ICBHR
Irish Coalition for Business & Human Rights

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Corporate accountability and access to remedy

Previous UPR | States

- Strengthen safeguards against human rights abuses by Irish companies abroad, including in conflict areas. **Ireland supported**

Committee on the Rights of the Child | 2023

- Make the second National Action Plan **time-bound and measurable**, with mandatory assessment and disclosure of environmental, health and children's rights impacts.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights | 2024

- Establish **comprehensive mandatory human rights due diligence** covering companies, controlled entities and supply chains, with effective complaint and redress mechanisms.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women | 2025

- Include **mandatory human rights due diligence with a gender perspective** in the second National Plan.

Impact: Corporate abuses can harm **workers, communities and access to essential resources**, while those affected may lack effective avenues for **accountability and remedy**.

Deregulation of human rights and environmental protections

- **Previous UPR:** Right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, **Ireland noted**; human rights and environmental protection in trade and investment, **Ireland supported**
- **Ireland:** Deregulatory agenda prioritising **competitiveness and economic interests**, including CETA and support for EU efforts to deregulate corporate obligations
- **EU level: CSDDD weakened through Omnibus I**, alongside wider efforts to deregulate corporate obligations
- **UN Special Rapporteur:** Economic and development priorities must not undermine **environmental and climate protections**

Protecting civil society space and preventing undue corporate influence

- **Previous UPR | State**
  → Eliminate barriers and restrictions against civil society engagement, including by amending legislation.
- **Ireland ranks fourth-lowest of 38 OECD countries** for stakeholder engagement in primary lawmaking
- **113 civil society organisations** have warned of growing exclusion and disproportionate corporate influence
- Civil society and affected communities must be able to **meaningfully shape decisions affecting human rights and the environment**

Recommendations for Ireland's UPR

1. Corporate accountability and remedy
Adopt and enforce, by July 2028, comprehensive mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation covering companies' full value chains, including overseas operations, with robust climate-transition requirements and effective civil liability and remedy.

2. Human rights and environmental protections
Recognise in law the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; reject and reverse deregulatory measures that weaken human rights, environmental, climate or digital rights protections; and ensure infrastructure development remains consistent with human rights and climate obligations.

3. Civil society and meaningful participation
Strengthen transparency and meaningful participation in policymaking affecting human rights and the environment, including by establishing effective safeguards against undue corporate influence and ensuring that civil society, trade unions and affected communities can meaningfully influence policy decisions.