Continue action including legislation to remove gender-based inequalities in the workplace, including wage disparities between men and women (Sri Lanka);
- A - 106.21. Take additional measures to eliminate inequalities between women and men (Moldova);
- A - 106.22. Continue its efforts to ensure that migrants and women belonging to minorities continue to be the focus of government programmes specifically geared towards the protection of their rights (Argentina);
- A - 106.23. Take measures to tackle racial discrimination and to combat more resolutely all forms of racism, xenophobia and religious intolerance against foreigners and religious minorities, including Muslims (Iran);
- A - 106.24. Fight Islamophobia and support its Muslim citizens, by enabling them to practise their religion (Iran);
- A - 106.25. Ensure that any person involved in xenophobic and Islamophobic acts is investigated and prosecuted (Iran);
- A - 106.26. Take more effective measures to combat racial discrimination and intolerance, including by promptly investigating and taking stern action against perpetrators of racism, xenophobic and discriminatory acts and by promoting intercultural understanding and tolerance between the different ethnic and faith groups in the country (Malaysia);
- A - 106.27. Strengthen its efforts to protect the human rights of all Ireland's citizens, including those from sub-Saharan Africa (Indonesia);
- A - 106.28. Ensure that any persons involved in racial discrimination acts are investigated and prosecuted, and, if found guilty of such incidents, punished with appropriate penalties (Azerbaijan);
- A - 106.29. Maintain the strategies of holistic health and provisions of health care, with special emphasis on vulnerable groups, despite the budget cuts due to the economic crisis (Chile);
- A - 106.30. Strengthen the measures to improve the representation, education and protection of Travellers (Chile);
- A - 106.31. Continue its work for the full realization of human rights of the Traveller community in the country (Sweden);
- A - 106.32. Continue pursuing appropriate policies designed to provide for equal opportunities to members of the Traveller community, with special focus on access to health care, education and housing, including ensuring Travellers' participation in public life related decision-making process (Slovakia);
- A - 106.33. Improve social and economic conditions of the members of the Traveller community (Pakistan);
- A - 106.34. Continue action to protect the conditions of migrant workers by improving existing legislation (Sri Lanka);
- A - 106.35. Ensure specifically that economic measures do not disproportionately impact upon the elderly (Netherlands);
- A - 106.36. Take effective measures to improve prison conditions (Algeria);
- A - 106.37. Give priority to bringing conditions and treatment of detainees in Irish prisons into line with international human rights standards, including through implementing outstanding recommendations from international human rights bodies (Norway);
- A - 106.38. Improve conditions for detainees in Irish prisons to bring them in line with international standards (Australia);

- A - 106.39. Continue its efforts to incorporate in-cell sanitation in all prison facilities (USA);
- A - 106.40. Further improve the conditions of detainees in line with international human rights standards (Hungary);
- A - 106.41. Take effective measures as soon as possible in order to avoid overcrowding in prisons and other detention facilities, in line with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Austria);
- A - 106.42. Give due attention to the results of the expert group examining the possibility of the construction of a new prison (Austria);
- A - 106.43. Increase the use and promotion of alternative, non-custodial measures (Austria);
- A - 106.44. Continue its effort to secure satisfactory sanitary facilities in Irish prisons, including in-cell sanitation, and to mitigate overcrowding (Denmark);
- A - 106.45. Urgently and comprehensively bring conditions for the prison population into line with international human rights standards (Sweden);
- A - 106.46. Carry out all efforts to reduce overcrowding in prisons and to ensure that imprisonment is a measure of last resort (Spain);
- A - 106.47. Continue with the implementation of measures to improve adverse conditions in prisons, in particular the renovations required to improve the health situation in prisons and effective programmes for education and rehabilitation of prison inmates (Peru);
- A - 106.48. Complete the review of prison conditions in order to increase the quality of the prison management system (Indonesia);
- A - 106.49. Continue to strengthen its policies and laws against domestic violence (Algeria);
- A - 106.50. Strengthen its policies and laws against domestic violence towards women (Moldova);
- A - 106.51. Continue efforts with the aim of establishing protection campaigns and programmes for women against domestic violence (Argentina);
- A - 106.52. Submit rapidly its national report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) that was due in 2007 and include a section on violence against women as requested by the Committee (Switzerland);
- A - 106.53. Fully implement the relevant laws, policies and programmes aimed at combating domestic violence in the country (Malaysia);
- A - 106.54. Pass legislation to combat trafficking in human beings in the form of sham marriages (Latvia);
- A - 106.55. Support its Muslim citizens in enabling them to practise their religion (Turkey);
- A - 106.56. Make available adequate budgetary allocations, despite financial constraints, for the continued provision and improvement of education and health services which are essential to protect the rights of the poorest and the most vulnerable members of society (Sri Lanka);
- A - 106.57. Ensure the principle of equality and non-discrimination while guaranteeing the enjoyment of the right to health (Brazil);
- A - 106.58. Ensure the national availability and accessibility to contraceptive services and methods, including through the dissemination of information and education to boys, girls and adolescents, taking into account prevention of discrimination based on geographic status, disability or migrant status (Mexico);

