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**Statement of Ireland**

**48th session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of Slovenia

**28 January 2024**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Slovenia and thanks it for its presentation. We commend Slovenia’s international leadership on human rights issues, including during its term on the UN Security Council.

Ireland acknowledges the efforts of Slovenia to advance human rights domestically and welcomes the progress made since the last UPR cycle.

We commend in particular legislative amendments in 2022 to allow for marriage equality. We also welcome the 2021 amendments to the Criminal Code which introduced a consent-based definition of rape.

Ireland regrets the lack of progress in regards to our recommendation made during the last UPR cycle on combatting stereotypes and prejudice against LGBTIQ+ persons, and encourages Slovenia to launch a nationwide awareness-raising campaign to combat discriminatory attitudes.

Ireland recommends that Slovenia:

1. Adopt a law to restore permanent residency rights to the “Erased” people.
2. Decriminalise defamation and place it within a Civil Code in accordance with international human rights standards.

We wish Slovenia every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.