

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/IRL/CO/2)

IRELAND

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Independent monitoring of places of deprivation of liberty and the Optional Protocol

(...)

8. The State party should:

(a) **Immediately ratify the Optional Protocol and establish a national preventive mechanism, ensuring that this body has access to all places of deprivation of liberty in all settings;**

(b) **Ensure that existing bodies which currently monitor places of detention as well as civil society organizations are allowed to make repeated and unannounced visits to all places of deprivation of liberty, publish reports and have the State party act on their recommendations.**

(...)

Police complaints mechanism

(...)

20. The State party should:

(a) **Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission to receive complaints relating to violence or ill-treatment by the police and to conduct timely, impartial and exhaustive inquiries into such complaints;**

(b) **Try persons suspected of acts of violence or ill-treatment and, if they are found guilty, sentence them to punishment commensurate with the gravity of their acts;**

(c) **Provide information on the number of complaints filed with the Commission which may relate to torture or ill-treatment and on the final outcome of such complaints processed by the Commission;**

(d) Ensure that victims have access to effective remedies and reparation;

(e) Sensitize the public about the existence and functioning of the Commission.

(...)

Investigations, accountability and redress in the context of the Magdalen laundries

(...)

26. The State party should:

(a) Undertake a thorough and impartial investigation into allegations of ill-treatment of women at the Magdalen laundries that has the power to compel the production of all relevant facts and evidence and, if appropriate, ensure the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators;

(b) Strengthen the State party's efforts to ensure that all victims of ill-treatment who worked in the Magdalen laundries obtain redress, and to this end ensure that all victims have the right to bring civil actions, even if they participated in the redress scheme, and ensure that such claims concerning historical abuses can continue to be brought "in the interests of justice"; take further efforts to publicize the existence of the ex gratia scheme to survivors of the Magdalen laundries living outside Ireland; fully implement the outstanding recommendations on redress made by Mr. Justice Quirke; promote greater access of victims and their representatives to relevant information concerning the Magdalene laundries held in private and public archives; and provide information on these additional measures in the State party's next report to the Committee.

(...)

Follow-up procedure

37. The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 11 August 2018, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations on the ratification of the Optional Protocol, on strengthening the independence of the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission, and on investigating allegations of ill-treatment of women in the Magdalen laundries and ensuring that all victims obtain redress (see paras. 8, 20 and 26). In the same context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing within the coming reporting period some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.

(...)
