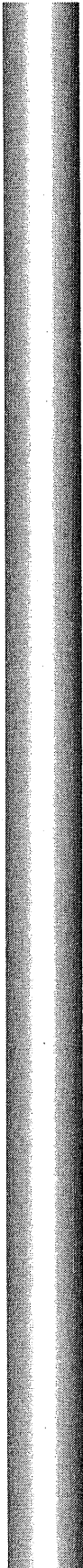


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CROATIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE

GENEVA

Statement by

H.E. Vesna Batistić Kos

Check against delivery

Ambassador

Permanent Representative

**Twenty-fifth Session of the Working Group
on the Universal Periodic Review**

Review of Ireland

Geneva, 11 May 2016

Mr. President,

I would like to extend a **warm welcome** to the delegation of Ireland and thank for the presentation of their report.

Croatia welcomes the comprehensive Ireland's *Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016-2021*, and the awareness raising campaigns which symbolize Ireland's strong commitment to fight domestic and sexual violence in the country.

We commend both the commitments fulfilled by Ireland from their previous UPR cycle, and those given in their current UPR report.

Therefore, allow us to address you with **two recommendations**:

1. Intensify efforts to ratify OP-CAT to further foster the rights of liberty-deprived persons;
2. Accelerate the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to strengthen the protection of persons with disabilities, and to further improve their role in the society.

Croatia would once again congratulate to the Government for their good human rights record, and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.