

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

UPR Pre-sessions
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THE UK'S FAILURE TO REDUCE STATELESSNESS

Current issues of concern:

- ➤The UK is party to international treaties that prohibit its conduct, including the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- Section 40 of the British Nationality Act 1981, gives the Home Secretary the power to deprive someone of their nationality if it is deemed 'conducive to the public good.'
- ➤ People of colour are 8x more vulnerable to being deprived of their British nationality than people categorised as white.

212 nationality deprivations

between 2006 and 2020

1 of 5 European countries

that allow for deprivation even if it results in statelessness

RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE STATELESSNESS

1. Respect and protect everyone's right to nationality.

2. **Reform** nationality deprivation laws to avoid potential discrimination.

THE UK'S USE OF CITIZENSHIP DEPRIVATION TO EVADE HUMAN RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES

Current issues of concern:

- ➤ Nationality deprivation strips affected persons of vital human rights protections.
- ➤ Deprivation decisions can have a devastating impact on an affected person's children, who may also be left stateless.
- Some women and children confined in camps in Syria have been deprived of their British nationality.

Deprivation decisions can impact access to health care, education, and employment opportunities.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO STOP THE USE OF NATIONALITY DEPRIVATION TO EVADE HUMAN RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Refrain from deprivation decisions that would subject affected persons, including any children, to human rights violations.

THE RETROGRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Current issues of concern:

- The UK government is seeking to **create** an amnesty for violations committed during the conflict.
- The UK government's proposals would limit access to justice and remedies for rights violations.

Investigations into human rights abuses committed during the conflict in Northern Ireland have been limited by a lack of State cooperation.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO REMOVE LIMITATIONS ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES COMMITTED DURING THE CONFLICT IN NORTHERN IRELAND

1. Avoid creating an amnesty for human rights violations.

2. **Facilitate** access to justice, such as implementing inclusive and effective transitional justice mechanisms.

THANK YOU

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