**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO IRELAND (SECOND BATCH)**

**AUSTRIA**

* Are there plans to raise the minimum age for criminal responsibility to be in line with the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (at least 14 years of age as the absolute minimum age of criminal responsibility for all offences)?
* With regard to the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 Austria kindly requests information regarding the state of the review which started early 2021. In addition, Austria seeks confirmation that access to the services is easily available everywhere in the country?

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

* What were the main achievements of the National Disability Inclusion Strategy (2017-2021), and what plans are there to continue to advance the rights of people with disabilities from 2022 onwards?
* Could Ireland set out steps being taken to progress and implement their 2017-2020 National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights as committed to in their Programme for Government 2020?
* Is Ireland considering placing the non-punishment principle on statutory footing to ensure that victims of human trafficking are not criminalised for acts committed as a direct consequence of being trafficked?
* What steps and measures is the Irish Government taking to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?

**PANAMA**

* In the second cycle, Panama recommended that Ireland accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. What is the status of implementation of this recommendation?
* What measures have been adopted to close the gender wage gap and to ensure that the principle of equal pay for work of equal value be effectively enforced?
* What steps have been taken for the return and repatriation of foreign fighters and their families from conflict zones, including rehabilitation and reintegration strategies?
* What actions are being taken to address the negative impacts of climate change on the environment and human rights?
* How Ireland protects LGBTIQ persons against violence and harmful practices, such as the so-called “conversion therapy”?

**GERMANY**

* Which steps will Ireland take following the recommendation of its Citizens' Assembly that Article 41(2) of the Irish constitution be deleted and replaced with gender-neutral wording?
* How will Ireland increase its number of refuge spaces in order to match the requirements of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence?

* How will Ireland support and compensate the victims of Mother and Baby Homes? How and when will Ireland implement the recommendations made by the Commission of Investigation, and which, if any, further measures will be taken?
* Which concrete aims will Ireland take, and when, to end discrimination against Travellers and Roma, especially women, and which mechanisms will be put in place to ensure progress in the fields of Traveller Health, Education, Political Participation, Employment, Housing, and others? How can Ireland ensure that local authorities fully spend Traveller accommodation budgets?

**SPAIN**

* The Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation released its long-awaited report on January 12, 2021. The report provides evidence for the damage caused over decades to thousands of women and children in 18 homes across Ireland between 1922 and 1998. It made 53 recommendations, including compensation and recall. Has an effective benchmarking mechanism been put in place to monitor compliance with these recommendations?
* What specific measures has Ireland taken to increase women’s representation in decision-making positions in all areas, close the gender pay gap and eliminate strong gender role stereotypes?
* Human trafficking satisfies the demand for labor from a number of activities: prostitution and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation, forced mendacity, restaurants, hotels, domestic work, construction, agriculture and entertainment. Does Ireland have a set of policies aimed at reducing the demand for bonded labor?