A - 106.59. Further measures to eliminate the underrepresentation of women in decision-making roles, particularly in the political arena and as members of corporate boards (Ghana);

A - 106.60. Establish a consolidated framework relating to immigration and asylum issues, including an independent Appeals body (United Kingdom);

A - 106.61. Ensure that all asylum-seekers in Ireland can effectively accede to the process of determination of their refugee condition and that decisions on the necessity for international protection can be reviewed and are subject to independent judicial supervision (Mexico);

A - 106.62. Continue to allocate financial assistance for developing countries in the framework of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and meet the commitment made in this regard at the international level (Algeria).

107. The following recommendations will be examined by Ireland, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council in March 2012:

A - 107.1. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRPD (Austria, Spain);

A - 107.2. Continue the process of accession to or ratification of the pending main international human rights instruments, in particular OP-CRPD (Costa Rica);

A - 107.3. Withdraw its reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (Brazil);

A - 107.4. Consider incorporating the right to health and the right to housing (Portugal) and sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) (Ecuador);

A - 107.5. Withdraw its reservations to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), ICESCR and ICCPR (Iran);

R - 107.6. Ratify the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) (Hungary) and incorporate it into law (Iran);

A - 107.7. Adopt practical and legal measures to curb racial discrimination and discrimination against migrants and look at the appeal by UNESCO to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Uzbekistan);

A - 107.8. Continue the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) (Iraq);

A - 107.9. Ensure the comprehensive and effective incorporation of children's rights into Ireland's legal framework in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child by incorporating children's rights into the Constitution (Cambodia);

A - 107.10. Urgently take measures necessary to ensure that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is fully implemented and incorporated into the legal and administrative system of Ireland (Sweden);

A - 107.11. Consider alternative (legislative) measures that will enhance the position of children in the short term (i.e. extending the remit of the Ombudsman to children in prisons and asylum-seeking children) (Netherlands);

A - 107.12. Strengthen the legal framework for the protection of the rights of children and the rights of other vulnerable groups such as women, the elderly, people with disabilities and the community of Travellers (Peru);

A - 107.13. Enhance legal action against all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnic, language, religion or national origin, in particular comprehensive respect for human rights of foreigners regardless of their migratory status (Ecuador);

A - 107.14. Develop and adopt a gender parity law (France);

A - 107.15. Pursue efforts aimed at strengthening the protection of all people from racial discrimination and by improving the existing draft pieces of legislation and passing them into law (Ghana);

A - 107.16. Adopt laws to deal with the situation of persons not enjoying the highest level of physical and mental health with regards to the 2001 Act on Mental Health and bring its provisions in line with the CRPD (Spain);

A - 107.17. Withdraw the provisions which entered into force on 1 January 2010 making blasphemy punishable as they may constitute an excessive limitation to the freedom of expression (France);

A - 107.18. Take steps to ensure that the current economic crisis does not erode human rights, in particular by developing a National Action Plan on Human Rights as well as by providing continued support and shared experience on human rights worldwide (Cambodia);

