Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR39 – Ireland

10th November 2021

Thank you, President,

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Ireland and thanks for its National Report.

We are pleased to see that Ireland signed the OPCAT(*Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture*), Lithuania nevertheless **recommends** Ireland to ratify it and to establish an effective national preventive mechanism.

Lithuania highly commends efforts in combating gender-based violence against women and to promote inclusive and equal society. Therefore, **we recommend** to encourage youth initiatives, international exchange projects and discussions on gender equality issues, also to ensure sufficient financial and technical support.

In the context of COVID-19, we welcome Ireland's efforts in combating the challenges of distance learning, Lithuania however **recommends** to continue its efforts in ensuring equal access to the internet connection and technologies necessary for remote learning as well as taking care of children’s mental health during and after a pandemic.

We wish Ireland a successful review.