**United Nations Universal Periodic Review**

**United Kingdom, British Overseas Territories**

**and Crown Dependencies**

**Annex to the response to the recommendations received on 10 November 2022**

**24 February 2023**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | **Recommendation** | **UK Position** | **Rationale** |
| 1 | **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Côte d’Ivoire) (Lesotho); (Morocco) (Niger) (Nigeria) (Sierra Leone) (Somalia) (Togo); Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Colombia) (Türkiye); Consider ways forward for the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria); Move towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile); Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt); Consider ratifying outstanding Conventions such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana); Take further measures for the protection of migrant workers, including through the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka);** | Note | The UK Government has no plans to ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The rights of migrant workers are already protected in UK legislation, including under the Human Rights Act 1998. The Human Rights Act 1998 protects people from torture, or inhuman and degrading treatment and it also protects all people from slavery and forced labour and the right to a fair trial. |
| 2 | **Ensure the right of migrants and ethnic groups to health and an adequate standard of living. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Bring the 2016 Immigration Act into line with UN standards (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 1 |
| 3 | **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina) (Iraq) (Italy) (Japan) (Niger) (Sierra Leone); Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Czechia) (France); Move towards the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Chile); Consider ratifying the United Nations Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mongolia); Consider accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sudan); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, again with the aim of further strengthening the national legal arsenal in this field (Togo);** | Note | The UK Government considers that the current domestic framework already prevents arbitrary arrests, prohibits torture and degrading treatment, and holds the Security and Intelligence Agencies to account. The UK is therefore unclear about the benefits of ratifying the CPED. |
| 4 | **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Cyprus) (Denmark) (France) (Ecuador); Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Mongolia); (Ukraine);** | Note |  |
| 5 | **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Cyprus) (Estonia); Take measures to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Uzbekistan);** | Note | The UK Government believes that effective domestic laws already exist in the UK under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached. The UK is also subject to the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights. The UK therefore does not see the value in accepting this further individual communication mechanism. |
| 6 | **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Cyprus) (Portugal) (Spain);** | Note | See response to recommendation 5 |
| 7 | **Ratify the pending international human rights instruments and accept the competence of treaty bodies to receive individual communications (Paraguay);** | Note | Ratification of additional human rights treaties will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The UK Government believes that effective domestic laws already exist, under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached. |
| 8 | **Ratify the Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage and to facilitate the participation of all stakeholders in cultural heritage and creative expressions (Lebanon);** | Note | The UK has ratified most of the major international human rights treaties. There are no others where it sees the value of further ratifications at this time. Effective domestic laws already exist in the UK under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached. The UK is also subject to the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights. The UK therefore does not see the value in accepting this further individual communication mechanism. |
| 9 | **Keep under review the reservations registered upon ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) (Italy);** | Partially support | The reservation on Article 59 is under review, pending the results and evaluation of the Support for Migrant Victims (SMV) Scheme pilot and wider policy considerations. There are no current plans to lift the reservation on Article 44. |
| 10 | **Withdraw its interpretative declaration to Article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Namibia);** | Note |  |
| 11 | **Accept the procedure for the submission of communications from individuals, provided for in article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and withdraw its reservation to article 4 of the Convention (Côte d’Ivoire);** | Note |  |
| 12 | **Consider to withdraw its interpretative declaration under Article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Sierra Leone);** | Note |  |
| 13 | **Withdraw reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Zambia);** | Note | The UK Government keeps CEDAW reservations under review with a view to withdrawing them |
| 14 | **Consider to withdraw its reservation on Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Sierra Leone);** | Support | See response to recommendation 13. |
| 15 | **Withdraw its interpretative declaration on article 1 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Panama);** | Note | The UK complies with its commitments to take all feasible measures to ensure that U18s do not take part in hostilities consistent with its obligations under Optional Protocol 1 to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. |
| 16 | **Take necessary steps to allow individual complaints mechanisms under UN human rights treaties such as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Czechia);** | Note | The UK Government believes that effective domestic laws already exist, under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached. |
| 17 | **Withdraw its interpretive declaration with regard to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Montenegro);** | Note | See response to recommendation 15. |
| 18 | **Continue efforts to ensure the submission of overdue State Party Reports to UN treaty bodies (Lesotho);** | Support |  |
| 19 | **Commit to remain a member state of the Council of Europe and party to the European Convention on Human Rights (Costa Rica);** | Partially support | Our Bill of Rights will allow us to remain a State Party to the ECHR and fully avail ourselves of the margin of appreciation to restore some common sense to our human rights laws. |
| 20 | **Remain committed to fully implement the European Convention on Human Rights (Germany);** | Support | The UK gives full effect to its international obligations |
| 21 | **Take necessary measures to ensure the current proposed new Bill of Rights does not result in weakening the legal effects, scope and effectiveness granted under the Human Rights Act of 1998 (Kenya);** | Support | The UK Government does not accept the premise that the Bill of Rights weakens the legal effects of the Human Rights Act |
| 22 | **Bring all legislation concerning communication surveillance in line with international human rights standards and ensure that all communications surveillance requires a test of necessity and proportionality (Liechtenstein);** | Support |  |
| 23 | **Ensure that the British Bill of Rights (Bill) provides the same level of human rights protection as the 1998 Human Rights Act it seeks to replace (Luxembourg);** | Support | See response to recommendation 21. |
| 24 | **Ensure that any future human rights legislation complies with the duty under the Good Friday Agreement to ensure full incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into Northern Ireland law (Ireland);** | Support | The UK Government is committed to the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement and the incorporation of the ECHR into Northern Ireland law follows on from that. |
| 25 | **Ensure that any amendments to the legal framework maintain the same level of protection as the current Human Rights Act of 1998 (Mexico);** | Support | The UK Government does not accept the premise that the Bill of Rights weakens human rights protections. |
| 26 | **Reform the Gender Recognition Act in all parts of the UK, bringing it in line with the international human rights standards including with regard to legal self-determination of one’s gender without the imposition of medical requirements (Netherlands);** | Note |  |
| 27 | **Ensure that the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill is in line with the Stormont House Agreement and that the necessary means are provided to carry out independent and impartial investigations (Switzerland);** | Partially support | The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill is consistent with many of the key principles of the Stormont House Agreement, providing the Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery with all necessary powers to conduct effective and independent investigations. |
| 28 | **Undertake the necessary reforms to include protection against gender-based discrimination in the national legislation (Peru);** | Note |  |
