



**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF SOCIAL RIGHTS
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DES DROITS SOCIAUX**

14 June 2017

Case Document No. 4

University Women of Europe (UWE) v. Ireland
Complaint No 132/2016

**FURTHER RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO UWE'S
OBSERVATIONS ON ADMISSIBILITY**

Registered at the Secretariat on 2 June 2017



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

University Women of Europe v Ireland
Complaint no. 132/2016
File ref: 530/1233

Dear Mr Kristensen

I refer to the above matter and your letter dated 21 April 2017 transmitting the Applicant organisation's response to the Respondent's observations on admissibility. The Respondent wishes to set out the following short observations on the response.

The Respondent rejects any assertion by the Applicant that its observations on the application dated 19 August 2016 relate to the merits rather than the admissibility of the application. It is incumbent on an applicant to "*...indicate in what respect the latter has not ensured the satisfactory application of this provision.*" The Respondent has set out very clearly in its observations how the Applicant has failed to meet the admissibility conditions required. The Respondent repeats its arguments that the Applicant is adducing various reports without indicating clearly how the Respondent has failed to ensure the satisfactory application of the Charter.

Notwithstanding that this application remains at the merits stage the Respondent is compelled to comment on the statement at page five of the Applicant's Response "*Are the state's own words not to be considered reliable when it acknowledges this inequality before institutions such as the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) or when it itself explains the weaknesses in its policies.*" In its exchanges with other international treaty monitoring bodies and as part of the reporting process, the State has acknowledged gender pay gaps but this cannot be equated to an acknowledgment by the State of gender discrimination as appears to be suggested by the Applicant.

Yours sincerely

Peter White
Agent for the Government of Ireland before the European Committee of Social Rights