

Summary of UNA-UK members and supporters response to the Ministry of Justice consultation

Over 100 UNA-UK members and supporters took part in this consultation, the results of which are summarised below.

I wish to raise with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) the following UPR recommendations, to be included in the UK's mid-term report:

- *Ratification of the UN human rights conventions on disappearances and migrant workers*
- *Ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention*
- *Enable UK citizens to take human rights complaints to the UN*
- *Consideration of risks to the independence of the Equality & Human Rights Commission*
- *Withdrawal of the UK's 'opt out' of three provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

This statement was endorsed by 99 UNA-UK members and supporters.

I would also like to see the following areas, not included in the UPR recommendations from 2012, addressed in the mid-term report:

- *The UK's position on the use of unmanned combat air vehicles ('drones'), and its cooperation with the US drone programme*
- *The granting of arms export licenses to 25 of the 27 Foreign & Commonwealth Office "countries of human rights concern"*
- *The Committee Against Torture's request at the UK's treaty body review for further information on various concerns*
- *The potential weakening of human rights and UN teaching in the National Curriculum*

This statement was endorsed by 96 UNA-UK members and supporters.

In addition, I would appreciate if the MoJ could provide further information on the items below, which were raised by the UK in its 2012 UPR response:

- *Reporting the UK's average response rates to UN human rights mechanisms*
- *The UK's stated plans to enshrine in law its commitment to spend 0.7% of gross national income on overseas development assistance*
- *The development of a monitoring framework for all UN human rights recommendations submitted to the UK*

This statement was endorsed by 99 UNA-UK members and supporters.

Finally, I wish to raise the following human rights concern for the MoJ's consideration:

Over half of all respondents, 61 UNA-UK members and supporters, raised a specific human rights concern for the MoJ's consideration.

These concerns raised covered a wide range of human rights issues, from freedom of speech to the human rights implications of the government's so-called 'bedroom tax'.

The three most commonly cited issues of concern were:

- UK immigration policy and treatment of asylum seekers/refugees
- Changes to the legal aid system
- LGBT rights