| 29 | **Ensure that any modifications to human rights legislation do not adversely affect the current level of the protection of human rights provided by the Human Rights Act 1998 (Ukraine);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 30 | **Stop the plan to replace the Human Rights Act 1998 with a Bill limiting their protection (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Note | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 31 | **Ensure that the current level of human rights protection provided by the Human Rights Act 1998 is maintained and improved if legislation is replaced or reformed (Australia);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 32 | **Reconsider the intention to replace the Human Rights Act 1998 with a Bill of Rights and commit to continued domestic incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights (Belgium);** | Partially support | The UK remains committed to the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement and fully incorporating the ECHR into the law of Northern Ireland. |
| 33 | **Ensure that all new legislation remains in line with the UK’s international human rights obligations (Cyprus);** | Support |  |
| 34 | **Ensure the effectiveness and scope of the Human Rights Act in any future legislation (Estonia);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25 |
| 35 | **Introduce legislation to reform the Gender Recognition Act, remove requirements of diagnoses and introduce a process of self-determination (Iceland);** | Note |  |
| 36 | **Consider introducing legislation to reform the Gender Recognition Act of 2004 to remove requirements of diagnosis, “living in role” for 2 years, spousal veto and to introduce a process of self-determination (Malta);** | Note |  |
| 37 | **Harmonize the core human rights treaties into domestic law (Samoa);** | Note | The UN human rights treaties, do not require incorporation by State Parties into domestic law, and the UK has not done so. The UK Government remains confident that it is in full compliance with its UN treaty obligations. |
| 38 | **Maintain its international obligations and international standards in accordance with the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights (Slovakia);** | Support | The UK Government is committed to fulfilling our international human rights obligations. This includes the obligation to implement judgments of the European Court of Human Rights against the UK |
| 39 | **Dedicate sufficient resources to central, devolved and local authorities to ensure effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention (Finland);** | Support |  |
| 40 | **Ensure that any possible reform to the Human Rights Act 1998 does not weaken the protection or limit the ability of individuals to enjoy and enforce rights under the European Convention on Human Rights (Germany);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 41 | **Take all necessary measures to implement the provisions of the Istanbul Convention across its entire territory (France);** | Partially support | The Istanbul Convention has been implemented across the whole of the UK. However, it has not been implemented in the crown dependencies and overseas territories, that would be a decision for their respective governments. |
| 42 | **Ensure that modifications to the Human Rights Act do not result in the weakening of the current level of human rights protection (Portugal);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 43 | **Ensure that the European Convention on Human Rights is fully implemented and given effect in UK law (Slovakia);** | Support |  |
| 44 | **Ensure that any instrument that may replace the Human Rights Act of 1998 grants rights-holders at least the same level of effective protection (Ecuador);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 45 | **Commit to continued domestic incorporation of ECHR rights and provisions (Cyprus);** | Support |  |
| 46 | **Ensure that any proposed changes to the Human Rights Act do not diminish access to justice (Greece);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 47 | **Enhance the status of the ratified human rights treaties in domestic law (Zambia);** | Note | See response to recommendation 37. |
| 48 | **Ensure that any possible reform of the Human Rights Act 1998 does not in any way affect the scope of protection or access to the remedy mechanism of the European Convention on Human Rights (Switzerland);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 49 | **Refrain from replacing the Human Rights Act of 1998 with more limited legislation, and rather maintain the same level of human rights protection provided by the Human Rights Act in the British Bill of Rights and include additional child-specific rights (Malawi);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 25.  Under the Bill of Rights the human rights of both adults and children will be protected. More broadly, the UK has effective legislation in place to secure the rights of children. |
| 50 | **Ensure that the current level of human rights protection provided by the Human Rights Act of 1998, including the rights of asylum seekers, are maintained under any legislative reform (Canada);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 51 | **Continue updating and ensure the effective implementation of action plans on combating hate crimes (Cuba);** | Support |  |
| 52 | **Continue to strengthen the functioning of its various National Human Rights Institutions, in accordance with the Paris Principles (India);** | Support |  |
| 53 | **Adopt measures aiming at combating racism, hate crimes and Islamophobia (Jordan);** | Support |  |
| 54 | **Continue to work to combat discrimination, achieve equality and remove structural barriers that prevent racial and ethnic minorities from enjoying their rights without discrimination (Libya);** | Partially Support | The UK continues to address racial disparities and discrimination, including through its flagship Inclusive Britain strategy. |
| 55 | **Continue to refine its policies to combat all forms of hate crimes, particularly those against racial and religious minorities (Malaysia)** | Support |  |
| 56 | **Remove structural barriers to racial and ethnic minority communities’ equal and non-discriminatory enjoyment of human rights (Marshall Islands);** | Partially Support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 57 | **Take effective measures to address institutional racism, including by removing structural barriers that prevent racial and ethnic minority communities from enjoying human rights on an equal and non-discriminatory basis (Namibia);** | Partially Support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 58 | **Remove the mentality of colonialism and address the root causes of its systematic racism, xenophobia and hate crimes (China);** | Note |  |
| 59 | **Advance comprehensive policies and practices to eliminate discrimination against minorities (New Zealand);** | Support |  |
| 60 | **Scale up efforts in ensuring the elimination of racism and racial discrimination (Nigeria);** | Support | The UK Government supports the premise of this recommendation. The UK is confident that sufficient measures, including legislation, are already in place to adequately address this |
| 61 | **Prosecute hate crimes and address incidents of Islamophobia (Pakistan);** | Support |  |
| 62 | **Ensure the application of provisions and principles of international conventions on combatting all forms of racial discrimination in local legislation (Qatar);** | Support |  |
| 63 | **Take further measures to strengthen countering racism, intolerance, xenophobia, religious hatred and their related crimes (Qatar);** | Support |  |
| 64 | **Take stronger action to combat hate crimes which was aggravated during the COVID-19 pandemic (Republic of Korea);** | Support |  |
| 65 | **Take effective measures to prevent manifestations of intolerance on ethnic/national and racial grounds (Russian Federation);** | Support | The UK has a clear legislative framework around equalities based on the 2010 Equality Act, which lists 9 different protected characteristics. One of these is race, specifically colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins. There is a strong legislative framework to tackle intolerance and discrimination, which includes on ethnicity and racial grounds |
| 66 | **Continue its efforts to combat hate crimes, by taking effective measures to deter hate speech and racism (Saudi Arabia);** | Support | See response to recommendation 60.  The right to freedom of expression is a fundamental value of our democracy. It is protected by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which is given effect by the Human Rights Act 1998 |
| 67 | **Take concrete steps in addressing structural forms of racial discrimination (Sierra Leone);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 68 | **Address racial discrimination, antisemitism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and hate crimes by further strengthening effective legislative and judicial measures (Türkiye);** | Support |  |
| 69 | **Put in place mechanisms to address all forms of hate crime and racism, especially against persons of African descent (Uganda);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 70 | **Take continued furthering steps to reverse the rising number of violent, and largely racially motivated, hate crimes and strengthen current policies and initiatives to combat societal discrimination against members of racial and ethnic minority groups (United States of America);** | Support |  |
| 71 | **Continue to refine its policies to counter hate crimes in communities, particularly those motivated by race and religion (Algeria);** | Support |  |
| 72 | **Adopt urgent measures to prevent violence, discrimination and hate speech that violate the rights and dignified treatment of trans people, and amend any regulatory framework that pathologizes and/or stigmatizes them; and in the same vein, prohibit conversion therapies (Argentina);** | Note |  |
| 73 | **Strengthen efforts, including legislative mechanisms, to root out racism, racial discrimination, Islamophobia and hate crimes (Bangladesh);** | Support |  |
