



Coimisiún na hÉireann
um Chearta an Duine
agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and
Equality Commission

**CEDAW
Report
2025**

Institutional Abuse

Issues

Human Rights Abuses

The State's approach to addressing human rights abuses that occurred in hospitals, Mother and Baby institutions and Magdalene Laundries has failed women. This abuse is not 'historical'. Women and girls today still experience ongoing violations of their rights in Irish schools and residential institutions.

Investigations

Investigations have been slow and not effective or accessible. This has furthered harm and rights violations for victims and survivors.

Redress

Victims and survivors are entitled to hold the State to account and to receive trauma-informed and survivor-centred redress and reparations. Their voices have not been listened to. They have been denied justice and their right to an effective remedy. The unique needs of disabled women and girls who were abused have not been properly considered in redress and reparations.

IHREC Recommendations



Overhaul the approach to investigations and reparations to ensure independent, survivor-centred, timely, accessible investigations and effective human rights compliant remedies for all survivors.



Remove arbitrary barriers to redress within the Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme, including length of stay requirements.



Establish a new redress scheme for survivors of child sexual abuse in schools before 1991/1992.