

Country: Ireland

Committee: OSCE

Topic: Towards a strategy of cooperation between the OSCE and the European Union to counter terrorism and cyberwarfare?

The current Irish government is a parliamentary democratic republic with three major leaders. The President of the Republic of Ireland is Michael D. Higgins. The Prime Minister is of the political formation Fianna Fáil, Micheál Martin. Then there's Deputy Prime Minister Leo Varadkar. Ireland wasn't always a peaceful country, but these last years, certainly because of the pandemic, Ireland is looking forward to increasing peace and a lot more security at all costs.

Cyber warfare and terrorism are now two really contentious issues, but they have to be discussed and fought. Cyberwarfare is defined as the use of computer technology to disrupt the activities of a state or organization, especially the deliberate attack of information systems for strategic or military purposes particularly against civilians, for political purposes. At the same time, terrorism means the illegal use of violence. These two arguments are increasing a lot; because of the pandemic, cyberwarfare increased by 20 to 25%, and terrorism is lately really present in our lives since the war between Russia and Ukraine. Hence and intimidation, particularly against civilians, for political purposes.

Terrorism and cyberwarfare are now two growing threats to all countries, and we must act.

Ireland was one of the founders of the large organization, the OSCE (in 1970, after the Cold War). Ireland regards this organization as vital to European security. The Prime Minister of the time, Liam Cosgrave, signed the Final Act for Ireland in 1975. The OSCE's overall concept of security, its activities in the area of human rights, and its role as a regional arrangement is to prevent cyber warfare and terrorism.

In addition, Ireland has also belonged to the European Union since 1973, which also defends and has strong values on this subject.

Indeed, Ireland believes that cooperation in the fight against cyberwar and terrorism between the OSCE and the European Union is essential. Because Ireland's priorities at the OSCE coincide with those at the European Union.

In recent times, Ireland has received attacks from other countries, countries that belong to the OSCE. It is why Ireland calls for reconsidering and analyzing all the country's reports on cyberwar and terrorism in order to limit attacks between the countries of this organization. Of course, not every country stands for the same values, but they have to agree not to attack others because of their ideology.

On the other hand, our report on terrorism is by no means the best. That is why we need cooperation from all countries to avoid potential attacks. The terrorist group with which Ireland has lived since its independence has left a huge gap in the whole of Irish life. Ireland has changed dramatically since it first appeared. New laws and organisations were founded.

Ireland is suggesting to all other countries that they consider adding these laws to the cooperation of the two organizations to ensure even greater security for our citizens. Ireland knows what it means to live every day with the threat of a terrorist group, and what it is capable of.

To conclude, Ireland urges the rest of the countries of this commission to consider and listen to the Irish voice, that unfortunately has experience in terrorism, and lately also in cyberwarfare. We must take action to assure our citizens a secure life.

The citizens of Ireland therefore call on both organisations to cooperate and work towards a productive and secure strategy to combat cyberwar and terrorism.

