



**Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on
their Destruction**

25-29 November 2024

Siem Reap, Cambodia

Statement by Ireland on Universalisation

Ireland aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union.

President,

I would firstly like to join others in thanking the Kingdom of Cambodia for its gracious hospitality in hosting this important event and to congratulate you as your election as President, and offer you our full support in your duties. Today there are 164 States Parties in the Convention, almost 80% of the world's States. Rightly, this is a source of pride. Regrettably, however, 33 states remain outside the Convention, including those who, possess and produce anti-personnel landmines. At this time of increasing conflict and conflict zones around the world, we must remain resolute in protecting and safeguarding the Treaty and its aims, while continuing constructive outreach efforts to achieve universalisation. Ireland would like to acknowledge the outreach efforts of successive Presidents of the Convention to universalisation since 2019.

President,

Universalisation remains a significant challenge. Ireland continues to urge non-party States to adhere to the Convention, and immediately cease the use, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines pending membership. We note and welcome the commitment of certain non-party States in this regard.

While we hold the Russian Federation wholly responsible for its illegal and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, and we are fully supportive of Ukraine's right to self-defence, we are deeply troubled by the announced, pending transfer by the United States of anti-personnel mines to Ukraine. We strongly urge the United States and Ukraine to reconsider the transfer and for Ukraine not to pursue any potential use of these weapons and, in doing so, to both ensure it safeguards and respects its existing obligations under the Convention.

President,

Universalisation needs to remain at the heart of our collective efforts. The Oslo Action Plan called for States Party to 'work strenuously' and 'spare no effort' towards the promotion of universalisation in all relevant fora. Ireland is fully committed to this. We continue to support Actions 11 and 12 of the Oslo Action Plan, to use all available avenues to promote universalisation and universal observance of the Convention's norms.

Ireland stands ready to continue to work with partners in encouraging States not party to the convention to accede to it. In that regard, Ireland acknowledges the work of our partner States

Party to the Convention and the EU in making outreach to those who remain outside the Convention. Our Embassies and missions at bilateral and multilateral level continue to work, including in Africa, Europe, and Southeast Asia, to promote the Convention.

Ireland has maintained, and will continue to maintain, open dialogue on universalisation. We look forward to exploring new ideas on how to make further progress towards achieving universalisation as soon as possible.

Thank you.