

# 38th Universal Periodic Review of human rights: UK statement on Somalia

World news story

The UK delivered the statement on Somalia at the 38th Session of Universal Periodic Review (UPR), sharing recommendations to improve their human rights record.



The Universal Periodic Review takes place in Geneva.

The United Kingdom recognises Somalia's cooperation with international partners on its human rights challenges but is disappointed by the absence of significant progress. We are concerned by the impact of the electoral impasse on the rights of the Somali people, and so call on Somalia's leaders to refrain from further violence, return to dialogue, reach consensus, and hold inclusive elections without further delay.

The UK commends Somalia for establishing a legal framework for protecting journalists but remains concerned at the continued high levels of harassment and arbitrary detention.

We recommend that Somalia:

1. Adopt the 2018 Sexual Offences Bill urgently;
2. Establish an independent National Human Rights Commission;
3. Pass legislation allowing humanitarian organisations to operate within a clear framework and enable the Federal Government of Somalia to work towards the removal of illegal checkpoints and multiple demands of taxation, to access those most in need.

Thank you.

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