

UPR 25th Session  
(Geneva, 2-13 May 2016)  
Review of Ireland  
Intervention by Greece

*Vice*  
Thank you Mr President,

We would like to welcome the Delegation of Ireland to the 25th UPR Session and to congratulate it on the progress achieved in the field of human rights since its first review. As it is evident from the National Report, we would like to highlight progress in different areas, in particular:

- The establishment of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission in 2014
- The ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure
- The launch of the first National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making in 2015, as first such strategy in the EU
- The commitment to proceed with the ratification of the Convention to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol
- The progress achieved concerning the improvement of the situation of overcrowding in certain detention centers
- The adoption of the Children Amendment Act 2015
- The impressive initiatives in protecting human rights defenders in foreign policy and development aid
- The adoption of the International Protection Act 2015, focusing on the best interests of the child principle

We would like to submit the following recommendations:

- To encourage the development of an National Action Plan on human rights
- To further continue the implementation of human rights education towards women and children's rights

*Vice*  
Thank you Mr President