| 74 | **Take additional effective measures to combat neo-Nazi manifestations, discrimination on the basis of race or nationality, ensure a proper response to the increasing number of anti-Semitic incidents, including violence, attacks, threats, insults and desecration of property (Belarus);** | Note | The UK is clear that racism, racial discrimination and anti-Semitism have no place in our society and is committed to tackling them in all their forms.  The UK has robust equality laws and has set out a comprehensive plan towards a more inclusive and integrated society in the Inclusive Britain strategy. |
| 75 | **Remove structural barriers that prevent racial and ethnic minorities from enjoying human rights without discrimination (Burkina Faso);** | Partially Support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 76 | **Identify and address the shortcomings in hate crime legislation with regard to combating racist and xenophobic speech and violence (Croatia);** | Support |  |
| 77 | **End deep-rooted racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia, as well as all sorts of hate crimes on the basis of ethnic, racial, cultural or religious background in the public sphere (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);** | Support |  |
| 78 | **Strengthen laws that combat racial profiling and stigmatization of people of African and Asian descent (Eswatini);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 79 | **Reinforce measures to combat all forms of discrimination and inequality (Ghana);** | Support |  |
| 80 | **Improve efforts to address discrimination and prejudice towards racial, ethnic and religious minorities including Muslim minorities (Indonesia)** | Support |  |
| 81 | **Implement the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism’s recommendations regarding the withdrawal of interpretative declaration under article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, “preventive duty” and media prejudice (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Note | UK law prohibits the incitement to racial hatred. The law applies to online and offline media as well as to individuals. The UK Government believes that the existing legal framework strikes the right balance between maintaining the right to freedom of speech and protecting individuals from violence and hatred. |
| 82 | **Eliminate Islamophobia and combat religious discrimination and intolerance (China);** | Support |  |
| 83 | **Continue developing effective remedies to protect vulnerable groups and minorities from hate speech (Bahrain);** | Support | The right to freedom of expression is a fundamental value of our democracy. It is protected by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which is given effect by the Human Rights Act 1998 |
| 84 | **Take effective legislative and policy measures with the aim of eliminating and preventing the rising incidents of racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-disabled crimes (Azerbaijan);** | Support |  |
| 85 | **Put an end to racism, provide mandatory human rights training for law enforcement against discrimination and hate speech; stop impunity and punish hate crimes, racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim, against LGBTI people, people with disabilities, and ensure the protection of victims (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Support | The right to freedom of expression is a fundamental value of our democracy. It is protected by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which is given effect by the Human Rights Act 1998 |
| 86 | **Continue its efforts to implement the recommendations of the United Nations Sub-Committee for the Prevention of Torture (Mongolia);** | Support |  |
| 87 | **Improve prison safety and conditions to address self-harm, suicide and overcrowding (Pakistan);** | Support |  |
| 88 | **Put an end to appalling conditions of violence, overcrowding and racial disproportion in prisons (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Partially support | The UK Government refutes the implication regarding 'appalling conditions' and supports the need for decent conditions governed by the Certification of Prisoner Accommodation Policy |
| 89 | **Stop the arbitrary detention of Julian Assange by taking into account the views of human rights mechanisms, and ensure proper compensation to him, and guarantee him non-extradition to the authorities of the United States of America (Belarus);** | Note |  |
| 90 | **Investigate ill-treatment and misuse of force in detention facilities and promote accountability (China);** | Support | The UK Government supports the premise of this recommendation. The UK is confident that sufficient measures, including legislation, are already in place to adequately address this |
| 91 | **Continue efforts to improve conditions in prisons (Czechia);** | Support |  |
| 92 | **Put an end to disproportionate use of force against members of minority groups that are increasingly reported to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Partially support | The UK Government takes its human rights obligations seriously. The UK does not accept that use of force is disproportionately applied to minorities but is committed to abide by our obligations under the Convention Against Torture. |
| 93 | **Take necessary measures to proscribe detention based on appearance or membership to national and ethnic groups (Ecuador);** | Support | The UK Government agrees that detention should never be based on appearance or membership to national and ethnic groups and UK law reflects this |
| 94 | **Take effective measures to prevent an arbitrary interpretation of the permissible limits of the use of force by the police (Russian Federation);** | Note |  |
| 95 | **Continue to improve policies to combat hate crimes in communities and share its best practices with other Member States (Kazakhstan);** | Support |  |
| 96 | **Address concerns of racial profiling (Sri Lanka);** | Support |  |
| 97 | **Incorporate the minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners (the Mandela Rules) into police training curricula (Libya);** | Support |  |
| 98 | **Continue training of law enforcement officials for the proportionate use of force especially with regard to minority groups (Brazil);** | Support |  |
| 99 | **Conduct an independent investigation at the national level into cases of “whitewashing” British servicemen who may be involved in committing war crimes during hostilities abroad and bring the perpetrators to justice (Russian Federation);** | Note | UK Armed Forces are rightly held to the highest standards. Military operations are conducted in accordance with the Law of Armed Conflict and all allegations are considered and investigated as appropriate. The Service Police have carried out extensive and independent investigations into allegations of misconduct by UK forces overseas. |
| 100 | **End the prolonged impunity for war crimes and horrific violations committed, and continue to be committed, by its military forces overseas (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note | See response to recommendation 99. |
| 101 | **Conduct a comprehensive review of counter-terrorism measures to eliminate any discriminatory and disproportionate impact on racial, ethnic, and religious minorities (State of Palestine);** | Note |  |
| 102 | **Stop violating the Syrian sovereignty under the pretext of combating terrorism, and repatriate its nationals of foreign terrorist fighters and their families from northeast of Syria, in accordance with international law, and stop the related practice of stripping of nationality (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note | The British Nationality Act 1981 allows the UK Government (Home Secretary) to deprive any person of British citizenship should they deem it conducive to the public good to do so, including where individuals pose a threat to national security. All decisions to deprive are made in accordance with the 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and are consistent with the requirements of the common law and international law. |
| 103 | **Prevent the flow of new waves of terrorist fighters from its nationals to other countries (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note |  |
| 104 | **Stop all forms of involvement in supporting terrorism, including collecting funds on its territory for this purpose (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note | The UK has a robust legislative framework which criminalises the financing of terrorism in all its forms. The UK will continue to review our legislative framework to ensure that it is responsive to emerging terrorist financing threats. |
| 105 | **Ensure the accountability of media outlets under its jurisdiction which provoke riots, violence and terrorism (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Note | The UK Government strongly supports editorial independence and does not interfere with what is broadcast or published. The UK Government recognises media freedom as fundamental to a healthy democracy and strongly supports it, as long as media organisations abide by the law of the land. |
| 106 | **Ensure the compatibility of any legislation addressing the legacy of the Troubles with the United Kingdom’s human rights obligations, including by ensuring that investigations into deaths are independent, effective and timely, with adequate involvement of next of kin and public scrutiny, and ensure accountability for gross human rights violations (Ireland);** | Support |  |
| 107 | **Have an in-depth investigation of British military personnel who have committed serious crimes in overseas military operations, including arbitrarily killing civilians and torture and other ill treatments, and stop sheltering the perpetrators (China);** | Note | See response to recommendation 99. |
| 108 | **Redouble every effort to continue to make investigations or support investigations by partner and partners agencies into any allegation of misconduct by the UK military (South Sudan);** | Note | All allegations are considered and investigated as appropriate. The Service Police have carried out extensive and independent investigations into allegations of misconduct by UK forces overseas, and have supported investigations led by others. We are considering how to improve the tracking of the support we provide when not leading the investigation. |
