

Oireachtas Joint Committee on Justice  
Houses of the Oireachtas  
Dublin 2

4 May 2023

### Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2023

Dear Committee Secretariat,

1. The Irish Council for Civil Liberties, (ICCL), endorses the submission on the above Bill as sent to the Committee on behalf of the Ireland Anti-Slapps Network.
2. However, we would like to note our view on Head 3 is that our first position is that juries should be maintained for questions of liability in Defamation Cases, as per our submission to the Department of Justice in 2020, as enclosed.
3. The position outlined in the Anti-Slapps Network's submission on Head 3 is endorsed by ICCL as an alternative position, in the event that the presumption of juries is removed as is proposed by the current draft Bill.

Yours sincerely,



Liam Herrick  
Executive Director  
ICCL

Enc. ICCL Submission to consultation process on the Review of the Defamation Act 2020.