Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission raises concern over government's failure to safeguard victims of trafficking

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) challenged the government’s decision not to fully implement legislation designed to formally identify and protect victims of human trafficking, warning that Ireland risks leaving vulnerable people without effective access to identification, support and safe accommodation.

In a letter to the Minister for Justice, in its role as Ireland’s independent National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings, IHREC caled for urgent clarification on the future of the statutory national referral mechanism (NRM), provided for in the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Human Trafficking) Act 2024.

The commission is also raised concerns that Ireland missed the deadline to transpose the amended EU Anti-Trafficking Directive and changes to housing legislation could create further barriers to safe accommodation for victims.

Source(s)

- Irish Human rights and Equality Commission | Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas (20 October, 2026), [https://www.ihrec.ie/news-press/ihrec-questions-government-over-failure-to-implement-vital-protection-from-human-trafficking], https://www.ihrec.ie/news-press/ihrec-questions-government-over-failure-to-implement-vital-protection-from-human-trafficking

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