| 109 | **Strengthen measures to ensure the effective enforcement of provisional measures and judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (Mexico);** | Support | The UK Government is committed to fulfilling its international human rights obligations. This includes the obligation to implement judgments of the European Court of Human Rights against the UK |
| 110 | **Cease the use of the justice system for continued and shameless theft of the 31 tons of gold belonging to the Central Bank and the Venezuelan people, which prevents their social investment (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Note | This is not a human rights issue |
| 111 | **Accelerate the implementation of the 20 actions contained in the agenda towards transformative change for racial justice and equality (South Africa);** | Support |  |
| 112 | **Refrain from adopting the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill, which provides amnesty to serious human rights violations during the conflict in Northern Ireland and deprives victims of legal remedies (Belarus);** | Note | The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill seeks to set out a way forward to address and deal with Northern Ireland’s Troubled past as comprehensively and fairly as possible. It will not introduce an amnesty and will not remove the prospect of criminal prosecutions. Conditional immunity will only be granted to individuals who cooperate fully and truthfully with the Commission. Individuals who do not will remain liable to prosecution and will be referred to prosecutors should sufficient evidence exist. |
| 113 | **Take concrete steps to reduce rates of racially motivated hate crimes and discrimination faced by Afro-descendent and other ethnic minorities, including in Scotland and Northern Ireland, while ensuring that perpetrators do not enjoy impunity (Bahamas);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 114 | **Ensure that any reform of the 1998 Human Rights Act does not reduce the scope of protection or remedies currently enjoyed (Bahamas);** | Support | See response to recommendation 25. |
| 115 | **Continue measures to increase gender balance in political and public life, particularly in Northern Ireland (Lithuania);** | Support |  |
| 116 | **Strengthen efforts to combat antisemitism and anti-Muslim sentiment by publicly denouncing hate speech and acts of violence at the highest levels of government and through policies and practices promoting religious freedom (United States of America);** | Support | See response to recommendation 60.  The right to freedom of expression is a fundamental value of our democracy. It is protected by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which is given effect by the Human Rights Act 1998 |
| 117 | **Continue efforts within the Media Freedom Coalition to defend media freedom at home and abroad, and improve the safety of journalists and media workers who report across the world (Bulgaria);** | Support |  |
| 118 | **Maintain its robust tradition of citizens’ right to peacefully protest as new legislation on public order is introduced (Canada);** | Support | The UK’s current and planned public order legislation is not restrictive on peaceful and non-disruptive protest. New legislation targets unjustifiably disruptive protests and will not impact the vast majority of protesters who are peaceful and do not cause serious disruption. The legislation is compatible with the ECHR and the police and judiciary will continue to read public order legislation compatibly with the ECHR (section 3 of the Human Rights Act 1998). |
| 119 | **Take further action to ensure a safe environment for civil society, including the removal of potentially restrictive legislation to the rights of association and peaceful assembly (Greece);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 118 |
| 120 | **Take concrete steps to improve the safety of journalists, investigate incidents of attacks on journalists, and implement the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (Greece);** | Partially support | The UK Government is implementing measures to ensure the safety of journalists in the UK, such as the National Action Plan for the Safety of Journalists, many of which are aligned to actions within the UN Plan of Action to protect the safety of journalists. The UK police treat any and all attacks against individuals with the utmost importance |
| 121 | **Promote policies to support the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);** | Partially support | The UK Government is committed to supporting the all different kinds of families, and to protecting the human rights of all individuals within those families. |
| 122 | **Facilitate regular availability of information to potential victims of human trafficking about their rights, ensure access to legal aid for victims, ensure timely access to psychological assistance, and take further steps to improve the identification process for victims of human trafficking (Jordan);** | Support |  |
| 123 | **Enhance its efforts to investigate claims of human trafficking and to improve the training of law enforcement officers, prison personnel and other first responders (Liechtenstein);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 124 | **Intensify efforts to combat human trafficking and all forms of slavery (Malaysia);** | Support |  |
| 125 | **Pursue the efforts to investigate claims on human trafficking and improve the training of law enforcement officers, prison personnel and other first responders, as recommended by the Committee against Torture (Morocco);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 126 | **Scale up efforts in combating human trafficking and the protection of the rights the victims of trafficking (Nigeria);** | Support |  |
| 127 | **Strengthen the efforts to identify victims of human trafficking and forced labour, increase their access to legal and psychological assistance, and ensure prosecution of human traffickers (Norway);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 128 | **Continue efforts aimed at combatting human trafficking and take necessary measures to sustain the protection and assistance for the victims (Qatar);** | Support |  |
| 129 | **Take further steps to improve the identification of victims in trafficking and provide them with the necessary assistance in their recovery (Romania);** | Support |  |
| 130 | **Strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking, especially women and girls (Saudi Arabia);** | Support |  |
| 131 | **Ensure that its anti-trafficking legislation is in line with its obligations under international law, in particular, the protocol to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons, which would further improve ethical recruitment and enhance identification of victims and prosecution (Thailand);** | Support |  |
| 132 | **Put an end to the trafficking in persons, women and girls exacerbated in the country, and provide comprehensive assistance to victims (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Support |  |
| 133 | **Effectively combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation (China);** | Support |  |
| 134 | **Ensure that the victims of trafficking are provided with timely information regarding their rights and assistance possibilities (Croatia);** | Support |  |
| 135 | **Commit to establishing a comprehensive national framework to prevent trafficking of women and girls for sexual or labour exploitation and criminal activity (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);** | Partially support | The UK already has existing processes in place to provide a coordinated national response to prevent and tackle sexual and labour exploitation |
| 136 | **Make pay gap reporting on race and ethnicity mandatory (South Africa);** | Note |  |
| 137 | **Continue its work on strengthening measures for the prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace (Georgia);** | Support |  |
| 138 | **Strengthen investment and policy mix for job skills training aimed at reducing income inequality and levelling up opportunity for the working-age population (Viet Nam);** | Support |  |
| 139 | **Strengthen the labour inspection regime, including through adequate budgetary provision, to ensure favourable and non-discriminatory conditions in the workplace (Botswana);** | Note | The UK Government continues to ensure the UK has a robust and adequately funded labour inspection regime in place. The UK has a labour inspection regime in place to identify and stop labour exploitation including modern slavery.  The UK's enforcement system primarily focuses on individual, rather than state, enforcement. |
| 140 | **Enhance efforts to further narrow the gender pay gap (Maldives);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 141 | **Increase opportunities for women to gain access to formal employment with equal pay for work of equal value (Viet Nam);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 142 | **Pursue efforts in protecting indigenous people and minorities by ensuring the provision and adequate and appropriate accommodation access to basic services (Lebanon);** | Note |  |
| 143 | **Allocate more resources for poverty reduction and social welfare programs (Viet Nam);** | Note | The UK Government is committed to a sustainable, long-term approach to tackling poverty, including child poverty, and supporting people on lower incomes.  The UK has allocated significant funds to support the welfare system, and to provide cost of living support, and will continue to do so |
| 144 | **Continue to develop and implement public policies and measures to safeguard the human rights of persons living in poverty (Barbados);** | Note | See response to recommendation 143 |
