

# UN Human Rights Council 50: Universal Periodic Review Adoption – Venezuela

World news story

The UK delivered this statement during the Universal Periodic Review Adoption for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.



## UK Government

Thank you, Mr President,

The United Kingdom notes Venezuela's engagement with the UPR. While we are encouraged by their acknowledgement of some UPR recommendations, it is unfortunate that two of the three recommendations put forward by the UK were rejected. Severe restrictions on political participation and the use of politicised courts to justify anti-democratic decisions are serious concerns for all who care about Venezuela.

We are worried by reports of continuing sexual exploitation, human trafficking and other human rights abuses in the Arco Minero del Orinoco. We look to the authorities to take urgent action to address these issues.

The social and political crises place a disproportionately heavy burden on women. We again recommend that Venezuela should ensure sexual and reproductive health rights for all, including access to maternal and newborn

health care and safe abortions.

The UK encourages Venezuela to engage fully with the High Commissioner's Office on the recommendations made during the UPR, as well as previous recommendations made by both the Office and the Fact Finding Mission. Implementation of these recommendations will improve the lives of all Venezuelans. We call for the involvement of independent civil society actors and for a mid-term report on progress.

Thank you.

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