A - 107.19. Develop provisions of a training programme to raise the awareness of the judiciary to the racial dimension of crime and to ensure that judges take into account racist motivation as an aggravating circumstance when they sentence in criminal cases (Uruguay);

R - 107.20. Adopt immediate measures to assign an ad litem tutor or adviser to unaccompanied minors independently of whether an application for protection has been submitted (Uruguay);

A - 107.21. Enact laws setting principles on law, rights and obligations that govern family reunification (Uruguay);

A - 107.22. Draw up an integrated and comprehensive human rights plan of action (Indonesia);

A - 107.23. Ensure the full implementation and undertake an independent assessment of the National Women's Strategy (Austria);

A - 107.24. In line with the recommendations made by CERD, adopt and implement immediately legislation prohibiting any form of racial discrimination and ensure humanitarian treatment for migrants and persons of non-Irish origin, including through adequate training for judicial and police personnel (Mexico);

A - 107.25. Consider strengthening its National Action Plan against Racism (Brazil);

A - 107.26. Fully explore the possibility of putting in place a new National Plan of Action against Racism (Malaysia);

A - 107.27. Accelerate efforts in establishing a national network of schools that guarantee equality of access to children irrespective of their religious, cultural or social background (Malaysia);

A - 107.28. Strengthen the protection of all people from racial discrimination by improving the existing draft pieces of legislation and passing them into law (Pakistan);

A - 107.29. Establish appropriate mechanisms to encourage the reporting of racist incidents and crimes (Azerbaijan);

A - 107.30. Investigate the reports of "knife stabbings" against people mainly from sub-Saharan Africa and ensure that the perpetrators are prosecuted and, when convicted, punished with appropriate penalties (Azerbaijan);

A - 107.31. Introduce a complete integration policy for this specific group (referring to Travellers who continue to suffer from discrimination) (Czech Republic);

A - 107.32. Introduce measures to improve the conditions of Travellers in the society and introduce a comprehensive system for the monitoring of racist incidents (Turkey);

R - 107.33. Recognize Travellers as an official minority (Slovakia);

A - 107.34. Activate efforts to improve the living conditions of detainees pretrial and after conviction and also to implement all the requirements of minimum standards of treatment of inmates (Uzbekistan);

A - 107.35. Take the necessary measures to avoid detention of asylum-seekers and to avoid situations which may equate the condition of immigrants to that of felons (Brazil);

A - 107.36. Enhance its efforts at the local level to better carry out the campaign against domestic violence (Switzerland);

A - 107.37. Sign the Council of Europe Convention on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Austria);

A - 107.38. Strengthen its policies and laws against domestic violence and prepare adequate statistics, including sex, age and family relationship of victims and perpetrators (Pakistan);

A - 107.39. Implement the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the "Bangkok Rules" (Thailand);

A - 107.40. Institute a comprehensive statutory inquiry and compensation scheme in order to guarantee accountability and assist the (women and children) victims (of violence) (Thailand);

A - 107.41. Explicitly prohibit any form of corporal punishment in the family and continue developing awareness-raising campaigns and education for parents and for the public in general (Uruguay);

A - 107.42. Promote forms of discrimination and non-violent discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment, taking into consideration general comment No. 8 (2006) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the protection of children from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment (Uruguay);

A - 107.43. Amend the Civil Registration Act empowering the registers and the Garda (police) to intervene against sham marriages and to amend the criminal law to criminalize the organizers and facilitators of sham marriages (Latvia);

A - 107.44. Further reform the law on same-sex marriage and change the concept of the traditional family as enshrined in the Constitution (Spain);

A - 107.45. Amend Article 37 of the 1998 Employment Equality Act in order to prevent such discrimination against homosexuals and unmarried parents (Switzerland);

A - 107.46. Enact legislation to make the right to collective bargaining through trade unions in line with international commitments (Norway);

A - 107.47. Encourage diversity and tolerance of other faiths and beliefs in the education system by monitoring incidents of discrimination on the basis of belief (Turkey);

R - 107.48. Eliminate religious discrimination in access to education (Egypt);

A - 107.49. Adopt necessary measures to legally recognize the human rights of all minorities and ethnic groups that are residing in the country (Ecuador);

A - 107.50 Continue public consultations with NGOs and civil society in the follow-up to the UPR (Austria).

108. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Ireland:

R - 108.1. Consider becoming a party to (Turkey); the possibility of (Argentina, Ecuador, Peru) signing and ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Algeria, Egypt), incorporate it into law (Iran), and accede to its principles (Mexico);

R - 108.2. Enact laws and design plans and strategies in the area of combating racism, racial discrimination, and racial profiling and investigate relevant cases to ensure provision of reparations to victims (Egypt);

R - 108.3. Consider reviewing its law on the minimum age of criminal responsibility, to be in conformity with international human rights standards (Timor-Leste);

R - 108.4. Bring its abortion laws in line with ICCPR (Norway);

R - 108.5. Introduce legislation to implement the European Court of Human Rights judgement in the A, B and C versus Ireland case (United Kingdom);

R - 108.6. Take measures to revise the law on abortion with a view to permitting termination of pregnancy in cases where pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, or in situations where the pregnancy puts the physical or mental health or well-being of the pregnant woman or the pregnant girl in danger (Denmark);

R - 108.7. Allow abortion at least when pregnancy poses a risk to the health of the pregnant woman (Slovenia);

R - 108.8. Adopt legislative measures that guarantee greater integration of women as well as safeguards for their personal rights and reproductive health care and reform the Offences against the Person Act of 1861 to decriminalize abortion under certain circumstances (Spain);

R - 108.9. Ensure that the establishment of an expert group on abortion matters will lead to a coherent legal framework including the provision of adequate services (Netherlands);

R - 108.10. Legislate against racial profiling and strengthen its efforts to promote the humane treatment of migrants and people of non-Irish origin by law enforcement officers (Iran);

R - 108.11. Consider adopting measures to prohibit any form of racial profiling by police and law enforcement officials (Brazil);

R - 108.12. Adopt legislation that prohibits any form of racial profiling and furthermore strengthen its efforts to promote the humane treatment of migrants and people of non-Irish origin by the Garda Síochána and other law enforcement personnel in accordance with international human rights law (Azerbaijan);

R - 108.13. Strengthen its laws to prohibit racial profiling and strengthen its efforts to promote humane, dignified and non-selective treatment for migrants and other persons who are not of Irish origin (Honduras);

R - 108.14. Ensure the protection of the rights of domestic migrant workers, the majority of whom are women whose rights are not protected under the 2004 Law on parity (Uzbekistan);

R - 108.15. Introduce a law allowing for family reunions as well as a law granting refugees the right to work (Czech Republic).

Voluntary Pledges & Commitments Made By Ireland in the Framework of the UPR

Document A/HRC/19/9:

- A Criminal Justice (Withholding Information on Crimes against Children and Vulnerable Adults) Bill and a National Vetting Bureau Bill were presently being prepared and would be presented to Parliament as soon as possible and revised Children First guidelines would be placed on a statutory basis.

- Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
- Mental capacity legislation for ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was progressing.
- Sign the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights before the end of 2011.
- The reservation of Ireland to Article 19.2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, concerning the licensing of broadcasting enterprises, will be withdrawn.
- The Government was committed to developing a system of universal health care.
- The Government was committed to reducing the time taken to process applications for citizenship to an average of six months.
- In regard to immigration and asylum matters generally, steps were being taken to reduce unacceptable delays in parts of the system. Legislation was before Parliament which would simplify procedures so that decisions on asylum, protection and immigration could be taken speedily and in a transparent manner.
- Legislation was being prepared to enable ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
- Legislation was before Parliament to outlaw the practice of female genital mutilation.
- Ireland was also committed to ratification of the Aarhus Convention.
- Ireland was committed to reviewing family law and the law on domestic violence.

Document A/HRC/19/2:

- Ireland has chosen to prepare and submit a voluntary interim report on Ireland's progress in implementing its commitments.

Disclaimer: This classification was made by UPR Info based on United Nations documents and webcast. For more information about this document, read our "Methodology". For questions, comments and/or corrections, please write to info@upr-info.org