| 145 | **Take concrete measures to ensure the fulfilment of the right to adequate housing for all without discrimination to prevent homelessness (Indonesia);** | Support |  |
| 146 | **Ensure protecting the right of minorities and migrants for access to employment, housing, public health and education on an equal basis with others and enhancing their quality of life (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);** | Note | The UK has a framework of laws and policies which ensure those who are eligible to access work, benefits and services can do so and publish codes of practice on avoiding discrimination for landlords and employers. |
| 147 | **Elaborate and implement an emergency poverty strategy that addresses the impact of rising costs on child poverty targets and on access to affordable, accessible and culturally appropriate social housing (Romania);** | Note |  |
| 148 | **Strengthen the implementation of programmes and policies aimed at providing effective access to health care for ethnic minorities and marginalized groups (Kenya);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 149 | **Continue to strengthen the legal and institutional systems on environmental protection, in particular with respect to the right to a Healthy Environment (Maldives);** | Note | Existing UK domestic legislation and regulatory regimes already satisfy our environmental obligations in a way that is sufficiently robust and covers environmental and human health protection aspects. |
| 150 | **Remove structural barriers to racial and ethnic minority community, equal and non-discrimination enjoyment of human rights, including the rights to health and the right to an adequate standard of living (South Sudan);** | Partially Support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 151 | **Continue efforts to identify and eliminate barriers to access to health and services for persons with disabilities (Australia);** | Support |  |
| 152 | **Strengthen the implementation of programmes and policies for providing effective access to health care for women belonging to marginalized groups (Azerbaijan);** | Support |  |
| 153 | **Continue the implementation of measures against racial disparities in criminal justice, employment, mental health, and education (Colombia);** | Support |  |
| 154 | **Follow up – and guarantee full implementation – of its recent commitment to ensure access to abortion for women in Northern Ireland (Denmark);** | Support |  |
| 155 | **Ensure that women in Northern Ireland are able to access safe abortion services on equal basis with women living in other parts of the United Kingdom (Finland);** | Support |  |
| 156 | **Ensure equal access to abortion across Northern Ireland (Iceland);** | Support |  |
| 157 | **Protect and fulfil the right to health of trans persons by increasing capacity and competence of gender identity health care services (Iceland);** | Support |  |
| 158 | **Continue with legislative and policy measures for ensuring pay parity and equal access to safe reproductive health services across all of the United Kingdom (India);** | Support |  |
| 159 | **Strengthen measures taken to ensure equal access to healthcare (Bahrain);** | Support |  |
| 160 | **Continue to address and strengthen laws that improve access to healthcare for women and girls (Eswatini);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 161 | **Undertake deliberate and robust measures to ensure equitable access to quality education opportunities at all levels (Botswana);** | Support |  |
| 162 | **Enhance efforts to address disparities among groups, as experienced on the basis of race, in criminal justice, employment, mental health and education (Barbados);** | Support |  |
| 163 | **Continue its efforts towards developing comprehensive legislative policy framework for inclusive education for children with disabilities (Armenia);** | Partially support | The UK is fully committed to protecting and promoting children’s rights, and strongly believes in the principles laid out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child that the UK ratified in 1991; that every child has the right to an education. |
| 164 | **Ensure equitable access to education in public schools for all children while combating the bullying phenomenon offline and online (Romania);** | Support |  |
| 165 | **Establish inclusive and affordable measures to facilitate women and girls’ access to education, health care and other support services in rural areas (Paraguay);** | Support |  |
| 166 | **Beef up measures to curb racially motivated hate crimes and discrimination against black and other ethnic minorities in schools (Lesotho);** | Support |  |
| 167 | **Accelerate and scale up climate action in accordance with its international obligations and with a view to upholding climate justice (Philippines);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 168 | **Accelerate efforts to achieve the objective of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, including by ensuring the mobilization of adequate resources for this purpose (Bahamas);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 169 | **Fully implement and go beyond emission reduction targets in NDCs (Samoa);** | Partially support | We support the full implementation of NDCs and will continue to set ambitious NDCs in light of the latest science but do not support the “go beyond” language given the UK’s NDC represents its highest possible ambition. |
| 170 | **Intensify efforts to address the harmful effects of fracking, environmental pollution, and climate change, to ensure that all persons can enjoy a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment (Marshall Islands);** | Note | The UK is already a world-leader in terms of regulations and measures to protect people and the environment. Furthermore, the Government has a moratorium in place on hydraulic fracturing for shale gas extraction |
| 171 | **Enhance the Government’s commitment to take ambitious action to combat climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation by recognizing the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and align its legislation to guarantee the enjoyment of this right by all (Vanuatu);** | Note | The UK Government is fully committed to taking ambitious action to combat climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. However, the scope and content of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment has not been defined or agreed in any international treaty instrument and legislation cannot therefore be aligned to the right. |
| 172 | **Incorporate the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in its legal system (Costa Rica);** | Note | A human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment has not been agreed in any legally binding international human rights treaty. The UK Government believes human rights should be negotiated in legally binding instruments after thorough intergovernmental discussion as to their substance, including definition. The UK does not incorporate non-legally binding UN resolutions into its legal system. |
| 173 | **Refrain from compliance with unilateral coercive measures and contributing to gross violations of human rights of targeted populations (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Note | The UK Government does not accept the premise of the recommendation. |
| 174 | **Immediately lift unilateral coercive measures against developing countries (China);** | Note | The UK Government does not accept the premise of the recommendation. |
| 175 | **Refrain from the practice of the use of unilateral coercive measures which are contrary to international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and which have a negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, as well as use available resources to promote international cooperation for development, and not put pressure on the governments of other countries (Belarus);** | Note | The UK Government does not accept the premise of the recommendation. |
| 176 | **Ensure responsible business conduct in the arms sector in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, taking into account the Information Note that the Working Group on Business and Human Rights published on this topic in August 2022 (Panama);** | Note |  |
| 177 | **Enact legislations to conflict affected areas and to provide guidance and advice for business enterprises on ensuring respect for human rights and to prevent and address the heightened risk of corporate involvement in gross human right violations in conflict affected areas including situations of foreign occupation (State of Palestine);** | Note |  |
| 178 | **Guarantee the responsibility and accountability of all financial institutions and other businesses under its jurisdiction with regard to recommendations of Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures in her country visit report on Iran (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Note |  |
| 179 | **Continue to take measures to ensure that UK military equipment and arms are not diverted to where there is risk of facilitating the violation of international human rights (Samoa);** | Support |  |
| 180 | **Establish an immediate moratorium to grant new oil and gas exploration and exploitation concessions (Costa Rica);** | Note |  |
| 181 | **Develop a comprehensive plan of action to address its colonial legacy, including apologies and compensation for the killing of innocent people and plundering resources in different parts of the world, and stop supporting and protecting the current forms of racial colonialism (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note |  |
| 182 | **Stop interfering in the internal affairs of other countries under the pretext of human rights (China);** | Note | The UK Government works to promote and protect human rights across the globe, particularly where there are human rights challenges and where it is considered that the UK can make a real difference. |
| 183 | **Stop funding disinformation programmes aimed at fuelling and prolonging wars and conflicts (Syrian Arab Republic);** | Note | The UK Government does not accept the premise of the recommendation. |
| 184 | **Resolve all outstanding issues related to the Chagos archipelago through inclusive dialogue with all concerned (Marshall Islands);** | Note |  |
| 185 | **Make education, employment and healthcare services more accessible for women and girls living in remote rural areas (Lithuania);** | Support |  |
| 186 | **Extend the applicability of the Equality Act of 2010 to Northern Ireland to ensure that it affords protection to women (Malawi);** | Note |  |
| 187 | **Review the Domestic Abuse Act to ensure protection and support for women and girls, regardless of their immigration status (Mexico);** | Partially support | The UK Government is committed to ensuring the protection and support for migrant women and girls. The UK is confident that the Domestic Abuse act already provides strong measures in this area but will keep the position under review. |
| 188 | **Continue measures to enhance representation of women in decision making levels including from ethnic minorities (Nepal);** | Support |  |
| 189 | **Strengthen legislation in order to eliminate all forms of gender discrimination in employment, including pay gaps and access to fund enforcement bodies (Republic of Moldova);** | Note | The UK Government supports the premise of this recommendation. The UK is confident that sufficient measures, including legislation, are already in place to adequately address this. |
| 190 | **Take measures to ensure victims and families of victims of domestic violence have access to needed support and protection from further abuse (Samoa);** | Support |  |
| 191 | **Apply a combined gender and age perspective in tax and benefits policy changes to avoid disproportionate negative effects on older women (Slovenia);** | Note | When considering equality impacts the UK considers the 9 protected characteristics, focusing on the groups most affected. However, which are most relevant will depend on the policy and it is unhelpful to be too prescriptive on exactly how these factors should be considered together for each case. |
| 192 | **Continue to promote meaningful participation by women and girls from different ethnic groups, both in their political and public lives (Thailand);** | Support |  |
| 193 | **Ensure the equal participation of rural women in policy making processes and disaster mitigation and climate change (Timor-Leste);** | Support |  |
| 194 | **Redouble efforts to protect women from harassment at work and to promote access to the labour market for women belonging to marginalized groups (Peru);** | Support |  |
| 195 | **Continue to strengthen mechanisms and policies to eliminate all kinds of discrimination against minorities, in particular women living in the rural areas of the country (Vanuatu);** | Support |  |
| 196 | **Continue its efforts on the international level for the promotion and effective implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (Armenia);** | Support |  |
| 197 | **Continue efforts towards ensuring the protection of women rights (Bahrain);** | Support |  |
| 198 | **Ensure that all cases of domestic violence are effectively being investigated and prosecuted and that all competent authorities have the appropriate training and necessary capacity to investigate, prosecute and penalize this type of violence (Belgium);** | Support |  |
| 199 | **Ensure the full application of its legislation on female genital mutilation and take further measures to prosecute the perpetrators of such acts (Burkina Faso);** | Support |  |
| 200 | **Continue taking additional measures to increase opportunity for women to gain access to formal employment (Cambodia);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 201 | **Promote gender equality and ensure that women are free from all forms of discrimination and violence (China);** | Support |  |
| 202 | **Redouble efforts to fight against forced marriages (Gabon);** | Support |  |
| 203 | **Ensure all women and girls are equally protected from violence (Germany);** | Support |  |
| 204 | **Take effective measures to address low prosecution and conviction rates for domestic violence (Israel);** | Support |  |
| 205 | **Continue work to reform the Gender Recognition Act based on international human rights standards, including recognition of trans and non-binary individuals (Australia);** | Note |  |
| 206 | **Take measures to address the low representation of women in Northern Ireland and specific targeted measures to improve the representation of women in political and public life, including “Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic” women and women with disabilities, in Parliament, the judiciary, and decision-making positions (South Sudan);** | Support |  |
| 207 | **Pursue a holistic approach to prevent violence against women including through enhanced reporting, increased conviction rates and targeted assistance (Pakistan);** | Support |  |
| 208 | **Review the legal framework pertaining to the violence against women to guarantee that women migrants get the necessary protection and support including women migrants who have not the right to get public aids (Tunisia);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 187 |
| 209 | **Continue combating violence against women and girls in particular the domestic violence (Algeria);** | Support |  |
| 210 | **Take effective measures to address low prosecution and conviction rates in domestic abuse cases, ensuring that all cases of gender-based violence are investigated, and providing compulsory training for judicial and law enforcement officials (Argentina);** | Support |  |
| 211 | **Further promote efforts to protect persons from gender-based violence (Barbados);** | Support |  |
| 212 | **Take measures to improve data collection on gender-based violence, including disability disaggregated data when reporting such violence (Croatia);** | Support |  |
| 213 | **Continue its efforts to combat violence against women and girls (Georgia);** | Support |  |
| 214 | **Provide more targeted social policies to help disadvantaged families, and in particular their children, establish a government strategy for the eradication of child poverty (Kazakhstan);** | Partially support | The UK Government supports the premise of the recommendation and feels there are sufficient measures in place to adequately address this. The UK has a robust approach to tackling poverty and provide significant financial support and is committed to tackling child poverty through its reformed welfare system that incentivises employment while providing a strong safety net for those who need it. |
| 215 | **Ensure that all cases of violence, especially sexual assault, against children in detention are promptly, impartially and effectively investigated and that judges, prosecutors and members of the police receive specialized training in preventing the abuse of children in detention (Liechtenstein);** | Partially support | The judiciary of England and Wales is independent of Government. It would therefore not be constitutionally appropriate for any judicial training to be supported or overseen by the Government, or any statutory body established by it. |
| 216 | **Consider raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years of age (Lithuania);** | Note |  |
| 217 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years and ensure the full implementation of juvenile justice standards and prohibit the application of solitary confinement measures to juveniles (Luxembourg);** | Note |  |
| 218 | **Develop a comprehensive nationwide anti-poverty strategy and eliminate child poverty (Malaysia);** | Partially support | The UK supports the premise of the recommendation and feels there are sufficient measures in place to adequately address this. We have a robust approach to tackling poverty and provide significant financial support. |
| 219 | **Sign the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action and accelerate efforts to achieve “net zero” no later than 2050 (Marshall Islands);** | Partially support | The UK Government supports the premise of this recommendation but we have not agreed to sign the Declaration. The UK is confident that sufficient measures, including legislation, are already in place to adequately address this. |
| 220 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years (Montenegro);** | Note |  |
| 221 | **Respect the rights of parents to raise and educate their children, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Nigeria);** | Support |  |
| 222 | **Take further measures to protect children from physical punishment and ensure the right of every child to adequate standard of living, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Norway);** | Partially support | The UK Government supports the right to an adequate standard of living for every child. The UK has clear laws in place to deal with any violence towards children. Unless children are at risk of abuse, the government does not want to interfere in how parents bring up their children. Where a parent or any adult is violent towards a child, they can be charged with assault. The governments of Wales and Scotland have passed legislation to remove the legal defence of reasonable punishment but there are no plans to do so in England. |
| 223 | **Develop a national strategy aimed at facilitating access for children to health, education, culture and justice, in particular for children in a situation of vulnerability (France);** | Note |  |
| 224 | **Sign the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action, and accelerate action to achieve net zero emissions no later than 2050 (Panama);** | Note | The UK is not a signatory of this Declaration. |
| 225 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 14 years, in accordance with international standards (Paraguay);** | Note |  |
| 226 | **Establish a reasonable statutory time limit to the detention of asylum-seekers, which should be used as a measure of last resort and that it makes express provision for family reunification for any unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (Portugal);** | Note | The UK Government does not consider that a statutory time limit on detention will be effective in ensuring that those with no right to be in the UK leave. In regard to family reunification for unaccompanied asylum seeking children, the UK's refugee family reunion policy already allows for children to join their family members in the UK, where they formed part of the family unit before their sponsor fled to claim asylum. Children are unable to sponsor their family members under this policy as this would risk creating incentives for more children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK. |
| 227 | **Consider prohibiting the use of solitary confinement for juveniles (Slovenia);** | Partially support | The government partially supports this recommendation on the basis that children should only be separated from their peers for the purpose of managing risks to themselves or others and that any separation arrangements should only be in place for the time that they are necessary for managing that risk. While separation arrangements are in place, children should not be denied access to aspects of their daily regime if it is safe to do so.  There are clear guidelines in place for custodial sites highlighting this policy. |
| 228 | **Evaluate revising the minimum age of criminal responsibility in line with international standards (Peru);** | Note |  |
| 229 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility, ensuring the full application of child justice standards, and preventing the application of isolation measures to minors (Tunisia);** | Note |  |
| 230 | **Take further steps towards the incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic law (Ukraine);** | Note |  |
| 231 | **Take urgent action to end corporal punishment of children and raise the age of criminal responsibility to international standards (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));** | Note | See explanation to recommendation 222 re corporal punishment. |
| 232 | **Enact legislation which explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in every setting (Zambia);** | Note |  |
| 233 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Belgium);** | Note |  |
| 234 | **Develop a comprehensive digital inclusion strategy for children and young people to promote their online safety and sustainable inclusion (Bulgaria);** | Support |  |
| 235 | **Take concrete measures to address the over-representation of minors of African-descent and other racial minorities in the juvenile criminal justice system and adopt legislation to ensure that those under 18 are not incarcerated with adults (Costa Rica);** | Support |  |
| 236 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international standards (Czechia);** | Note |  |
| 237 | **Consistently implement the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, by establishing a strategy for the eradication of child poverty (Estonia);** | Partially support | The UK supports the premise of the recommendation and feels there are sufficient measures in place to adequately address this. We have a robust approach to tackling poverty and provide significant financial support. |
| 238 | **Introduce a ban on all corporal punishment of children as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other treaty bodies (Finland);** | Note | See explanation to recommendation 222. |
| 239 | **Ban corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the family, to ensure the full protection and freedom from violence for all children as required by the convention of the Rights of Child (Sweden);** | Note | See explanation to recommendation 222. |
| 240 | **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with international standards (Sweden);** | Note |  |
| 241 | **Consider further measures to ensure the minimum age of marriage is raised to at least 18 years across all of the United Kingdom (India);** | Partially support | Legislation to raise the minimum age of marriage in England and Wales to 18 came into force on 27 February 2023.  The Scottish Government is currently gathering views from key stakeholders on raising the minimum age of marriage and civil partnership to 18 from 16. |
| 242 | **Raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 years, in compliance with international standards (Republic of Moldova);** | Note |  |
| 243 | **Consider raising the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 across the UK (Slovenia);** | Note |  |
| 244 | **Raise the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 (Zambia);** | Note |  |
| 245 | **Consider raising the age of criminal responsibility to 14 years (Chile);** | Note |  |
| 246 | **Raise the age of criminal responsibility, which stands at ten at the moment (Spain);** | Note |  |
| 247 | **Develop an effective employment policy for persons with disabilities aimed at ensuring decent work for them and ensuring equal pay (Jordan);** | Support |  |
| 248 | **Increase opportunities for women and persons with disabilities to gain access to formal employment and ensure equal pay for work of equal value (Kazakhstan);** | Support |  |
| 249 | **Develop an effective employment policy, specifically designed for people with disabilities (Somalia);** | Support |  |
| 250 | **Strengthen the protection of the rights of women, people with disabilities and LGTBI people and take measures to prevent hate crimes both online and offline (Spain);** | Support |  |
| 251 | **Provide support accessible to people with disabilities at the rural level (United Republic of Tanzania);** | Support |  |
| 252 | **Advance measures to improve food security, in particular for young children, adolescents and persons with disabilities (Brazil);** | Partially support | The UK Government supports the premise of the recommendation and feels there are sufficient measures in place to adequately address this. It has a robust approach to tackling poverty and provide significant financial support.  The UK Government is committed to tackling child poverty through its reformed welfare system that incentivises employment while providing a strong safety net for those who need it. |
| 253 | **Incorporate the human rights model of disability into all laws and regulations regarding children and young people with disabilities (Bulgaria);** | Note | The UK has a comprehensive legislative framework regarding disabled children and young people based on the social model of disability. |
| 254 | **Develop an effective employment policy for persons with disabilities aimed at ensuring decent work for them and equal pay for work of equal value (Cambodia);** | Support |  |
| 255 | **Further strengthen laws that ensure all children within the education system are afforded quality education, especially children living with disabilities (Eswatini);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 163 |
| 256 | **Continue and strengthen its awareness raising campaigns aimed at eliminating prejudice and negative stereotypes regarding people with disabilities (Gabon);** | Support |  |
| 257 | **Strengthen awareness-raising campaigns aimed at eliminating negative stereotypes and prejudice towards persons with disabilities (Israel);** | Support |  |
| 258 | **Implement measures to address the situation of persons with disabilities, in particular, their right to an adequate standard of living and access to health services, as well as their employment (Azerbaijan);** | Support |  |
| 259 | **Consider paying necessary attention to promote the enjoyment of human rights for ethnic minorities (Uzbekistan);** | Note |  |
| 260 | **Intensify the removal of structural barriers to racial and ethnic minority communities’ equal and non-discriminatory enjoyment of human rights (South Africa);** | Partially Support | See response to recommendation 54 |
| 261 | **Continue taking measures to eliminate disparities affecting minorities in accessing to criminal justice, employment, health, and education (Cuba);** | Support |  |
| 262 | **Continue efforts to promote equal political, social, and economic rights of ethnic minorities, especially women and girls (Republic of Korea);** | Support |  |
| 263 | **Continue to fight against the discrimination faced by transgender people, by expanding the planned ban on conversion therapy to include transgender people (Canada);** | Note | The UK Government is committed to protecting people from these practices and is carefully considering the responses to the public consultation on banning conversion practices which closed in 2022. The UK will set out our next steps and the Government response in due course. |
| 264 | **Adopt legislation to ban all conversion therapy practices in all forms and settings (Israel);** | Partially support | This is a live policy area and would not be appropriate to comment on at this time, until a final position on the scope of any proposed legislation has been decided after pre legislative scrutiny has concluded |
| 265 | **Develop and implement public awareness campaigns on the human rights of trans persons, including to combat misinformation and stigma (Uruguay);** | Note |  |
| 266 | **Adopt legislation to ban all conversion therapy practices for all LGBTIQ+ persons of all ages (Malta);** | Note | The UK Government is committed to protecting people from these practices and is carefully considering the responses to the public consultation on banning conversion practices which closed earlier this year. The UK will set out our next steps and the Government response in due course. |
| 267 | **Combat media disinformation directed against the LGBTQI+ community (Iceland);** | Note |  |
| 268 | **Ban conversion therapy practices for all LGBTQI+ persons (Iceland);** | Note | See response to recommendation 263 |
| 269 | **Consider moving towards the promulgation of the action plan for LGBTI persons, as well as adopt measures to codifying the prohibition of conversion therapies (Chile);** | Note |  |
| 270 | **Strengthen the protection against sexual harassment in the workplace affecting women workers with disabilities and LGBTIQ workers, in accordance with the ILO Convention No. 111 (Norway);** | Support |  |
| 271 | **Uphold and strengthen legal protections for LGBTQI+ persons, in particular transgender persons (New Zealand);** | Support |  |
| 272 | **Continue efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrants and ethnic minorities (Nepal);** | Support |  |
| 273 | **Revoke parts of the Migration and Economic Development Partnership (MEDP) which do not comply with the 1951 Refugee Convention, in particular the principle of non-refoulement (Netherlands);** | Note | MEDP is part of the UKs New Plan for Immigration to stop illegal migration and the UK believes that the partnership arrangement with Rwanda and the broader inadmissibility framework is compatible with national and international law, including the 1951 Refugee Convention. |
| 274 | **Strengthen and safeguard the economic and social rights of migrants (Pakistan);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 60 |
| 275 | **Enhance anti-discriminatory measures to protect ethnic minorities and migrants, and guarantee their access to various government welfare and support programmes (Philippines);** | Partially support |  |
| 276 | **Lift the reservation to article 59 of the Istanbul Convention, so that migrant women can receive the same support and protection (Spain);** | Note | See response to recommendation 9. |
| 277 | **Take all necessary measures to ensure that the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda is in line with the UK’s obligations under international law (Switzerland);** | Support | See response to recommendation 273. |
| 278 | **Uphold and strengthen the legal protection of the rights of asylum seekers and all migrant workers in accordance with international law, including the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Uganda);** | Partially support | All UK asylum policies are in line with international obligations, including the 1951 Refugee Convention.  The UK feels that nothing further is required to strengthen asylum seeker permission to work in accordance with our obligations. |
| 279 | **Take steps to ensure migrant workers are not left vulnerable to abuse and exploitation from employers and the UK visa system (United States of America);** | Support |  |
| 280 | **Pursue the review of immigration legislation to include provisions facilitating family reunification for unaccompanied refugee children, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration (Uruguay);** | Partially support | The UK's refugee family reunion policy already allows for children to join their family members in the UK, where they formed part of the family unit before their sponsor fled to claim asylum. The best interests of the child is a primary consideration under this policy. As such the UK Government does not consider that any further review is required at this point. |
| 281 | **Amend the immigration regulations to expressly provide for the family reunification of all unaccompanied asylum-seeking boys and girls (Argentina);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 280. |
| 282 | **Put an end to the violation of rights of migrants and refugees (China);** | Note | The UK Government is committed to upholding the rights of refugees and stands with those around the world facing persecution. |
| 283 | **Revise the Domestic Abuse Act to ensure protection and support for migrant women (Iceland);** | Partially support | See response to recommendation 208 |
| 284 | **Expand the opportunities for migrants and asylum seekers to obtain adequate legal advice before deciding on their applications (Iraq);** | Support |  |
| 285 | **Take all necessary measures to end abuse and exploitation in immigration by integrating human rights standards in line with the United Kingdom's obligations under international law (Indonesia);** | Note | The UK Government remains committed to upholding the rights of refugees and ensuring compliance with our international obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights and the Refugee Convention. |
| 286 | **Introduce a general statutory time limit on detention pending deportation (Germany);** | Note | A statutory time limit on detention will not be effective in ensuring that those with no right to be in the UK leave. |
| 287 | **Improve safety in prisons, and address issues around immigration detention including a statutory limit on immigration detention (Sri Lanka);** | Note | See response to recommendation 286. |
| 288 | **Ensure the same standards of reception to all migrants as well as ensure them adequate access to health-care and legal services (Russian Federation);** | Support |  |
| 289 | **Improve humanitarian conditions in places of detention for asylum seekers in line with international human rights standards (Iraq);** | Partially support | The UK Government always seek to ensure that our facilities for asylum seekers comply with UK domestic law. Conditions in Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs) and Residential Short-Term Holding Facilities (RSTHFs) meet statutory Rules and in line with human rights standards. |
| 290 | **Halt its plans to transfer asylum-seekers to other territories (Iran (Islamic Republic of));** | Note | See response to recommendation 273. |
| 291 | **Ensure that the implementation of the Nationality and Borders Act is in line with international refugee and human rights conventions and that it does not undermine the protection of refugee and asylum rights (Sweden);** | Note | The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 is compliant with our international obligations, including under the European Convention of Human Rights and the Refugee Convention. The UK Government remains committed to upholding the rights of refugees and ensuring compliance with our international obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights and the Refugee Convention. |
| 292 | **Stop plans to transfer asylum seekers to other countries in violation of international law (Egypt);** | Note | See response to recommendation 273. |
| 293 | **Amend asylum laws to explicitly provide for family reunification (Egypt);** | Note | See response to recommendation 280. |
| 294 | **Take adequate measures to ensure that the detention of asylum seekers is used only as a measure of last resort and establish a maximum legal period for the detention of immigrants (Uruguay);** | Note | See response to recommendation 286. |
| 295 | **Uphold its obligations under 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and not to engage in any practice that has the effect of undermining the right to asylum in the UK (Türkiye);** | Note | See response to recommendation 291 |
| 296 | **Respect the principle of non-refoulement and prohibit collective expulsions (Tunisia);** | Support |  |
| 297 | **Ensure that all refugees were not discriminated against on the grounds of their mode of arrival in the country (State of Palestine);** | Note | The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 includes the power to differentiate entitlements between two groups of refugees, to influence the decisions of migrants who may be considering using criminal smugglers to facilitate dangerous journeys to the UK and therefore prevent dangerous journeys from safe countries. It also acts to disincentivise migrants from making late asylum claims to delay removal. |
| 298 | **Establish international refugee protection asylum seeker system, which is in conformity with the international standard and conventions (Somalia);** | Note | The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 includes significant new measures to increase the fairness of our asylum system, so that we can better protect and support those in need of protection, to deter illegal entry into the UK and stringently punish those responsible for facilitating it, and to help remove more easily from the UK those with no right to be here, including foreign national offenders. The UK remains committed to meeting our obligations under both the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) and the 1951 Refugee Convention.  All the asylum related provisions brought in by the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 are fully compliant with all our international obligations. |
| 299 | **Ensure that the Nationality and Borders Act is fully in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention (Philippines);** | Note | The Act itself is already in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention. The UK Government remains committed to upholding the rights of refugees and ensuring compliance with our international obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights and the Refugee Convention. |
| 300 | **Ensure that its treatment of asylum seekers is consistent with its humanitarian responsibilities and commitments under international human rights law and international refugee law, in particular the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, and with specific reference to the UK’s offshore processing arrangement with Rwanda (New Zealand);** | Note | The UK considers that the partnership arrangement with Rwanda and the broader inadmissibility framework is compatible with national and international law, including the 1951 Refugee Convention. We have worked to ensure that it is in line with the UKs obligations under international law. |
| 301 | **End the detention of asylum-seekers and ensure that no refugee is discriminated against on the basis of the manner in which they arrive in the country (Mexico);** | Note | See response to recommendation 297. |
| 302 | **Refrain from sending asylum seekers to Rwanda and denounce the Asylum Partnership Agreement, which is in violation of international law and risks causing irreparable harm to those seeking international protection (Luxembourg);** | Note |  |